

**COPENHAGEN
EDITION**

**Getting to
grips with
Denmark's
high rate
of male
suicide**

**Futuristic
technology
will be
pervasive,
ubiquitous,
invisible**

**The locals
standing
against gas
drilling in
their back-
yards**



A man of many talents

Whether it's fashion, design or music, Henrik Vibskov's gifts know no bounds

THE MURMUR

Sometimes a simple statistic can make you pause – more than three times as many Danes died in suicides in 2013 than in traffic accidents. Suicide is actually the single most common cause of death for all men between 20 and 49 years old. Among men who die in their 40s, 13 percent do so by their own hand.

And yet, there seems to be relative silence on the issue. Are we facing a taboo, which discourages people from seeking help? And why is it that men are more than twice as likely as women to commit suicide? Are the two questions linked?

In this issue, we attempt to better understand the disquieting phenomenon that, according to anti-suicide campaigners Livslinien, affects around 75,000 people every year. We look at why men are particularly at risk, and speak to the people left behind to find out how they learn to cope.

One theory behind the high representation of men in suicide statistics is that men are still culturally discouraged from opening up about their feelings. This can lead to loneliness and increased introversion, which may only make negative feelings worse.

Discussing mental health can still feel uncomfortable, but we hope that drawing attention to it will encourage people to seek help through their support networks, be it friends, family, or organisations such as Livslinien.

Other forms of alienation are discussed in this issue. Mija Byung was

born in South Korea and adopted by Danish parents. She believes a new and less rose-tinted narrative about transnational adoption is needed. For while she was told that she was Danish above all else – she called it ‘super integration’ – her different appearance did not grant her the same privileges as her white peers.

Lesley-Ann Brown also touches on the issue of integration, and how being Danish still seems to be a right bestowed by the majority culture, rather than an identity that anyone can adopt in their own way. Do you have to be white to be Danish? With words like ‘nydansker’ and the insistence on counting the number of generations a person’s family has lived in the country, it can sometimes seem that way.

This is our twelfth issue, and we have found our stride. We started out with a clear mission: to produce high-quality news and commentary on Danish society and culture in English. But we have over time developed a focus on marginalised and disenfranchised groups, and those that sit on the fringes of mainstream culture, from the immigrant to the prostitute, and from the queer to the homeless. We think these issues are important, and our readers seem to agree.

Thank you for the support – for picking us up, reading us, sharing us, writing us, criticising us. We appreciate it all. If you have an idea, please don’t hesitate to get in touch.

THE MURMUR

Leakage of fracking chemicals will be catastrophic for generations. This will have huge consequences for our farmers and anyone drinking the water

AAGE OLSEN

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CONTRIBUTORS



Elias Thorsson Elias is pursuing his master's degree at the University of Copenhagen, studying American politics. He is the assistant editor at The Murmur and this month investigated the high rates of male suicide in Denmark.



Lesley Price A freelance journalist and copywriter hailing from Australia, Lesley has been living in Copenhagen for the past three years. She currently works for Danish NPO, INDEX: Design to Improve Life®. This month she interviewed acclaimed sex researcher James Giles.



Khara Lewin Before moving to Denmark, Khara was a News Assistant at CNN and is now studying at the IT University of Copenhagen. This issue she wrote about the future of interactive technology.



Lesley-Ann Brown A Trinidadian-American freelance writer living in Copenhagen, Lesley-Ann studied writing at The New School, NYC. She wrote about one fundamental difference between being a Dane and an American.



Oliver Raassina An editorial intern at The Murmur, Oliver focuses on art, culture and nightlife. In this issue, he selected three locations to eat, drink and party in the city.



Mija Byung An architect and cultural developer, Mija has the interests of mankind at heart. A South Korean adoptee, her op-ed discussed a new narrative that is appearing about transnational adoption.



Alice Minor Hailing from Seattle, Alice is working to understand Danish society through the lens of intersectional feminism. This month, she visited the anti-fracking protest camp in North Jutland.



Alistair Cooper A freelance writer and law student from Scotland, Alistair laps up European politics when most switch off. In this issue he slices through the EU's hottest potato – TTIP.



Henry Richards An English born, Australian grown writer who calls Denmark home, Henry likes everything here except the herring. This month he recommends some apps that will help you put down your phone.



Rasmus Degnbol an award winning documentary photographer and filmmaker, Rasmus created imagery for the articles on male suicide.

MASTHEAD

Peter Stanners Editor-In-Chief, peter@murmur.dk

Mark Millen Director, Sales and Marketing, mark@murmur.dk

Mette Salomonsen Art Director, www.salomet.dk

Kevin McGwin Journalist, kevin@murmur.dk

SALES For advertising sales, please contact: advertising@murmur.dk
CONTACT THE MURMUR, Hedebygade 14, st.tv., 1754 Copenhagen V.
info@murmur.dk

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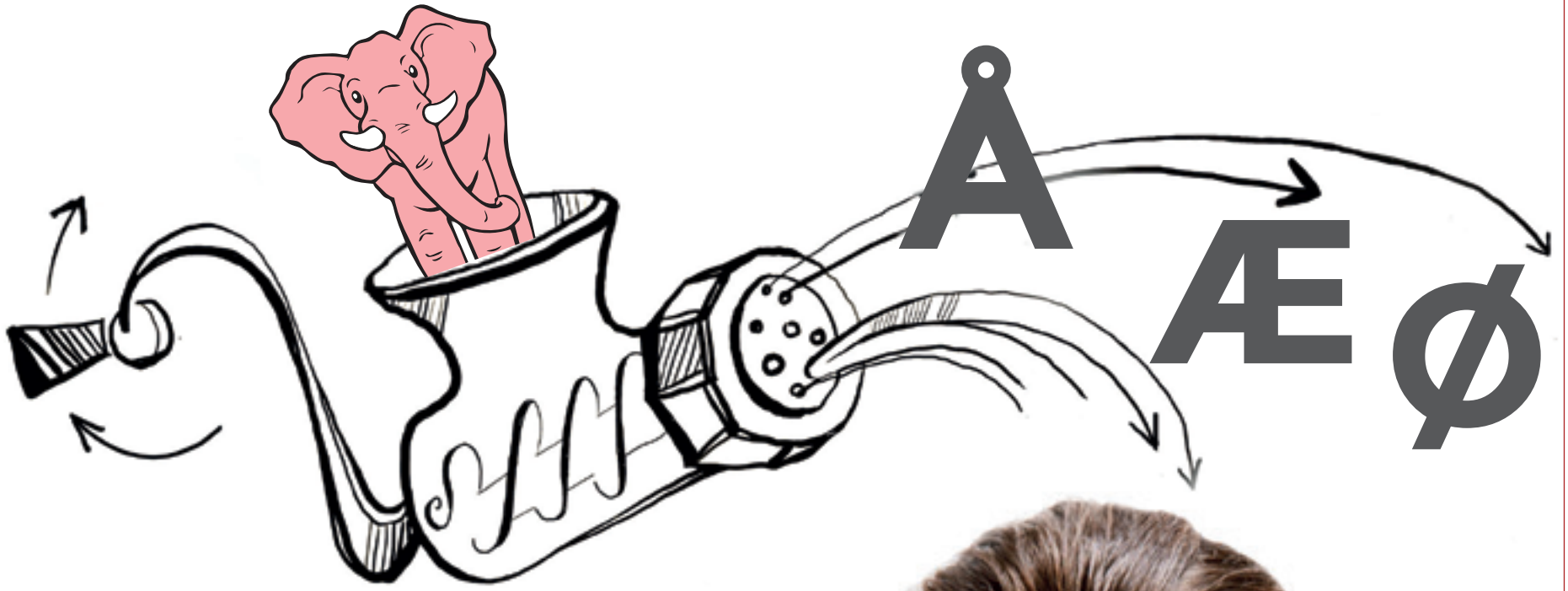
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MONTH IN REVIEW

Kristaps Bergfelds



The newest Danes

Around 3000 people were officially granted citizenship in parliament last month on the tenth annual Citizenship Day. Twice a year parliament reviews request for citizenship and this latest number was the highest since the current government took office in 2011.

WHEN IS A MUSLIM A NAZI?

STOP, NAZI, ISLAM, ISME. This was the slogan the Conservative party chose to put on its election posters across the country. The campaign drew widespread criticism, including from within their own ranks. Speaking recently to an audience of students, Lars Barfoed, the party's former leader, sought to distance himself from the campaign.

"This is a part of the political view that we should seek to combat radicalism, which is a view I share. But I am not in a position to explain whether this was a smart marketing move."

Party chairman Søren Pape Poulsen and parliamentary candidate Naser Khader defended the campaign in an open letter in Århus Stiftstidende newspaper, claiming that Nazism and Islamism are related, as they both seek to "exterminate people whom they label as sub human".



Instagram / Anders Leonhard

DRUG DEBT MURDER

A man found murdered and with his hands and feet bound last month, was probably killed over a drug debt. Jonathan Holst Nielsen was caught and sentenced for possession of 4.7 kilos of cannabis last september. Police say he was likely killed for being unable to repay his supplier an estimated 250,000 kroner the drugs cost.

Elias Thorsson



Facebook / Fathi El-Abed

Boobs, yes. Anti-settlement, no

Bus operator Movia is under fire after removing adverts that urge a boycott of illegal Israeli settlements. The adverts were displayed on busses and bought by the Danish-Palestinian Friendship Association. They depicted two women stating that they had clean consciences, because they did not buy products from Israeli-occupied Palestinian land.

Movia removed the adverts after receiving complaints, and argued that it was too easy to conflate a criticism of Israel with anti-Jewish speech. "We assessed that the advert was needlessly offensive," Movia spokesperson Camilla Struckmann told Politiken newspaper.

The decision was made by Movia's board, which is composed of nine politicians from across the country. It raised eyebrows, because the same logic has not been applied to other controversial adverts. One advert for breast augmentation surgery – that showed actual breasts – was not removed despite widespread dissatisfaction.



Early registration is advisable since places are limited.

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TRAIN A-OKAY
Compared to the rest of Europe, Danish state train provider DSB is on top of its game. A new report from The Boston Consulting Group has show that Denmark's train system ranks among the best in Europe. The main factors taken into account were punctuality, average speed and ticket prices. In these parameters, only Switzerland and Sweden did better. Denmark also ranked highly with regards to how much public investment goes into the train system and how effectively those funds are put to use. Southern European countries filled the bottom slots, with Portugal and Slovakia especially plagued by security issues.



René Strandbygaard

NO AUTOMATIC CUSTODY
A parent that has been found guilty of murdering their spouse, should no longer be given automatic custody of their children. The proposal from social affairs minister Manu Sareen arrives after a high profile case, in which a man was granted custody of his children after he killed their mother, Hafida Bourouih. The mother's family were shocked that he was given the automatic right of custody, ahead of them but Sareen now wants to better protect the needs of children.
"We have a majority for the direction the new law should go and we agree that we should remove the priority right that parents now have," he told TV2 News.



Vito Manzari

SHARING REFUGEES MORE FAIRLY
Following a meeting with prime minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt, German Chancellor Angela Merkel has called on the EU to find a way to better distribute the exploding numbers of refugees from North Africa and the Middle East. Over 1,700 have died so far this year trying to cross the Mediterranean. "We all have a responsibility. The question is just how we share the burden of helping those come here. The Dublin Convention is clearly not enough," Merkel said. According to the Dublin Convention, asylum seekers must have their cases processed in the country of entry. This has placed an uneven burden on countries like Italy and Greece.
Last month, at an emergency EU leader's summit, it was decided to establish a system for sharing the number of refugees between EU member states. Countries can volunteer to join the sharing programme, but Thorning-Schmidt has said that Denmark will not participate.

ASYLUM PROPOSAL THREATENED
Both far-left Enhedslisten and the large right-wing parties have said they will not support the government's plan for getting refugees into the labour market. During her annual New Year's speech, prime minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt said that asylum seekers should work for their benefits. Enhedslisten claimed it will suppress Danish wages, while the right-wing parties feel the proposal – that refugees should work a minimum 10 hours per week – is not enough.



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RESEARCH

LASTING EFFECT OF BANNED CHEMICAL

You know how mistakes from the past can pop up and sully the present? Well, researchers from Aarhus University and Aarhus University Hospital have given us one more mistake to add to that uncomfortably long list.

Together with an international team, the researchers have found that an old ingredient in stain repellent Scotchguard, from multinational 3M, is causing disproportionate amounts of stomach fat in children whose mothers were exposed to the product during pregnancy.

The offending chemical is perfluorooctane sulfonate, or PFOS, a man-made chemical that was created to bond surfaces together. It was mostly used in Scotchguard as well as some stain repellents and fire fighting equipment such as extinguishing foams.

PFOS was first introduced in 1949, and by 1976 it had already been suggested that the presence of PFOS in products was detrimental to consumers' health. However, it was not until 2000 that 3M started phasing out the chemical from its production. It was not banned in the EU until 2006.

Though the pollutant is now defunct, it has long lasting characteristics. The chemical degrades very slowly and is still present in some furniture, fabrics and fire fighting equipment. An amendment to the EU's ban also allows its continued use in hydraulic fluid for commercial airplanes, and China continues to produce and export products with PFOS. Traces of the compound can be found in Danish groundwater.

A recent study has confirmed what many have long suspected, that PFOS acts as an endocrine disruptor, which are chemicals that interfere with the functioning of hormones in the body.

The study followed over 1,000 children between the ages of five



Flickr / Gaussin

PFOS exposure might be responsible for excess weight gain in some children.

and nine whose mothers were especially exposed to PFOS during their pregnancies. It found that these children had an increased risk of excess abdominal fat – a type of fat that is related to obesity, cardiovascular diseases and type 2 diabetes – compared to children of the same age whose mothers were exposed to lower levels of the chemical.

PFOS could therefore be responsible for a share of the 16% of Danish boys and 20% of Danish girls who, according to the OECD, suffer from obesity.

MISSION INFLAMMABLE

Grunde Jomaas, Associate Professor of Civil Engineering at the Technical University of Denmark

(DTU), is coordinating a team of experts to better understand how fire behaves in space and weightless environments.

All space-borne crafts require ventilation systems to control the flow of breathable air, but this very same air can allow flames to spread quickly and unpredictably. The project, entitled the 'Safe Cosmos' project, is housed in the European Space Agency and is partnered with NASA.

To eliminate flammability risk on rockets bound for the great beyond, Jomaas and his team are conducting experiments on so-called 'vomit comets'. These are planes that fly in a series of parabolas, climbing and diving steeply, and in such a way that simulates the sensation of weightlessness for around 22 seconds at a time.

A recent study has confirmed what many have long suspected – PFOS acts as an endocrine disruptor

Nereya Ofieno

This is long enough to study the flammability of materials in zero gravity.

