

# EXHIBITION IN THE FILMHOUSE

August 16, 2013

The Danish Film Institute puts in place the project "Sculpting the Past / Fortid interpreted" film game in a game for a contemporary audience.



From the exhibition in the Filmhouse. Photographer Anna Winding

It is largely in the encounter with the living pictures, we acquire knowledge of past, present and the world around us. "Sculpting the Past / Past Interpretation" shakes a new look at the film march and focuses on the role of the film media as a cultural carrier and storyteller.

The project consists of an exhibition in the Filmhuset in Copenhagen and a website:

- **The exhibition in the Film House**, which runs from 23 August to 20 October, is divided into two parts: The archive installation "Stories of the Occupation" themes the struggle for the popular souls that occurred before, during and after the German occupation of Denmark. This is an installation based on Joshua Oppenheimer's groundbreaking documentary "The Act of Killing" (2012), and in that meeting there is a space for the reinterpretation of concepts such as collective recollection and reconciliation.
- **The website [sculptingthepast.dk](http://sculptingthepast.dk)** presents 77 newly digitized documentary films from the 1930s to the late 80's, made available to all Danes for the first time.

"Sculpting the Past / Fortid Interpreted" has been made possible with support from the Nordea Fund, initiated by film director Dola Bonfils.



From "Citizens of the Future", Theodor Christensen, 1946.

## The exhibition Sculpting the Past / Past Interpreted

23 August - 20 October

Reception Thursday 22 August at 16-18

The exhibition in the Film House is twofold: The archive installation "Stories of the Occupation" recreates with extracts from documentary, reports, propaganda and advertisements the time before, during and after the German occupation of Denmark. In this part of the exhibition there is a light of the self-understanding of the Danes during the period, as it becomes clear how a particular version of the story of the war dominated the media.

In the movie "Acts of Killing", Joshua Oppenheimer's landmark documentary film "The Act of Killing" is bred into a spatial experience. The film is based on a traumatic period from another part of the world - the genocide in Indonesia, which in the 1960s led to the extinction of more than one million suspected left-wingers. The installation illustrates Oppenheimer's method and thus folds the film's many layers of stories beyond the viewer.

Initiator and curator Dola Bonfils says about the exhibition:

"Our self-understanding as people is a result of the stories we choose to tell about the past. The exhibition 'Sculpting the Past / Past Interpretation' is about

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The exhibition is curated by Dola Bonfils, film director, and Cecilie Gravesen, artist and curator.



The exhibition in the Filmhouse runs from 23 August to 20 October.

## Website [sculptingthepast.dk](http://sculptingthepast.dk)

Via the website [sculptingthepast.dk](http://sculptingthepast.dk) there are access to 77 newly digitized documentary and experimental films that together expand, nuance and revitalize our view of Denmark's history. The films constitute a multitude of stories about Danish society from the 1930s and until 1989 and with the realization of [sculptingthepast.dk](http://sculptingthepast.dk) for the first time made available to Danes of all ages.

The titles are selected by film director Dola Bonfils and divided into three periods:

- **The political game about war - memory and reconciliation**  
Before, during and after occupation in Denmark.
- **Art and science - intercultural observations in the world** The worlds of the 1950s and 60s, as archaeologists, scientists and artists interpreted them.
- **The experimental stage and the creative breakdown of the** 1960s and 70's challenge of artistic freedom of expression.

Before, during and after occupation in Denmark. 1950s and 60's world views, as archaeologists, scientists and artists interpreted them. The challenge of the 1960s and 70s on the artistic freedom of speech.

Overall, the films constitute a rich source of material for Denmark's historical and societal development from the 1930s to the 80s, as many of the films themselves are interesting as works in Danish film history. As a brutal montage of Danish film art, [sculptingthepast.dk](http://sculptingthepast.dk) thus has an obvious potential to inspire teaching in high school.

