

Rasmus Myrup Precoming

Den unge kunstner Rasmus Myrups skulpturer og malerier fremkalder det queer i det daglige – fra folkemyter til populærvidenskab, fra træstubbe til saltbøsser. I sin præsentation på O – Overgaden, *Precoming*, udvinder Myrup den ustyrige eller 'underbestemte' uorden i sproget, fra dets irrationelle potentiale, skæverter og sprækker. Gennem homonymer, ordspil og insisterende, drilske dobbeltbetydninger forbindes ord med usædvanlige objekter. Når ting ikke bare er dimser, og ord ormer sig ud af deres dydige definitioner, så dirrer vores personlige verdenssyn, formet af det fælles sprog. Den dirren kan irritere eller pirre, som Myrup siger. På O – Overgaden resulterer den i et visuelt vildnis af krydsende kulturelle koder, som former et præludium eller forspil til Myrups større installation ved dette års Göteborg Biennale (GIBCA).

The sculptures and paintings by the young artist Rasmus Myrup call forth the queer in the quotidian, from folklore to popular science, from thirst traps to pepper grinders. In his presentation at O—Overgaden, *Precoming*, Myrup mines the unruly or “underdetermined” messiness of language for its irrational potential, glitches, and gaps. Through homonyms, wordplays, and insistently subversive double entendres, words are connected with unexpected objects. When things aren't just stuff, and words wiggle out of their deft definitions, our personal worldviews, built with shared language, wobble. That wobble can either feel like trouble or make life bubble, as Myrup notes. At O—Overgaden it results in a visual wilderness of crisscrossing cultural codes forming a prelude to his major installation at this year's Gothenburg International Biennial for Contemporary Art (GIBCA).

Udstillingen er støttet af Statens Kunstfond og Knud Højgaards Fond. / The exhibition is supported by the Danish Arts Foundation and Knud Højgaards Fond.



KNUD HØJGAARDS FOND

26. august – 29. oktober 2023

Also sorry about the font, just had to make a clear distinction.....
Sorry! *Couldnt help myself*
 Rasmus here w some conjecture. Thanks for taking the time to read this. I know this is a lotta text, but mind you, this is not "explaining" anything, but making it much milkier and opaque... But isn't it nice to have a lil convolution once in a while? Also, your hair looks amazing today, did u do something different w it? Alas... This show is a sort of amalgamation of different aspects of language, its unruliness and the potential therein...

Kenningss
 Do you know "kenning"? It's an old Norse literary technique where it's like... The idea is: You know what a "ship" is. You then find the most poetic, roundabout way of saying the singular word "ship", so that people around you - in the know - will understand that you mean "ship" even though you said "Stallion of Njord's domain" or "Rider of The Seagull Way" or "Vessel of the Whale's Home". These three kenning, or "circumlocutions" as they might be called, are all saying "the same thing", but of course aren't saying the same thing at all... Much in the same way, the boundaries bleed in the Danish folk tradition of making "Song Concealers", which hide or disguise the songs that one would write on occasion of, say someone's birthday, anniversary or other festive gathering. The ontological boundaries of this cluster of notions is already vast, but I was rather intrigued by the investigation of how far one could stride from the core of the "Song Concealer" and still have it be one. This, in and of itself, is a Circumlocution-cum-object (note to self; title for another show? lol). A poetic, frayed notion with fuzzy edges.

So, Wittgenstein had this concept of language games. A real neat aspect of his thoughts is the idea that to UNDERSTAND something, means to FOLLOW A RULE. *Regel folge " på dansk*
 A lovely way to see this in action is when people start a sentence with the word: "ActuALLY....." For instance, "Actually, a strawberry is a nut! According to a botanist, that's how they would define it..." The fact that a berry is "actually" a nut, is not only nuts, but it's annoying. It derails any conversation that isn't about botanical definitions - which sadly does not pertain many... It also frustrates us because it takes "our" language and exerts authority over it outside of us... My definition and understanding of "fruit" or "berry" shakes in its boots when this factoid comes around to bother it... *(me all the time lol)*
incidentally, what's the diff between fact and factoid?

