

Exhibition programme 2023, Stockholm and Malmö

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Stockholm

Sleepless Nights

From the 1980s in the Moderna Museet collection

28 February 2023–14 January 2024

The 1980s saw the emergence of a number of strong female artists in Sweden and the Nordic region in what was a time of conflicting and contradictory trends. It is the works of these women that form the nucleus of the exhibition "Sleepless Nights". The title is taken from Teresa Wennberg's major video installation "Nuit Blanche" (1983), which is one example of how these artists had begun experimenting with the new materials and media.

It was a time of financial ups and downs, a red-hot art market, an alternative art scene that sought to provoke and now, just as there were signs that the Cold War was drawing to an end, a new fear, that of HIV and AIDs, was starting to haunt society. Vestiges of this interlude between the politicised 1970s and the artistically more stringent 1990s can be found in the Moderna Museet collection.

"Sleepless Nights" introduces visitors to some 130 works of art by trailblazers such as Barbro Bäckström, Cecilia Edefalk, Stina Ekman, Tuija Lindström, Eva Löfdahl and Ingrid Orfali among others.

On this occasion, however, the female artists are also joined by male colleagues, including Torsten Andersson and Max Book, while works by stellar names such as Daniel Buren, Robert Mapplethorpe, Cindy Sherman, and Andy Warhol contribute an international dimension to the exhibition.

Curator: Anna Tellgren

Laurie Anderson

1 April–3 September 2023

Artist, performer, composer, filmmaker and writer, Laurie Anderson's boundary-defying work has elevated her to legendary status among the pioneers of American avant-garde art, experimental music and independent culture. Storytelling, listening and language are at the very core of her art.

In what is Anderson's largest solo exhibition to date in Europe, visitors are treated to a narrative on the nature of time, space and existence. A representative selection of the artist's works from the 1970s up to the present day is complemented with brand new, site-specific productions: conceptual art, performance, innovative musical instruments, compositions, stage shows, as well as activist art and political art. The exhibition serves as a forum for both physical materials and techniques – painting, sculpture, analogue photography, sound tapes and film strips – and new digital worlds, such as virtual reality.

Laurie Anderson, born in Glen Ellyn, a suburb of Chicago, in 1947 has Swedish ancestry on her father's side. Her grandfather hailed from Djupviken in the parish of Årtemark, in Dalsland.

Curator: Lena Essling

Monica Sjöö

The Great Cosmic Mother

13 May 2023–18 October 2023

"Monica Sjöö – The Great Cosmic Mother" is the first major survey exhibition of the Swedish artist, activist, writer and eco-feminist Monica Sjöö (1938-2005). An unwavering advocate of freedom from oppression in all its forms, Sjöö came to be one of the seminal figures in both the Women's Liberation Movement in the UK and the international Goddess Movement.

Tracing the artist's deep commitment to gender and environmental justice, this retrospective exhibition will introduce and consider an artistic and activist practice that resonate with many challenges today.

"Monica Sjöö – The Great Cosmic Mother" is organized in partnership with Modern Art Oxford, where it will be on view 18 November 2023–25 February 2024.

Pink Sails

Swedish Modernism in the Moderna Museet collection

17 June 2023–January 2025

The exhibition presents some of the numerous narratives and varying artistic expressions that existed side by side in what has become known as Swedish Modernism. Visitors will have the opportunity to familiarise themselves with works from the extensive Moderna Museet collection from the beginning of the twentieth century until the 1940s. In all, a total of around 100 works will be on display, from artists that include Anna Casparsson, Siri Derkert, Sven X:et Erixson, Isaac Grünewald, Sigrid Hjertén, Bror Hjort, Hilding Linnqvist, Vera Nilsson, Ragnar Sandberg and Otte Sköld.

The monumental changes in society that took place during this era, the impact of two world wars and the web of influences from European cities such as Paris and Berlin, all left their mark on art: in the depiction of landscapes that now bore the hallmarks of a new industrial age, the rapidly growing cities and the environments of the outer suburbs, intimate portrayals of everyday life, and representations of human emotions. Parallel with this, however, many artists turned their focus inwards, to

private inner worlds and imagination, and to motifs that bear witness to a longing for times now past.

Curator: Matilda Olof-Ors

Seven Rooms and a Garden

Rashid Johnson + Moderna Museet

30 September 2023–September 2024

Seven Rooms and a Garden is an exhibition that juxtaposes the practice of the American conceptual artist, painter, sculptor, and filmmaker Rashid Johnson (b. 1977) with works from the Moderna Museet collection.

In the exhibition, Johnson proposes a question: how can you inhabit and live in a museum collection? His point of departure is the relationship between the home as an intimate place that holds the seemingly insignificant acts and fleeting moments of daily life—happiness and pain, longing and anxiety, rest and routine—and the museum's presentation of its collection as a public space. How can this collection be occupied in a way that leaves it transformed?

Each room in the exhibition shows a different personal or artistic relationship between Johnson and the work of other artists, including Louise Bourgeois, David Hammons, Jackson Pollock, Cy Twombly, and Stanley Whitney. Tenderness, appreciation, love, and kinship are mixed with critique, scrutiny and misunderstanding, as well as the occasional inside joke between artists. Together, these seven rooms and a garden are home, the interior of Johnson's home.

Curator: Hendrik Folkerts

Lotte Laserstein

A divided life

11 November 2023–14 April 2024

Please note that the exhibition first opens and is shown at Moderna Museet Malmö from 6 May to 1 October 2023.

