


# OFFICE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART NORWAY

Newsletter #3 2005 – April

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Unn Fahlstrøm was granted  
the artist residency at ISCP  
New York City for 2005/06.

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## Edvard Munch Award for Contemporary Art

### NEW INTERNATIONAL ART AWARD FROM OCA

The Office for Contemporary Art Norway is proud to announce the Edvard Munch Award for Contemporary Art, which will be granted to a renowned international artist for the first time on Wednesday, 27 April 2005 by HM Queen Sonja of Norway. Established by OCA to highlight and celebrate the extraordinary importance and influence of the Norwegian artist Edvard Munch (1863-1944), the award will be the most important of its kind in Norway. Edvard Munch's interest in the everyday and the struggle of the individual is still highly relevant in artistic practices today. The Edvard Munch Award for Contemporary Art will therefore be granted to an internationally acclaimed artist whose work can be seen in the tradition of Edvard Munch.

The award recipient has been nominated and chosen by OCA's International Board; Susanne Ghez (director and chief curator, the Renaissance Society of the Art Institute of Chicago), Sarat Maharaj (research professorship, the University of Lund) and Sune Nordgren (director, the National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design, Oslo) in addition to OCA director Ute Meta Bauer.

The financial value of the Munch Award for Contemporary Art is approximately half a million Norwegian kroner, and includes a six-month residency at Ekely. Ekely is the estate which Munch bought in 1916 and where he lived until his death in 1944. Munch donated the estate to the City of Oslo and an artist colony was established there in the 1950s. OCA is responsible for one of the housing and studio units on the property.

The recipient will be presented in the next issue of the Office for Contemporary Art newsletter.

## OCA inauguration party

### CELEBRATING OCA AS A PERMANENT INSTITUTION

The Office for Contemporary Art Norway is happy to invite you to celebrate its inauguration as a permanent institution on Wednesday, 27 April. Minister of Culture and Church Affairs Valgerd Svarstad Haugland will hold an inauguration speech.

The doors will open at 9 pm. Space is limited!  
Restaurant Arcimboldo, Kunstneres Hus  
Wergelandsveien 17, Oslo

Welcome!

## Int. Visitor Programme

### VISITORS IN APRIL

OCA's International Visitor Programme assists international curators coming to Norway to do research for upcoming projects. The following have been invited for April:

**Marius Babias**, curator, freelance writer. Curator, the Rumanian Pavilion at the upcoming Venice Biennial

**Frank Claustrat**, French art historian (programme arranged by the Norwegian Embassy, Paris)

**Mariane Cosserat**, artistic advisor and curator, Les Bains::Connective, Brussels

**Mai Abu ELDahab**, curator, Cairo. Co-curator, Manifesta 6

**Dennis Elliott**, director, ISCP New York City

**Philippe Pirotte**, curator, director Kunsthalle Bern

**Valeria Schulte-Fischedick**, Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin

## ISP Oslo in April

The following artists in residence at OCA's International Studio Programme Oslo in April are:

- Regina Möller, artist, Berlin/Germany
  - Nomedas and Gediminas Urbonas, artists, Vilnius/Lithuania
- They are participating in the *Populism* exhibition (see p. 7).

## OCA International Studio Programme

### FAHLSTRØM, ZAMECZNIK AND LÅKER GRANTED RESIDENCIES IN NEW YORK CITY AND BERLIN

OCA offers residencies in Beijing, Berlin, Istanbul and New York City for Norwegian artists and/or curators. We received 66 applications for the residencies at ISCP New York City and Künstlerhaus Bethanien Berlin.

Unn Fahlstrøm was granted the artist residency at ISCP New York City (1 Sept 2005–31 Aug 2006). Fahlstrøm is educated at the National Academy of Art (Oslo) and the University of Stockholm. Frequently collaborating with musicians, she emphasizes the relationship between sound and image in her work, which border between abstract structuralism and cinematic narratives.

Marianne Zamecznik was granted the curator residency at ISCP New York City (1 Sept–30 Nov 2005). She is a freelance curator, currently working for Filmform (Norway) and is in the process of establishing the non-commercial project room and publishing house Specialist Contracto. She previously

ran the gallery project Simon Says in Stockholm.

**Jannicke Låker** was granted the artist residency at Künstlerhaus Bethanien Berlin (1 Dec 2005-30 Nov 2006). Låker teaches at the National Academy of Art (Oslo). Her ruthless stories make audiences squirm by including them in the narratives, presenting individuals in cruelly manipulated situations.

## JURY 2005

OCA's International Support Jury 2005, judging the International Studio Programme in addition to International Support, consists of Frank Falch (curator, Sørlandets kunstmuseum, Kristiansand), Hilde-Merete Methi (Pikene på broen, Kirkenes) and Tiril Schrøder (artist). Schrøder was substituted by Hans Hamid Rasmussen (artist). Dennis Elliott (ISCP New York City) and Valeria Schulte-Fischedick (Künstlerhaus Bethanien) represented their respective institutions.

