

YOUNG TALENTED ARTISTS
EXTRACT – YOUNG ART PRIZE – CPH 2017
KUNSTFORENINGEN GL STRAND

21 January – 5 March 2017



Lotte Nielsen, *Yaai* (still image), 2016. © Sine Vadstrup Brooker

GL STRAND BEGINS THE NEW YEAR WITH EXTRACT, AN ART PRIZE EXHIBITION WHERE WE PRESENT THE YOUNG RISING STARS OF TOMORROW'S ART WORLD. SEVEN TALENTED, NEWLY GRADUATED ARTISTS HAVE BEEN SELECTED FROM ACADEMIES IN BEIJING, LONDON AND COPENHAGEN. ONE OF THEM WILL RECEIVE THIS YEAR'S EXTRACT PRIZE.

EXTRACT presents a choice selection of this year's graduates, a handpicked group of the most talented graduates from Danish and international art academies, an event that offers a strong platform for young artists. January marks the sixth year that GL STRAND presents the EXTRACT exhibition. To source artists for the exhibition, we have visited graduation exhibitions at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing, the Royal College of Art in London and the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in Copenhagen. By selecting artists from two international academies, we have this year sought to investigate the artistic opportunity of attending the largest art academy in China as well as the world's highest-ranked fine arts academy, located in London.

After nearly 30 years of embracing a cultural policy that has become increasingly international, China's contemporary art scene is today one of the world's most important. In 2008, renowned Chinese artist Xu Bing became Vice-President of the Central Academy of Fine Arts (CAFA) in Beijing and has since helped create scope for more experimental artistic currents alongside the more classical Chinese art forms. It is in light of this development that we with the upcoming exhibition look forward to presenting two artists selected from several hundred MA students who graduated from CAFA in 2016.

London is home to several of the world's most prominent art academies. Previous EXTRACT exhibitions also included graduates from two of these institutions. Namely, the Slade School of Fine Art and Goldsmiths, University of London. In preparation for this year's EXTRACT exhibition, we visited the graduation exhibition at the Royal College of Arts, London, which offers MA degrees only. The academy has been rated the world's best, which is why we believe it would be interesting to invite recent graduates and see what they bring with them from their studies at the world's most renowned art academy.

From the Danish academies we have this time decided to invite three artists from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts where we found the artistic level of the graduates this year to be particularly high.

The artists participating in EXTRACT – YOUNG ART PRIZE – CPH 2017 are: Hannah Anbert (DK/ the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts), Rune Bosse (DK/ the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts), Una Gunnarsdóttir (IS/ the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts), Holly Hendry (UK/RCA), Li Yuanchen (CHN/CAFA), Lotte Nielsen (DK/RCA), Zhang Yunfeng (CHN/CAFA).



This year's selected artists all work with a variety of media, including painting, photography, video, sculpture and installation art. Bridging the diversity of their artistic expression are two common approaches: a performative and an archaeological. Both these approaches reflect the artists' interest in uncovering the layers of contemporary as well as historical meaning that are embedded in the physical reality of their subject-matter.

Hannah Anbert, Li Yuanchen, Zhang Yunfeng and Una Gunnarsdóttir all adopt a performative approach to their artistic themes and material, and their works embrace such concepts as "product processes in a globalised world", "weight loss and volume in the relationship between the physical and the virtual world", "challenges in interpersonal relationships expressed as bodily duels" as well as an interest in both the process and motifs of painting.

In their works, Holly Hendry, Lotte Nielsen and Rune Bosse delve into various layers of material matter – real, botanical and contrived. This manifests itself in the form of poetic studies of nasal collections from sculptures of Antiquity, of plant cycles and impermanence, and of the association of memories with particular places.

THE EXTRACT PRIZE

Each participating artist is allocated an exhibition room at GL STRAND where they can present a group of works or a larger installation. The most compelling and successful contribution is rewarded on the opening day with the EXTRACT Prize. This recognition consists of a travel grant of DKK 50,000 in addition to a solo exhibition at GL STRAND within the next three years.

To appoint this year's prize winner, GL STRAND has invited a jury of competent and recognised professionals within the international contemporary art scene. The jury consists of Danish artist Joachim Koester, Chief Curator Katrin Bucher Trantow at Kunsthaus Graz, Austria, and Curator Sean Kissane at IMMA, Ireland. Director of GL STRAND Helle Behrndt is also a member of the jury.

EXTRACT is hosted in association with the Obel Family Foundation, which supports the exhibition, the solo exhibitions as well as the prize as part of a multiannual commitment.

The press is invited to the **OPENING on Friday 20 January 2017 at 5 pm.**
For **INTERVIEWS, FURTHER INFORMATION** and **PRESS PHOTOS**, please contact Head of Communication Pernille Wahlgren at pw@glstrand.dk / +45 3336 0261.

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS IN EXTRACT VI



Hannah Anbert, *Sacred Work*, 2016. © The artist

Hannah Anbert (DK) graduated from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in Copenhagen. In her performance and installation-based practice, Anbert is particularly interested in civic, social and economic structures. This is also evident in her new installation exhibited as part of EXTRACT where Anbert continues her thematic interest in how our working lives manifest themselves socially and aesthetically. Her installation includes office furniture and other items associated with the work life, which are staged in a theatrical universe in which the objects have lost their practical function and have become unthinkable props in an absurd set design.



