

## NOBLE ROT BLUES

Opening: 07.03.2014 at 5-8 PM

PRESS RELEASE

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The exhibition "Noble Rot Blues" adds another dimension to the Danish artist Allan Otte's production.

Royal Copenhagen has invited Allan Otte to create large-scale unique plates that are works of art and touch upon the tradition of Royal Copenhagen Porcelain at the same time. The 8 plates are currently presented at his solo exhibition at Galleri Tom Christoffersen, Copenhagen.

By painting with the classic cobalt blue colour Allan Otte enters a direct dialogue with the well-known Danish plate tradition but goes against its romantic subject matters. Allan Otte depicts vanitas and dead animals - swans, pigs, a cat - smashed cars and intensive farming, and does so with his characteristic unsentimental and raw realism. His choice of subject matter relates both formally and with humour to the round shape of the plates.

Allan Otte's paintings are characterized by being figurative but when examined up close his particular and systematic painting technique dissolves the figuration into controlled and abstract strokes of paint, which are placed next to each other in the same plane and divided into innumerable sections. Opposed to this his plates are painted in freehand and moulded with soft realism. Each plate is made of 50 kg of stoneware clay and measures 100 cm in diameter. They are underglazed, just like the traditional plates. But in his rethinking of tradition, Allan Otte displaces plates from trinkets to the monument.

**NØRREBRO TEATER.** The Danish theater Nørrebro Teater has commissioned a 10 metres long painting by Allan Otte. "Nørrebro udtræk" (Nørrebro extract) is a tribute to the district of Copenhagen called Nørrebro and is the largest painting Allan Otte has made to date. The inauguration is public, Friday 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2014 at 5-7 PM. We look forward to see you at Nørrebro Teater.

**OSMUND HANSEN FONDEN.** Allan Otte receives a work grant from the Danish foundation Osmund Hansen Fonden on Friday the 21st of March 2014 at 3 PM. The giving ceremony is public and takes place at Dong Energy, Nesavej 1, 2820 Gentofte.

Allan Otte (b. 1978) graduated from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in 2007. It is not the first time that Royal Copenhagen has invited Allan Otte to produce works in porcelain or stoneware. He has made "Årets Harald", Copenhagen University award for good teaching 2012, "Årets Gericke" in 2012, awarded by the Association of Danish Food Critics. In 2014 he received "H.H. Bruuns Legat til Kunstens Fremme", which is awarded by Royal Copenhagen. Earlier solo exhibitions include: "Nye Strækninger", Galleri Tom Christoffersen 2012, "Efterbilleder" gl. Holtegaard and Kunsten - Museum of Modern Art Aalborg 2010. Central group exhibitions count: "Out of Focus" Holstebro Art Museum 2012, "Sådan set" Rønnebæksholm 2012, "Parallel Lines" Galleri Tom Christoffersen 2009, "Winter's Tales" gl. Holtegaard 2009. In 2009, Allan Otte was nominated to the Carnegie Art Award. He is represented at Kunsten- Museum of Modern Art Aalborg 2010, Skive Kunstmuseum 2008 and Arken 2006. In 2013 Allan Otte received Silkeborgs Kunstnerlegat 2013. Allan Otte is represented by Galleri Tom Christoffersen.