

Citizen / Fellow Citizen / Citoyen

2. RUM

Proposal for a public commission at Nørreport Station by Claus Carstensen

Opening: 14.5. 2014, 5-8 pm

Duration: 14.5 – 24.5 2014

Open Monday – Friday 12-6, saturday – sunday 12-4, but closed May 16-18 due to holiday.

Galleri Tom Christoffersen presents the proposal for a sculpture at Nørreport train and metro Station in Copenhagen. The intention is to place Carstensen's sculpture at the entrance of the platform after Gothersgade.

On an 8 meters tall, narrow column, a male person is posing with his head bowed and clenched right fist raised into the air – a seemingly ambivalent gesture at the same time expressing humility and defiance. In other words two forces pulling in opposite directions. However, detached from their historical context – the 1968 Olympics Black Power salute – the original significance of these gesticulations is not present. This makes the work a bodily expression rather than a political statement and thereby making new interpretations possible on an interpersonal level. The latter is emphasized by the fact that the figure will be a life size cast of a human body and not 30-60 % larger, which traditionally is the size of human representations in sculptured monuments.

The bronze figure balances on a black square 50 x 50 x 800 cm concrete column. It will share height with a cluster of newly erected ventilation shafts, positioned in continuation of their axis.

Generally the sculpture is thought into the urban plan as a vertical counterpoint to the horizontality of the road networks. The slim column with the anonymous person on top is meant as an anti-monumental landmark that the many passers-by at Denmark's busiest train station can either relate to or reflect themselves in. The man is a part of the crowd, but as a *citoyen* – in the classic, democratic understanding of the word – he also represents a citizen with something on his mind.