

For immediate release:

Press images: [here](#)

## SUSTAINABLE SOCIETIES FOR THE FUTURE

### THE CHICAGO EDIT

### October 15–17, 2021



Exhibition identity: Olga Prader for Motto Books

**Roving Exhibition Throughout Chicago’s South, West, and North Sides Curated by the Floating Museum Includes Established and Emerging Artists from Nordic and Local Contexts**

**Digital Symposium Program Organized by Exhibition Co-Curator Stephanie Cristello Addresses Current Issues of Sustainability in Contemporary Art with Artists and Scholars**

CHICAGO, IL—Following the exhibition, related symposiums, and publication at the **Malmö Art Museum** entitled *Sustainable Societies for the Future*, this two-part exhibition and program brings together artists, scholars, organizations, and curators committed to perceiving contemporary art as a possible catalyst for change. The project, which involves artists from the Nordic countries and Chicago context, is presented in alignment with **EXPO CHICAGO** and **ART 2030**—an organization that adopts the lens of the **United Nations’ 17 Sustainable Development Goals** to transform the world within our next decade. The artworks and concepts approached within both the exhibitions and the book engage with issues surrounding biodiversity, racial equity, housing, health and safety, and environmental justice, among other areas of economic, social, and political interest.

*The Chicago Edit* (October 15–17, 2021) features a curated exhibition program throughout the city organized by the **Floating Museum** alongside a talks program and US book launch with the exhibition co-curator and co-editor of the publication **Stephanie Cristello**.

The site of the exhibition with participating artists **Christian Falsnaes** (DK), **Max Guy** (US), **Minna Henriksson** (FI), **Hesselholdt & Mejlvang** (DK), **Ingela Ihrman** (SE), **Toril Johannessen** (NO) & **Marjolijn Dijkman** (NL), **Cheryl Pope** (US), **Wang & Söderström** (SE/DK), **Amanda Williams** (US), and **Michael x Ryan** (US) uses an LED truck as its platform and will move through the city over a period of three days with a map of exact locations to be announced. The companion Symposium, “Art as a Catalyst for Change,” presented in partnership with **Nordic Talks** will feature many of the participating artists as well as screenings.

*Presented in partnership with the City of Malmö, the Malmö Art Museum, Danish Arts in Chicago, Consulate General of Denmark in New York, ART 2030, and Nordic Talks.*

---

## PROGRAM

### I. THE EXHIBITION

Friday, October 15–Sunday, October 17 | 11:00am–6:00pm CST Daily  
Map and information: <https://sustainablesocieties.art/>

#### Participating Artists

Christian Falsnaes (DK), Max Guy (US), Minna Henriksson (FI), Hesselholdt & Mejlvang (DK), Ingela Ihrman (SE), Toril Johannessen (NO) & Marjolijn Dijkman (NL), Cheryl Pope (US), Wang & Söderström (SE/DK), Amanda Williams (US), and Michael x Ryan (US). Curated by the Floating Museum (Faheem Majeed, Andrew Schachman, Jeremiah Hulsebos-Spofford, and Avery R. Young, US).

#### Curatorial Statement

Shifting from the space of a modern art museum and repurposing a format generally used for mobile advertisement, the LED exhibition program for *The Chicago Edition* will visit locations across Chicago ranging from major art institutions, community spaces, a vehicle emission testing site, and historical spaces across the south, west, and north sides. The mobile exhibition format builds upon a concept of using the 'space of flows, positioning a curatorial endeavor beyond a static brick-and-mortar presentation. Imagining possibilities for mobility, geography, and mapping networks, the gesture of the exhibition exists in the continuum of artists examining their relationship to institutions. As James Putman writes, "the modern art museum with its own, purist display aesthetic, is a highly self-conscious viewing space which proclaims the institutionalization of art."<sup>1</sup>

Responding symbiotically to the evolution of museums—ranging from the cabinet of curiosities, or *Wunderkammer*, between the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries; transitioning to the dense accumulations of time-capsule vitrines in the nineteenth century; to the complete contrast of the contemporary art space—Floating Museum's framework addresses how we view artwork in sustainable ways. Mobile in nature, the presentation of selected artists from the initial full exhibition at the Malmö Art Museum investigates issues of urban landscape and social geography to create juxtapositions and complimentary moments between the Nordic and American artists' contexts in a moment where international travel is still limited.