During the flights, the researchers ignite 30cm-by-5cm samples of different materials via a short circuit. If the sample does not create flames that spread further than 15cm over three different flight tests, it is deemed safe for use in space. This means that the progression of flames on this material is controllable enough in zero gravity.

Each flight is carefully designed beforehand and with extreme precaution, as the flights are both costly and risky. They also provide useful data for researchers as well as security for astronauts. It is important, interesting and dangerous work. It is also really, really cool. **M**



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Q&A

BICYCLE GURU

**MIKAEL COLVILLE-ANDERSEN –
COPENHAGENIZE CONSULTING**

In recent years, urban planners around the world have had their eyes fixed on Copenhagen, trying to figure out why the city has become such an attractive place to live. There may be many answers to that question, but to Mikael Colville-Andersen the main reason is simple – bicycles

Can you explain what you do?

We have a consulting company called Copenhagenize, which advises cities and governments around the world on how to make their cities more bicycle-friendly. We help cities by showing them how they can replicate what we have done here in Copenhagen with bicycles.

Why are you passionate about bicycles?

Well, I don't really love bicycles, I'm just a regular guy who uses a bike to get around. In fact, I don't really give a shit about them. I like them because they make sense, and they are the primary way to develop a liveable city. Creating bike traffic to allow people to get from A to B is the best way to kick-start that process.

Why are bicycles important to creating liveable cities?

Every city was bicycle-friendly 70 years ago, but in the 50s, we had one of history's biggest brain farts and started to prioritise the automobile. We can now see that this led to massive problems for our cities. A bike city is genuinely better, because bicycles are basically just fast-moving pedestrians. And cities with more bike traffic are generally cities we want to live in. Our cities were not made for automobiles, and it is becoming clear that it doesn't work. The best thing is to have a



Mikael Colville-Andersen presents the Copenhagenize vision at TEDxCopenhagen in 2010.

good mix of public transportation and bicycles.

Are the Danish authorities doing a good enough job with regard to bicycles?

The main problem is that we are not the Netherlands. They are, in many ways, 10 to 15 years ahead of us. But we are doing a good job compared to the rest of the world. We have created a uniform infrastructure that allows you to take a bike on a train anywhere in the country and use it without any problem once you get there.

Prosperity is now a major issue. Denmark is a rich country, there is a lot of money, and politicians are still investing that money in building and expanding motorways. Prosperity can be seductive in that way. Politically, there is often this idea that if you have money, you should use it on big projects. But again, globally, you have the Netherlands,

Denmark and Japan who are ahead of the rest, with the first two being the best.

What needs to be done in order to make Copenhagen a better city?

The biggest problem is that Copenhagen has become very cool, and has been a hot brand for around six years. This is causing us to rest on our laurels, because the world is looking at us and telling us we're pretty. But we also have to watch what the rest of the world is doing. By 2020, half of the roads in Paris will have a top speed of 30 kmh. In Barcelona that number is 80 percent. Yet here, there is very little talk about slowing down cars in the city, so in that regard we are light-years behind.

The other main problem is the police. They have a veto right over urban planning, so if the city wants to propose a traffic calming measure, they can say no without ex-

planation. This is very unusual in Europe, and has to change before anything else. Police should not dictate urban planning, just enforce laws. This situation has been a massive hindrance, especially in Copenhagen, though it is better in Aarhus. This is keeping our cities from becoming more liveable.

The other thing is that politicians need to fucking wake up. The health benefits of bicycles are well documented, and so are the destructive effects of cars. Politicians generally are on board, but they need to make it a core theme. The world is watching us because we are such a hot city. We can redefine urban living, and if we do, the world will follow. But now we're spending a lot of time just looking in the mirror and thinking about how pretty we are.

What do you like most about Copenhagen?

I like the fact that I can ride my bike basically anywhere, and especially that I can do that with my children. I have a seven-year-old daughter and a thirteen-year-old son, and every square meter of the city is accessible to me and to them – we are not locked into car ownership. Everywhere we go, we can go on a bike, and for a seven-year-old, that is amazing. I have that same feeling – nobody is the boss of me. I can go to work or to the café, I can bike home extremely drunk on a Saturday, and it is safe and accessible.

What is also great is the connection with the train system, what we call inter-modality. I can chuck my bike on the train and the metro and have my bike with me 24 hours a day.

What is your favourite spot?

Wherever I am, so long as I'm on a date! Actually, no I don't really have a favourite spot. I live in Frederiksberg, but I spend most of my social time in Vesterbro. I like Papirøen, the Paper Island, where I have my office. It is an awesome island community with plenty of exciting projects and businesses. If I had to pick it would have to be here. It is a really unique area. **M**

I don't really love bicycles, I'm just a regular guy who uses a bike to get around

Elias Thorsson

CHECK OUT

ØSTRE ANLÆG

As Copenhagen blossoms after another dreary winter, we can finally start to enjoy the many parks and green spaces the city has to offer. There are many to choose from, but our favourite is Østre Anlæg. Located just a stone's throw from Nørreport station, it offers a more sedate and relaxed atmosphere than the rowdier Kongens Have across the street.

Østre Anlæg is all but hidden behind the stately national gallery, Statens Museum for Kunst, which holds the country's largest art collection, including a free permanent exhibition. The park was originally part of the defensive moat system that protected Copenhagen's old city from cannon fire.

Covering around 12 acres, and outfitted with playgrounds, sculptures, and basketball courts, it's a great spot to sit with a cold beer. The coolest thing about Østre Anlæg, though, is Püchlers Bastion, atop a hill in the centre of the park, where three lions guard a naked, voluptuous woman – a symbol of the Kingdom of Denmark.

In addition to hosting the biggest art collection in the country, Østre Anlæg is also where you'll find the Hirschsprung Collection, which showcases some of the best



The gallery Statens Museum for Kunst rises above the park's serene lake.

Danish art from the 19th and early 20th century.

This amount of art can make even the staunchest art lovers feel overwhelmed, so the park and the cafe in the National Gallery are just perfect. Pop out, have a cup of coffee, then return for some more Manet.

The park also hosts a number

of public events. The latest season of "Game of Thrones" was premiered on a big outdoor screen, where films are shown throughout the summer.

It is also possible to get a taste of old Denmark at nearby restaurant Under Uret, which serves traditional food and drinks. This used to be one of the city's best

and most interesting bodegas, run by a family of loyal innkeepers until the last owner died in 2013. So there are plenty of old drunk spirits to see and hear.

All in all, Østre Anlæg is one of the city's prettier and nicer parks, and you should definitely check it out the next time it's not raining. **M**

Elias Thorsson

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The science of love and attraction

INTERVIEW Our sexual preferences can seem random and unpredictable, but professor James Giles is helping us get to the bottom of it

You feel a rush of excitement and nervousness. Your heart pounds, and your senses are overwhelmed. Just looking at someone can fill you with this sensation, with love. But while it seems like your insides are on fire, the core of your feeling is really an existential desire to engage in a complex exchange of mutual vulnerability and care.

"Love might be a mystery, but it can still be explained," says philosopher and psychologist James Giles, who is currently teaching psychology at Roskilde University, and also lectures at the University of Cambridge.

The analysis of love and sexual allure has been an in-depth study for Giles. An esteemed author and lecturer, his findings and theories have provided precious insight into our love lives, though they can at times surprise.

Take, for example, a scene that plays out in a popular YouTube video, which he uses in his teaching. A man casually walks up to a woman on the street. Brimming

Most people don't like to accept the idea that they aren't complete, but in all cases desire seems to be driven by a sense of lack

Lesley Price

with confidence, he tells her how pretty she is and promptly asks her out for dinner. She accepts the compliment but refuses his bold gesture. He continues to pursue her as she walks on, trying to persuade her to change her mind, but she firmly resists.

But when they stop by his car and he opens the door, she pauses. It's a Ferrari.

"Is that your car?" she says. "Yes," he replies. "Oh, well then maybe I am free for dinner tonight." To our delight, he ruthlessly rejects her.

"People often think that things like possessions make a man more sexually attractive," explained Giles. "In this example, however, it is obvious that the woman is not attracted to the man, but only to his money. But isn't this really what is going in most such cases, where possessions seem to render someone more attractive? For possessions have nothing to do with sexual attraction, which is solely concerned with physical appearance. And the same could be

said of apparent sexual attraction to someone's personality. Personality is only attractive if the person's physical appearance sexually attracts us first."

THE FOUR ORIENTATIONS

Giles argues that love falls into four categories. The dependency orientation is characterised by the need to be cared for, and the paternalistic orientation by wanting to care for others, without being cared for yourself.

The final two categories sound a little more extreme, but Giles says they are versions of love most can still identify with. The sadistic orientation makes you crave power and thrive on other people's vulnerability. Its opposite is the masochistic orientation, in which you desire to be controlled, humiliated and even harmed.

"This could be the constant pursuing of someone – the more rejection and hurt you endure, the more you want them – and sometimes we're willing to go to extreme lengths."

The big question is why we bother, when relationships have the potential to be so damaging? The answer lies in the brain. Last year, researchers from Yale University discovered distinctive neurological differences between two varieties of love, selfless and romantic.

Published in the American journal *Brain and Behavior*, the researchers found that selfless love – relating to a deep desire for someone else's happiness without it being reciprocated – activates the same reward center of the brain as cocaine. It's like having your own supply of never-ending stimulants.

Romantic love, on the other hand, activates parts of the brain associated with habit formation. This leaves you with a sense of craving and withdrawal, unlike selfless love, which is limitless.

FAVOURABLE FAMILY TIES

According to Giles, our first primal feelings of love are experienced in infancy, formed through a strong maternal bond that teaches us hab-

its of love and affection.

"We often seek to repeat that mother-child relationship in our adulthood. But it's not just mental, it's also physical. Our first sexual experience is essentially with our mothers, from the constant skin-to-skin contact through the act of breastfeeding."

Our families affect our sexual preferences well into adulthood, argues Giles, pointing to studies that have shown that people who have positive relationships with their parents are likely to select sexual partners who resemble them.

We may also choose our partner to fulfil a sense of deficiency in our own lives, he argues. As we grow, we feel a loss of the early and intimate affection from our opposite-sex parent. The affection from our opposite-sex partner becomes a sort of replacement for that parental love. This is the basis of heterosexual attraction, according to Giles.

With female homosexual attraction, evidence suggests that its basis might be a lack of affection from or absence of the father. It is interesting that women who report problems achieving orgasm also tend to report poor relationships with their fathers.

"Most people don't like to accept the idea that they aren't complete, but in all cases desire seems to be driven by a sense of lack," he says, adding that these theories aren't rigid rules.

"It's important that we acknowledge that while these theories are substantiated, they're not always going to apply to everyone."

NEWER PERSPECTIVES

In Giles' new book, *Sexual Attraction: The Psychology of Allure*, he discusses the fundamental elements of sexual attraction and different levels of engagement. He argues that sexual attraction and sexual desire are two different things, and identifying their differences allows us to shed light on our own relationships.

"Attraction can be explained as a sense of being helplessly drawn to the



Professor James Giles. His new book 'Sexual Attraction: The Psychology of Allure' will be published by Praeger in June 2015.

attractive person, like an external force or a magnet that has its source in the other person. Sexual desire, however, is something we experience as coming from within ourselves and being directed outwards."

Giles' book discusses in detail the experience of sexual attraction—what he calls "allure"—and argues that sexual attraction is widespread, occurring to varying degrees in most interactions between men and women.

But while his pioneering work might leave us wanting more, he says the discussion of sex is still a huge taboo in some academic settings.

As an example, he recalls a lecture he gave at the University of Guam, where he found his proposed discussions were unwelcome due to the audience's firmly embedded cultural and religious influences.

"'Are you trying to make me doubt my faith?' one woman irritably asked after I gave a lecture," he recounted. "'Of course,' I said, 'This is a university!' I don't want people to lose their beliefs, I just ask that they keep an open mind. After all, what could be more important than understanding one of our most primal and powerful behaviours?" **M**

IS LEARNING DANISH TOO BIG A CHALLENGE?



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MEPs from the Greens/European Free Alliance protested against TTIP in February.

TTIP and the cost of free trade

It is hoped that the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership will increase trade between the EU and the US. But sceptics don't trust that the secret negotiations will benefit consumers, while proponents have little to support their optimism

TTIP is Europe's dirtiest acronym. On the one hand, business leaders are selling the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership as the right medicine to treat Europe's sick economy.

On the other, TTIP is being met with strong resistance across civil society. Not only do the private negotiations to shape the deal lack transparency, aspects of the deal that have been released raise concern that democracy and consumer protection will bear the costs of improved trade.

In March, an EU-wide coalition of 375 NGOs penned an open letter to MEPs expressing "deep concern" over the agreement. In response, the US Embassy in Copenhagen released a "Call to Action" report, which encouraged Danish businesses to promote TTIP.

But the report's promise of economic growth, better environmental protection, and higher safety standards was condemned by the Danish Ecological Council (DEC).

"There is no evidence that's what TTIP will do. I'd almost call it propaganda," argues Tobias Sørensen, TTIP consultant at DEC.

WHOSE STANDARDS?

It is hard to judge what the impact of TTIP will be, given how little we know about it. While the European Commission and US authorities con-

tinue their private talks, it is ultimately the European Parliament has the final say on whether it will be adopted.

But while few details have so far leaked from the negotiations, we do know that its focus is two-fold: harmonising import duties and standardising rules and legislation.

It would make sense that trade between the EU and the US would benefit from harmonised rules. The problem now is that products designed to conform to the EU market don't necessarily live up to US regulations, and vice versa. To fix this, negotiators want to introduce so-called 'mutual recognition', in which products that meet standards in one market are then automatically approved for sale in the other market.

The difference in standards between the US and the EU can sometimes be trivial. But in some cases, these differences are more fundamental in nature and reflect different attitudes to protecting against potential harm.

In the US paradigm, harm must normally be demonstrated with a high degree of certainty before regulations are introduced. The EU, however, has adopted the so-called precautionary principle, which allows it to step in and regulate with a lower burden of proof when inaction could result in significant harm.

The difference in approach has led the EU to ban three insecticides due to the risk they pose

Trade agreements between the EU and other countries have never been transparent

CHRISTEL SCHALDMOSE, MEP SOCIAL DEMOCRATS

Alistair Cooper

to honeybees, while the US argues there is insufficient evidence of harm to ban their use.

"A former US trade representative, now a lobbyist for big businesses, has said that TTIP was only worth doing if the precautionary principle could be done away with," recalls Sørensen, adding that he fears mutual recognition would be a race to the lowest standards.

"You can't throw everything in a box and say - now we recognise it all. Our cultures and systems are so different."

MISPLACED FEARS

Not everyone agrees with Sørensen's analysis.

"Broadly speaking, what's good for an American consumer is also good for a European consumer and vice versa," says Einer Dyrhauge, Executive Director of the Danish-American Business Forum.

