

SIRIN

SIRIN COPENHAGEN Gallery

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DENMARK

You Hide It So Well

SIRIN Gallery is pleased to present a duo exhibition by Nils Elvebakk Skalegård and Nanna Riis Andersen.

'You wear it so well' is the title of a song by Lou Reed. At one point in the song, Reed's lyric 'You wear it so well' is replaced by 'You hide it so well' thereby shifting the positive tone of the lyrics to something more disconcerting; It turns out that the base of this lyric has a twist. Nils Elvebakk Skalegård considers this moment of unrest through his sculptural works, among other things, which thematically center on the meeting between contemporary and primeval times. Consumer society and the advertising industry are here presented as a synthetic alienation of humankind from the animal kingdom while the imprint of the hand on the unglazed burnt stoneware refers to the timeless nature of shaping a material with the hands, which humans have done for millennia.

In this exhibition the works are facing Nanna Riis Andersen's ink paintings which also follow the theme of timeless forms presented in an organic aesthetic space. The fragmented body appears as a recurring element within the works, and often the body's inner, hidden universe is an early departure point. Riis Andersen abstracts her work through various stages of resistance and dissolution where the living body appears as a *primordial form* under constant becoming.

Common to all the works is that they fantasize about a type of primal future that hides the bleed between the hard and the soft; dwellings that crumble, bodies that amass in the folds of the house. An exoskeleton of soft tissues and assistive accessories encase our bodies; sheltering and participating in a bodily economy. Hard and soft substances that seep and disappear, escape and slip in, out and over us like water. Holes where money slips through from one account to another, covering the floor, plugging holes, deeper than themselves, in the body's internal cavities that suck the rims of holes. The last material becomes the first. In a cycle of chalk creatures, biological cells, single-celled organisms, exoskeletons, radiation, sound waves and thoughts as a shared consciousness and common objective, in a search for the basic formation of life.

The exhibition is a counterpart to Nils Elvebakk Skalegård's exhibition 'You Wear It So Well' which is held at OK Corral during the same period.

... And your face hides it, so we can not tell
That you knew, we would wear it so well
You wear it so well...
... And all of the pain, that you used to tell
You hide it so well
Can't tell from your face that you knew it so well...
- Lou Reed

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