

GÁTT Nordic Arts Festival takes over KoncertKirken

GÁTT Nordic Arts Festival is a new multidisciplinary art festival that happens for the first time at KoncertKirken in Copenhagen 11.-13.11.2022. GÁTT is an artist-led festival presenting voices of young Nordic artists, the program consists of nine events containing art installations, performances, experimental music as well as discussions and workshops.

The name of the festival, gátt, is referring to an Icelandic word meaning portal; doorway or gateway. Composer Lil Lacy describes the idea behind the name: “We see the collaborations between the artists, as well as the process of creating the festival, as a very important gateway for new ways of collaborating, exploring, creating and meeting colleagues across different fields of art in the Nordic countries. At the same time, we hope to open up Nordic art to audiences through this portal of a festival.”

Weekend of different expressions

On Friday the festival opens with a premiere screening of JÖRD and the vernissage of Frúgv-exhibition. The exhibition presents a diverse collection of installations that have a common thread of femininity – a journey from Norse mythology to postmodern life. The evening is finished with a performance event dealing with the body by visiting the themes of transformation, resilience and playfulness.

Saturday’s acoustic concert brings together contemporary compositions and singer-songwriter Elina Ijäs’s songs in the Northern Sámi language. The concert features musicians August Shieldrop, Bendik Foss and Eirik Helledal Fosstveit and Ensemble Slør (Anna Jalving, Malthe Vølfing Højager and Frederik Sakham). The concert is followed by a panel discussion on cultural roots and international collaboration. In the evening event the audience can experience electroacoustic performances with string instruments, experimental voice and electronic club music.

The last day of the festival invites the audience to participate. Sunday starts with a relaxed reading lounge with a cup of coffee where the festival artists and audience members can read out loud excerpts from their favourite books in their mother tongue. Ilmastokirkko-collective will hold a workshop about art and activism. The festival ends with a collaborative improvisational happening where there is time and place to experiment together. One of the artists of the festival, film director María Tórgarð explains: “The whole concept of the festival is the baseline of experimentation and openness for creativity; creating a common space and meeting ground for artists to show their work and to explore together. Creating a space for contemporary Nordic art, and trying to connect throughout the Nordics, as well as the local community of Copenhagen.”

Experimental festival production

Creating GÁTT Nordic Arts Festival has been an intriguing process since the festival planning has been mostly made online – some of the festival makers have never met each other in person. The artists who are behind the festival live in Iceland, The Faroe Islands, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland. Most of the artists have a connection through the Platform GÁTT initiative for young emerging Nordic artists. The group of artists creating the GÁTT Nordic Arts Festival has since then grown locally, with the collaboration with Danish



artists and Aarhus Unge Tonekunstnere. The process has been unusual: “We have worked hard to create this festival using a flat and democratic structure so that everyone would share workloads and get their voices heard”, Tórgarð explains. The festival team believes that the things learned throughout the process will be beneficial for the future in many ways – having an intense and concrete experience on how to nurture and establish connections to colleagues abroad and across disciplines and how to have an overview of festival production.

Open space for artists and audiences

GÁTT Nordic Arts Festival aims to create an open space – in the heart of that pursuit is the venue where everything happens, KoncertKirken. Composer Martin Torvik Langerød puts it this way: “I think it is vital for young artists to find inviting and open spaces for art creation, exploration and collaboration where common boundaries between different art forms, expressions and structures disappear and where institutions play a lesser role. We are trying to create such a space, with all its potential for collisions and disaster, and it's incredibly exciting!” The events are free of charge. The last day of the festival enables people who are interested to take part more actively, further information will be given in the festival website and social media channels. We hope that the festival will appeal to a diverse audience!

Press inquiries:

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Press pictures can be downloaded [here](#)

More info about GÁTT Nordic Arts Festival:

[Instagram](#) [Facebook](#) [Website](#)



JÖRD is a project by Maria Guldbrandsø Tórgarð (FO), Vár Bech Ártung (FO), Lisen Pousette (SE), Tiia Kasurinen (FI) and Lil Lacy (DK/US).
The installation will be premiered at GÁTT Nordic Arts Festival.

In collaboration:



AUT



NORDIC-BALTIC
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NORDISK
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MUSIC NORWAY



Loftbrúgv

Artists of the festival:

Anna Jarosz
Anthoni Hætta
Antonio Granieri
Artist on the Moon
Elina Ijäs
Esben Thomassen Andersen
Ilmastokirkko
Jacob Ridderberg
JÖRD
Josuè Blanco
Lil Lacy
Lisen Pousette
Maria Guldbrandsø Tórgarð
Marleena Halonen
Martin Torvik Langerød
Mittens
Ronja Louhivuori
Tiia Kasurinen
TØNDRA
Tytti Arola
Vár Bech Ártíng
virate.me
Yanina Aspenkjær

Musicians:

August Shieldrop
Bendik Foss
Eirik Hellerdal Fosstveit
Ensemble Slør (Anna Jalving, Malthe
Volfing Højager and Frederik Sakham)

Visual identity of the festival: Lucía Peralta