

## Fotografisk Center transforms into a maze in a large solo exhibition with Fryd Frydendahl



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© Fryd Frydendahl, *Petit Cornichon*, Eleanor Swordy,  
Pastel on paper, 14" x 11", 2022. Moscovitz Bayse

*Fotografisk Center opens the exhibition "MAZE – Potential Archives" with the artist Fryd Frydendahl March 24. The exhibition is the largest institutional solo presentation to date of the artist, who for the past 15 years has made a name as one of the most important photo artists of her generation. The exhibition takes the form of a maze and presents both earlier and brand new works, all of which take a point of departure in archives, libraries and collections that Frydendahl has visited either physically or digitally.*

Opening: March 24 from 5-9pm  
Exhibition period: March 25 – May 21 2023

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## About the exhibition

In the exhibition *MAZE – Potential Archives* Fryd Frydendahl has explored various archives and collections. Frydendahl has drawn up the works by interpreting material from archives and collections by way of her own distinctive imagination.

The works are visual references that investigate and pay tribute to the complex systems found in archives and collections – from the classification system in libraries to personal collections or historical archives – digital as well as physical. The exhibition includes works where Frydendahl has interpreted books from Hillerød Library in connection with the exhibition *LÅNERKORT (LIBRARY TICKET)* at Vandrehallen Kunsthal (2022). In *MAZE – Potential Archives* Frydendahl works further with strands from the fascination with human tendencies and elaborates by exploring a variety of archives and collections. Frydendahl forms her own archive by creating new visual references through her works and demonstrates a clear fascination with human curiosity and the need for systems. The strands from this fascination result in an explosion of references and questions.

## An endless library

In the story *The Library of Babel* by the Argentinian writer Jorge Luis Borges he describes a fictive and endless library where all that can be written has already been written – emphasising that the archives and collections of reality will never be completed, since infinity is only potential, and not achieved. Frydendahl's works explore this principle, preparing the way for eternal development – circularity – and at the same time question the idea of originality. How can something original arise in a potentially endless web of references? And how do references arise in a potentially infinite archive of information?

## Come and get lost

The exhibition space has been transformed into a maze consisting of three layers that categorise the works into a factual, a metaphysical and a fictional level. The three layers have provided a working method for an overview of the infinite source material. The exhibition elucidates and explores the human fascination with and need to organise and systematise the incomprehensible in order to store, remember and archive objects and knowledge. All the strange and subtle divisions and subdivisions into indices and categories, classification systems and detailed files that someone has sat and conceived can seem wonderfully cryptic and easy to become lost in, like a human mind, like a *MAZE*.

The exhibition is supported by the Danish Arts Foundation, the Augustinus Foundation and the Danish Art Workshops.

## About the artist

Fryd Frydendahl divides her practice between Western Jutland, Copenhagen, and New York, where she works within photographic visual art. Frydendahl was born on the west coast of Jutland in 1984, graduated from Fatamorgana in 2006, the Danish School of Art Photography, and received an advanced certificate from The International Center of Photography in 2009. Frydendahl has published several books and has exhibited widely in recent years, including solo exhibitions at V1 Gallery, Politikens Gallery and Baxter Street Gallery at The Camera Club New York. Her book *Nephews* (Konnotation Press 2016) was followed by an exhibition at V1 Gallery, where Frydendahl is represented. Selected works from the series *Nephews* have been acquired for the permanent collections at Statens Museum for Kunst, The National Collection of Photography, The Royal Danish Library, and Kunstmuseum Brandts. Frydendahl is currently the director at Fatamorgana, the Danish School of Art Photography.

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## Event and publication

In connection with the exhibition, a conversation will be held with the new book publisher Marrow Press (founded by Jacob Birch and Finn Wergel Dahlgren) and Fryd Frydendahl. Marrow Press has just published the book *Salad Days*, a collection of 150 portraits created by Fryd Frydendahl in the period 2012-2022. The talk will be held April 27 at 17-18 at Fotografisk Center. In connection with the exhibition, Fotografisk Center publishes a smaller publication with a text by Mette Kia Krabbe Meyer, Ph.D. in Art and Cultural Studies and Senior Researcher in Special Collections at the Royal Danish Library, who in personal and essayistic ways unfolds the wonderful essence and universe of the library and literature.

## Press images, teaching material and contact

- For interviews, press preview or additional material, please contact Fotografisk Center: +45 33930996 / [assistent@fotografiskcenter.dk](mailto:assistent@fotografiskcenter.dk)
- Press images can be downloaded here: <https://fotografiskcenter.dk/presse>
- In connection with the exhibition, teaching material is produced for the secondary school and upper secondary education levels. The teaching material can be downloaded from March 24 here: <https://fotografiskcenter.dk/undervisningsmateriale>
- For further information and opening hours please visit <https://fotografiskcenter.dk>
- Exhibition tags: #frydfrydendahl #mazingpotentialarchives
- Instagram: <https://instagram.com/fotografiskcenter>
- Facebook: <https://facebook.com/fotografiskcenter>

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