"It's hard to believe that certain standards on one continent would hugely influence higher standards in the other. We don't see a real danger there."

This view is shared by Ole Schmidt, Head of Policy at the American Chamber of Commerce.

"Mutual recognition will make a big difference to all companies, particularly small ones. The critics argue that standards will be lowered, but nothing in the negotiating mandates suggest that should be the case. There are a

lot of no-go areas, and the EU and US respect that."

Christel Schaldemose, Danish MEP for the Social Democrats also agrees, and says fears that the EU will have to accept lower standards from the US are misplaced. She sits on the committee for consumer protection in the European Parliament, and points out that the EU doesn't always have higher standards than the US.

"No one in the EU wants to lower standards," she says, adding that when the EU and US modify legislation in the future, it needs to be informed by better transatlantic dialogue.

ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

Another controversial area of TTIP is the decision to allow foreign companies to sue governments if they are affected by legislative changes. The Investor State Dispute Settlement, ISDS, is already well established within the EU. For example, the Swedish energy giant Vattenfall demanded €3.7 million in damages from the German government after it halted its nuclear energy programme in the wake of the Fukushima disaster.

"The critics say it's terrible that you can sue governments – but we've always been able to sue governments, it doesn't mean you will win," says Ole Schmidt.

"It's not a question of whether the state has a right to regulate – it's whether they need to compensate an investor who has invested in good faith, perhaps even several billions, only to see it go up in smoke after a legislative change."

Sørensen is unconvinced, however, arguing that the necessary legal systems to let businesses sue governments already exist.

"[The proposed] arbitration body consists of three private lawyers who are biased in favour of big corporations. It would be problematic and undemocratic to let them judge whether new regulations or rules are illegal."

Schaldemose recognises these concerns and argues that the proposed ISDS mechanism needs to change.

"While it's fair to have a mechanism to decide on agreement interpretation, it must not compromise the democratic system. If we want a minimum wage, it must be possible. I don't care if this causes them to get less return for their investment, be-

cause that's how it is in a democratic system," she says.

TRANSPARENCY

Calls for greater transparency have plagued negotiations. At a time when the EU is subject to increasing pressure over its democratic deficit, the debate signals a turning point with respect to the European Commission's recent commitment to increased transparency.

"It has lacked transparency from the outset," says Sørensen. "It was just politicians and bureaucrats saying this is going to be a gift to the economy and consumers and everyone will win. Only after a huge amount of pressure were some documents released. We're scared that a lot of information will be published right at the end, so there will be very little time to scrutinise and discuss it before it's adopted."

Schmidt and the American Chamber of Commerce dismiss these allegations.

"It's clear that [people like Sørensen] don't want change, and will use whatever argument they can to whip up a political storm against it. If the negotiators come up with a result people don't like, they are blamed for not being transparent – it's just ridiculous."

While Schaldemose acknowledges that there is still room for improvement, she also suggests the issue has been overblown.

"Trade agreements between the EU and other countries have never been transparent. You can't have the public sitting around the negotiation table, but it is important that we can extend our political signals – that is what is happening now."

A Pew Research study in 2015 puts Danes amongst the most pro-TTIP Europeans, with 71% supporting the deal, compared to only 39% in Germany.

But while they may support the agreement in principle – making trade easier between the two markets – no one yet knows what sacrifices we will have to make to secure the benefits.

One irony is that while TTIP threatens the EU's precautionary approach to policy, that cautious approach might actually prove wisest when deciding whether to agree to TTIP's terms and conditions. Until the final agreement is held up for scrutiny and there's conclusive evidence available, we have little to go on – and that's a problem. **M**

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Through the eyes and down the rabbit hole

Technology is continually getting faster and smaller. But will it soon disappear from view completely? We visit a research lab and a start-up to find out more about the future of pervasive technology

I hold the tablet in my hand and wait anxiously as I stare at a dark screen. It comes to life and a watermelon leaps into view, then a kiwi, and then a banana. But, to my dismay, they fall out of the frame unscathed. I'm trying to play the popular mobile game 'Fruit Ninja', but instead of using my finger to slice the fruit, I'm supposed to use my eyes.

"Don't move your head, just move your eyes," says Anders Bo Pedersen, mobile developer at The Eye Tribe, a start-up that specializes in using eye-tracking technology to command devices.

I keep playing and suddenly, it clicks. I became the Fruit Ninja, and there was nowhere to hide from my wrath. There was a strawberry, and then it was gone. A rogue melon that thought it could escape found out the hard way that it couldn't.

To the outside observer, I was just holding a tablet, staring at it, and shouting sporadically "Whoa!" and "Cool!" But, in fact, a sensor was capturing my eyes' movements and using it to control the device – it was incredible.

Pedersen closes Fruit Ninja and opens The New York Times in a web browser. As I read an article, my eyes make their way towards the bottom of the screen. When my gaze rests on the last line, the page begins to scroll itself down.

By the time I am shown how to switch from one app to another using a combination of eye tracking and screen gestures, I wonder whether I'm reading the tablet, or if it's reading me.

PROXIMIC INTERACTION

Eye-tracking technology is just the latest invention in the perpetual, and seemingly infinite, iterative process of technology development. The first computers filled rooms, now they fit in our pockets. We used to have to press buttons, now we can just talk to them.

But while computers are getting smaller and smarter, are they also becoming increasingly integrated into our lives without us even knowing they are there. This



The Eye Tribe's small attachment is all it takes to control your mobile device with your eyes.

The Eye Tribe

has spawned a new generation of technology, so-called pervasive computing. But what does this really mean for consumers?

"When we talk about something being pervasive, it can be pervasive in the sense that it is all around us, or it can be pervasive in the sense that it is invisible, built in to everything around us," says Morten Esbensen, a PhD student at the Pervasive Interaction Technology (PIT) Lab at the IT University of Copenhagen, where researchers and PhD students explore new and innovative applications of technology.

In this first sense, it would certainly seem that technology has reached a level of ubiquity. Look up – how many people around you are staring at their telephones? The average person doesn't leave the house without a number of connected devices in tow.

But fellow PhD student Paolo Tell hastens to add that the second definition of pervasiveness has

been slower to materialise.

"Technology has not yet become pervasive in the sense of being invisible, even though many in the tech industry 20, 30 years ago prophesied that by now, it would be," says Tell.

One area of their research is global software development, which deals with creating tools to enable teams to seamlessly cooperate, no matter how many miles separate them. Esbensen shows me one of PIT Lab's solutions, the dBoard. It's one of two 65" flatscreen TVs with a touchscreen overlay, a camera and a motion sensor. The second dBoard is currently located in Germany.

"We use them to mimic the way work is conducted when teams are located in the same physical work space," he says.

Teams dispersed around the world currently use a combination of apps like Skype and Lync alongside shared documents and drives to communicate. The dBoard inte-

grates a number of these functions in a clear and seamless manner.

"The camera runs constantly unless it's switched off for privacy reasons, but if the motion sensor doesn't detect anyone's presence, the audio from the other board is muted and the picture is blurred," says Tell. "You can even knock on the screen like a door, and those working with the other dBoard can hear and respond."

"The dBoards are pervasive in the sense that this mechanism, what we call proxemic interaction, is invisible to us, the users," Esbensen explains.

But not everything in the lab is geared towards the highly specialized world of global software engineering. Other projects focus on adapting technology to better suit the needs and requirements of everyday life. The project Laevo, for example, is more focussed on fundamentally changing the way we interact with technology for the better.

Khara Lewin

"The easiest thing to compare Laevo to is a calendar system," explains PhD student Steven Jeuris. "But it's not a separate tool. Everything you do is associated with a certain calendar entry or activity, on a certain date, at a certain time."

What Laevo provides that our current operating systems don't, is rich and informative context. When we work on a specific task, oftentimes our work spans applications – we don't just use a word processor, we refer to emails, specific websites, or even other documents.

"Laevo allows all actions associated with a particular task at a particular time to be logged as such," Jeuris says. "It's like having an infinite number of desktops, each geared towards specific activities. When they're not being engaged, they lie suspended until you're ready to pick them back up again."

Today, computers are set up in terms of folders and sub-folders. If you are working on a document and save it to your hard drive, you can only resume work on that document when you remember where you saved it. Laevo and Activity-Centric Computing attempt to address this disparity. In this way, our virtual workspaces begin to have the potential to mimic and, more importantly, supplement the activities that comprise our daily life.

FROM DREAM TO FRUITION

Eye tracking, which used to be prohibitively expensive, certainly has the potential to fundamentally change how we interact with technology in the future, while also being pervasive in the invisible sense of the word.

"Everyone can understand it," Pedersen adds. "The barriers that have historically prevented the elderly or disabled from using computers and other connected devices are significantly lowered when they use our software."

The aim of The Eye Tribe is to partner with manufacturers and, using off-the-shelf components, embed their eye-tracking soft-

Technology has not yet become invisible even though many in the tech industry 20, 30 years ago prophesied that by now, it would be

**PAOLO TELL,
PHD STUDENT
AT THE PERVA-
SIVE INTERAC-
TION TECHNOLO-
GY LAB**



While wearable technology has been widely hyped, not all products have been embraced by the public Google Glass (left) proved a commercial failure, but fitness trackers such as the Fitbit ULTRA (right) are proving hugely successful with people wanting to keep track of their fitness goals.



Left: flickr / Royal Opera House Covent Garden; right: flickr / Denis Kurnukov

ware into pre-existing devices' on-board cameras. "We want to be fully integrated from the start. So to do this, we're selling a developer's kit now for only 99 US dollars," Pedersen explains. "If this is going to work, we're going to need the developers writing the code to be just as excited about the possibilities as we are."

"This year, or sometime very soon, technology like eye tracking will be a part of commercially available mobile devices. But wearables and virtual reality are also on the brink. They are on the cusp of taking off. And very soon they will."

Another sub-section of the market that is applying technology in new and interesting ways is wearables. From Google Glass to motion and nutrition trackers, we are beginning to collect more and different types of data.

According to a survey of industry professionals conducted by UK-based PA Consulting, almost 70 percent of respondents said that they would be comfortable working for an organisation that

mandated the use of wearable devices for certain jobs.

Ben Deavin, a consultant with PA specializing in wearable tech, says technology like Google Glass is becoming more and more accepted in the work environment. His experience is that it doesn't take long for people with apprehensions about the technology to warm up to it.

"After asking a few questions, I find people tend to forget I have them on. I forget I have them on."

During their short existence, activity trackers have provided users with massive amounts of data, measuring everything from distance travelled to hydration levels.

"When it comes to personal data," Deavin continues, "this sort of technology is not forcing us to give up more data, it is actually generating enormous quantities of brand new data that we never had access to previously. It may come as a surprise, but when it comes to saving money, people are relatively willing to give up data of this nature. Some insurance

companies provide incentives to those who use these sorts of new data in constructive ways."

STANDING ON THE PRECIPICE

Back at The Eye Tribe, I continue to slash fruit with my eyes and wonder if we have gone too far. I remember a quote by media and communication theorist Marshall McLuhan: "We become what we behold. We shape our tools and then our tools shape us."

So I ask Pedersen if he thinks technology will shape us more than we shape it in the future.

"In the beginning, there's always going to be backlash and fear. I remember that there was an outcry when GPS became prevalent in smartphones. 'Big Brother is watching us all,' some said. But today people barely think twice when turning on location services on their phone," says Pedersen.

"In my mind it's a semi-religious question, isn't it? What is too little? What is too much? It's up to us as a collective to decide." **M**



WALKING ALONE:

the silent epidemic of male suicide

Suicide is the single most common cause of death for men between the ages of 20 and 49. Tackling it requires acknowledging a culture that punishes weakness and discourages men from opening up and seeking help

I was living a life without living, so when I made the decision to end it all, I felt relieved

CARL

I remember the day really vividly. I woke up at seven in the morning, when my roommates were still asleep. I walked to the supermarket and bought some nice food and a bottle of whisky to numb myself. Then I made a great sandwich and enjoyed it, while downing 200 ml of whisky. After that, I went to the top floor of the apartment complex where I was living and climbed over the railing to jump off."

Carl was only twenty years old the first time he attempted suicide. He had recently moved out of his parents' home, and was living with friends in an apartment in Copenhagen. Unemployed, in a new town, and dealing with the effects of an undiagnosed bipolar disorder, he spent the summer spiralling into a deep depression that culminated with him trying to take his own life.

"Depression isn't necessarily being constantly sad, it's more about you trying to escape your own mind," says Carl, now 27.

"I had spent months self-medicating with computer games, TV shows, alcohol – just about anything to block out my thoughts. I was living a life without living, so when I made the decision to end it all, I felt relieved."

Only a couple of hours passed between deciding to take his life and acting on it. But the thought of suicide had been fermenting inside him for several months.

"At first it was an involuntary

thought that popped up when I was going to bed, and then it escalated to wanting to do it. I would then start to think about my family, friends and anything that made me happy. But that just made me sadder. For a long time it felt really abstract, but then, all of a sudden it hits you and you decide to go through with it. It might seem spontaneous, but I had been thinking about it and looking into it for a long time."

What saved him the first time around was a seemingly small complication. As he climbed over the railing, he tripped and got stuck. It was the snag that saved his life.

"When that happened, it felt like I was being pulled back into reality. All these emotions I had been blocking out poured over me. I felt like I had been programmed to do it, but when part of the plan went wrong, I snapped out of it."

After the attempt, Carl moved back in with his parents and sought professional help. Despite that, after months of bipolar mania last summer, he again attempted to take his life.

"I spent the night walking around town like a madman. I wrote a note to say goodbye, and when I thought everyone had left for work, I went to my dad's house to do it. But my brother had called in sick from work, so when I got there, he was standing in the kitchen. It was then that I realised what I was doing. There is this incredible denial

Words:
Elias Thorsson

Photos:
Rasmus Degnbol

The photos are based on the stories about the final hours of the suicide victims, as told by their surviving family members. The photos are made using a photographic method called 'pinhole', in which light is let in through a tiny hole. I selected the method because I thought it would capture the sense of seeing a world that no longer seems sharp or real. – Rasmus Degnbol, photographer



that comes with it, so even though I had been in therapy for years, I was still unable to understand the severity of it all until it happened."

THE STRONG SILENT CURSE

Sadly, Carl's story is not a rarity in today's world. Over 10,000 people attempt suicide in Denmark each year, of which around 600 succeed – more than triple the number of people killed in traffic accidents.

Men account for 75 percent of Denmark's suicide deaths, which is startling given that women are both twice as likely to suffer from depression – the most common cause of suicide – and twice as likely to attempt suicide as men. In 2012, suicide was the main cause of death for men aged between 20 and 49.

"We can say that women try, while men succeed," explains Lilian Zøllner, the head of the Centre for Suicide Research, a self-governing government institution.

"Men are usually very meticulous in the way they approach suicide, often planning it down to the smallest detail. They are also more likely to use more definitive methods, such as hanging, guns or jumping in front of trains, while women typically will use pills or knives, which make them easier to rescue."