# International Support

Artists and curators who have received International Support from the March 15 allocation will be available on [www.oca.no](http://www.oca.no) -> Support from Tuesday, 19 April.

## OCA recommends

### EXHIBITIONS IN NORWAY

#### POPULISM

This spring, NIFCA launches Populism, an exhibition project in four cities – Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Vilnius and Oslo – exploring the relationship between contemporary art and current populist cultural and political trends. The show has been developed through a network of artists, curators and theorists from participating countries. Approx. 30 Nordic, Baltic and international artists are represented. From Norway: Gardar Eide Einarsson & Matias Faldbakken. Curated by Lars Bang Larsen, Cristina Ricupero and Nicolaus Schafhausen.

The Oslo show takes place at the National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design, 15 April-2 September. The opening on 15 April starts at 6 pm at the Museum of Contemporary Art, and continues at the National Gallery at 7.30 pm with a panel debate with Truls Lie, Ina Blom, Trude Iversen, Lars Bang Larsen and Gavin Jantjes.

Danger Museum.  
Danger Museum.  
Concept Illustration:  
Opacity, 2005.



## OPACITY

Another NIFCA collaboration is being put up in Oslo this month at the Young Artists' Society/UKS: *Opacity* curated by Nina Möntmann (NIFCA) and Trude Iversen (UKS). Opening: Friday 15 April, 8 pm. Pre-opening and launch of the *Opacity* Fanzine: Thursday 14 April, 8 pm. Closing 15 May.

Exploring ways in which today's art institutions are used and challenged within artistic processes, *Opacity's* point of departure is how institutions have changed after the institutional critique in the 90s and 70s. The curators point out how a certain opacity – which large institutions have been criticized for – can be useful for smaller institutions to experiment with new forms of collaboration in and outside of the art field. Participating artists: Kajsa Dahlberg, Danger Museum (Øyvind Renberg and Miho Shimizu), Markus Degerman, Stephan Dillemoth, Gardar Eide Einarsson and Sofie Thorsen.

## STANDARD (OSLO)

Curator Eivind Furnesvik is opening a new gallery in Oslo on 14 April at 7 pm, called Standard (Oslo), located in

Hegdehaugsveien 3. The opening exhibition, *Start Kapital*, brings together contributions by seven artists, reflecting upon the initiation of the gallery and the conditions of commerce in late modern capitalism. “Starting up a new gallery space, we found it natural to talk about the possible endpoint: bankruptcy,” comments Furnesvik. Works by Cory Arcangel/Frankie Martin, Martin Boyce, Matias Faldbakken, Hans-Peter Feldman, Kim Hiorthøy, Michaela Meise and Anselm Reyle.

## VIBEKE JENSEN AT GALLERI F15

In the exhibition *Scotophilia* at Galleri F15, 9 April-22 May, Jensen uses the scientific term for darkness-loving as a point of departure to investigate various experiences of darkness, using video, photography and spatiality. Based in New York since 1992, Jensen is currently exhibiting at Österreichisches Museum für Volkskunde, Vienna and was recently awarded an OCA residency in Beijing for June/July 2005.

## EXHIBITIONS OUTSIDE OF NORWAY

### SVEN PÅHLSSON AT NEW ART MUSEUM IN LEON

A new museum for contemporary art opened its doors on 1 April in León, Spain, MUSAC/Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León. The Norwegian artist Sven Pålsson contributes to the opening exhibition with 3 animation works, *Consuming Pleasures*, *Sprawlvile* and *Crash Course*.

## Staff changes

We would like to wish a warm welcome to our two new staff members, Birgitte Lie and Sten Are Sandbeck.

Birgitte Lie (b. 1972) started working for us in February this year as an intern. She is now in charge of the International Visitor Programme as project coordinator on a part-time basis. She got her degree in art history in 2003 and has recently worked with education at the National Foundation for Art in Public Buildings.

Sten Are Sandbeck (b. 1969) is an artist and industrial designer by education and is active as an artist. He will work mainly with the ISP Oslo, assisting Christiane Erharter.

Our administrator Eyrun Thune recently took a new position as secretary general for a trade union. Best wishes! Heidi Marie Nilsen, who has worked at OCA since fall 2004, has taken over her position.

*Best regards from the Office for Contemporary Art Norway team: director Ute Meta Bauer, coordinator Velaug Bollingmo, curator Christiane Erharter, project coordinator Birgitte Lie, administrator Heidi Nilsen, project coordinator Sten Are Sandbeck, newsletter editor Claudia C. Sandor, head of communication Ole Slyngstadli.*