The German-Swedish artist Lotte Laserstein (1898–1993) is one of the art world's most exciting rediscoveries. We are proud to present the largest exhibition of her work that has yet been seen in Sweden or any other Nordic country, and one that places equal focus on her early production in Germany and the multifaceted works she created during her long years of exile in Sweden.

Laserstein, now ranked among the great realists of the twentieth century, emigrated to Sweden in 1937 to escape the Nazi persecution of the Jews. At the time she was at the pinnacle of her career as an artist in the Weimar Republic, where she had achieved renown for successfully incorporating contemporary motifs and themes, such as the new, self-assured woman, into a traditional style of painting.

Throughout the five highly productive decades during which Laserstein subsequently continued her work in Sweden, the process of establishing a foothold in her new homeland was conspicuous. Not only in her expressive self-portraits and poignant

depictions of other émigrés, but even in her landscapes and urban scenes, she never fails to hint at what it means to lose one's social and cultural context and adapt to a new one.

The exhibition has been jointly curated by Iris Müller-Westermann, formerly Museum Director of Moderna Museet Malmö and now Senior Curator at Moderna Museet in Stockholm, and Anna-Carola Krausse, an art historian and Laserstein expert based in Berlin.

Curators: Iris Müller-Westermann and Anna-Carola Krausse.

Malmö

Lars Englund

Under Construction

28 February–3 September 2023

The inclination to explore and experiment is central to the art of Lars Englund, which could be described as "work in progress". He has collaborated with cement factories and rubber manufacturers, uses machine parts and industrial materials as the basis for his works, alternates in scale between models and the monumental, and finds inspiration in underground metro systems and Baroque architecture alike. The current exhibition spans the years from the early 1950s with paintings that have rarely been shown, to Englund's sculptures from the first decades of the twenty-first century.

Lars Englund was born in Stockholm in 1933 and now lives in Skåne in southern Sweden. His works possess qualities that challenge the spaces and surroundings in which they are placed, while simultaneously interacting with them through their volume and kinetics. Seldom, if ever, is there a fixed starting point for the observer. Instead we are invited to move around the abstract forms of Englund's works in order to relate to them. His sculptural creations strike up a dialogue with the industrial heritage of the museum, which was originally built as an electric power plant, and with the bright orange façade from 2009 in perforated steel, a material that the artist himself also has worked with.

Curator: Elisabeth Millqvist

Adèle Essle Zeiss

Statolit

18 February–3 September 2023

"Statolit" is an installation and performance for three dancers, by Adèle Essle Zeiss (born in 1983). The performance takes place a number of times during the exhibition period. "Statolit" is presented in conjunction with the Englund exhibition.

The museum thus becomes a forum for an inter-generational dialogue between artistic expressions that share a fascination for movement and balance. Essle Zeiss uses basic materials – three long wooden planks are suspended horizontally within a room. Each plank has a sack of cement strapped to one end as a counterweight to the dancer sitting on the opposite end. The slightest movement is transplanted into the plank, changing its elevation and setting it in motion.

Adèle Essle Zeiss trained as a dancer at the Royal Swedish Ballet School and has a master's degree in Fine Arts from the Royal Institute of Art in Stockholm. Information about dates and times for performances will be announced.

Curator: Elisabeth Millqvist.

Jimmy Robert

Asymmetrical Grammar

1 April–3 September 2023

The art of Jimmy Robert (born 1975 in Guadeloupe) focuses on strategies for staging art-historical discussions and drawing attention to contemporary issues. His work frequently underscores the significance of the poetic dimension that is latent in everyday materials, blurring the boundaries between image and object.

Robert explores the relationship between the human body and materials and exposes art history to new interpretations in regard to gender and ethnicity. His artistic practice typically revolves around the essential meaning that is created in the interplay between space, body, movement and the work of art.

A central work in the exhibition is *Descendances du nu* (2016). Taking its starting point in Marcel Duchamp's painting *Nu descendant un escalier* ("Nude Descending a Staircase", 1912), the installation brings together objects, photographs, performances, sound and text. Robert skillfully weaves in samples from fellow artists Sturtevant and Sherrie Levine, both of whom have made reference to Duchamp in their own works. The installation also serves as a set for the performance that is an integral part of the work. The exhibition further includes a selection of works from Moderna Museet's collection, as well as recent works by Jimmy Robert.

Curator: Andreas Nilsson.

Lotte Laserstein

A divided life

6 May 2023–1 October 2023

Please note that the exhibition first opens and is shown at Moderna Museet Malmö from 6 May to 1 October 2023, before then moving to Stockholm.

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Moki Cherry

23 September 2023–3 March 2024

Moki Cherry (1943–2009) characterised her boundary-defying work in the description "the stage is home, and home is a stage". Painting, sculpture, textiles, fashion and scenography coalesce in her vibrantly colourful art. Here everyday life and art are linked, melded, interfused. A musical instrument case becomes the substrate for a painting, bags are repurposed as a basis for textile collages, and drawings define a world view that sets nature at its core.

Moki Cherry worked to incorporate family life into her creative output. Children – her own and others' – were both audience and collaborators. Her art could form part of concerts in Paris and Copenhagen, or stand alone in the rural setting of southern Sweden and in galleries.

The exhibition at Moderna Museet Malmö presents a broad spectrum of Moki Cherry's work: a motley potpourri of naivistic features and symbols, populated by both human figures and non-human creatures. Her later works also show traces of cubism and more abstract forms.

Curators: Elisabeth Millqvist and Andreas Nilsson.