Silence kills. When men are feeling badly, they don't use their network in the same way women do

MORTEN THOMSEN, THE HEAD OF THE SUICIDE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN GROUP LIVSLINIEN

According to Zøllner, it is hard to say why men and women approach suicide in such different ways, but what is clear is that differences in how the sexes use the healthcare system can play a major role in the vast discrepancy in the suicide rate.

"A part of the explanation is that due to their gender, women will have a lot more contact with the healthcare system, for instance during pregnancy, while men, barring serious afflictions, can avoid seeing the doctor for most of their lives," says Zøllner.

This position is shared by Morten Thomsen, the head of the suicide prevention campaign group Livslinien. But he also points to another fundamental difference between the genders – openness.

"The short answer to the discrepancy is that silence kills," he explains. "When men are feeling badly, they don't use their network in the same way women do. They are less likely to share their feelings."

According to Thomsen, men are more likely to believe that their emotional problems can be suppressed until they simply go away. Livslinien's own numbers seem to point to this, since of the 14,000 calls they received last year, only about 30 percent were from men.

This apparent unwillingness to

seek help could be the result of a culture in which men are not expected to show weakness.

"My parent's generation, for instance, were pretty tough people, and we learned from them," says Thomsen. "Over generations we have developed a culture in which men aren't supposed to cry. But if we want to prevent suicide, then we need to talk about feelings and teach men that it is acceptable to seek help. This change needs to start with young boys, so it will take at least a few generations before we will see any meaningful change. It will take time."

THE STATUS ISSUE

Suicide rates peak for men aged between 40 and 54, making them the most at-risk group. Thomsen argues this group is vulnerable to changes that involve their status and position in society, such as unemployment and financial problems. While men of all ages are susceptible to such distress, older men are more likely to feel it is too late for them to start over if they lose their job or their business.

"I have heard stories of men who lost their jobs, but kept on leaving the house in the morning for months so that their wives didn't realise that they were unemployed. Then they

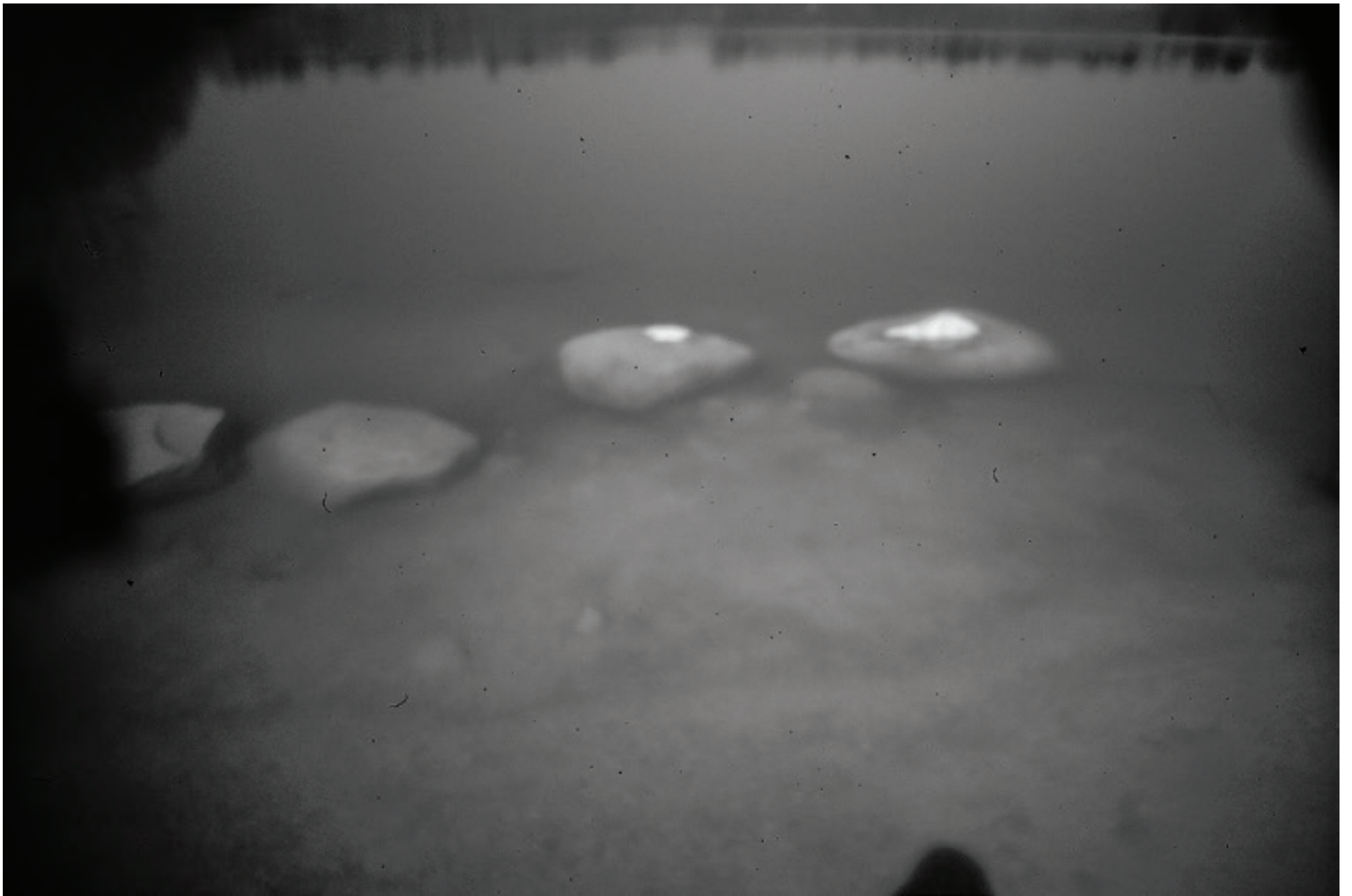
get to the point where they become convinced that their wife will be better off without them and decide to take their own lives. They become fixated on what they perceive as outward failure and the idea that they are not the man their wife wants, but then you talk to the wives and they say they didn't care about the money, they just wanted their husbands."

This sense of failure following a period of unemployment was one of the reasons Carl decided that taking his own life was the only option left.

"There is this idea in our society that you have to 'make it'. You can show emotions, but not weakness, on the climb to the top. The thought that I was losing out and the fact that any sort of imperfection is seen so negatively in the job market had a big impact on my depression and thoughts of suicide."

Although he started therapy and moved back in with his parents after his first attempt, his sense of shame remained with him. Learning how to open up about it took a long time and much practice.

"Today I don't find it difficult to talk about it with people that I trust, but it took me years of seeing a psychologist to get to this point," he says. "After the first time, I felt a lot of shame, but the mental hango-



ver from the second attempt was easier to deal with. That is a big part of the problem. We should be able to talk about depression and thoughts of suicide like we talk about cancer. But people who walk around with these thoughts don't know how or don't dare to open up, and I think that is extremely harmful."

A SOCIETY OPENING UP

In recent years, there has been an increased focus on male suicide, but Thomsen says the area still suffers from taboo.

"Relative to the severity of the issue, we spend very few resources combating it. Three times more people commit suicide than die in traffic accidents, but there is a far greater focus on traffic safety in public campaigns and political commitments. I think that speaks volumes about our priorities. The situation is improving—just ten years ago, we hardly talked about suicides. Now it gets discussed in schools, and politicians have finally started to take note." **M**

Some names have been changed.
For more information, visit livslinien.dk
or call 70 201 201 from 11:00 - 03:00.

We can say that women try, while men succeed

**LILIAN ZÖLLNER,
THE HEAD OF
THE CENTRE FOR
SUICIDE RESEARCH**





Merete Gimm Kongsfelt, whose brother Morten committed suicide last October.

Living with loss

A trail of sorrow is left in the wake of suicide. While survivors often struggle to find a method to deal with the grief, some have channeled their energy to helping others in distress, and raising awareness of these support networks

In a house in Brøndby, west of Copenhagen, Merete Gimm Kongsfelt reminisces about her brother Morten. A creative man who was good with children and loved taking photos, he decided to take his life in October last year. He was 27 years old.

Morten struggled with debt and suffered from insecurity after failing to finish an educational degree. Looking back, Kongsfelt says his problems started after their father died when Morten was only 9.

"My brother had always been a sensitive child who didn't talk much and it hit him very hard," she explains. "Our father was always very kind to us and he was a caring, loving parent. But after he died our mother started a relationship with another man who had two kids from a previous relationship. To him, Morten was just always in the way. He used to tell Morten that he would never amount to anything."

We are simply people who all share the experience of having lost a loved one to suicide

**LARS AGERTOFT
IVERSEN, CHAIR-
MAN EFTER-
LADTE**

Elias Thorsson

During the last five months of her brother's life, Kongsfelt says they had only sporadic contact. Then on the morning of October 21, she received a message from him through Facebook, where he thanked her for everything, and said that he couldn't take it anymore.

Since his passing, Kongsfelt has struggled to cope with the grief.

"I had to quit my job as I couldn't keep going. I mostly just sleep. I struggle with making plans and it has started to affect my marriage. I am now seeing a psychologist and I have tried to use Facebook as a way to communicate my sorrow."

Her attempts to communicate her sorrow haven't always been met with understanding, however. Suicide remains an uncomfortable taboo.

"People have a harder time talking about death if it involves suicide. I have had people delete me

as a friend on Facebook because I have been talking about it. I think that is a good representation of how difficult it is for society to talk about it. There are also some who tell me to just move on, but I can't."

THE MITIGATION OF SHARING

There are no easy solutions for getting over the loss of a loved one, but one of the resources Kongsfelt has turned to is Efterladte (which translates as Surviving Relatives), a national organisation that brings together people that have lost friends and family through suicide.

"We are a layman organisation, in the sense that we are not psychologists or therapists," explains Efterladte chairman Lars Agertoft Iversen, whose wife ended her own life in 2004. "We are simply people who all share the experience of having lost a loved one to suicide."

Iversen says that grief is a deeply personal experience, and there is no one method of coping with

it that works for everyone. He has found, however, that opening up and talking to others has helped him.

"When I first joined Efterladte, I found people who had also been to the bottom, who understand the pain. Just as importantly, I found people who were not afraid to ask about sadness and anger. There is no way to cure sadness, but we can make it manageable. When you lose somebody, you are left to deal with a vacuum and I think people need to fill that vacuum with something."

Dealing with the loss of his wife was hard enough, but the discomfort that the topic of suicide raises in society only served to alienate him even more.

"People don't know how to deal with it. At my work there were people who would walk out of a room when I came in, or start shuffling around papers pretending not to see me. But I think it is just as



bad when people tell someone in grief to move on. The people you've lost are wired into your hard drive and you might carry the sadness with you all your life. Grief is the dark side of love – a love without a home."

Iversen says that surviving family members often experience shame and discomfort. Instead of acknowledging the suicide, they will prefer to tell others that the death was caused by illness or by accident.

Despite the stigma, he does believe people are increasingly opening up about suicide as the shame and taboo starts to slide away. While this enables people to better access resources to deal with their sorrow, the main issue is we lack experience and understanding to cope with grief when it suddenly arrives.

"We learn about traffic, sex and plenty of other things in school, but grief is not part of the curriculum," says Iversen.

IRON MAN

One way of coping with grief is channelling the pain into a positive pursuit. That was the route Rasmus Østergaard Hansen took after losing his father two years ago. But it took a year of burying himself with work to ignore the pain, before he realised he needed a better outlet.

"I wanted to do something for

my father and to create understanding of suicide. I had always loved to run and exercise and I decided to take pledges to do Iron Man competitions to raise awareness," Hansen explains. "I think my father would have been proud of the project, but I also can't deny that it has also helped me a lot."

A public speaker who shares his story with others, Hansen's campaigning has also raised money for anti-suicide campaigner Livslinien (which translates as The Life Line).

"It was incredibly difficult to talk about in the beginning, but it becomes a bit easier every time. But just as I had to find courage to talk, people should also find courage to ask. It is only through talking about suicide that we can help erase the taboo around it."

Like Kongsfelt and Iversen, Hansen sees a society that needs to be more open and willing to talk about grief and loss, both publicly and on a personal level.

"My father believed in getting on with it, with not showing any weaknesses. This kind of attitude is rather common. For example, we think it is tough to go to work if we are sick. But if you are sick, and try to walk it off instead of going to the doctor, you can end up making it ten times worse. We should be teaching kids in school that being ill is nothing to be ashamed of. It is completely normal." **M**



For a year after his father's death, Rasmus Østergaard Hansen buried himself with work. Then he realised he needed a more constructive way to deal with the grief. Now he runs Iron Man races to raise money and awareness for anti-suicide projects.



Local protestors telling Total to 'Frack off!'

Deep beneath the North Jutland landscape, natural gas is trapped within shale rock. French energy company Total has a licence to extract it, but locals have spent almost three years trying to shut them down, concerned that their groundwater will be polluted in the process. Inside the nearby protest camp, these locals are dedicated to keeping the gas in the ground and their groundwater clean

Words + photos:
Alice Minor



Above: Aage Olsen gathers in the afternoon with other protestors. His trailer, and home in the protest camp, is perched in the background.

Top: Reinforcements came from Copenhagen, Aarhus and Aalborg at the height of the blockades against the Total drilling site. This solidarity with their cause was noteworthy for the Northern Jutlanders, who have found that that political life remains focussed on the Danish capital.



Total Protest Camp and Greenpeace collaborated during the blockades of drilling materials. Four Greenpeace activists scaled the drilling tower while another four attached themselves to the facility's gates, as seen here.

You can take my picture if you want but I hope you save some room for photos of the others," Aage Olsen says. He is the longest-standing resident of Total Protest camp, but is quick to emphasize that the movement is collective. He takes pride in seeing to the camp's daily practicalities: answering the camp phone, preparing coffee for post-protest 'hygge', and being on-call for visitors like me.

"We give what we can. Everything you see here," he says gesturing to the camping wagons, kitchen, cosy community meeting tent. "They are all donated by locals. There are some ladies in their seventies who are really dedicated. They can't stay here overnight, but they see to it that we're looked after."

As if on cue, Olsen motions to a car pulling into the camp's gravel

car park. Katrine jumps out with a loaf of homemade walnut bread, and quickly launches into a stream of observations about fracking and the community.

"Don't be fooled: she might be a sweet 72-year-old lady but she's aggressive for the cause," Olsen warns when she pulls away.

In my three days at Total Protest camp I saw locals pull up with toilet paper, lawn chairs, firewood and vegetables. Few knew each other before fracking came to Vendsyssel, but many are now good friends. The sense of jovial solidarity permeating the camp is a refreshing contrast to the seriousness of their mission: to prevent the French energy corporation Total from fracking in their backyard.

