

I Am Our Common Pronoun

Nanna Abell, Sigurður Ámundason, Josefin Jussi Andersson,
Klara Ström & Hannah Wiker Wikström, Zoe Barcza, Mira Eklund, Artor Jesus
Inkerö, Yassine Khaled, Helene Nymann, Eirik Sæther, Vidha Saumya
Curated by Helga Christoffersen



30 November 2017 - 3 February 2018
Opening Reception: 29 November 2017, 6pm

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I Am Our Common Pronoun takes its title from *I Civil* (2012), a book by the Danish writer and artist Amalie Smith, which considers the body as a porous container of shards that connect and separate us from the world and each other. This exhibition shares Smith's exploration of the self in contemporary life: how it is constituted through language – and by extension all modes of representation – and how, therefore, it can also be expanded or broken down in an effort to express identification, empathy, love, and belonging.

Through the work of eleven emerging artists and collectives living in five Nordic countries, this exhibition traces experiences, experiments, and propositions for imagining the self in contemporary society as something constructed and broken apart by networked culture, migration, increased isolation, and gender fluidity. The exhibition presents works that depart from a rigorous self-examination, in which the body is considered a form akin to others; it may function as a medium, thought of in terms of sculpture and/or performance, as a way to consider what it means to identify with the needs, desires, and suffering of others.

I Am Our Common Pronoun is, therefore, a declaration of collective identification which is as much a proposition for inclusion as it is a threat to the self's (imagined) sovereignty.

This exhibition is the second public component of a three-year long research project on emerging artists in the Nordic countries, initiated by Christoffersen as a response to CHART's invitation to curate CHART EMERGING 2017 in Copenhagen in late August. 'Emerging', in this project, refers to artists, who, having completed the formal educational phase of their development, have recently put forth a distinct position within the larger artistic landscape. 'Emerging' therefore does not refer to an age as much as a budding moment of artistic development.

CHART is a Copenhagen-based Nordic art fair and exhibition platform working to strengthen and promote the nordic cultural scene in the Nordic region and internationally. With CHART EMERGING, CHART investigates and promotes the young generation of Nordic artists in order to strengthen the field for future generations.

Opening Performance, Wednesday 29.11. from 7-9pm

For this edition of *I Am Our Common Pronoun* the Josefin Jussi Andersson, Klara Ström and Hannah Wiker Wikström will adapt their performative installation *The Nasty Surprise* (2017), to the new location for the duration of the opening night.

Together, their work centres on common research interests. It examines shifts between the individual and the collective as well as issues of normativity concerning gender, sex, body, emotion, psyche, madness, and depression. *The Nasty Surprise* (2017), a performative installation commissioned by CHART with an extended, looping pop song sung over an experiential dramaturgy of performers, objects, and elements of a stage set. The work follows the narrative structure of a pop song: three verses, three refrains, and a bridge, but drawn out and slowed down to span the exhibition's opening evening before looping. The whole performance takes place in an immersive environment filled with platforms and sculptural objects that play on common domestic items. These objects will be amplified through the use of contact microphones and small instruments.

SALTS is kindly supported by Swisslos Basel-Landschaft, Fondation Nestlé pour l'Art, the Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia, Stiftung Roldenfund and Migros Kulturprozent.



List of works:

Front Facade of Building:

Artor Jesus Inkerö
Justin (2016)
Digital print on PVC tarpaulin
270 x 180 cm

Artor Jesus Inkerö
Kim (2017)
Digital print on PVC tarpaulin
270 x 180 cm

Artor Jesus Inkerö
Caitlyn (2017)
Digital print on PVC tarpaulin
270 x 180 cm

Entrance Door at SALTS:

Eirik Sæther
Hiring Homewreckers (2017)
Sculpture
10 x 16 cm

Garages:

Helene Nymann
Whether We Are (2017)
HD Video Installation
10 minutes 10 seconds (loop)

Helene Nymann
Memoria and other Aftermaths (2016)
HD video
2 minutes 46 seconds (loop)

Front Gallery from left to right:

Zoe Barcza
Self-Portrait As Rotary Milking Parlor (2017)
Acrylic and vinyl paint on linen, and digital print
on polyester
110 x 320 cm

Zoe Barcza
Daddy Issue (2017)
Acrylic and vinyl paint on canvas
115 x 90 cm

Vidha Saumya
GUNPOWDER (2013-2017)
Series of 28 drawings, Cello Gripper
on paper
21 x 25 cm (each)

Yassine Khaled
Monitor Man (2016)
HD video
10 minutes

On the floor:

Nanna Abell
Chiton (2017)
Containers, pipe, swimwear
120 x 100 x 95 cm

Nanna Abell
Tide (2017)
Beach chair, t-shirt, epoxy
78 x 64 x 58 cm

Nanna Abell
Squid (2017)
Plastic, swimwear
237 x 45 x 25 cm

Toilet:

Artor Jesus Inkerö
Bubble (2017)
Video
18 minutes 22 seconds

Hallway:

Mira Eklund
He's on the phone (Basel version) (2017)
from the concert and performance series:
Hilbert's Hotel
16-channel sound installation
16 minutes (loop)

Back Gallery from left to right:

Sigurður Ámundason
Dýrðin í kjaftinum (2017) [*The Glory in the Beast's Mouth*]
Ballpoint pen and colored pencils on paper
150.5 x 150 cm

Sigurður Ámundason
Óendurgoldin ástar-maskína (2017)
[*Unrequited Love-Machine*]
Ballpoint pen and colored pencils on paper
150.5 x 149.5 cm

Sigurður Ámundason
Hljóðið (2016) [*The Sound*]
Ballpoint pen and colored pencils on paper
150.5 x 149.5 cm

Performance during opening night:

Josefin Jussi Andersson, Klara Ström & Hannah
Wiker Wikström
The Nasty Surprise (2017)
Performative installation
Various materials

All works courtesy of the artist and CHART

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