

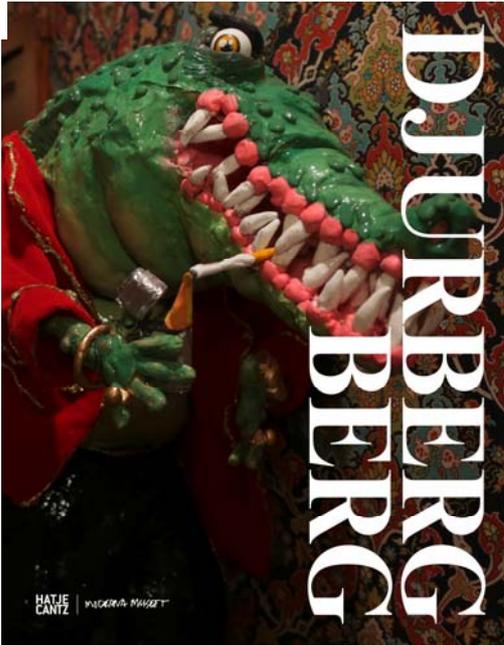
## NATHALIE DJURBERG & HANS BERG GROTESQUE DREAM WORLDS

**An odyssey from chaos to confusion and back: In the art by Nathalie Djurberg and Hans Berg the ego makes a bid for freedom.**

Berlin, July 17, 2018 – Nathalie Djurberg and Hans Berg create animated worlds with sculptures, sound, and moving pictures. The artists inhabit a world in between fairy tale and reality, fever dream and imaginary country. At the same time, it is a pointed commentary on Western society and its characteristics. A pot-smoking wolf, a human-pig hybrid, and a girl are driven to madness inside a fairy tale house that will not open up. Each is confronted with his or her own relationship to addiction per se. In an intimate relationship with a frog, a nude woman seeks the gateway to spirituality; a procession of clergy, clowns, and fashion victims, displaying their own clichés, carry on ad absurdum. The core themes of human existence determine the exhausting videos and installations by the two Swedes: power and helplessness, benevolence and abuse, violence and love.

“With a dark sense of humor and an indomitable ability to fabulate, Nathalie Djurberg and Hans Berg have created a unique world of amazing landscapes. The atmosphere is relentlessly amplified, to the point where notions such as innocence, lust, and shame lose their meaning. With enticing compositions of sound, light, and color in which liminal human/animal beings move in startling constellations, Nathalie Djurberg and Hans Berg challenge our habitual way of seeing. Where are we: in a dream, a fairytale, or a masquerade performance? Or are we quite simply at the limit of our own imagination?” says the foreword to *A Journey Through Mud and Confusion with Small Glimpses of Air*, the duo’s comprehensive companion catalogue to their large solo show at the Moderna Museet in Stockholm.

While Nathalie Djurberg (\*1978) creates figures and sculptures, presenting them in meticulous stop-motion, Hans Berg (\*1978) accentuates the fantastical scenes with his musical compositions. The artists, who live in Berlin, describe their latest exhibition in Stockholm as a disturbing inner journey, upon which the ego attempts to find a path out of itself. And that is how their art should be understood—like a trip to the subconscious mind, which cannot always be controlled.



**NATHALIE DJURBERG AND HANS BERG  
A JOURNEY THROUGH MUD AND CONFUSION  
WITH SMALL GLIMPSES OF AIR**

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## **ABOUT HATJE CANTZ**

Hatje Cantz is a groundbreaking international publishing company specializing in art, architecture, and photography. Since 1945 Hatje Cantz has been using its profound expertise and enthusiasm for craftsmanship to produce and publish books of the highest quality. We currently release around two hundred new titles annually.

Especially in the digital age, Hatje Cantz regards itself an element linking museums, artists, galleries, collectors, and art lovers. Conveying knowledge - in terms of both content and visuals - as well as an enthusiasm for art is always at the heart of our engagement.

In keeping with our ambition to make it possible to experience art beyond the medium of the book, Hatje Cantz has launched the EDITION GERD HATJE as we continue to expand our portfolio of strictly limited, signed editions featuring works on paper, photographic works of art, and art objects.

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