

## Galschiot Gallery - the year that went and the one to come



Dear

**After a tough 2016, Gallery Galschiot is again in full activity.** We look back at the year that just passed us and, look at what the future might bring to Gallery Galschiot.

**After a 2015 that was extremely concentrated upon happenings,** Galschiot had as usual promised his employees peace and quiet days in **2016** in order to work with the great docker sculpture for the harbour in Aarhus, Denmark, which is to be launched in August 2017. Contrary to expectations, he actually held his promise – almost.

**Of course there would still be added a myriad of artistic activities into the schedule. Eg.** in the shape of large-scale Fundamentalism-exhibitions, polar bears in front of the Danish Parliament building and in Marocco, gallery-concerts etc. And Art Museum Holmen even arranged an exhibition with Galschiot as well as God!

**We have made a collection** of last year's many Gallery Galschiots-activities bellow this introduction. But we also have to remember to look towards the future. This is, after all, where we all have to spend the rest of our lives.

**The first half of 2017** we will have a lot of focus on the great dockworker monument, which will be placed in the 2017 European Capital of Culture, namely the Danish city of Aarhus in Denmark. The monument will be

inaugurated in August, and we already look very much forward to show it to the public.

**The refugee ship is going to visit 30** German harbours, with debates, concerts and events. It is the Danish NGO, Living Sea, which collaborates with Galschiot and the project is led by the German NGO [OUTLAW](#). We look forward to start this comprehensive project, which also includes, a 'real' refugee boat from Lampedusa which is going to sail around the channels of Northern Germany with Galschiot's refugee sculptures.

**The 'Children of Abraham'/Fundamentalism-project** is starring running on full stem. The sculpture is finally complete and secured against vandalism, and we had an absolutely fantastic and highly praised exhibition in Varde, Jutland, which led to debates in the whole town, as well as an increased number of tourists and higher sales for merchants!

**In 2017 we expect to finally** exhibit the 9 pillars of scriptures in the European Parliament in July. It is going to be quite interesting, because several of the Christian Democratic members of parliament (MEP) are against the sculptures, which show 600 of the darkest and the brightest quotations from the Bible, the Torah and the Quran.

We hope that you will continue to follow the Gallery's comings and goings in 2017. If you come to Denmark, please drop by our Gallery/workshop. There is plenty to look at and we'll serve you a hot coffee.

*Many kind regards*

*Chief of communication*

*Lasse Markus and the Merry Gallerists*

## Galschiots activities in 2016

### January

**We started the year by wrapping up to our extensive COP21 activities in Paris.** Here, we had with our copy of Statue of Liberty, an impaled polar bear and a 10-man polar bear army roaming the city's streets. We could see ourselves in extremely many international medias – including [The Guardian to Iranian, Chinese and Vietnamese news papers](#).

**In January we dismantled** the impaled polar bear 'Unbearable' at Cite Universitaire in Paris and loaded it on a truck to Denmark. Fortunately the polar bear got some awesome exhibition sites later that year, as we shall see below.

**We also finally began to produce [The Dockworker Monument](#),** which had already been under way for a long time. The large sculpture is going to decorate DOK1 at the harbour of Aarhus. It is the Salling Foundation, which has donated the DKK 3 million for the sculpture. In return, it will become very nice, showing 7 dock workers in copper unloading coffee.



COP21 Paris



Model - Doc Worker Monument - for Aarhus  
-European Capital of Culture 2017.

### February

**In connection to the movie "The Danish Girl"** we made, at Gallery Galschiot a small exhibition with paintings by [Gerda](#) and [Ejner Wegener](#) from Galschiot's collection. The movie is about the painters Gerda and Ejner (and Lili) and the world's first sex change operation.

**Regarding the [The Dockworker Monument](#)**, we collected a lot of old photos of the dock workers in Aarhus to inspire the work process with the sculpture. Later that year, some dock workers from Aarhus came to visit us, and they could recognize themselves and their former colleagues, who are to be immortalized in copper.

**Gallery Galschiots art collection by Eugène de Sala** was lent to the Art Museum in Randers (Jutland), which used them for a [Sala-exhibition](#).

