

Press release: *Per Kirkeby, Close-up*

Galleri Bo Bjerggaard, East wing

Exhibition period: 12 October – 16 December 2017

In 2012 Per Kirkeby (b. 1938) made 21 collages at his studio in Hellerup. They depict different sceneries from Adam and Franz Liszt to cosmos and fine algae.

In the book *Per Kirkeby, Close-up*, Erik Steffensen tells us the story behind the collages:

I have seen Kirkeby work with his collages. In his studio in Hellerup, he took a cut-out image and glued it on the paper. Then he drew haphazardly, as if to underscore his find, circling the subject. It looked natural. The artist was in a flow. Seaweed or giftbasket ribbons can resemble tangled nerve fibres or pictorial DNA when they are used artistically. In the artist's hands, they serve as images of the natural order, even at its messiest and most incomprehensible. The collages constitute a non-verbal order, fragmented pictorial statements. Kirkeby's life has changed dramatically over the years. The road to order takes the will to order, and the artist's collages can be seen as fragments or leaves coming together to form a new meaningful order. The pictures are signposts in the creative process, the non-linear flow of an artistic life. As long as it makes sense for an artist to create new connections, the world seems intact.

[...]

The publication *Per Kirkeby, Close-up* will be released in a limited number of an edition of 500.

Besides the 21 collages from the book, the exhibition features twelve gouaches from 2012 which have never been shown to the public before.

For further information and photographic material on the exhibitions, please contact Bibi Saugman at bibi@bjerggaard.com or +45 5196 5096.