POLLUTANTS, CARCINOGENS AND EARTHQUAKES

Fracking is a process that releases gas trapped in underground shale rock. This is achieved by first drilling, then forcing down a high-pressure mix of water, air and chem-

icals in to the rock, up to three kilometres below the surface. This fractures the rock, which releases the gas that is collected when it rises to the surface. The gas can end up mixing with the water table, however, creating tap water so saturated in methane it can be set alight.

Between 10 and 30 million litres of water are used in each fracking operation, which risks depleting the water available for other uses such as drinking and agriculture. The water table also risks being polluted by the chemicals that are added to aid the fracking process.

The chemicals that Total uses are a trade secret, but a 2011 article in the journal *Human and Ecological Risk Assessment* listed 632 chemicals that have so far been identified in the drilling, fracking, processing and delivery of natural gas in the US.

According to the paper, three quarters of the chemicals could affect our sensory organs, while around half are known to impact

The camp's sociability keeps the opposition burning, for sustained protest requires a high level of commitment

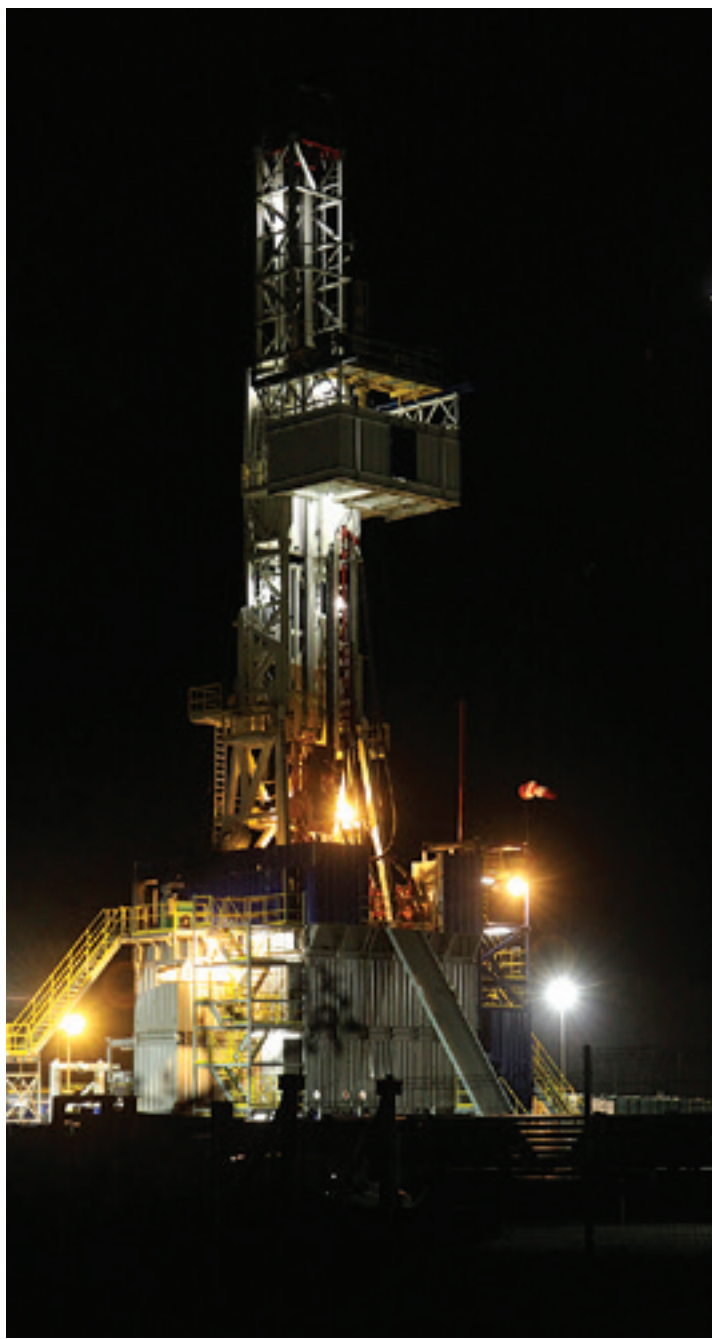
the brain and nervous system. A quarter are known or suspected carcinogens.

Long-suspected of causing earthquakes, the US Geological Survey recently admitted that fracking was in fact responsible for the rise in earthquakes in eight different states over seven years.

RITUAL BONDING

The camp is the physical manifestation of local opposition, and can be traced back more than three years to when concerned locals started gathering to discuss the possibility of Total drilling in Frederikshavn or Brønderslev Kommune. Early last summer, locals gradually transformed a plot of land around the corner from Total's test drilling site into a community space.

Anne-Marie and Karsten Kristiansen own the land and are active in the movement. During times of peak activity there are around 40 protesters sharing large tents on the grounds, while during the harsh winter only a



Clockwise from top left. The illuminated drilling tower; The Murmur's Alice Minor getting to know one of Dybvad's most dedicated protestors, Aage Olsen's dog Nikki; protestors sings songs with security not far away; the daily trek to the drilling site.

few hardened residents held down the fort.

When the camp sprang up, some locals worried that the group was a collection of hippies trying to build a new Christiania – an autonomous community in Copenhagen known for housing gangs and a thriving drug trade. While the protesters are often mischaracterised as lazy and unemployed, they are actually diverse group – some work, some receive benefits and some are retired. A number are farmers, who live within view of the drilling site.

And, as awareness about fracking spreads, support for the movement is growing.

I arrive just an hour before the climax of the camp's daily ritual: the daily singing protest. "Grab a sign!" a friendly face calls out, assuming I'm just there to protest. I gamely brandish a "Frederikshavns Kommune: black or green?" sign, though it proves difficult while also trying to operate a camera.

Later in the afternoon, we don neon vests emblazoned with 'Total Protest' and walk toward the drilling site. Soon the drill tower looms over the otherwise typical North Jutland landscape. Without hesi-

tation, the protestors start to fasten their banners to the gate and affix their "Water is Life" signs into a mound of soil.

We sing satirical songs inspired by Danish classics, while Olsen's dog, Nikki, directs several sharp barks at the drilling tower at the end of each song. Following the protest we drink coffee, socialise and eat Katrine's bread.

The camp's sociability keeps the opposition burning, for sustained protest requires a high level of commitment. When protestors blockaded trucks transporting materials to the drilling site for 10 days during the Easter holidays, the local network was already in place. Lookouts alerted the protestors of incoming supply trucks. A committed core of protestors used a text message list to keep everyone informed and ready to drop everything to set a blockade.

This form of direct protest was new to many of the locals. 72-year-old Inge laughed conspiratorially, "I never thought I would be a part of something like this!"

More than 30 environmental protestors from Copenhagen, Århus, and Aalborg contributed to the human blockades, which

It simply wouldn't do to drill in North Zealand, Mette Tolstrup commented wryly over a post-protest coffee. She can't imagine Total getting far drilling the backyard of Denmark's elite

were eventually dismantled by the police. Experienced in civil disobedience, the protestors handed down their knowledge to the locals, who remain the core of the protest movement.

LONG ROAD AHEAD

A sense of alienation from the politicians in Copenhagen is evident at the camp. Protestors are certain that Total made a calculated decision to start drilling in their backyard before the other licensed region, the wealthy 'whisky belt' north of Copenhagen.

"It simply wouldn't do to drill in North Zealand," Mette Tolstrup commented wryly over a post-protest coffee. She can't imagine Total getting far drilling the backyard of Denmark's elite. With the Danish state set to only take around 20 percent of the proceeds from the gas, some of the protestors said they felt like guinea pigs sold cheaply to a foreign corporation.

While I was at the camp, climate minister Rasmus Helveg Petersen stated that no further fracking licenses would be granted in Denmark. The news was met with tepid approval in the camp. 12 percent of Danish land was

already licensed for fracking in 2010. Total Protest activists wondered aloud – if the state has decided fracking isn't safe elsewhere in Denmark, why is it still okay in North Jutland?

On my last morning in camp, I drink a cup of coffee with Aage Olsen as the camp phone rings. Energy Watch Europe wants a comment on the news that the Danish state officially permitted Total to go through with test drilling. I sit in tense anticipation. When he hangs up Olsen says, completely unperturbed, "Well we knew it would happen – just a matter of what day."

Noting my confusion, Olsen says slyly, "You know that saying that politics is too important to be left to politicians? Turns out it's true."

The blockades might have delayed Total, but drilling is set to begin at the start of May. This is just the first round, and Total will need to apply for a new permit to continue into the next phase. Total Protest Camp is in it for the long haul – a community of resistance that's willing to hold out for a decade if necessary. **M**

Some interviewees did not want to provide their full names.

Mette Tolstrup, 51

Mette Tolstrup is a lifelong environmental activist. "It's not as if I suddenly became afraid for the groundwater. I've been worried for 30 years – that's why I'm an organic farmer." Tolstrup's commitment to the environment is clear, but she feels that her concerns are being ignored by the local authorities and representatives of the water treatment plant.

She has lived in Vendsyssel most of her life and feels an obligation to the cause. "This fracking happens to take place exactly where I live. I thought, 'you can do something about this, Mette'. After all I can't be in the arctic or stop oil extraction in Nigeria but here I can show that this is so very unwanted. It simply must be stopped."

**John Mathiasen, 53**

John Mathiasen's political activism started in Denmark's anti-atomic energy campaign during his youth. To him, the anti-fracking movement belongs to a broader debate about our future energy security. The question is, what risks are we willing to put up with in the future for energy today?

"They might drill in thousands of places north of Limfjord – it's going to touch everyone in Denmark. Especially North Jutland."

Like many he's concerned that few youth are involved in the Total Protest movement. He reasons that it's partly due to a lack of young people in North Jutland, but he has also sensed disinterest when approaching youth. He hopes some will stick around and spread the message on Facebook and other new media.

**Kirstine Kornø, 69**

Like many Total Protest activists, Kirstine Kornø frequently references documentaries from the US and Australia that illustrate the dangers of unrestricted fracking. She has organized several movie showings, helped collect signatures, distributed information, and is generally active in camp life. A teacher by profession, she never engaged in civil society to this degree prior to hearing about Total Protest.

"It worries me that there aren't more young people up here – you might have noticed that we're pretty old around here," she says, adding that the young people she met while collecting signatures seemed disinterested. "I thought that was eerie – it's them that this will affect!"

Inge, 71

While many involved at the camp have long been environmental activists, some first became politically active when they learned about fracking in their backyard. One late starter is 71-year-old Inge who visits the camp regularly with supplies and amenities.

"I've been a good girl all my life! I was a teacher. It took until I was 70 years old to be involved in anything like this," she says, emphasizing that her involvement is not party political. "I can't understand why people won't listen to those of us who live here. I've been here for over 40 years because I like being in the country – the peace."

**Aage Olsen, 61**

The serenity and beauty of Vendsyssel is never far from camp conversation. Aage Olsen offered to tour me around the nearby nature soon after my arrival. His pride was visible but he also remarked simply. "But after fracking? It'll be gone. Dead."

Olsen has lived at the camp for about eight months but insists he simply takes things one day at a time. To him it's not a question of if there's contamination – but how bad the contamination ends up being. "I got involved because I live here and leakage of fracking chemicals will be catastrophic for generations. This will have huge consequences for our farmers and anyone drinking the water."

**Sonja Marie Larsen, 68**

Sonja Marie Larsen and Katrine Winther delivered materials about the risk of earthquakes and contamination in Vendsyssel. "When Katrine told me that the Total people are saying the Oklahoma earthquakes don't have to do with fracking – oh I just laughed! Oh they're not gonna get away with that – people aren't so dumb that we'll buy that!"

Larsen is baffled that the local tourist bureau hasn't opposed fracking vocally. "We have our clean water and nature – and that's it!"

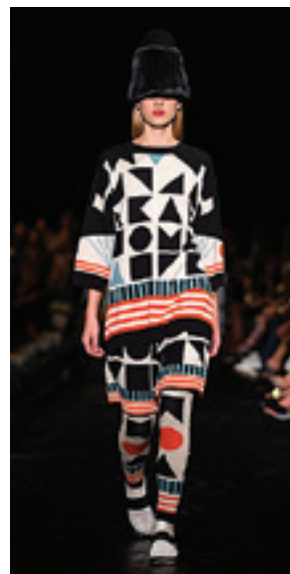


Chaos maths militarism & fashion

When he was 11, **Henrik Vibskov** became Electric Boogie breakdance champion in a rural Jutland town. Now he's one of Denmark's greatest creative exports, renowned for his inexhaustible work ethic and inimitable imagination



Words: Lesley-Ann Brown
Portraits: Polina Vinogradova



Some of the items featured in Henrik Vibskov's 2015 Spring/Summer collection.

It's not obvious that Henrik Vibskov, calm, laid back and unassuming, is one of Denmark's fashion heavyweights. We are in a small room beside his office, where seedlings sprout in cups on the windowsill, and inspiration boards hang covered in wild and bright thoughts. His style activates all the senses. Strong patterns sit amongst bright prints and elegant shapes. It's Nordic, but it's not aloof or cold.

Vibskov's talents extend well beyond his deftness in predicting trends and designing catchy garments. He's a craftsman, artist and musician too, who sweats onstage in virtuoso drum performances together with fellow Danes Trentemøller and Michael Simpson. For now, however, that life is on hold.

"Music is very important, it makes life worth living. But sometimes it can get to be too much. There was so much touring – visiting the US three times a year – that it got routine. I realised it was important to play where you have authentic relationships with the place, the people. The other places got a little bit boring."

NEVER A DULL MOMENT

Boring is not a word you would associate with the Vibskov universe. He has called his shows everything from *The Transparent Tongue* to *The Spaghetti Handjob* and *The Shrink Wrap Spectacular*.

And his shows really are shows. Take his 2015 Spring/Summer collection, *The Sticky Brick Fingers*, on which models walked around a central water-filled stage where dancers performed throughout the show. Or the *Fantabulous Bicycle Music Factory* from 2008, which featured a musical installation of bicycle-driven instruments that was powered by the models after they'd circled the catwalk.

These are among the 26 male and female collections Vibskov has designed since graduating Central St. Martins at London's University of the Arts in 2001. He is the only Scandinavian designer on the official show schedule of the Paris Men's Fashion Week, and has been since 2003.

"I'm a strange mix of math and chaos. I'm a mathematics student, but also a musician, which shows in everything I do. It's complete chaos, but it's controlled by a militaristic approach. But because my approach, my plan, is always a little wobbly, the chaos remains."

His success isn't bad for a guy from a small town in Jutland. Can his groundedness be traced to growing up close to his grandmother's farm? Perhaps. But it was pretty clear to young Vibskov that the small town wouldn't be able to satisfy his creative yearnings. By age 10 he was playing music, and at 12 he won a BMX bike at an Electric Boogie breakdance contest.

Looking back, Vibskov thinks it's strange that he danced, since he was also very shy.