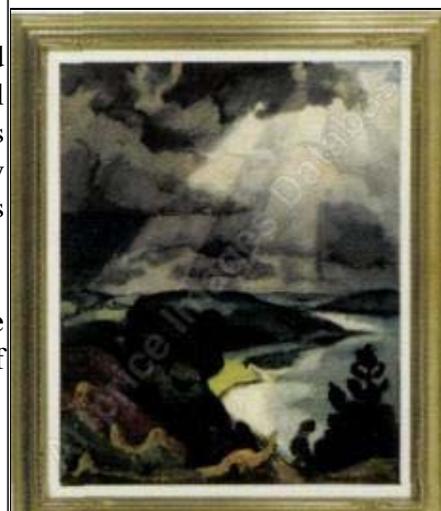


Photos of real doc workers from old days are being made in to sculptures for the memorial.

## March

**The month began with the sad message**, that our Mexican friend and super-artist [Emmanuel Cruz](#) had died at the too young age. Emmanuel worked in the workshop in 2009, where he impressed all of us with his abilities within hyper-realism and among other things modelled nearly everyone at the gallery. We made a memorial exhibition of some of his pictures in the Gallery, and you can still see some of them out here.

**In connection with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination** were shown a pillar of scriptures at the City Hall of Odense.



Paintings by [Gerda](#) and [Ejner Wegener](#)

## April

**The Impaled Polar Bear 'Unbearable' was erected in front of the Danish Parliament** in Copenhagen. It was exhibited for 4 months, attracting a lot of tourists and one could read about it in all sorts of media - from [Iran](#) and [USA](#) and of course in the Danish newspaper [Politiken](#). It was the Danish Green Party '[Alternativet](#)', which in cooperation with Galschiot arranged the set-up in order to remind the government of its climate responsibility.

**At the same time a sculpture model of the impaled polar bear was in New York** in connection with the climate actions from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Again it was the Green Party that used the project to focus on the climate crisis.



Sculpture Fundamentalism exhibited by City Hall Square in Copenhagen.

**The huge sculpture Fundamentalism was put up at the Copenhagen's Town Hall Square.** The exhibition was a part of a festival with the purpose to create intercultural dialogue. Since we had not yet made the sculpture vandal-proof, we had to take care of it around the clock for 14 days the exhibition lasted. So it was quite hard but also fun. On the other hand, we also got the chance to talk to the audience and talk about the sculpture and the project.



## May

**The International conference Women Deliver find Galschiot-exhibition to 'Negative'.** Galschiot had been invited to exhibit at the conference and should have exhibited the sculptures '550+1', which deals with trafficking and prostitution, and 'The Pregnant Teenager 'In The Name of God' which deals with womens' right to have sexual education and the right to use contraception. But it was decided to drop the exhibits as the organizers wanted to focus on the 'positive' side of women's struggle. At Gallery Galschiot we think the organization lacks courage. Galschiot had actually been invited by the Danish foreign minister to attend, and we disagree that the way to counter the oppression of women is to talk about how much they can do - without criticizing the society which oppresses women.

**Our Kurdish premium designer began to sew 9 new polar bear suits** for the polar bear army. The polar bear suits used in Paris was borrowed from the WWF so we had to give them back.

## June

**Galschiot and the Prime Minister talks on Constitution Day (5<sup>th</sup> June).** Galschiot was invited to participate at the Festival for Democracy at Ollerup Academy of Physical Education (Funen), where two of his 'Inner Beast' sculptures flanked the stage. Danish Prime Minister Lars Løkke Rasmussen held a speech, and Galschiot had been asked to reflect on the Prime Minister's speech immediately after. Doing so he had to say no to an invitation to speak to the Conservative Party's Constitutional meeting, so he must have felt quite popular (and confused about being invited to speak for the conservatives).

**We finally finished the work with the Fundamentalism sculpture.** We filled 10 tons of cement in the letters, so that the sculpture was safe from vandalism, and we mounted 60 cooling fans in the screens so that they could cope with the surprisingly warm Danish sun.

**In Varde the local art association exhibited the 60 meter long sculpture '550 + 1' at the Museum of Art.** It was the first time the sculpture was presented in a museum context.

## July

**The sculpture Fundamentalism was exhibited** at Gallery Galschiot during summer holidays and we had a lot of joyful visitors at the Gallery and workshop.

**We also sent 20 refugees (sculptures)** to an exhibition in

Impaled Polar Bear in front of the Danish Parliament in Copenhagen last summer.



In the Name of God. Yet another 'religious' sculpture by Galschiot.



Polar Bear Army.

Husum/Flensburg, Germany, which in turn made way for huge project this summer, where 30 harbors in Northern Germany will be visited by a refugee boat from Lampedusa, containing Galschiot's refugee sculptures. More about that later this year.