If we go with the idea that, to UNDERSTAND something, means to FOLLOW A RULE, like Wittgenstein said, the real big problem comes when we realize that ALL RULES ARE UNDERDETERMINED, which is to say, all rules cannot contain all possible interpretations of it within itself. (Take for instance law; lawyers

we love to see it.....
 are hired to interpret and find the edges of the definitions.) Homophones, homonyms, (the word homo - hello!) and double entendres are wonderful examples of this underdetermined quality in language. *see how it nice of a word it is.....*

When I was a kid, the word "bøsse" always made me jump. It's a pretty common suffix in compound Danish words of "something that contains something". Supposedly the ancient Greek word "Pyxis" is the root-word here, for "bøsse" and "box" alike... Nevertheless, this is now compounded into a variety of old words, like "Salt shaker" (Saltbøsse) [Salt Fag] and "Musket" (Haglbøsse) [Hail Fag] their homonym-ity in and of itself is lolz, but so are the wild associations i had when i was younger of how this somehow had something to do with being a fag... Slangebøsse [Snake fag] is the word for a slingshot, and I hurried to the Christian stories of Eva and the snake, and the snake as the faggy friend that was like "Yasssssss queen, get that apple u baddie".... Internalised homophobia, anyone? *(pls someone call me "Pjales" as a slur huh?)*
WANT SOME APPLESSS BITCH?

This whole melange is also created by the homonyms being bilingual. Something about language and culture is that the closer you are to it, the harder it is to see. Almost like Agamben saw the oxymoronic aspects of contemporaneity, where he described it as: "Those who coincide too well with the epoch, [...] they do not manage to see it; they are not able to firmly hold their gaze on it." Much in the same way, one cannot see one's language "with" one's language, but it's definitely possible to investigate it with the help of another language = another perspective. I experienced this a bunch when I wrote the book "The Völva's Bestiary of Best Friends" (which is available at the front desk btw eheh). Here I elaborate on the project that I'm also presenting at GIBCA in Gothenburg, where folklore, mythology and local histories from Scandinavia are mined, reinterpreted for our time, and also; presented in English. Suddenly, when looking at the stupidity of a sentence like: "The Bog Lady has a brewery", in English, it becomes clear that the context is actually... lost... what you thought made at least a little sense, doesn't, and thus you can reevaluate and reexamine things. *(no bi- ensure here!)*
we don't stau!
All this is connected by method
(so hard not to call them Grinders, but i digress)

Take the Pepper Grinders, for instance. I was almost a little disappointed when I turned 30... Not because of my more permanent installation of crow's feet, or my lack of benchmark accomplishments, but because there was nothing to cringe at outside my door. Outside of Copenhagen

I mean... I'm a little bit selling something! lol
 where space is slightly more abundant, when a single person turns 30, they are given the gift of a sculpture. This doesn't sound too bad, at first, but, the object is often rather lewd and shall we say... roughly hewn... Made most often from left-over oil cans, the welded sculptures are almost public markers, to point to the residence of a single person who is UNMARRIED at age 30, this "pepper grinder" (Peberkværn) [or even peberbøsse, but i showed restraint in this ONE instance hehe] It is part of a tradition that goes all the way back to the 1500s, where the only acceptable way to exist as a bachelor in some areas was to be a wandering salesman of pepper, spices and other rare commerce. The distance of time can help us see that practice in a new light, but the distance of merely explaining the intricacies of the concept of how and why oil cans are pepper grinders, in English, also reveals it in a completely different way. Don't you think? *pls say yes....*
So hard too....
(can u imagine such a thing?)

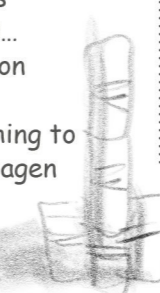
Sometimes bilingualism also fails, tho. Translations fail. I had a hell of a time with the series of sculptures made from pine-materials, because in Danish there's a pun where the word for "pine" and the word for "guy" are homonyms. So, think "guy" when u see the word "pine", and it'll make a lil more sense hehe. **My foredaddies!**
 Lastly, my bb runestones. One for the gays who came before me, one for the O effort we put in dealing w climate change, and one to mark the end of binary thinking. Runestones are OG text-objects. They have, however, circled all the way around, and become an image. Like all words have the potential to become. Glyphs, rather than meaning. In time it all falls away.

Sorry for the somber note... Ty for reading! Have a nice day!

Rasmus Myrup (f. 1991, DK) har siden sin afgang fra Det Fynske Kunstakademi udstillet på bl.a. Kunstverein Göttingen, Tyskland (2023), Jack Barrett, USA (2022) og Kunsthall Charlottenborg, København (2020). Han har dertil netop udgivet sin første bog, The Völva's Bestiary of Best Friends, udgivet på s/z og Coda Press (2023).