Rune Bosse, *Moment* (*Aegopodium podagraria*, *Apiaceae*), 2016 © The artist

Rune Bosse (DK) graduated from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in Copenhagen. Nature is a laboratory and a source of material for Rune Bosse, whose artworks investigate landscapes, live plants and trees in particular. Rune Bosse's installation for EXTRACT is a brand new work, which takes on the character of a vibrant, experimental laboratory in which Bosse presents different examples of nature's cycles of decay. Among other things, a herbarium and glass tanks with poetic presentations of chemical processes.



Una Gunnarsdóttir, *Birthday* (from *Paradise Lost* serie), 2016.
 © The artist

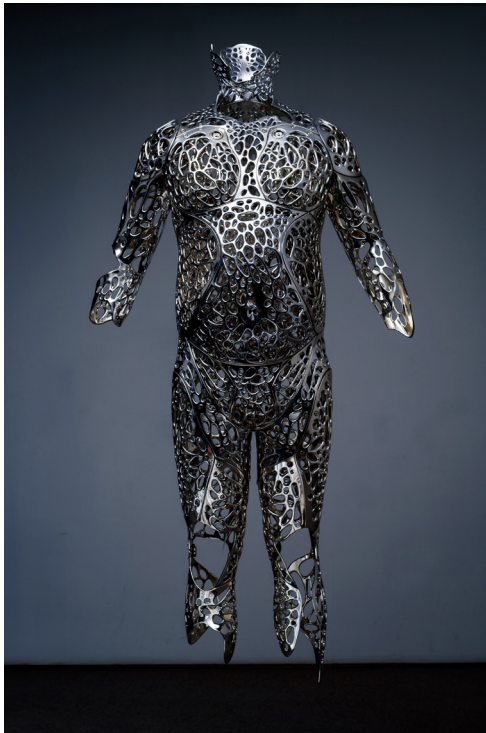
Una Gunnarsdóttir (IS) graduated from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in Copenhagen. She primarily works with oil painting and finds inspiration in the movement and momentum of her own artistic processes. Painterly gestures, composition and existential narratives are the primary elements of her work. For a number of years, Gunnarsdóttir has especially depicted beachscapes and coastal motifs, which she perceives as particularly appropriate for the study of existential questions about life and art. In her repetitive motifs she continually renegotiates the scale and colour of art through her own bodily interaction with painting.



Holly Hendry, *Gut Feelings*, 2016. © The artist

Holly Hendry (UK) is from the UK and graduated from the Royal College of Art. In her practice, Hendry is inspired by the invisible places of architecture as well as hidden bodily functions that become apparent in relation to specific objects, surfaces or shapes. She uncovers the hidden world – the 'disgusting' inside of things as well as the objects we use to conceal them, such as plasters, etc. For EXTRACT, Holly Hendry has created a new work, which is based on the collection of substitute noses at the Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek in Copenhagen, which were originally used on statues from Antiquity that had lost their noses. The substitutes were later removed since they were considered to obscure authenticity.





Li Yuanchen, *Inner Hero*, 2016. © The artist

Li Yuanchen (CHN) graduated with an MA from the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing where he was trained as a sculptor. His contribution to EXTRACT is a sculpture and a digital video narrative about the making of the sculpture with reference to its physical reality. Yuanchen's thematic focus is weight loss, or loss of volume, based on his own personal project of losing weight. This is digitally represented in the work by 3D scans and video footage that records the artist's body before and after the physical transformation. Through including his own body and through video storytelling, Yuanchen embraces a performative exploration of today's male bodily ideals, which also involves references to, among other, martial arts and the superheroes of the entertainment industry.



Lotte Nielsen, *Yaoi* (still image), 2016. © Sine Vadstrup Brooker

Lotte Nielsen (DK) graduated from the Royal College of Art, London. In her artistic practice, she has in recent years been engaged in exploring concepts such as loss and identity in relation to deserted locations. This was also the case with her graduation work, *YAOI*, which comprises a video and a book about an old abandoned movie theatre in the Danish town of Stenløse. Movies are no longer screened in the building, which has taken on new meaning through its use by young people as a venue for music events and as a general hangout. Lotte Nielsen grew up in Stenløse. Through the use of poetic images and texts she in her book examines the movie theatre as a metaphor for her own experiences of her father's escalating dementia. In the works, which are exhibited at GL STRAND, Lotte Nielsen lingers on the moods of the interiors and façades, which have gradually changed in the same way that her father's dementia has gradually erased his memory.



Zhang Yunfeng, *Playground*. © The artist

Zhang Yunfeng (CHN) graduated from the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing. In his practice he works with performance and performative approaches to interpersonal relationships. At GL STRAND, Yunfeng exhibits his ambitious graduation work, *Playground*, which is a multi-screen installation that he has created together with artist Li Haiguang. The two artists have for years worked together as a duo, and the work shows them in different performative meetings. The scenes act as metaphors for their relationship by portraying various staged conflicts, confrontations, competitions and ambiguous situations.