### II. BOOK LAUNCH

Friday, October 15 | 6:00–8:00pm CST  
949 E 75th St. Chicago, IL, 60619

Join the editors and artists for the US launch of the *Sustainable Societies for the Future* book, which features individual and collective contributions by artists and scholars from the Nordic and North American art scenes to awaken discussion, reflection, and perspectives that reflect sustainable pathways for the world. Designed by Olga Prader and published by Motto Books in Berlin, the navigation of each text is conceptually categorized through a visual lexicon that follows the mission of the 11 Global Goals set out by the UN, including biodiversity, housing, and gender equality, health and safety, and environmental justice, among other key issues.

---

<sup>1</sup> James Putnam, *Art and Artifact: The Museum as Medium* (New York: Thames and Hudson 2001)

### III. THE SYMPOSIUM: ART AS A CATALYST FOR CHANGE

Friday, October 15–Saturday, October 16, 2021 | 11:00am–2:00pm CST Daily

<https://program.expochicago.com/>

#### Moderator

Stephanie Cristello (Co-Curator and Editor, *Sustainable Societies for the Future*)

A series of talks addressing key components related to the UN Global Goals will feature artists, scholars, and representatives from organizations committed to issues of sustainability in their work. Select partners include ART 2030, Nordic Talks, and the Chicago Architecture Biennial.

#### FULL SCHEDULE

##### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

11:00am CST / 6:00pm CET

#### **KEYNOTE: THE CHICAGO EDIT — FLOATING MUSEUM**

Berit Basse, Stephanie Cristello, Floating Museum, and Kirse Junge-Stevnsborg

Join this opening conversation and keynote with curators and collaborators of the *Sustainable Societies for the Future: The Chicago Edit* (October 15–17, 2021), an exhibition program throughout the city organized by the Floating Museum featuring artists from Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Chicago, and Detroit.

12:00pm CST / 7:00pm CET

#### **CONNECTING ART AND THE UN GLOBAL GOALS**

Luise Faurshou

Working with world renowned artists and partners, ART 2030 is a non-profit that facilitates projects connected to the UN Global Goals through public events, installations, multi-platform communication, and educational activities. Join the founder and curator for a conversation on the organization's recent projects.

1:00pm CST / 8:00pm CET

#### **SOCIAL AVALANCHES (NORDIC TALK SESSION)**

Christian Borch and Christian Falsnaes

Two authors from the book *Sustainable Societies for the Future* (Motto, 2021: ed. Cristello, Junge-Stevnsborg) discuss the themes of crowds and solidarity alongside artist Christian Falsnaes, whose newly commissioned work *SOLO* (2020) debuted at the Malmö Art Museum exhibition.

2:00pm CST / 9:00pm CET

#### **STRUCTURAL RACISM IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (NORDIC TALK SESSION)**

Imani Day, Max Guy, and Minna Henriksson

Engaging with two artists from the *Sustainable Societies for the Future* exhibition following their commissions for the Malmö Art Museum, this talk traces how the contemporary image of cities such as Chicago and Helsinki are impacted by histories of segregation and class struggle. The artists will be

---

joined by Detroit-based architect Imani Day, on how design can function as an intentional act of social justice and advocacy to combat racism and inequities within the built environment.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

11:00am CST / 6:00pm CET

### **WORKING WITH AND WITHIN ENVIRONMENTS (NORDIC TALK SESSION)**

Cheryl Pope, Michael x. Ryan, Hesselholdt & Mejlvang, and Laura Mott

Join three of the artists involved in both the *Sustainable Societies for the Future* exhibition at the Malmö Art Museum and *The Chicago Edit* for this talk on their relationships to the natural world and the built environment alongside one of the publication contributors. Each of the artists' works begins in outdoor spaces before being translated into presentations meant for an institutional context.

