

Hubris!

C.Y. FROSTHOLM

with Louise Wolthers, MC Coble, Tatiana Maria Lund & Tinne Borgland

Galleri Image, Vestergade 29, 8000 Aarhus C, galleriimage.dk

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Hubris! is a photographic installation based on the visual artist and author C.Y. Frostholm's latest book *Til den ven jeg aldrig har kendt* (To the Friend I Never Knew) – a 688-page novel and travel diary in words and pictures dedicated to the French writer and photographer Hervé Guibert who was born in 1955 and died of AIDS on 27 December 1991.

The *Hubris!* installation represents an updated version of the book in which the images are the main focal point, and new works, photographic objects and 'special features' unfold hidden layers of the material and the creative process behind it. This includes the encounter with the cast of the sculpture *The Knife Grinder* at the Museum of Ancient Art and Archaeology in Aarhus that led to the project's hubris/nemesis theme.

This theme draws on mythical-historical references, but in equal measure examines the human hubris of our own time which has led to ecological disturbances such as the climate crisis and invasive species, HIV/AIDS and COVID-19. The theme simultaneously connects Guibert's raw and photographic-visual obsession and often transgressive artistic approach with Frostholm's own maximalist, almost stalkerish attempt to approach and mirror himself in his autofictional double practice.

The main axis of the exhibition consists of a frieze of larger colour and B/W photos from his travels in connection with the project. As a prelude, the series *Autoportrait cassé (Hervé)* consisting of book pages partially obscured by leaves, shows Frostholm's first discreet approach to Guibert's work.

The preoccupation with friendship in *Til den ven jeg aldrig har kendt* continues in the installation which includes works created in collaboration with a group of Frostholm's artist friends, who all appear as travel companions in the novel and have played an important role in relation to the artist's work over the years: scenographer Tinne Borgland, the visual artists Tatiana Maria Lund and MC Coble, and art historian and curator Louise Wolthers.

Hubris! makes use of photography in many formats – analogue and digital photography, negatives, slides, video and photobook objects. Through investigative and archaeological approaches it gathers times and questions that may appear separate into a visually poetic whole to be explored.

About the artist

C.Y. (Cyf) Frostholm (b. 1963) is a Danish writer and visual artist, graduated from the Writers' School in Copenhagen in 1989. He often works at the intersection between visual art and literature, where poetry, photography, prose, memoir, installation and performance are fused to create strong, engaging works that defy conventional genre designations. *Til den ven jeg aldrig har kendt* was nominated for Politiken's Literature Prize and Information's Montana Prize. His ecopoetic novel *Træmuseet* (The Tree Museum), which also includes photography, received the Danish Critics' Prize 2018 and was rewarded by the Danish Art Foundation. In 2021, Frostholm received the Otto Gelsted Prize for his artistic work.