

## ***Sisters Academy - The boarding School at Den Frie Udstillingsbygning***

Unforgettable, magic, irresistible. A work of art. Thought through and realized in all details to perfection. The aesthetic and the sensual as the storyteller combined with enigmatic activities. We find ourselves in a metaphysical world. All "normal" rules are removed or have got another clear language. If the world of metaphysics shall be convincing, the materials, the performance, the totality must be like one unity, otherwise it fails. The staging of the Boarding School is created like that with utmost care in all details. As a guest or a student you are embraced from the start to the end by whispered outspoken orders, performed with accuracy and seductive humor.

Everything is strange, but why strange? Because it is so consequently made, so beautiful, so deeply human, so widely open to interpretations. It needs your time, your surrender, your tenderness and openness. It is a demanding piece of artwork, but if you surrender, it will stay with you forever.

The venue, the building of Den Frie is a scoop. The way the architecture of this untraditional classical building is being used to frame the artwork is brilliant. It is obviously how the building loves to be part of the activities, which underlines the symmetry of the architecture. And please give it some thought how much work has been done to stage this house with all the wrapping of fabrics, light, mirrors, carpets and objects. All this to make us, the visitors be part of another time, no past, no future but a contemporary fusion of it all.

I loved the constant subdued soundscape, I loved the clear-speaking trio of the Octopus, I loved everybody standing on the chairs before we could sit down to eat in the mirror dining hall, I loved the class of the well, I loved the combination of art, constructions, performance, natural science, sensuality, philosophy, aesthetic, I loved....

Thank you for all of it. I am so thankful that you gave this experience to us. Since many years I have not seen anything like it.

With warm regards, Kirsten Dehlholm

Artistic director of Hotel Pro Forma  
[www.hotelproforma.dk](http://www.hotelproforma.dk)

Oct. 2017



## 4. december 2018

### Anbefaling – Sisters Hope

Sisters Hope manifesterede storskala performance-projektet, Sisters Academy, i Den Frie Udstillingsbygning i efteråret 2017. Projektet var generøst støttet via en række fondsmidler samt via Bikubenfondens store udstillingspris på 3 millioner kr.

Projektet er en særdeles ambitiøs og omfattende produktion, der transformererede hele bygningen (inkl. kontorer, foyer, toiletter, café, etc.) til et overbevisende og markant æstetisk totalunivers. Det er et radikalt kunstværk, der direkte og gennemgribende involverer publikum som aktive deltagere. I perioden fungerede Den Frie som en levende "kostskole" med poetisk væren som udgangspunktet for al aktivitet. Projektet har en tyngde, konsekvens og skala som man sjældent har mulighed for at opleve.

Sisters Academy var på mange måder en stor succes. Vi modtog meget omtale og flotte anmeldelser – og der kunne hurtigt meldes fuldstændigt udsolgt. For os var det dog særligt responsen fra publikum, der gjorde det største indtryk. Tilbagemeldingerne fra besøgende på Sisters Academy var overvældende, og vi har modtaget en kontinuerlig strøm af positiv feedback og stærke vidnesbyrd fra gæsternes deltagelse i projektet.

Sisters Academy arbejder i og med kunstens transformerende potentialer og er uden tvivl et kunstprojekt, der ud fra en både stærkt styret kollektiv metode og helt individuelle personlige deltagelseslag, er forløsende. Jeg tvivler på, at nogen vil komme uberørt og i mange tilfælde sågar uforandret ud efter et ophold på Sisters Academy.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "KJS", written in a stylized, cursive script.

Kirse Junge-Stevnsborg

*Kunstnerisk leder, Den Frie Udstillingsbygning*

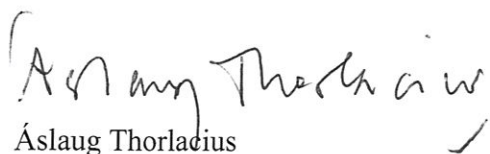
## Recommendation - Sisters Hope

In the fall of 2016, Sisters Hope manifested *Sisters Academy - The Takeover* at Myndlistaskólinn í Reykjavík.