Read more at [sculptingthepast.dk](http://sculptingthepast.dk)



Prime Minister Jens Otto Krag. © Ole John

From the "Krag-film", the collective group ABCinema's unique portrait from 1969 by then

## Dissemination of the film heritage to new generations

For the Danish Film Institute, it is crucial that the film heritage not only be preserved for posterity and digitized to the benefit of researchers and other specially interested, but made widely available to all Danes.

"Flere danskere skal have glæde af de mange film, der står hylde op og hylde ned i arkiverne," siger Henrik Bo Nielsen, direktør på Filminstituttet. "Vi lever i en kompleks verden. Skal vi som borgere kunne navigere i samtiden og måske oven i købet gøre os kompetente forestillinger om fremtiden, skal vi kende og forstå fortiden. Hertil er film en værdifuld kilde, der appellerer bredt, også til unge. Vi er meget taknemmelige for, at Nordea-fonden med sin støtte har gjort det muligt at sætte gang i et nyskabende formidlingsprojekt af denne kaliber."

Projektet er realiseret med 2 mio. kr. i støtte fra Nordea-fonden, som støtter aktiviteter, der fremmer gode liv inden for sundhed, motion, natur og kultur.

"Projektet formidler den danske filmskat på en ny og spændende måde. Vi håber, at rigtig mange får lyst til at gå på opdagelse i denne vigtige del af den danske kulturarv og få viden og perspektiv på historien," siger Ulla Björnsson, sekretariatschef i Nordea-fonden.

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Filmhuset  
Gothersgade 55  
1123 København K

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Tirsdag-onsdag / 10.00-22.00  
Torsdag-lørdag / 12.00-22.00  
Søndag / 12.00-19.30  
Mandag lukket

Der er fri entré.

### For yderligere information, kontakt venligst

Lanceringskoordinator  
Marianne Lentz  
2615 4323 / [mariannele@dfi.dk](mailto:mariannele@dfi.dk)

Kommunikationschef  
Susanna Neimann  
4119 1540 / [susannan@dfi.dk](mailto:susannan@dfi.dk)

### Arrangementer i Cinemateket

Sideløbende med udstillingen "Sculpting the Past/Fortid fortolket" afholder Cinemateket filmvisninger og debatarrangementer, der knytter sig til udstillingens temaer.

Læs mere på [sculptingthepast.dk](http://sculptingthepast.dk)

## Bag om Sculpting the Past/Fortid fortolket

### Joshua Oppenheimer

Instruktør. Født 1974, Texas, USA. Uddannet fra Harvard og Central St. Martins, London. Står bag en række prisvindende film, senest den danskproducerede "The Act of Killing" (2012), som foreløbig har været vist på 66 filmfestivaler og vundet 27 priser. Oppenheimer var seniorforsker på projektet *The Genocide and Genre Project* under UK Arts and Humanities Research Council, 2007-2011.

### Lars-Martin Sørensen

Filmhistoriker, ph.d. i filmvidenskab. Født 1964. Forfatter til bogen "Censorship of Japanese Films during the US Occupation of Japan: The cases of Yasujiro Ozu and Akira Kurosawa" (2006). Lars-Martin Sørensen er forskningsleder på Det Danske Filminstitut og forsker i besættelsestidens filmkultur i Danmark.

### Dola Bonfils

Filminstruktør. Født 1941. Kurator på "Sculpting the Past / Fortid fortolket". Kort- og dokumentarfilm-konsulent på Det Danske Filminstitut, 2004-2009. Filmkonsulent for DANIDA vedrørende import og produktion af film fra udviklingslandene, 1971-2004. Leder af kortfilmbiografen Kino Valde (i Dagmar Teatret), 1970-73.

### Cecilie Gravesen

Billedkunstner og kurator. Født 1975. Uddannet fra Chelsea College og Royal College of Art, London. Kuratorisk fokus på kunstneres intervention i historiske samlinger, bl.a. Simon Martin, Holburne Museum, England; J&K, Pergamonmuseet, Berlin; Saigon Open City, Vietnam. Siden 2012 Artist Observer, arkæologisk fakultet, UCL, London.