"Some of my friends had a studio, or we would practice in my room, and when my mom came in we'd just stop in mid-motion – boys dancing wasn't so cool," he says. ►



Top: Henrik Vibskov's shows defy convention. During his SS15 show, dancers performed the ballet 'A Swan Lake' – choreographed by Alexander Ekman – in a water-filled stage between the catwalk.

Middle: Models prepare to take to the catwalk during Vibskov's SS15 show, that he called 'The Sticky Brick Fingers'.

Bottom: Vibskov in his offices and studio on Papirøen in Copenhagen.



I'm a bit of an outsider here for what I'm doing, but then again, when I go to Paris, where I'm a member of a round table of twelve pretty important people, I'm an outsider as well

"We listened to Grand Master Flash and Rock Steady Crew in those days – the music and culture was of course a bit delayed, coming all the way over to Denmark before we had the internet."

MANY TALENTS

He's a busy man, and when we meet, he projects the air of satisfaction of someone who just finished several big projects. Every week in January and February, he had a new show to premiere, one of which was designing the sets and costumes for an opera based on Bjork's album *Medúlla* for a show at *La Monnaie*, the opera house in Brussels.

His recent CV also includes his freestyle musical project Mountain Yorokobu, designing the scenography for the exhibition *Danish Fashion Now* at Brandts Museum in Odense, teaching students as a professor at the Danish School of Design, as well as preparing a large solo show, spread over four floors of the Dae Lim Museum in Seoul, South Korea, which opens this July.

While he could risk spreading himself thin, he maintains a tight grip on his message. And while he can hand over some responsibility to curators, he makes sure to have the final say.

"That's why I have to go to Korea – I have to change stuff."

Vibskov seems to be doing a lot right, but his process isn't perfect, and he chooses to integrate mistakes into the final product.

"The brain isn't always so clever. It tries to run from A to B like a computer, but often there is interference and things go wrong—and that is what makes the end result really interesting," he says, adding that his creative process has become second nature.

"It was different in the beginning, I was more like 'Whoah! What am I doing?' Now it's like making pancakes. I'm pretty subdued about my work now. Stuff that other people think is really crazy, I'll just nod my head and say, 'Yeah, it was all right.' They might think I hate my own work when I respond like that, but when you produce a lot, the peaks take on a different meaning."

NO NEED TO BULLY

His return to Copenhagen from London was incentivised by a two-year grant from the Danish Art Foundation. Here he started his fashion label, which is headquartered on Papirøen in Copenhagen harbor, a part of the former naval base that was only recently opened to the public. He has his own café next door, Den Plettede Gris (the Spotted Pig), while around the corner the Copenhagen Street Food market opens onto the waterfront.

"I'm a bit of an outsider here for what I'm doing, but then again, when I go to Paris, where I'm a member of a round table of twelve pretty important people, I'm an outsider as well," he says laconically, adding that he has thought about moving.

"I travel a lot, and we have a shop in New York. But the system is easy here. It's pricey as hell – but it's easy. Copenhagen is a pretty good size. It's not really a metropolis, but it still has a little bit of the energy of a big city. It's easy. Easy to get to the airport, easy to do business."

While his own brand is doing well, his country isn't doing such a good job of selling it to the outside world. Chief among his concerns is the persistently negative tone of debate in the media, justified by appeals to free speech, but designed to directly upset or offend specific people.

"Of course every one should be free to talk, but it's like school. You should always be aware when the joke goes too far and becomes bullying. I think people should bear that in mind. Of course our expression needs to be super free, but at some point, it's not fun and there's no reason to get people really pissed off. If you had complete freedom of speech at school, it would be complete chaos," he says.

"Words and drawings can create feelings too." **M**



HERLUFSHOLM SCHOOL

- Two fantastic weeks at summer school

Herlufsholm Summer School
17 July - 31 July 2015

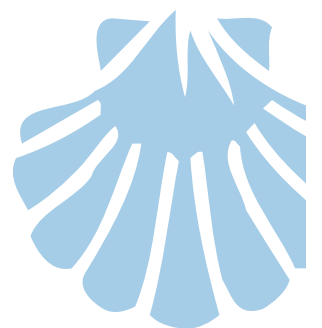
Two fun weeks for
teenagers between the
age of 13 - 15 years old

Spend two fun and exciting weeks during the summer holidays at Denmark's oldest boarding school in the company of 13-15 year olds from around the world.

The programme offers Danish studies divided into different levels, sports and creative activities, as well as field trips and other experiences. Learn about Denmark, meet new friends and enjoy the unique, historic and beautiful surroundings Herlufsholm has to offer.

Herlufsholm School is a Danish school rich in traditions with many students who have parents living abroad.

The beautiful surroundings, historical traditions and strong values all contribute to the framework for education at a high professional level. At Herlufsholm School there is room for individuality and ambition as well as focusing on both personal and academic development.



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Authentic Integration, Authentic Internationalisation

This summer, send your children to Institut Sankt Joseph's bilingual summer school – the only one in the country to allow children to integrate while experiencing a truly multicultural experience

This August, Institut Sankt Joseph launched the first fully bilingual international program of its kind in Denmark. The school's bilingual model incorporates two curricula, in which half of the weekly lessons are taught in English (maths, science and English), and the other half are taught in Danish (religion, art, and history).

"The program is designed to give both Danish and expat families the opportunity to have an academically challenging education in both English and Danish," says Thomas Mulhern, International Department Head.

The programme offered at Institut Sankt Joseph, a private Catholic school located in the Østerbro district of Copenhagen, offers the academic quality and transferability of Cambridge International Examinations, while simultaneously providing a framework for both authentic integration and internationalisation.

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

And it's about time! It is the school's firm belief that its bilingual approach to an international education is quite distinct, not only from Danish schools, but from other international programmes in the area as well. The international bilingual department at Institut Sankt Joseph offers an attractive alternative to both Danish and expat children who often find themselves in between systems due to relocation or lack of authentic integration possibilities.

Institut Sankt Joseph hopes to demystify other cultures and help children to experience diversity as a positive catalyst for social understanding

Families considering an international education for their children currently have two choices. They can choose a "normal" Danish education, which lacks authentic internationalisation and where maintaining or cultivating academic English skills is a true barrier. Alternatively, they may choose an international programme where the language of instruction is exclusively or primarily English, and where students and families never become fully integrated or re-integrated members of the Danish society in which they live.

Institut Sankt Joseph combines the best of both worlds, and avoids both drawbacks. The bilingual programme offers authentic integration into Danish society, while also emphasising an intercultural pedagogical approach. In this way, students are not only encouraged to become academically bilingual, but multicultural as well.

By equipping students with the tools they need to overcome prejudice, Institut Sankt Joseph hopes to demystify other cultures and help children to experience diversity as a positive catalyst for social understanding. This intercultural emphasis works together with the celebration of Danish traditions and an emphasis on the unique history and culture of the Danish people.

"Institut Sankt Joseph believes that children should not be divided by linguistic and cultural differences, but united by the shared vi-

sion of the school," Mulhern adds. "This is applicable both in our bilingual department and our summer school program."

READY FOR IB OR GYMNASIUM

Institut Sankt Joseph's new programme is designed to overcome the barriers to successful internationalisation and integration inherent in other international programmes. The programme is appealing to expat and Danish families alike, as it provides a dual curriculum model, in which children graduate as fully bilingual students who are equally prepared to attend a Danish gymnasium or an international high school.

Students in the programme will have access to an international curriculum and examination process that is structured and objective. It also delivers the language-integrated learning approach that a bilingual programme should aspire to.

Classes are taught by native English speakers who are experienced in preparing students for the Cambridge International Examinations. Students navigate the key stages of the Cambridge International Examinations process, culminating in the IGCSE examinations at age 15/16. Completion of the IGCSE examinations will give students access to both IB gymnasiums in Denmark and international high schools abroad.

SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAMME
In addition to the International

al Bilingual Department, Institut Sankt Joseph has the pleasure of once again to offer its popular summer school programme! What makes our summer school unique is that children are immersed in a bilingual experience that promotes language acquisition through various activities.

The school focuses on Danish and English language development through swimming, sports, drama, cooking, arts and crafts, cultural excursions and community service in the local area. This unique programme is designed to encourage personal growth and allow students to develop specific abilities, all while immersed in a bilingual environment.

The programme is also designed to give parents the opportunity to have their children make the most of their summer in a safe and unique environment. Institut Sankt Joseph's summer programme promotes diversity of language and culture, which is a catalyst for positive development. The school sets out to do everything it can to encourage positive communication and solidarity between all participants, both in play and learning.

The deadline for registration is June 1. Admission is limited to the first 150 students to sign up for the programme.

FOR PROGRAMME INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION, PLEASE VISIT:

**SANKTJOSEPH.DK/EN/
SUMMER-PROGRAM/**

Put. Down. The. Phone.

– Using Technology to Avoid Technology

With the help of an app, you might just be able to conquer your digital vices

We live in an age so reliant on maintaining digital contact that most of our lives are filtered through a smartphone screen. Our days are wasted checking and rechecking social media websites and swiping through apps. For many of us, technology has become an addiction, and finding the strength to break away is next to impossible. It's a dependency that might not be as harmful as tobacco and alcohol, but it is certainly as widespread, if not more so.

Whether you're sick of wasting your time rather than maximising it, want to connect with those you care about on a more human level, or need to get out in the fresh air for some exercise, taking a break from the screen is the obvious first step. But for some people, going cold turkey is too much to bear.

Thankfully there is help to be had, using the very same technology we need to break free from. Here are some apps we have found that might help you break the shackles of digital dependency. It might be just what the doctor ordered. **M**

MOB (free)

We like this app for its competitive edge. Imagine this scenario: You've met up with some old buddies – perhaps they're from your old badminton club, where you whiled away your days when you were younger and fitter. Everyone is having a great time, but a buzzkill threatens. Kim and Mark can't go twenty seconds without glancing at their phone screens, swiping Tinder or scrolling through Facebook. "Enough is enough!" you say. "I challenge everyone to a MOB no phone period!" There is some reluctance, but everyone eventually agrees. You download the app and set a time period. If anyone so much as unlocks their phone, the entire group receives a notification of their weakness and failure. No sneaking off to the bathroom to check your Instagram likes, they'll find out. The group chooses a penalty – the first person that caves has to buy a round of drinks. Problem solved! Kim and Mark have to either resist their phone temptation, or buy penalty beers for the gang. Everyone wins!

Freedom (\$10 US)

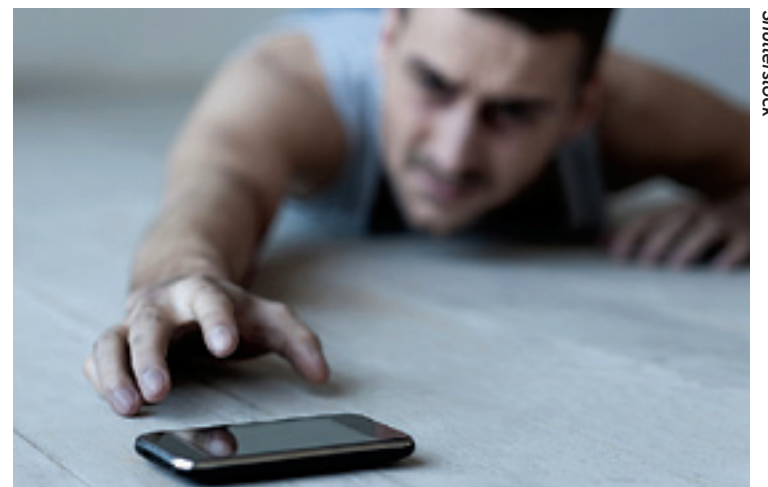
This computer and phone app has already been plugged everywhere, from Oprah Winfrey's magazine to The Guardian, but I'm going to plug it again. The beauty of Freedom is its simplicity – it blocks you from using the internet. Once you have it downloaded, you click on the icon, decide on a time period, and away you go – using the internet is impossible. You could reboot your computer to re-access the internet before the allotted time period is over, but in doing so you will have to deal with the angel on your shoulder telling you that you're nothing but a sad, insatiable addict. If Freedom is too harsh for you, there are gentler options. Perhaps you need the internet for work or research? After all, not all websites are for procrastinating. In this case, give Anti-Social (\$15 US) a try, an app from the same company, 80Pct Solutions. Anti-Social allows you to select websites that have a tendency to distract you. These sites, such as Facebook and Twitter, will then be blocked, whilst the internet at large is left as your (productive) playground.

Here are some apps we have found that might help you break the shackles of digital dependency. It might be just what the doctor ordered

Henry Richards

Breakfree (free)

An aesthetically pleasing app that monitors your phone use, follows your progress, grants you digital rewards and polices your kids' online habits, all at the same time? That's wonderful, but wait, there's more! During your smartphone rehab treatment, you will be coached by a cartoon Buddhist monk by the name of Sato. This cute little guy will tell you when you're using your iPhone too much, give you a score to help you achieve your goals, and offer up little gems of encouragement such as, "You can't find real life in a phone" – Thanks Sato! Breakfree encompasses most of your smartphone activities, not just app and internet usage. While you enjoy your phone-free unwinding time, you can even block incoming calls, sending an automatic SMS to callers to inform them that you are currently unavailable.



Shutterstock

Pause (free)

Another app that uses our competitive nature to keep us from our beloved gadgets. Download and activate Pause and tell the app what you will be doing while disconnected from the digital world – whether it be a walk in the forest, a coffee with friends or building a tree house with the kids. Pause will tell others over Facebook that you are off for a stroll amongst the trees without your phone. It will keep track of how much time you spend with your phone in airplane mode, and post it on a leader-board with the results of your friends, to see who is best at switching off and unplugging. You can also invite others to share in your Pause time so that you can all be offline together, again meaning that Kim and Mark won't be upset that they are the only ones barred from fiddling with their phones.

Other Options

If you've tried these apps without success, there are still plenty of others, all with different approaches to the problem of excessive technology use. Give these a go:

Phone apps – Moment, Checky, Phone Addict
Computer apps – RescueTime, LeechBlock, Slife

OP-ED

Home truths: Adoptees are opening up

The narrative about adoption was once controlled by parents and agencies. Now adoptees are weaving a more nuanced – and angry – story

My brother and I were born in South Korea and adopted by our parents, who lived in South Jutland. Before I even understood the concept of race, we were taught that we should feel overwhelmingly Danish. Our heritage was hardly ever discussed outside of a few events we attended with Adoption & Samfund, an organisation for adopted children and their families.

This 'super integration' alienated me from my roots. But I know I am not alone in thinking this. The first generation of children adopted from South Korea to Denmark have become adults and are now sharing their stories of growing up in mixed families in the Denmark of the 1980s and 1990s – a society that was still on its way to becoming multicultural.

