



Press Information, February 23, 2016

## **Per Kirkeby at Wanås Konst – The Wanas Foundation**

**In 2016 *Revisit – Per Kirkeby* will be shown at Wanås. The exhibition of sculptures and paintings is based on the artist's large brick sculpture that is part of the permanent collection in the sculpture park. Kirkeby is one of Denmark's most acclaimed artists with exhibitions and artworks all over the world. This spring he is presenting a comprehensive exhibition at Gl. STRAND in Copenhagen. *Revisit – Per Kirkeby* opens on May 15 at the same time as the exhibitions with the Swedish artist duo Nathalie Djurberg & Hans Berg and the Colombian Rafael Gomezbarros. The exhibition period will be from May 15 to November 6, 2016.**



Image: 1. Per Kirkeby, *Wanås*, 1994. The permanent collection at Wanås Konst – The Wanås Foundation. Courtesy the artist. Photo: Mattias Givell/Wanås Konst

### ***Revisit – Per Kirkeby***

Per Kirkeby's show is part of *Revisit*, the series of exhibitions that activate the permanent collection in the sculpture park at the Wanås Foundation. *Wanås*, the eponymous large brick sculpture that the artist built in the park in 1994, is the point of departure for this particular exhibition that also shows other aspects of Kirkeby's multifaceted practice including painting, sculpture, and graphics. The red brick is juxtaposed with black paintings, large-scale works with intimate bronze sculptures and the mundane shape of a brick with surfaces that bear the distinct mark of the human hand. Sketches from 1993 are joined by artworks from the 2000s in an exhibition that provides new insight into the work of one of the most acclaimed artists of the Nordic countries.

When creating Wanås, the permanent installation in the sculpture park, Kirkeby wanted to work with a space that was screened off on both sides but invited one to pass through. He chose to place the work in a glade, not in the forest, with a view towards Wanås castle and in relation to the old stable blocks and barns surrounding it. The work finds itself in the intersection between sculpture and architecture and was made in answer to the Northern European brick architecture tradition. Wanås, whose buildings are examples of such architecture, lies in what is sometimes called the brick belt and one of the oldest brick churches in the Nordic region, consecrated in 1191, can be found in the vicinity.

*“The artist behind the sculpture is also a painter, demonstrating a multifaceted practice that I am looking forward to presenting to our visitors. Per Kirkeby’s work made an important contribution towards making the sculpture park into what it is today. It is high time that we rediscover and return to his generation of artists.”* (Elisabeth Millqvist, Artistic Director, Wanås Konst)

A catalogue will be published in connection with the exhibition. Per Kirkeby was born in Copenhagen in 1938 and has long had a strong presence on the international art scene, with his work featuring at the Venice Biennale and at documenta, as well as at Tate Modern. Apart from sculpture and painting, his artistic practice also encompasses graphics and poetry. In the spring of 2016 he is presenting a large solo exhibition, *Avantgardens Blå (The Blue of the Avant-garde)*, at the art association GL STRAND in Copenhagen – an exhibition that was recently shown at the Danish contemporary art museum HEART Herning.

***Revisit – Per Kirkeby***

**Preview: Sunday, May 15, 2016.**

**Exhibition period: May 15 – November 6, 2016.**

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**UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS 2016**

**Nathalie Djurberg & Hans Berg**

**Preview: Sunday, May 15, 2016.**

**Exhibition period: May 15 – November 6, 2016.**

**Rafael Gomezbarros**

**Preview: Sunday, May 15, 2016.**

**Exhibition period: May 15 – November 6, 2016.**

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**ONGOING EXHIBITIONS**

**The Sculpture Park with the collection is open daily all year round.**

Winter season until May 15, 2016: The Café, the Art Gallery and the indoor installations are closed.

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**Press contact**

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*Wanås Konst – Center for Art and Education, presents and communicates contemporary art that challenges and redefines society. Wanås Konst produces site-specific international art and learning in an innovative and available way for the many. Wanås is a place in the world where art, nature and history meet. Wanås consist of a medieval castle, an organic farm, a scenic sculpture park and an art gallery in southern Sweden. Wanås Restaurant Hotel opens on the premises Fall 2016.*

*Since 1987 contemporary site-specific art by international artists has been produced at Wanås. Today the sculpture park holds more than 50 permanent works, created specifically for Wanås Konst by artists such as Ann Hamilton, Jenny Holzer, Yoko Ono and Ann-Sofi Sidén et al. Every year thousands of children take part in educational activities.*

*Wanås Konst is run by The Wanås Foundation. A non-profit foundation in Östra Göinge municipality, in the South of Sweden, only 1.5 h from Copenhagen, Denmark. Founding Director Marika Wachtmeister initiated the art projects at Wanås in 1987. Since 2011 the foundation is led by Elisabeth Millqvist and Mattias Givell.*

*Wanås is part of European Land Art Network (ELAN) and a Long Run Destination – a leader in sustainable development within the tourism industry, community development and cultural management.*

*Read more at [www.wanaskonst.se](http://www.wanaskonst.se)*