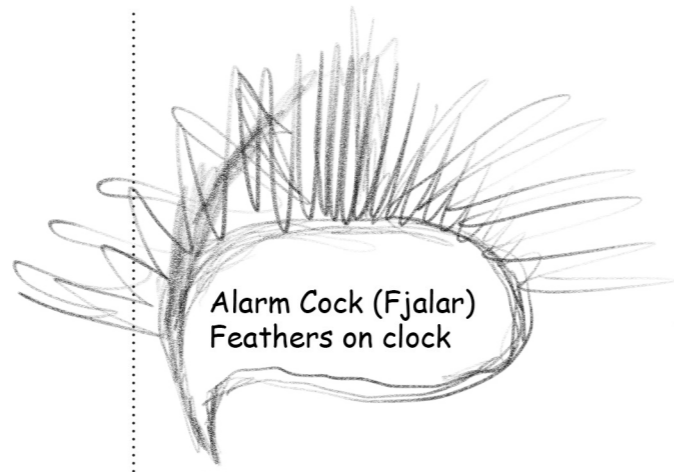
Rasmus Myrup (b. 1991, DK) is a graduate of the Funen Art Academy and has exhibited at venues including Kunstverein Göttingen (2023), Jack Barrett, New York (2022), and Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Copenhagen (2020). He recently published his first book, The Völva's Bestiary of Best Friends, co-published by s/z and Coda Press (2023).

word of the day....
UNDERDETERMINED!



Rasmus Myrup
Precoming

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Alarm Cock (Fjalar)
Feathers on clock

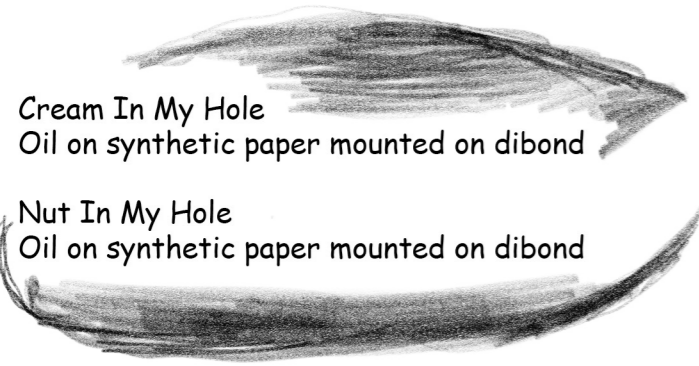
All works 2023 ☺
oil, except this one from 2020

Also, the titles are, in most cases next to the pieces.

Song Concealer [Sangskjuler] (Happy Birthday)
Print on paper, watercolor on cotton paper, paper