These complex narratives of transnational adoption – including those by Maja Lee Langvad and Patrick Lundberg – are starting to appear in Danish newspapers and deal with understanding both the authors' place between their country of birth and their adopted home, as well as the link between their biology and ethnicity.

A COMPLEX EXISTENCE

These voices are starting to break through the dominant narratives concerning transnational adoption, which so far have come from adoption agencies and parents of adopted children. On the subject of super integration, we are generally opposed. But what is the alternative? Is it possible to assume some Korean identity, without it looking like a partial rejection of Denmark? How can we make this balance work?

We don't know, but that's not what's most important. Ultimately, it is liberating that we have finally become adults and are reflecting on our position in society. The complexity of being adopted

My mother responded angrily when I pointed out that I was alone with my suffering as a child, when I experienced alienation and prejudice

Mija Byung



Mija with her parents at her baptism.

lies in the mix of ethnicity and insight. I was brought up as a Dane with a Korean background, which puts me in the privileged position of seeing society from two different vantage points.

This means that I can merge my native understanding of Danish culture with my experience as a minority to ask new questions about the society in which I live. As we put words to these experiences, we start to shape an understanding of how our existence differs from that of the majority.

FAMILY PRIDE

Our voices can be divisive, however. I have tried to explain to my Danish parents that, no matter how much they have loved me and

my brother as their own, they will never understand the feeling of being a member of a minority and of bearing the brunt of endless pathetic condescension.

My parents were hurt when I described the differences that separated us. My mother responded angrily when I pointed out that I was alone with my suffering as a child, when I experienced alienation and prejudice. She felt like I was attacking her parenting, after she and my father had treated me and my brother like their own flesh and blood. A few weeks later, she said she wasn't angry, but sad – sad that she wasn't enough for us, and also frustrated that her own society had sometimes turned its back on us.

My parents know that I don't share my experiences to attack them, but in order to give them insight. In a family, like in society, there is a need for objectivity without judgment, and admissions of misunderstanding without the need to blame.

A new narrative about transnational adoption needs to include both our voices. In my case, my identity stretches beyond Denmark to the country I came from. I am allowed to be proud of who I am, regardless of who I choose to be. My parents' story is complex too. It hurts them to the bone when the rest of the world can't look at us through their eyes, which see us as beautiful and equal.

A BETTER DEBATE

Both these stories need to be integrated into a more complete and complex narrative about transnational adoption, because until now, such adoptions were generally regarded as the ultimate example of tolerance, inclusion and openness.

But the story doesn't always turn out this way. More often it is a story of existential pain – a story of coming from a country that still lacks equality, discriminates based on gender, or lacks basic human rights.

I hope this debate develops constructively, so that we can work against adoption when it becomes a cynical exploitation of the child's country of origin, and that we properly attempt to understand these other cultures and worldviews without judgement.

We who have lived the experience with our bodies and souls need to enter the debate and shape our own story as first-generation adoptees. We must face up to its truths, regardless of how ugly or hurtful they are, otherwise adoption will become something neither party deserves. **M**

ESSAY

Denmark's real national treasures

Too many children are told their Danish passports don't grant them access to Danish society. We can look to the US for help

Being a child of immigrants can be challenging. I know, because I am one. You often see what your parents don't want you to see: their fumbling through foreign territory. Being a child of immigrants makes you an interpreter, not only of languages but of cultural codes as well. Sometimes it feels like you're raising yourself, since your parents cannot provide the cultural context necessary for survival in their new country.

It is also challenging because although you are from two countries – the country you inherit from your family and the country in which you were born – you don't really belong to either one.

Through my parents, I learned the staples of Trinidadian culture like bake, calypso, and a long list of words that seem peculiar to American culture like *schweups* – which isn't even a word but a sucking of the teeth that can mean a multitude of things depending on the context. In childhood, I learned how to navigate my parents' culture while also learning about the one I was growing up in. I learned to cornrow my own hair so that I could fit in with the other girls, and excelled at double dutch. Once a friend asked me about the weird accent I used when I spoke with my parents, but not with her. Without realising it, I was code-switching, adapting to the cultural codes of my environment.

REPRESENTING THE U S A

When Gorbachev made his historic trip to New York City in 1988, I was in high school, and I was selected to represent the city's schools and meet his delegation. Although I didn't end up meeting Gorbachev himself, I did meet Aleksander Yakovlev (considered the intellectual father of Perestroika), Congressman Ted Weiss (a fellow immigrant) and the famous peace activist Rev. William Sloane Coffin. It was a big day, and



That's me on the right, addressing Aleksander Yakovlev and Congressman Ted Weiss on behalf of New York schoolchildren.

despite my nerves, I was delighted to have been singled out. The experience made me feel a vital part of the community I belonged to, and most of all, made me feel valued. In the end, this country that I was born into, despite its many challenges, saw me.

Because being a child of immigrants brings with it the risk of landing on a low rung in the social hierarchy – if we admit that such a thing exists. But my birth certificate stated I was born in the USA. And in America, that means you're American.

I often wonder whether such a thing could ever happen in Denmark. Would a child who does not look ethnically Danish but still holds its passport ever be given the opportunity to represent the country of his or her birth? It is true that the US has much to learn in the diversity department, but it is also true that we offer amazing examples of possibility.

UNDANES

Five years ago, I began teaching at an international school. The children's faces, although many were Danish by birth, reflected every

colour of the human rainbow. They or their parents came from Russia, England, Ghana, Guinea, Palestine, Iraq, Iran, Pakistan. The list goes on.

Many spoke at least three languages, and had names like Zanubia, Maya, Diab, Hussein, Sumbal and Zeinab. They were raised in Vesterbro, Bagaardsplads, Nordvest, Ballerup or Ishøj, but learned quite early on that they were not considered Danish. But when they travelled to the birthplace of their parents or grandparents, they found they were considered foreigners there too. Some read thick books while others marvelled at their iPhones. Some were the children of influential professors, others of kiosk owners. Some listened to Arabic pop, while others adopted Tupac as their Lord and Saviour. Many of my students had set their hearts elsewhere: the US, London, the Netherlands maybe. Countries that had woven a successful immigration narrative that they could cling to, that told them that they could be a part of the larger society.

I have lived in Denmark for 16 years, during which you might have

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Lesley-Ann Brown

expected that Denmark would have gotten better at dealing with immigration. But while immigrants are finding it easier and easier to integrate, the anti-immigration rhetoric has never been worse.

It was disturbing to learn that many of my students already felt the presence of a glass ceiling. This glass ceiling was constructed out of the constant recitation of statistics about their existence, sweeping hate-filled campaigns that seem to be directed at an entire group of people, and the experiences that many of the students had themselves. It was not uncommon for the children to tell me that on their way to school, a Danish person had harassed them, perhaps pulling at their scarves or telling them to get out of the country.

MUTUAL GOODWILL

Thankfully, the majority of Danes are not like this. And thankfully, many arrange and attend anti-racism demonstrations, like København for Mangfoldighed (Copenhagen for Diversity). It is not an entirely pleasant feeling to watch children abandon the sense that they too deserve justice when they see the negative messages being sent in their direction.

I was selected to stand on that stage even though I was the child of immigrants who barely understood the country they were living in. Because for many, being an American is driven more by respect for difference than by membership in a particular ethnic group. It's what Simón Bolívar, the 19th century Venezuelan military leader, called mutual goodwill: through a genuine understanding of each other, unity is forged.

So why don't we unplug our televisions and demand fairer news reporting and representation in our media? Why don't we admit that bullying is happening on a large, societal scale – and try to show that we in Denmark are actually much better than that? **M**

THE MURMUR WANTS YOU!

Following the summer, we will need some fresh faces to keep The Murmur producing high quality, English-language journalism. Here are a few of the people we are looking for:

EDITORIAL INTERN - PART TIME

We are looking for a young writer with a passion for journalism and feature writing, to join us for a six-month internship starting in August. You need to be self-motivated, confident and willing to learn. You need to be curious and capable of engaging with subject areas you are unfamiliar with. Most importantly, you must be interested in seeking out the human angle behind the headlines.

We would prefer a student intern who can organise their hours around their studies, but we will consider all applications. Payment is negotiated, and depends on the candidate's qualifications and level of experience.

COLUMNISTS

Do you have a unique insight into our mundane daily live, or a new perspective on the important issues of the day? We are looking for new columnists to share their thoughts and experiences, regardless how big or small the topic.

CONTRIBUTORS

Over the past year, The Murmur has worked with dozens of writers, photographers, editors and columnists. We love collaborations and fresh points of view, no matter how obscure or niche. Even if you just have a seed of an idea, you are welcome to pitch it to us.

If you are interested, please get in touch by emailing our Editor-in-Chief Peter Stanners – PETER@MURMUR.DK

COLUMN

Be a good capitalist, copulate for cash

Prostitution is still prostitution when it's a broke middle class student who needs to pay her bills

'Sugardating' is one of the latest additions to my vocabulary. I came across it in an article in the newspaper Politiken that discussed how some young girls from average families are having sex with rich older men for money – an act more traditionally referred to as prostitution.

Now, this isn't the first time society has been uncomfortable associating the well-off with vice. Prostitutes for the rich are escorts, Breivik was a gunman and financial crime is merely fraud.

The concept was also discussed in The Atlantic last year, in an article entitled 'How Sugar Daddies Are Financing College Education'. It was a remarkable article for several reasons. First was the use of the word 'financing' in the headline, which made the act of sex for money sound as dull as buying a government bond.

Second was the article's focus on college students, who aren't the typical poverty-driven sex workers that come to mind when discussing prostitution.

Third was that the article read like an advert for the world's biggest website connecting bodies with bucks, seekingarrangement.com, which claims to have 2.6 million members, of which seven out of eight are 'sugar babies'.

"If so many college women are signing up for the site, it must be something different," the article stated, drawing to a close. "It must be more socially acceptable somehow. It can't really be prostitution."

What a fun conclusion.

What the article failed to take into account as a possible explanation for the trend is the fact that US college tuition has risen

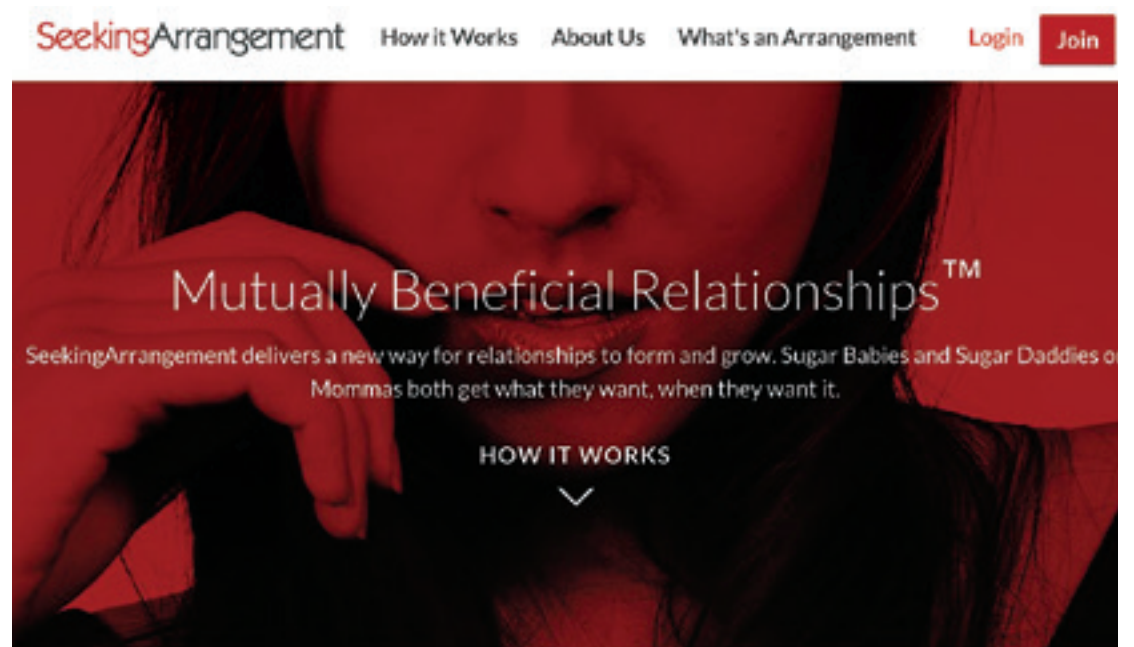
five times faster than the cost of living since 1985. Instead of hailing this as not 'real' prostitution, we ought to see it as prostitution in its essence – selling sex to deal with material poverty. Just look at the women you can find soliciting on Copenhagen's streets. They are almost exclusively from poor countries in Africa and Eastern Europe.

My view on prostitution may seem a bit contradictory, but I at least think it makes sense. On the one hand, the social libertarian in me doesn't want to ban people from using their bodies in whatever way they choose, and that includes selling it to the highest bidder. But, on the other hand, I have a huge problem with people thinking they have the right to buy or rent other humans for their own pleasure. Humans are something more and mightier than commodities.

One evening, while discussing this very topic, a good friend of mine pointed out that what I was describing was the relationship between an employer and an employee in a capitalist system. An employee sells their time and utility, and the employer gives him money in return.

I don't think sex and intimacy can be compared to something as mundane as sitting in a cubicle and hanging out on Facebook, and maybe that's my conservative nature. But in many other ways, I'm forced to admit that prostitution does seem to be the perfect form of capitalist endeavour.

In order for capitalism to really thrive, it needs to be constantly opening up new markets. This can be done, for instance, by creating new trade routes, invent-



Seeking Arrangement is one of several websites linking women to men willing to pay for their company.

ing new technology, or utilising resources in inventive ways. Our bodies, too, are a resource, so why not sell them for sex and medical experimentation? As most of the world's population does not currently engage in prostitution, and the world's population is steadily growing, this market's potential is basically endless.

But before we embark on this incredible capitalist endeavour, we might have to make some changes. Most prostitutes tend to be poor, so we could start by creating more poor people. A good way to start could be the right wing's plan to cut unemployment benefits.