## August and September

The art- and dialogue project 'The Children of Abraham' was exhibited in Varde, and the giant sculpture Fundamentalism was placed in the town square. For three months the city was marked by dialogues about Judaism and Christianity as well as Islam's tenets. There were a large number of dialogue and discussion meetings in the city. Schools, educational and cultural institutions were involved, and there were specially developed training materials based on the project.



Real doc workers are used as models for the monument.

## October

The sculpture 'Man on Bench' was finally launched in Holstebro at Skovvang, a home for socially vulnerable. The sculpture had been underway for many months and was quite nice. It depicts a homeless man and is made by inspiration from one of the home's residents "Kaj E", who stayed at Skovvang for 30 years.



Fundamentalism

**Homeless in Stavanger:** The 9 homeless sculptures were transported to Norway and exhibited around the Stavanger city to create dialogue about social exclusion in Norway.



The sculpture 550+1 at Varde museum

## November

The gallery was packed with tango dancers when we fired up during an original Argentine orchestra on their European tour came by. A great evening where we had to put a special floor for the dancers to slide right in the tango dance.

Also, the Kurdish singer Tara Jaff visited the Gallery. She is one of the stars of the Kurdish song sky, and she played the Gallery up with her Celtic harp.

All good things come to an end. 'Children of Abraham' / Fundamentalism exhibition was taken down after 3 months in the municipality of Varde. The exhibition was absolutely fantastic, and we have received reports from the Commerce and Tourism Council on extraordinary many busses full of visitors who often came to see the exhibition and at the same time increased business revenue.

Morocco received a visit from the polar bear army. The occasion was the COP22 held in Marrakesh, and inside the polar bears were students from [Faxehus Efterskole](#), Sealand.



In July 2017 these 10 sculptures will be exhibited in the EU Parliament to start a debate about

As part of a major conference for Christian and Muslim leaders in

**Denmark** Galschiot exhibited a 'pillar of scriptures' with dark and light religious quotations. Galschiot was one of the main speakers and the assembled bishops, priests and imams discussed on the basis of his work of art 'The Children of Abraham's theme: 'Holy Scriptures and democracy'.

## December

**In the month of Christmas in 2016 many visitors came to the Gallery.** Some came to buy gifts, others to get a free sculpture-Christmas card, to get Christmas cookies and coffee or just to see the Gallery. Whatever the cause, we had a really good month and loved the visits.

**We finished modelling the first two 'dockers'** and as usual the year ended with a treat for the staff and volunteers.

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## ABOUT GALLERY GALSCHIOT

**Gallery Galschiot is owned by sculptor Jens Galschiot** and consists 2500 m2 studio and museum. The place is one of Denmark's most spectacular and biggest private art workshops. The place is full of activities, and besides the artist's workshop, there is also a bronze foundry, gallery shop, art schools, wicker workshop, TV-studios, Sculpture Park and a 400 m2 art gallery.

**The entire area is approximately 10.000 m2** and it is open for audience all working days between 9am and 5pm. It is open at Sundays between 12am and 4pm. - Closed during the Saturday and other holidays. You can book a guided tour. Free admission.

*If you visit Jens Galschiot at his great atelier and workshop, with dedicated people, you will get a feeling of witnessing something great, and as time goes, the life's work will start to form and be seen in the greater perspective, you will understand that this art goes further than the borders of Denmark.*

*Jens Galschiot is one of a kind on the international and Danish art scene, and his artistic activities have attracted much attention all around the world. His intense commitment, energy and artistic talent has something to say, and his sculptures and art happenings touches everybody who sees them. The entire artistic work is mainly about having something to say and having the heart in the right place - to make the world's sufferings and taboos visible and make the viewer think and make up his own opinion about the matter.*

*This is art that is not subject to the bourgeois norms. It dares to move against the stream, and that is what great art is about. The strength of the work is that it does not end up in a rigid protest, but offers genuine indignation paired with emotions, aesthetics, sensuality, energy, and humour.*

- Recommendation from a visitor at [Gallery Galschiot](http://GalleryGalschiot.com).

religion.



Galleri Galschiot



Galleri Galschiot



'Man On A Bench'.



Galschiot at christian/muslim debate conference.



Gallery Galschiot Christmas cards



**This mail has been sent from the sculptor Jens Galschiot's workshop.**

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**websides:**

[To Gallery Galschiot](#)

[To Galschiot webside](#)

[to "The Children of Abraham"projekt](#)

**Overview over [Galschiot sculptures](#)**

**Portrait of a [sculptor Jens Galschiot](#) (PDF)**

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