

STREET LEVEL PHOTOWORKS

FOREVER CHANGES

CONTEMPORARY NORDIC PHOTOGRAPHY + CLIMATE CHANGE

30TH OCTOBER 2021 - 30TH JANUARY 2022

Helene Schmitz | Klaus Thymann | Christian Houge | Bjarni Mohr

Katrín Elvarsdóttir | Hallgerður Hallgrímsdóttir | Lasse Lecklin | Mike Day

Forever Changes brings together a range of artists from Nordic countries whose work aligns or intersects with themes of climate change, protection of the environment, and the conflict between man & the natural world. Throughout the exhibition a range of photographic approaches are embraced, from the documentary to the conceptual, from issue-driven photography to the poetic. This exhibition commences at the time of the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference, COP26, and is a call to action which addresses the urgent need to influence change not only for the preservation of the planet but also for a better world.

Klaus Thymann presents a series of works that capture landscape vistas in various continents emphasizing the global reach of glacial recession, which act as a barometer for climate change. Glacial mass is explored further in the works of both **Christian Houge** and **Lasse Lecklin**, as Houge creates a homage to the Rhone glacier in Switzerland, whilst Lecklin's work consists of aerial shots from Europe's largest glacier, Vatnajökull in Iceland. Human exploitation of the planet is implicit in the detailed landscapes of **Helene Schmitz**, who speculates on the relationship between ownership and misuse of natural resources in the Nordic countries. **Hallgerður Hallgrímsdóttir**, has collected multiple postcards of volcanic eruptions taken by other photographers, speculating on how we humans mediate natural disasters in popularly consumed imagery. **Katrín Elvarsdóttir** turns our attention to the fragility of the planet's ecology, animal extinction, acidification in the ocean and the impact of climate change on the future of our children. **Bjarni Mohr's** portrayal of the Faroe Islands, in isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic, alludes to the challenges of remote communities which virus outbreaks pose, further exacerbated by the environmental crisis. **Mike Day's** work is a moving story of Faroe Islanders who see whale hunting as vital to their way of life, but contained within the whale meat are high levels of mercury which is slowly poisoning adults and children alike.

The exhibition further celebrates the power of art and photography to educate, inform, and inspire action on climate change - which all of the artists embrace in inspiring and compelling ways.

Forever Changes has been organised in partnership with the Nordic Embassies with representation in the UK - Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Faroe Islands and the Finnish Institute in the UK and Ireland.

Helene Schmitz (b.1960)

www.heleneschmitz.se

Helene is one of Sweden's most successful art photographers having exhibited at Tomelilla Konsthall (2020), Prins Eugens Waldemarsudde (2018), Skellefteå Konsthall (2017), and Fotografiska Stockholm (2016), and internationally at Fotografiska New York, Tallinn and Copenhagen. In her books she has collaborated with writers, philosophers and historians of ideas, and the book 'Thinking Like a Mountain' won the Swedish Publishing Prize in 2019.

Klaus Thymann (b.1974)

www.klausthymann.com

Danish born Klaus is a multi award-winning photographer, filmmaker, explorer, writer, creative director and environmental consultant. In 2008 he founded Project Pressure – visualizing climate crisis, collaborating with world-renowned artists creating and exhibiting work to engage & incite positive behavioural change. Project Pressure has pioneered innovative new technological developments and forged partnerships with World Glacier Monitoring Service, NASA and others. In 2011 Project Pressure was recognized as an official contributor to GTN-G (Global Terrestrial Network for Glaciers).

Christian Houge (b.1972)

www.christianhouge.no

Christian has exhibited in galleries and museums in Norway, as well as the US, England and China. His series 'Residence of Impermanence' (2017-2019) has been exhibited at several venues, including a solo show at Fotografiska, Stockholm (2019), and Les Recontres d'Arles. 'Death of a Mountain' (2016-2021) was nominated for the 2021 Leica Oskar Barnack Award.

Lasse Lecklin (b. 1982)

www.lasselecklin.com

Lasse is a Finnish photographer from Helsinki. He studied at Aalto University, the School of Visual Arts in New York and the Beaux-Arts de Paris. He had a solo show at the Finnish Museum of Photography in Helsinki over the summer 2020, and in 2021 Lasse received the Street Level Photoworks | Northern Centre of Photography residency as part of the programme 'On the Edge', Scotland and Europe.

Katrín Elvarsdóttir (b. 1964)

www.katrinelvarsdottir.com

Katrín gained an MFA in Photography from Valand Academy in Gothenburg and solo exhibitions include 2021 / MUSE, Gallery Port, Reykjavík, Iceland (2021), dauðadjúpar sprungur, Ramskram, Reykjavík, Iceland and Galleri Monitor, Gothenburg, Sweden (2020 and 2018 respectively). In 2019 she undertook the Residency of the Ambassador of Iceland, Space-Time Continuum in Berlin, Germany. Katrín is the co-director of the Icelandic Photography Festival; she is represented by BERG Contemporary in Reykjavík.

Hallgerður Hallgrímsdóttir (b. 1984)

www.hallgerdur.com

Hallgerður gained an MFA in Photography from Valand Academy in Gothenburg in 2019; a BA in Fine Art Photography from Glasgow School of Art. Solo exhibitions include MUSE, Gallery Port, Reykjavík, Iceland in 2021 and dauðadjúpar sprungur, Ramskram, Reykjavík, Iceland (2020)

Bjarni Mohr (b.1972)

www.bjarnimohr.com

Bjarni is from the Faroe Islands and has a master's degree in Documentary Photography from Høgskulen i Volda, Norway (2020). He has a degree in Online Journalism from Danish School of Journalism, Aarhus, Denmark (2014) and has worked as Online Editor at Faroese Broadcasting Corporation for several years. He is a university lecturer at Collegium Civitas in Warsaw.

Mike Day (b.1979)

www.intrepidcinema.com

Mike is a Scottish director and producer. Formerly a lawyer he founded Intrepid Cinema in 2009 and made The Guga Hunters of Ness, which broadcast on the BBC in 2011 and screened at festivals internationally to critical acclaim. It was while at sea in the Atlantic that he met a group of Faroese sailors, leading to his next film, The Islands and the Whales. Mike went on to win a Peabody Award, Emmy and BAFTA nominations and was listed as one of '10 Filmmakers to Watch' by Filmmaker Magazine, the film was awarded Grand Jury Prize at DOCNYC amongst other accolades.



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