This would provide a short-term fix, immediately pushing several hundred people into utilisable poverty. And since college students seem to be more than willing to sell themselves for money, our next step could be to follow the recommenda-

Most prostitutes tend to be poor, so we could start by creating more poor people

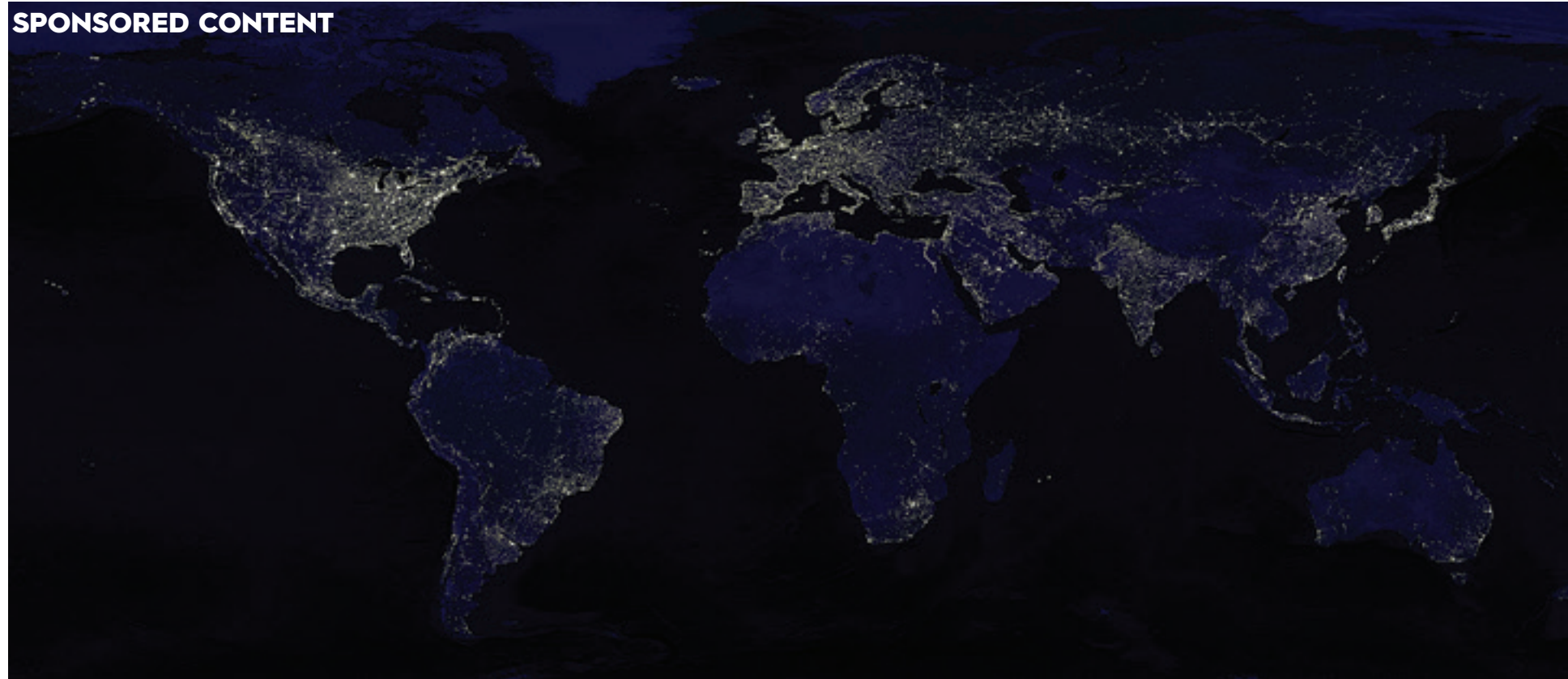
tions of libertarian think-tank CEPOS, creating high tuition fees and copious amounts of student debt.

The other change we need to make before we can set our plan in motion – and this one is very important – is to change the name. I wouldn't feel comfortable being called a prostitute. It makes me feel rather dirty and unempowered. So how about we call it 'Romance Analyst and Privacy Entrepreneur'? I think that is a title that will make us all feel good about ourselves.

Because that's what drives unfettered capitalism – the principle that everything can and should be monetised and subject to market principles, especially our depravity and desperation. We just needed the PR department to make up a new word for it, because then we won't feel as bad about the reality the reality of what we're doing. **M**

Elias Thorsson

SPONSORED CONTENT



The Role of Arts in the Global Society

How do we discover new talent in the performing arts, visual arts and in literature? Is it the job of the media and national arts institutions alone to find and develop new voices in the arts? What is cultural translation in the arts? These are the questions at the heart of the first Arts & Globalization Conference, which takes place in Øksnehallen in Copenhagen from May 26 to 28.

The goal of the Arts & Globalization conference is to establish a creative think tank focused on questions relating to the role of the arts in society. It will inspire everyone involved in the arts to work across borders, cultures and differences in order to support the development of an open and creative society. This year, the conference will focus on the role and strategies of artists and curators in a globalized age.

ART AS DIALOGUE

The conference is an initiative of curator Rikke Jørgensen – head of the cultural agency UrbanArt Communications – who has collaborated with UKK (Young Artists and Art Critics) to get the conference off the ground.

"We want the conference to examine how contemporary art and the conversation about the arts can help create a more inclusive society," says Rikke Jørgensen. "Not because we think that art should be a tool for political thinking, but because we think that art is more interesting when it is involved in a dialogue across differences. The conference is a first step towards creating a platform for a conversation on the role of the arts today, and for developing new artistic and curatorial ideas, networks and friendships."

One focus of the conference is the relationship between the international and the national.

"It is important that our cultural policies are not focused ex-

clusively on sending our own representatives abroad. If we are to have a sustainable culture and society, we must have an open dialogue and an equal collaboration across cultures and differences within the country's own borders, especially in a time when many people move to find work or are forced to escape wars, natural disasters etc.," says Rikke Jørgensen.

LIVE ART

The conference will open with the international performance BLOC. The two performers, Tamara Erde and Erika Hedayat, live, work and were trained in Paris. They will reenact a performance, first shown in 2012 at FIAC in Paris, that identifies the vulnerable human being behind every political conflict.

"We - Erika Hedayat and Tamara Erde - have decided to work together. An Iranian and an Israeli. A forbidden encounter seen with our two home countries' eyes. This performance is a duet that we have created to investigate and bring up thoughts on dialogue and exchange. It brings up thoughts about the conflict between Iran and Israel, understood as nations, but also about the relationship between people - the private, individual human being behind the concept of 'nation'," they write in their artist statement.

The conference will also focus on the interplay between cultural policymaking, art curation and art production. At the conference, there will be the chance to meet

artists, curators and cultural policy makers from around the world.

CO-CREATION

Conference delegates are invited to participate in the performance workshop "Swapping Camp" by artist Thierry Geoffroy and independent curator Tijana Miscovic. There is a performative and interactive element to the workshop, in which participants are invited to debate a topic related to the conference's theme inside a two-person tent erected inside the venue. Over the course of the two-day conference, you will meet and debate with new people in the tents, which can also be seen as sculptural objects that create an exhibition-like experience.

"Since the tents are mobile, their position will change during the workshop, creating a dynamic art installation. Each tent will also be used as a four-sided canvas for painted statements," says Tijana Miscovic.

In addition to debating, delegates are also invited to collaborate with each other on new ideas that can help build the society of tomorrow. These ideas will be published at the venue during the conference.

The conference marks the 10th anniversary of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, and is organized by UrbanArt Communications in collaboration with the UKK (Young Artists and Art Critics).

UrbanArt Communications

UrbanArt Communications is a contemporary media, arts and communications agency. The agency was founded in 2003 in connection with the art exhibition 'Do You Need Anything?' in Lygten Station in Nørrebro, Denmark. Since then UrbanArt Communications functioned both as a platform for curatorial projects such as Nørrebro Art Salon and large scale cultural and communications projects in Denmark and abroad.



INFORMATION

May 26-28

Øksnehallen, Halmforvet 11
1700 København

Full conference price: DKK 750
Day tickets: DKK 335
Concessions: DKK 185

Tickets can be bought on the door.

The conference language is English.

Speakers include:

Christine M. Merkel – Head of the Division of Culture, Memory of the World of the German Commission for UNESCO, Germany
Paul Goodwin – Professor and independent curator, England
Tamara Erde – Film director and performance artist, Israel/France
Tone Olaf Nielsen – independent curator, Kuratorisk Aktion, Denmark
Alia Rayyan – Director at the Al Hoash Gallery – the Palestinian Art Court, Palestine
Ibrahim Mahama – Visual artist, Ghana
Maria del Carmen Carrion – Director of Public Programs and Research at ICI (Independent Curators International), USA

For the full programme, and registration information, please visit:

ARTSANDGLOBALIZATION.COM

OLIVER'S 3 CITY PICKS

EAT



Instagram / Sliderscph

SLIDERS Nørrebrogade 1, 2200 Copenhagen N

The sun rises high in the sky as summer approaches; people flock to Dronning Louises Bro to soak up some rays and down some beers. As the sun wanes and they start to feel peckish, they need not go far for some quality burgers from Sliders.

Located on the Nørrebro side of the lakes, and within walking distance of

Nørreport station, Sliders serves small hamburgers in a variety of ways. A single slider costs 45 kroner, while three sliders along with a side dish are available for 119 kroner.

But if you are questioning whether a "small burger" will satisfy your hunger, there's no need to worry: the sliders are packed with various combinations of fillings and condiments. There's the triple truffle cheese slider, which includes beef, three types of

cheese and mushrooms as well as a truffle mayo, or the sloppy mama, made of braised beef with a red wine sauce, crispy bacon and pickled red onion.

As for drinks, the restaurant offers a variety of beverages but most notably offer a 1.5 litre jug of beer. So if you're a fan of burgers and want to experience them in a new way, Sliders is the place for you.

DRINK



Rasmus Himmelstrup

THE BARKING DOG Sankt Hans Gade 19, 2200 Copenhagen N

After slamming down some sliders, there's no end of nearby bars to quench your after-dinner thirst. But we recommend taking a short walk down Rantzausgade, until you reach the basketball court on the corner of Sankt Hans Gade.

Around the corner, you'll find The Barking Dog, a

modern pub that actually specializes in cocktails. The selection of drinks is constantly changing, but right now you'll find libations such as Ivan the Pink, which combines absinthe with gin, cherries, bitter and lime, or the Penicillin Highball, which mixes whisky with ginger root and honey.

In addition to the cocktails offered, the bar has a large selection of different beers, hot drinks, wines and non-alcohol-

ic drinks. Those feeling undernourished as the alcohol takes hold can feast on the snacks offered.

Be warned, it might be a bit packed: The Barking Dog was nominated as Copenhagen's Best Bar by Politiken's iByen awards this year.

PARTY



Flemming Bo Jensen / Click Festival

CLICK FESTIVAL Kulturværftet, Allegade 2, 3000 Helsingør

The Click Festival is an annual celebration of contemporary art and media held in Helsingør that aims to enforce cultural innovation through the exploration of art, science and technology.

The festival hosts a series of concerts, performances, exhibitions and discussions that touch on several topics around an

overarching theme. The theme for the 2015 edition is Citizen Poole Revisited: About technology, arts and human existence. Inspired by a Philip K. Dick short story, the theme focuses on the ever-growing link between man and technology.

The festival will showcase visual art and music, and hold talks and seminars by artists. Some of the featured artists include Lee "Scratch" Perry, Objekt and David Byrne among

many others, while scientists, entrepreneurs, activists and businesses will hold host talks that focus on the festival's theme. It's an offbeat festival that offers the chance to both explore new ideas and party to the early hours—definitely worth the visit.

May 14 – 17

Tickets: 500 kroner for three days, 250-350 kroner for single-day tickets

Oliver Raassina

WHAT'S ON • MAY



MODERN MASTER
Louisiana presents an exhibit focusing on the career of Scottish artist Peter Doig, featuring work from his entire oeuvre. Expect colourful landscapes, between the abstract and impressionistic
Louisiana
GI Strandvej 13, 3050
Louisiana.dk

ALL MONTH

CINEMA TRIBUTE
The Danish Film Institute will be screened a selection of the films of American director John Ford, known for his westerns and adaptations of classic 20th century American literature.
Cinemateket
Gothersgade 55, KBH
cinemateket.dk



SAFARI TIME
Do locked up animals make you sad? Then take the trip to Givskud Zoo near Billund, where the animals roam free, but you're safely locked inside your car.

Givskud Zoo
Løveparkvej 3, 7323
Givskudzoo.dk

ALL MONTH

HISTORY OF HUMANITY
Specialising in prehistory and ethnography, the Moesgaard Museum takes us face to face with our ancestors. Recently re-designed, the grounds are truly spectacular.
Moesgaard Museum
Moesgård Allé 15, 8270
Moesgaardmuseum.dk

1

VIKING FAYRE
Vikings from all over Europe will flock to Ribe Viking Center, for an authentic and intense market atmosphere, just as it would have been 1300 years ago.
Ribe Viking Center
Lustrupvej 4, 6760
Ribevikingcenter.dk
Ends May 8



GRUNGE REVIVAL
Seattle band Mudhoney, pioneers of 1990s Grunge sound, are visiting Loppen in Christiania, playing music from their entire catalogue.
Loppen
Christiania, KBH
Loppen.dk
May 5

6

HIP HOP HERO
One of hip-hop's biggest stars of the moment, J. Cole, comes to Vega to perform cuts off his latest album, '2014 Forest Hills Drive'.

Vega,
Enghavevej 40, KBH
Vega.dk



ROBOT SHEEP
Ridley Scott's sci-fi classic from 1982, 'Blade Runner', will be given a special screening for one night only at Imperial.

Imperial Cinema
Ved Vesterport 4
Kino.dk
May 7



CONTEMPORARY ART
Action film and the Bible. These are the two sources from which the AROS director, Erlend Høy-ersten, has drawn inspiration for this exhibition of contemporary art from the museum collection.
Aros
Aros Allé 2, 8000
En.aros.dk
Opens May 8

9

ELECTRO MAGIC
British dance music duo Bondax bring their own flavor of R&B, house and garage to Denmark, transforming Pumpehuset into a festival ground for the night.

Pumpehuset
Stuadiestræde 52
Pumpehuset.dk



Mathias Vejerslev

TECH CELEBRATION
For four days in Helsingør, Click Festival celebrates art, technology and innovation, through a series of concerts, performances and seminars.

Kulturværftet,
Allegade2, 8000
Clickfestival.dk
May 14 - 17

17

STORY TIME
Do you enjoy listening to stories? Well then buy a ticket for Tea and Tales Story Salon, and enjoy them with tea scones.

Bestteller's storyteller Stage
Krusaagade 25-27, KBH
Billetterto.dk/da/tea-ales

Oliver Raassina

WHAT'S ON • MAY



Oj San Felipe

RAPPING MONSTER

Leader of the Odd Future collective, Tyler the creator, brings his youthful energy to Vega's stage.

Vega
Enghavevej 40, KBH
Vega.dk
May 20

21

THE DUKE OF BURGUNDY

Acclaimed British director Peter Strickland premieres his latest film, 'The Duke of Burgundy'.

Cinemas nationwide
Kino.dk



ART AND THE WORLD

The Arts & Globalization Conference examines the state of contemporary art practice and art theory in the context of globalization.

Øksnehallen
Halmforvet 11, KBH
Artsandglobalization.com
May 26 -28

30

PEACE AND BEATS

Drink beer and dance to great DJs at Wonderland in Christiania to raise money for a hip hop festival in the Middle East. The charity heals the hangover.

Alis Wonderland
Christiania, KBH
j.mp/peacebeats

DRAMA

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Copenhagen | www.sanktjoseph.dk/en

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