

magasinet kunst

Young Icelandic art

REVIEW: By Elsa Fanney Jonsdottir. 14/12/2018

If you want to get an insight into what is happening on the Icelandic art scene, then you have to go past Bredgade Kunsthandel before Christmas. December 22 is the last day for the exhibition "Young Icelandic Art - From here in the World", which presents nine different artists' works in different genres.

The exhibition has come into being on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Iceland's independence and sovereignty. The purpose of the exhibition is to introduce Copenhagen to young Icelandic artists. Characteristic for the artists is that they have all been abroad and then translated the experiences into a special Nordic design language. The works, ranging from abstract and figurative art to the country's proud traditions of landscape painting, invite both immersion and wonder. The participating artists are Aðalheiður Thórhallsdóttir, David Örn Halldórsson, Guðmundur Thoroddsen, Kristín Morthens, Ólöf Björg Björnsdóttir, Ragnar Thórisson, Rögnvaldur Skúli Árnason, Sara Riel and Úlfur Karlsson.

Among the artists one can experience at the exhibition is Davíð Örn Halldórsson, who primarily works with painting. His works are often inspired by everyday events with direct and indirect references to graffiti, pop art and art history. Davíð Örn Halldórsson is experimenting with different painting methods and his background in the production of printing is evident in his colorful work. In 2014, he received the prestigious Carnegie Art Award award, which is awarded to a younger artist.



Aðalheiður Thorhallsdóttir explores concepts of masculine and feminine character by using techniques that have traditionally been regarded as either male or female. Painting and traditional Icelandic craftsmanship such as knitting, crochet and embroidery are mixed together based on the desire to bridge the concepts of masculine and feminine.

Guðmundur Thoroddsen, who has participated in many group and solo exhibitions in Iceland, New York and Europe, laughs at and criticizes the patrician culture. The humorous works, produced in various but traditional materials such as clay, watercolor, drawing and painting, primarily show bearded men in the process of various activities such as to hunt and play basketball. In addition, many are depicting urinating and embossing across the image surface.

The exhibition can be seen until December 22, 2018 in **Bredgade Kunsthandel**

Participating artists: Aðalheiður Thórhallsdóttir, David Örn Halldórsson, Guðmundur Thoroddsen, Kristín Morthens, Ólöf Björg Björnsdóttir, Ragnar Thórisson, Rögnvaldur Skúli Árnason, Sara Riel and Úlfur Karlsson

The exhibition is curated by Lars Olesen, art historian, mag.art. and arranged in collaboration with the Icelandic Embassy.