

John Kørner's works can be viewed at several Danish art museums and are also part of many international art collections. He is behind a number of extensive public commissions and his works are shown in galleries in both Denmark and abroad. But who is this artist who has been in the limelight of the art world since the turn of the millennium?

Recognized for his artistic talent, he is very much associated with the kind of figurative painting that experienced renewed interest at the beginning of this millennium. By then, painting had for a number of years been considered as outdated, to the point of being declared dead from an art-historical and art-critical point of view.

John Kørner was born in Aarhus in 1967, raised in Lolland and has lived all his adult life in Copenhagen. He graduated from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in 1998 and became widely known in 2008 when he painted a picture for every Danish soldier that had fallen in Afghanistan. In 2010, at the request of the Crown Prince Couple, he created a large mural for the decoration of the newly restored Frederik VIII's Palace at Amalienborg. The following year he held the exhibition 'Kvinder til salg' (Women for sale) at the Workers Museum in Copenhagen, where he addressed the trafficking problem in Denmark.

Kørner's paintings are material, gestural, expressive and illusory. Vibrant colours, not least yellow, have long been among the most distinctive features of his work, often complemented by purple. The colour intensity has faded slightly in recent years while the motifs have become more detailed. Characteristics of John Kørner's paintings include large parts of the canvas being left unpainted, transparent parts, clear brushstrokes and dripping paint. Through hints and ambiguities, the works invite reflection.

His works are represented in many public collections, including the Tate Gallery in London, the National Gallery in Copenhagen, ARKEN Museum of Modern Art in Ishøj, Aros Aarhus Art Museum, HEART in Herning, the Moderna Museum in Stockholm, the Rubell Family Collection in Miami and the Saatchi Collection in London, to name a few.

Galleri Bo Bjerggaard hereby presents an opportunity to explore a number of paintings and graphic works, framed in wooden frames designed by the artist himself. In the meantime, John Kørner is working on a large solo exhibition on the theme of a supermarket for the gallery at Flæsketorvet in Copenhagen which is due to open at the end of August.

Enjoy!