

CODEX POLARIS

CODEX POLARIS (est. 2013) is an artist group based in Bergen, Norway that creates exhibiting opportunities for artists, printmakers, designers and writers working with artists' books in the Nordic region. Alongside the exhibition program Codex Polaris invites guest co-organisers to work on various networking projects, and writers to contribute with text works to raise the profile of book arts spanning local, national and international perspectives.

CV

- 2021 EXHIBITION **Rom for bøker** - Kristiansand Kunsthall
Kurt Johannessen, Rita Marhaug, Imi Maufe, Randi Annie Strand and Bibliotek Nordica - Feb - Mar
- 2020/2021 PROJECT **Sigla - Binda**
A 10 artist exchange between Iceland and Norway. Touring exhibition starting at Entrée, Bergen - Nov, and a project focus at BABF - on and off line book fair, Bergen 2021.
- 2020-2022 PROJECT **Scandinavian Artists' Books Partnership Project**
With Sarah Bodman and Angie Butler, Centre for Fine Print Research, UWE, Bristol -
A series of seminars, workshops and exhibitions in Bristol and Bergen for librarians and collectors.
- 2021 EXHIBITION **Bibliotek Nordica** - National Library, Iceland - June – Sept
- 2020 PROJECT **Posted/Unposted•British Isles**
In collaboration with Angie Butler. Involving 28 artists, printmakers and designers working with letterpress. Launching at IMPACT 11 Print Festival, Hong Kong - April 2021
- 2020 BOOK FAIR **Arctic Art Book Fair**, Tromsø - exhibiting of Karbonavtrykk
- 2020 BOOK FAIR **Trondheim Art Book Fair**, Trondheim - with work from Marhaug, Maufe and Strand
- 2017-2019 PROJECT **CODEX Book Fair and Seminar 2019 in San Fransisco Bay Area, USA.**
Codex Polaris curated the Nordic Focus at CODEX 2019 - Feb 2019 - working with invited partners from each of the Nordic Countries. Twenty artists travelled to USA and presented work by fifty artists on five stands and a presentation at the Book Club of California.
- 2018-2019 PROJECT **Bibliotek Nordica**
A collaboration of eighty two Nordic artists working with books, resulted in a portable library of Nordica book works (edition of ten) launched at Codex 2019. In collaboration with Megan Adie (Aviary Press) and Bent Kvisgaard (Vingaards Officin).
- 2019 - TEXTS **Codex Polaris Texts** were commissioned in collaboration with Bibliotek Nordica. This is an ongoing project.
- 2019 BOOK FAIR **Norske bøker** at Bergen Art Book Fair, 14. – 17. Nov (also at BABF since '15)
- 2019 EXHIBITION **Bibliotek Nordica** - 'My Library was Dukedom Large Enough' - GIBCA extended at Konstepidemien, Göteborg 2.- 24. Nov. Curated by Carine Fihn.
- 2019 BOOK FAIR **Frankfurt Book Fair** - City of Bergen Stand, 17. – 20. Oct.
- 2019 EXHIBITION **Posted / Unposted** - Gallery Astley in Uttersberg, Sweden, 5. Oct – 10. Nov.
- 2019 EXHIBITION **Bibliotek Nordica** - Malmö Kunsthall Book Shop, Sweden, May
- 2019 BOOK FAIR **Bristol Artist Book Event** - Arnolfini, Bristol, UK - 30. – 31. Mars

- 2019 EXHIBITION **Posted/Unposted ++** - San Francisco Center of the Book, USA - Feb – April
- 2019 EXHIBITION **Norske Bøker** - Fruit Exhibition - Bologna, Italy
Eleven Norwegian artists represented to an invited exhibition at the 7th Fruit Exhibition.
- 2019 BOOK FAIR **Norske bøker** - Barstad Art Book Fair, Lillehammer, Norway, 23. – 25. May
- 2018 EXHIBITION **China Meets Norway in a Bookshelf No.2**
An exhibition representing eleven Norwegian artists as one of three key exhibitors at abC Book Fair, Museum of Modern Art, Shanghai, organised by Northing.
Toured to Bentu One Gallery, Beijing and Paper Live, Hangzhou, China.
- 2018 RESIDENCY **Paper Live, Hangzhou, China**
Two artists representing Codex Polaris undertook a pilot project to establish a residency in collaboration with Northing (www.northing.no) in a paper and print factory.
- 2017 PROJECT **Nordic Letterpress Collaboration - Posted/Unposted**
25 Nordic artists, printmakers and writers working with Letterpress.
In collaboration with Lina Nordenström (GG Print Studio, Sweden)
- 2015-2017 EXHIBITION **Smak av Bok (Taste of Books)**
Workshop at Trykkeriet, Bergen followed by a touring exhibition to Visningsrom USF, Bergen; Stormen, Bodø and SFKM, Førde, Norway. Ten artists created large scale books works especially for this exhibition.
- 2016 TEXTS - Three texts commission in collaboration with **Smak av Bok**.
- 2014 EXHIBITION **Norske bøker (Norwegian Books)**
A collection of 45 books by 25 Norwegian based artists travelled to BABE, Arnolfini, Bristol; Library Gallery, UWE, Bristol; 3 Nordic Exhibitions, Doverodde Centre for Books, Denmark and BABF, Bergen Kjøtt, Norway.
- 2013 -14 TEXTS **B-Open Lesesirkel**
Bookart reading group set up as an initiative by B-Open, Bergen to establish groups for different professional arts sectors. This is the only group from this project still going strong.

WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

Posted/ Unposted Nordica - University of Maimi, USA and private collections in Europe and USA.

FINANCIAL and IN KIND SUPPORT since 2013

Norsk Kulturråd, Bergen kommune, OCA, Billedkunstnere vederlagsfond, Billedkunstners hjelpefond, Nordiske Kulturfond (DK), Nordic Culture Point, Viborg Kommune (DK); Norwegian Embassies - UK, Italy and USA; Codex Foundation (USA), Grafikverkstan Godsmagasinet (SE), Vingaards Officin (DK).

ORGANISERS

Rita Marhaug, Imi Maufe, Randi Annie Strand

www.codexpolaris.com