12:00pm CST / 7:00pm CET

### **SCREENING: *PLEASE REST IN PEACE FOR WE SHALL NOT REPEAT THE ERROR* (2021)**

Hesselholdt & Mejlvang

View the film that resulted from the work *Please rest in peace for we shall not repeat the error* (2021), a 4.5-hour durational performance and land artwork installation on the moat embankment of the Malmö Art Museum, housed in a former castle. The phrase, spelled in largescale text by placing bricks upon the grass, is borrowed from the memorial monument Flame of Peace in Hiroshima, Japan, constructed in remembrance of the victims of the 1945 nuclear bomb. The Flensburg brick used in the performance has a long tradition and history in the construction of Danish society: from building train stations to ballast for ships that sailed to the West Indies during the colonial era.

Film / Editing: Ene Bissenbakker

Photo: Helene Toresdotter/Malmö Konstmuseum

Drone photo: Stefan Ohlsson

1:00pm CST / 8:00pm CET

### **CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE BIENNIAL (NORDIC TALK SESSION)**

Tess Landon, SO—IL Lab (James Albert Martin and Maria Bruun), and Ellen Braae

In partnership with the Chicago Architecture Biennial, this panel will focus on the recently opened SO—IL Lab project in North Lawndale. Building upon the remaining foundation of a former building that sits amongst six other vacant lots, the site will be discussed in relation to social sustainability. *Presented in partnership with the Danish Arts Foundation.*

2:00pm CST / 9:00pm CET

### **SCREENING: *72 SEASONS***

Brendan Fernandes

Catch a first glimpse at the film by Brendan Fernandes that took place within Millennium Park's Lurie Garden. The movement-based piece, featuring dancers outfitted with custom costumes by Rad Hourani, engages with ballet history and Chicago's prairie landscape to envision passages of time demarcated by the Japanese calendar. The final performance is scheduled for Saturday, October 23, 2021.

Film / Editing: Dominic del Carmine

Sound: Alex Ingzelian

---

## ABOUT

### FLOATING MUSEUM

Floating Museum is an arts collective based in Chicago, IL, that creates new models exploring relationships between art, community, architecture, and public institutions. Using site-responsive art, design, and programming they explore the potential in these relationships, considering the infrastructure, history, and aesthetics of a space. Floating Museum is co-directed by Avery R Young, Andrew Schachman, Faheem Majeed and Jeremiah Hulsebos-Spofford.

### MALMÖ ART MUSEUM

Founded in 1841, the Malmö Art Museum is one of the leading art museums in Scandinavia. The museum building, built in 1937, is located in the Malmö Castle complex in Malmö, Scania, in southern Sweden. Malmö Konstmuseum has one of Sweden's largest art collections, comprising some 40,000 objects. This unique collection is owned by the City of Malmö and its inhabitants. The exhibition *Sustainable Societies for the Future* ran at Malmö Art Museum from February 1–May 23, 2021.

### EXPO CHICAGO

EXPO CHICAGO, The International Exposition of Contemporary & Modern Art features leading international galleries alongside a leading platform for contemporary art and cultural programming. The EXPO CHICAGO program features an unprecedented commitment to host curatorial initiatives during the exposition, including the Curatorial Forum in partnership with Independent Curators International (ICI), and the Curatorial Exchange, which partners with foreign agencies and consulates to expand the exposition's global reach. Kirse Junge-Stevnsborg, co-curator of *Sustainable Societies for the Future*, was a participant of the program in 2018 which initiated the collaboration between EXPO CHICAGO and the Malmö Art Museum. EXPO CHICAGO is also the publisher of THE SEEN, Chicago's only international journal of contemporary and modern art criticism, distributed throughout the United States and Europe.

### NORDIC TALKS

Nordic Talks is a series of live talks and podcasts addressing the biggest global challenges. Through conversations with some of the brightest minds in the Nordics and their counterparts from around the world we want to inspire each other to act for a better, more sustainable future. Nordic Talks is designed to provide a space for contemplation and to share inspiration on how to take action on sustainability issues in our everyday lives. All Nordic Talks are dedicated to addressing the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and all talks provide specific ideas on how we as citizens can take concrete action starting today.

*Thank you to the Nordic Culture Fond, Nordic Council of Ministers (Nordic Talks), The Danish Arts Foundation (DK), The Danish Agency for Culture and Palaces (DK), Mondriaan Foundation (NL), OCA (NO), FRAME (FI), and Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation (US).*

NORDIC  
TALKS



ART-2030  
CONNECTING ART &  
THE UN GLOBAL GOALS



---

# # #