

Jockum Nordström

To the Moon

25 April -25 May 2024

It is with great pleasure that Galleri Bo Bjerggaard presents the exhibition **To the Moon (Till Månen)** featuring works by the Swedish artist Jockum Nordström. This is Nordström's first solo exhibition at Galleri Bo Bjerggaard and in Denmark. Jockum Nordström (b. 1963) is one of Sweden's leading artists with a long and significant international career.

In conjunction with the exhibition, Galleri Bo Bjerggaard will publish a catalogue with text by Emma Rosenzweig, exploring the thematic and conceptual foundations of Nordström's work.

Looking at Nordström's work is like reaching out to the father commemorated in the tombstone collaged under the tree. It's like looking at the back of someone who turns to you from time to time and sticks out their tongue.

In the exhibition *Till Månen*, detailed collages and a wide selection of sculptures are displayed, including Nordström's remarkable matchstick sculptures.

The collages are meticulously constructed with imaginative figures and objects that spring from Nordström's interest in folk art, music, and nature. There is also a profound affection for paper as a material within the works. Nordström himself describes working with collages as being like solving an academic puzzle. Both the collages and sculptures serve as a narrative portal to cultural references that challenge the viewer to explore.

*One of the works, *Boîte*, French for "box" or "casket", recalls the American painter Mark Rothko, while another, *Valentine's Day II*, echoes the fur gloves of the German artist Meret Oppenheim. But behind the layers of references and intellect, there's always a sense that you can smell the child, an angry child, a vulgar child, a naughty child, a teasing child, a curious child who wants to empty matchboxes to set something on fire, just to see what it looks like when it burns. Nordström doesn't limit himself. He builds depth in his sculptures, drawings, collages and paintings.*

Jockum Nordström's works are represented in museums around the world, including Centre Pompidou in Paris, MOMA in New York, SFMOMA in San Francisco, and Moderna Museet in Stockholm.