The project is an extensive and radical intervention into the educational system that engages participants who would not necessarily otherwise experience performance art. Sisters Hope transforms the school through light-, sound- and set-design to create a sensuous and poetic universe and collaborate with the teachers and students at the school to explore new and more sensuous and poetic modes of learning.

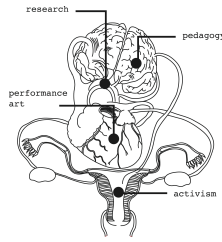
To Myndlistaskólinn í Reykjavík, the collaboration and ambitious experiment was a meaningful contribution that inspired new ways of perceiving learning and an expansion of the potentials of the arts. Through Sisters Hope's performance method, the project offered new perspectives to our teachers on how to work with both an educational and artistic practice, putting the sensuous and poetic at the center of all activities at the school. For the students, the project inspired an increased motivation to learn and opened up a new mode of being to them, suggesting a new way to be present in school. It also supported their creative doings and sparked new life into their deliveries.

With its deeply interventionist and immersive qualities, Sisters Academy holds transformative potential and represents a completely new way of making art a part of learning situations and everyday life.



Áslaug Thorlacius

Director, Myndlistaskólinn í Reykjavík



## **Presse og publikumscitater fra Sisters Academy - The Boarding School på Den Frie Udstillingsbygning**

"... det er en orkan af frigørelse. Der er tale om et univers, et mikrokosmos, som man indskrives i og lever og ånder igennem 24 timer. Det er noget så vildt som en kulturel oplevelse, der kræver engagement, og det har ændret den måde, jeg anskuer kunst på for evigt." **IDOART**, 27.10.17, Omfavnet af ånd

"'Sisters Academy - The Boarding School' er en 24 timer lang legende og generøs oplevelse. Her lukkes ned for det rationelle og op for sanseligheden og æstetikken en totalperformance, der er utrolig krævende og vellykket ... Samtidig viser Sisters Academy hvad der kan lade sig gøre indenfor kunstens rammer, når der arbejdes engageret, når der bruges god tid, når forskningen er med." **Information**, 13.10.17, Glem alt om rational tænkning de næste 24 timer

"Det er en sanselig erkendelsesrejse at blive indskrevet på Sisters Academy." **Politiken**, 8.10.17, At være lukket inde på kostskolen på Den Frie er ret befriende ♥♥♥♥♥

"Vil vi i fremtiden i højere grad se sanselige udtryksformer inkluderet i skolesystemet eller måske som fundament for hele samfundets struktur? Det var ét af de helt store spørgsmål, der blev berørt under Bikubenfondens Visionssalon med den visionære titel Æstetikken som fremtidens vigtigste præmis for væren og læren. Debatten pegede i retning af, at den æstetiske dimension bør fylde meget mere fremadrettet. Men hvordan?" **Kunsten.nu**, 14.10.17, Sæt sansningen på skoleskemaet.

"Fuldstændig fantastisk og potentielt livsforandrende oplevelse at være i søstrenes modige, magiske hænder i dette sidste døgn. Kan varme anbefales: særligt hvis du har brug for at huske de essentielle ting i tilværelsen, og hvem du er". Publikum, Sisters Academy - The Boarding School, Den Frie Udstillingsbygning

"I felt very healthy at Sisters Academy in my body and in my mind. A way of feeling healthy I rarely feel in the society I am living in." Publikum, Sisters Academy - The Boarding School, Den Frie Udstillingsbygning

"I've always liked art, but apart from music, all other art forms were kind of distant to me. Sometimes looking at a painting can move me, but when I came to Sisters Academy I discovered another level of being moved by art. It touched me in a more all-encompassing way. - Publikum på Sisters Academy." Publikum, Sisters Academy - The Boarding School, Den Frie Udstillingsbygning