



INTERNATIONALE RUIMTE VOOR
HEDENDAAGSE KUNST

Press Release– Amsterdam August 12, 2010

Uitgelicht/Highlighted

September 4- October 31, 2010

Opening: Sunday September 12 at 4 pm

The Exhibition *Highlighted* shows a selection of contemporary Finnish photography from the collection of the Dutch collectors Pieter and Marieke Sanders. For the first time at Nieuw Dakota a private collection is 'highlighted' in an exhibition. Highlighted is curated by Maarten Bertheux

With works by: Ilkka Halso, Nanna Hänninen, Ari Kakkinen, Sandra Kantanen, Aino Kannisto, Pertti Kekarainen, Ola Kolehmainen, Anni Leppälä, Pekka Luukkola, Susanna Majuri, Arno Rafael Minkkinen, Riitta Päiväläinen, Mikko Sinervo, Santeri Tuori, Miklos Gaál and Pilvi Takala.

Pieter and Marieke Sanders have been collecting contemporary art for over 40 years. Their collection includes paintings, sculptures, installations, photography and videos by young, as well as more renowned artists. From the beginning, their focus has specifically been oriented towards paintings and sculptures by young Dutch artists, many from Haarlem and surroundings. Earlier this year Pieter and Marieke donated a great number of acquired works to the Dutch national collection "Instituut Collectie Nederland". Over the years they have expanded their collection by adding various new media, such as photography and video and on the other hand by acquiring work of young and emerging as well as leading international artists. The collection of Finnish photography and videos constitutes a very recent and particular addition to the Sanders-collection.

Over the past ten years, Finland has seen the emergence of a new generation photographers and video artists, known as *The Helsinki School*. Linking factor is their education at the *University of Art and Design* in Helsinki, an education with a great emphasis on the development of a personal conceptual approach.

There are huge differences among the artists with regard to content and style. Yet it is clear that the omnipresence of the awe-inspiring Finnish Nature and the Nordic light are important sources of inspiration. The landscape can express a lyrical but also a melancholic atmosphere.

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Even when Nature is not used literally as a theme, the relation of man to the overwhelming nature reverberates in many of the works. The relationship between man and nature is a recurring subject in the collection of Pieter en Marieke Sanders. Yet their collection and the exhibition also present various examples of Finnish artists who primarily occupy themselves with portrait-photography or who take a more narrative approach.

The exhibition *Highlighted* shows how collectors Pieter and Marieke Sanders, already in an early phase, were inspired by the new Finnish movement in photography and how in the years that followed, they pursued this new development. The public is invited to discover a compelling overview of the variety and extraordinary quality of Finnish Photography. This exhibition is the first introduction of the new Finnish photography movement in the Netherlands.

NIEUW DAKOTA is a new platform for contemporary art at the NDSM-wharf in Amsterdam-North. Nieuw Dakota organizes changing exhibitions and events with Dutch and international artists in cooperation with galleries, museums, institutes and collectors. Nieuw Dakota aims to increase private participation in the contemporary art world. The attention for private collections, by disclosing them to a large public, is an important part of this ambition. By highlighting and illustrating the collector's passion for contemporary art, the Nieuw Dakota foundation hopes to inspire many people and introduce them to this passion.

Nieuw Dakota is open on Thursday and Friday from 11-19 hrs and Saturday-Sunday 11-17 hrs.

Nieuw Dakota is located at the NDSM-wharf in Amsterdam North, across the IJ, directly right from the pier of the NDSM-ferry (the ferry to the NDSM wharf is located directly opposite the IJ-side exit of the Central Station)

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