Filmene på [sculptingthepast.dk](http://sculptingthepast.dk) er udvalgt i samarbejde med **Lars-Martin Sørensen**, filmhistoriker, ph.d., **Arine Kirstein Høgel**, ph.d. i filmvidenskab og antropologi, **Carl Nørrested**, mag.art. og ph.d. i filmvidenskab, filmhistoriker og filminstruktør, og **Tania Ørum**, universitetslektor og cand.mag. i engelsk og dansk.

## FLERE NYHEDER

### /Om Sculpting the Past



### Reklamefilm fra 2. verdenskrig fortæller vores historie

19.12.13 Udstilling. I Filmhusets kælder udstilles nu syv nydigitaliserede danske reklamefilm fra besættelsestiden. De forsøgte dengang at sælge Houlberg pølser, Tørsleffs Atamon, cykeldæk, ansvarsforsikrin...



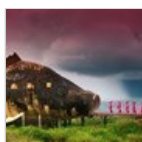
### Fortællinger om besættelsen – en arkivinstallation

13.12.13 Udstilling. "Fortællinger om besættelsen" er en udstilling i Filmhuset om filmens rolle i konstruktionen af danskernes kollektive erindring om besættelsestiden.



### The Act of Killing – Nordens bedste

25.09.13 PRISER. Joshua Oppenheims "The Act of Killing" vandt prisen for bedste dokumentarfilm på Nordisk Panorama. Best New Nordic Voice Award gik til dansk-palæstinensiske Mahdi Fleifel for "A World Not..."



### The Act of Killing nomineret

11.09.13 NOMINERING. "The Act of Killing" er blandt fem finalister til den prestigefyldte PUMA Impact Award 2013, der hædrer og støtter dokumentarfilm, som har formået at sætte mærkbare spor i verden omkrin...

## Vi fortæller historier for at retfærdiggøre vores handlinger

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**11.09.13 VIDEO.** I forbindelse med udstillingen *Sculpting the Past / Fortid fortolket* diskuterer instruktør Joshua Oppenheimer og filmhistoriker Lars-Martin Sørensen her, hvordan oplevelser lagres og fortrænes...



### Kunsten at udstille en dokumentarfilm

**27.08.13 FILMHUSET.** Dokumentarfilmen "The Act of Killing" er blevet til udstillingen "Acts of Killing", der netop nu kan opleves sammen med filmklip fra besættelsestiden i Filmhusets stue og underetage. Hør...



### Ny udstilling i Filmhuset

**22.08.13 FILMHUSET.** Udstillingen og websitet "Sculpting the Past / Fortid fortolket" sætter filmarven i spil for et nutidigt publikum. Udstillingen har fokus på filmmediets rolle som kulturbærer og historie...



### Opsigtsvækkende film om danske nazister frigivet

**20.08.13 FORSKNING.** To nyfundne propagandafilme produceret af danske nazister er nu tilgængelige på websitet [sculptingthepast.dk](http://sculptingthepast.dk). Filmene udfordrer vores syn på nazisterne som dæmoniske figurer, der inkarnerer...



### Udstilling i Filmhuset

**16.08.13** Det Danske Filminstitut sætter med projektet "Sculpting the Past/Fortid fortolket" filmarven i spil for et nutidigt publikum.



### Skamrost i The Daily Show

**14.08.13 DOCUMENTS.** "The Act of Killing" praised the clouds of The Daily Show, where Joshua Oppenheimer was today's guest. See the whole interview [here](#).



### Newly-funded Danish nazifilm

**13.08.13 FILM FUND.** Film historian Lars-Martin Sørensen has found a number of Danish Nazi films, which he showed clips from Deadline on DR2 yesterday. See the feature [here](#) - and came to the cinemateket on 14th August in advance ...



Keywords: [Sculpting the Past](#)

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