

Fotografisk Center presents a solo exhibition with the internationally renowned artist Joakim Eskildsen's comprehensive and personal project *Home Works*



© Joakim Eskildsen, *Home Works*

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Fotografisk Center will on June 2 open the exhibition "Home Works" with the internationally renowned artist Joakim Eskildsen, who for nearly two decades poetically has portrayed his family's different homes, his children's upbringing as well as the changing seasons and the passage of time. Through more than 80 works, the exhibition unfolds a personal and autobiographical project, at the same time shedding light on basic questions of human existence, lifestyle, and our being in the world.

Opening: June 2 from 5-7pm

Conversation with Joakim Eskildsen and Rune Gade: June 2 from 4-5pm

Exhibition period: June 3 – August 13 2023

About the exhibition

Home Works is the title of the artist Joakim Eskildsen's years long and comprehensive project, which he began in 2005 and is still currently working on today. The exhibition is the first major presentation of *Home Works* in Denmark and internationally.

After Eskildsen had children, he turned the camera lens towards his own life with the project *Home Works* where he has portrayed the family's different homes, his children's upbringing as well as the changing seasons and the passage of time. Since the start of *Home Works*, the family has had seven different homes in countries including Denmark, Finland, and Germany. The family now lives in

the countryside not far from Berlin. The exhibition presents a selection of the project's (so far) seven chapters, showing the family's seven different homes.

An artistic homecoming

Eskildsen works with a unique sense for light, color and composition, which often evokes a picturesque mood in his work, and which has made his artistic practice known internationally. He has often depicted people and their living conditions which he has come to know through longer stays and travels to Cuba, USA and a large number of countries in Europe. For seven years, Eskildsen and author Cia Rinne travelled around the world and portrayed the living conditions and culture of the Roma, which became the extensive work *The Roma Journeys* (2008), that intimately and poetically depicts the largest minority in Europe.

After having travelled extensively, Eskildsen's interest reverted to the beginnings, to that which first kindled his interest in photography. Aged 14, Eskildsen began to photograph the immediate surroundings and landscapes around his home – the forest and fields. Thus, his home, nature, and the immediate environment were the starting point and beginnings of Eskildsen's artistic practice and *Home Works* became in his own words, *an artistic homecoming*.

Unfolding existential and universal questions

Home Works unfolds as a universal narrative about time and existence – and everyday life in pictures. The passage of time is a basic premise of all human beings. It is the cornerstone of the human cycle and existence – we are born, we live our lives, and we die. *Home Works* records life in Eskildsen's own home: his role as a father and parent, his home, nature, the seasons, and the lives and wondrous world of his children. It is a personal and autobiographical project, at the same time shedding light on basic questions of human existence, lifestyle, and our being in the world: why do we exist, where do we come from, what do we pass on to others and to the world, and what significance and influence do we have in the world?

With *Home Works*, Eskildsen communicates a belief in the strength of nature and beauty, indicating that life's magic moments or magnificence can be discerned in small things: in everyday life, in our connectedness with nature and other people. *Home Works* sensuously addresses and explores universal and existential questions about human existence in the world and the beauty and transience of life and nature. The works remain existential pictures of a kind, embodying hope and faith in the world.

The exhibition is supported by the Danish Arts Foundation, the Augustinus Foundation, Grosserer L.F. Foghts Fond and Politiken-Fonden.

About the artist

Joakim Eskildsen (born 1971) was trained by court photographer Rigmor Mydtskov and graduated from Aalto University in Helsinki. Eskildsen has exhibited widely nationally and internationally, i.a. in *The Black Diamond*, Royal Danish Library, in 2016 and most recently in 2022 at the National Museum of Contemporary Art Lisbon and Abbaye de Jumièges, France.

Events

In connection with the exhibition a conversation between Joakim Eskildsen and Rune Gade will be held on June 2 from 4-5pm. The conversation will revolve around Eskildsen's practice and *Home Works*. Rune Gade has a master's degree and PhD in art history and is associate professor at the Department of Art and Cultural Studies, University of Copenhagen. Gade's primary research areas include Danish and international contemporary art, the history and theory of photography and art criticism. Gade is currently working on a project about the radical (self-)biography as a genre within art history. The conversation takes place before the official opening of the exhibition on the same day June 2 from 5-7pm. Tickets for the conversation must be purchased in advance [here](#) (limited number of tickets available).

On June 8 from 5-8pm you can participate in the writing workshop *Home*

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Writings with author Helene Johanne Christensen at Fotografisk Center. *Home Writings* is for everyone who wants to get better at writing and who wants to work experimentally and interdisciplinary with writing together with others. The workshop is based on the exhibition *Home Works* and Eskildsen's many photographs. Read more about the workshop and registration [here](#).

Leporello publication

In connection with the exhibition Fotografisk Center publishes a leporello publication (Danish/English), designed by Joakim Eskildsen and printed by Narayana Press. The Leporello consists of 15 selected works from *Home Works* and is accompanied by the text "An artistic homecoming" by Signe Kahr Sørensen, director of Fotografisk Center, which unfolds Eskildsen's extensive project *Home Works*. The leporello is published in a limited edition and can be bought in Fotografisk Center's bookshop from June 2.

Festival partners

Fotografisk Center is collaborating with [Copenhagen Photo Festival](#) (June 1 – 11), [Art Week](#) (June 1 – 10) and [Copenhagen Architecture Festival](#) (June 1 – 11) in connection with the exhibition. Read more about the festivals and their exciting program in the links.

Press images, teaching material and contact

- For interviews, press preview or additional material, please contact Fotografisk Center: +45 33930996 / sks@fotografiskcenter.dk
- Press images can be downloaded [here](#).
- 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 June 3 [here](#).
- For further information and opening hours please visit: <https://fotografiskcenter.dk>
- Exhibition tags: #joakimeskildsen #homeworks
- [Instagram](#) / [Facebook](#)
- Further information about Joakim Eskildsen: www.joakimeskildsen.com / www.instagram.com/joakimeskildsen

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