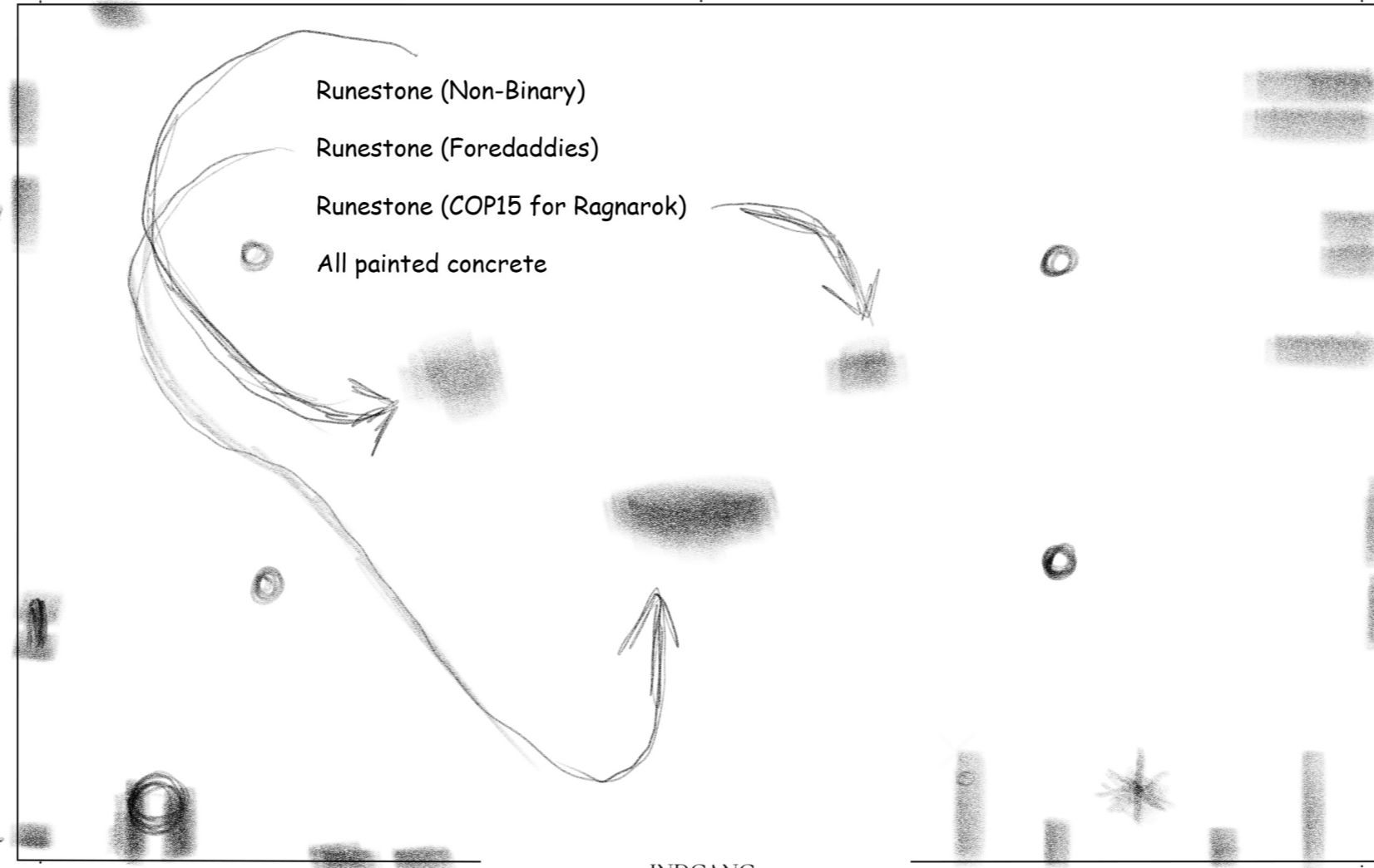
Song Concealer [Sangskjuler] (PoMo)
Aluminum, paper

Song Concealer [Sangskjuler] (7er)
Chair, paper



Cream In My Hole
Oil on synthetic paper mounted on dibond

Nut In My Hole
Oil on synthetic paper mounted on dibond



Runestone (Non-Binary)

Runestone (Foredaddies)

Runestone (COP15 for Ragnarok)

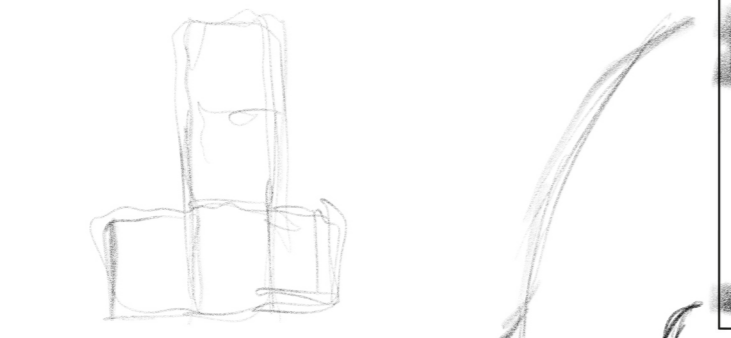
All painted concrete

Haglbøsse/Hail Gay [Hail Fag/Hagl Bøsse]
Oil on synthetic paper mounted on dibond

Slangebøsse/Slingshot [Snake Fag/Slyngeskud]
Oil on synthetic paper mounted on dibond

FØRSTE ETAGE

INDGANG



Pepper Grinder [Peberbøsse] (OO)
Olive oil canisters

Pepper Grinder [Peberbøsse] (Prop. f. Monument?)
Model railway oil barrel models, glue, dibond

Pepper Grinder [Peberbøsse] (Texaco)
Used oil barrel, engraved door knob

Fag's Ass [Bøsserøv]
Oil on synthetic paper mounted on dibond

Thirst Trap
Oil on synthetic paper mounted on dibond

Stor Fyr [Big Guy]
Pine stump, silver chain

Sød Fyr [Sweet Guy]
Pine wood, acrylic medium, gouache, glass beads

Flot Fyr [Pretty Guy]
Pine tree, chains, prisms

Indadvendt Fyr [Introverted Guy]
Painted pine needles, champagne bucket

Blød Fyr [Soft Guy]
Pine wood