



EMBASSY OF DENMARK
London

Cultural Newsletter

July & August 2026



#DANISH at Edinburgh Festival Fringe

#DANISH returns to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2026, celebrating 5 years of live performance with a striking programme of four boundary-pushing works. The #DANISH 2026 showcase includes HIMHERANDIT who will present *GOOD ENOUGH?* At Summerhall, OPE-N presenting *LAUGHING OUT LONELY (LOL)*, also at Summerhall, NoLands presenting *OUR OTHER ORGAN* in Summerhall's Anatomy Lecture Hall, and DON GNU presenting *M.I.S - ALL NIGHT LONG* at ZOO Venues.

#DANISH is the Danish showcase at Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2026, presented in collaboration by founding producer WILDTOPIA and the Embassy of Denmark in the UK, supported by the Danish Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The #DANISH performances take place at Edinburgh Festival Fringe from 18-31 August.

Poster: #DANISH

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Cecilia Fiona at Towner Eastbourne

Danish artist Cecilia Fiona will present her first institutional solo exhibition in the UK, *Spirals Gathering, Time Breathing*, at Towner Eastbourne. Including a major new body of work consisting of sculptures and paintings, Fiona draws her inspiration from microbiology and quantum physics. Cecilia Fiona is an interdisciplinary visual artist based in Copenhagen, and she works mainly with organic materials, exploring the symbiotic relationship between the body and the earth. The exhibition is on from 18 July-1 November.

Towner Eastbourne is located on Devonshire Park, College Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4JJ. Admission is free.

Cecilia Fiona, Ghost Flower Ritual, Installation image, Copenhagen Contemporary, 2025. Commissioned by Copenhagen Contemporary. Photo: David Stjernholm.

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Painting by HM Queen Margrethe II on view at Palace of Holyroodhouse

The painting *The Cloud and the Wind (Skyen og Blæsten)* by HM Queen Margrethe II of Denmark is currently on display as part of the Royal Apartments tour at the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh. The painting was presented to HM Queen Elizabeth II during the State Visit in 2000. The Private Apartments are open until 10 September.

Photo: *The Cloud and the Wind (Skyen og Blæsten)* © Queen Margrethe II of Denmark, Photograph: Royal Collection Enterprises Limited

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Danish artists at the Royal Academy of Arts' Summer Exhibition 2026

This year, the Summer Exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts features works by the Danish artists Nina Beier, Eleanor Havsteen-Franklin and Lene Bladbjerg. They contribute with the following works; Nina Beier's sculpture *Old News*, Eleanor Havsteen-Franklin's etchings *Limena* and *Vivida*, and Lene Bladbjerg's print *The Great Solitude*.

Held every year without interruption since 1769, the Summer Exhibition showcases a diverse array of contemporary works, including prints, paintings, films, photography, sculpture, and architectural works. Most are available to buy, and sales directly support the exhibiting artists and the future of the Royal Academy.

The Summer Exhibition is on view at the Royal Academy of Arts until 23 August.

Gallery view of the Summer Exhibition 2026, at the Royal Academy of Arts, London, 16 June - 23 August 2026. Photo: © Royal Academy of Arts, London / David Parry

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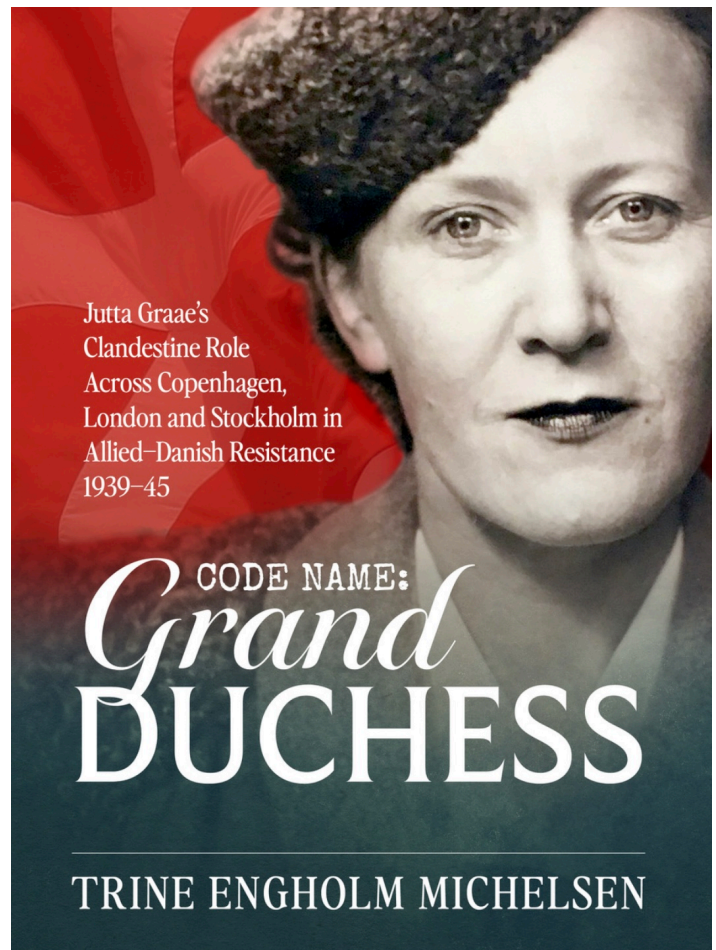
Book release: ***Codename: Grand Duchess* by Trine Engholm Michelsen**

Trine Engholm Michelsen's book *Codename: Grand Duchess* is being published in the UK by Helion & Company. It is about the life of Jutta Graae who was known under at least three code names and operated as a key member of the resistance across Copenhagen, Stockholm and London during the Second World War.

Drawing on newly opened archives and rich sources, Trine Engholm Michelsen reveals how Graae became a key link between occupied Denmark and the Allied War Effort. The book is translated by René Lauritsen and is out now.

Photo: Helion & Company

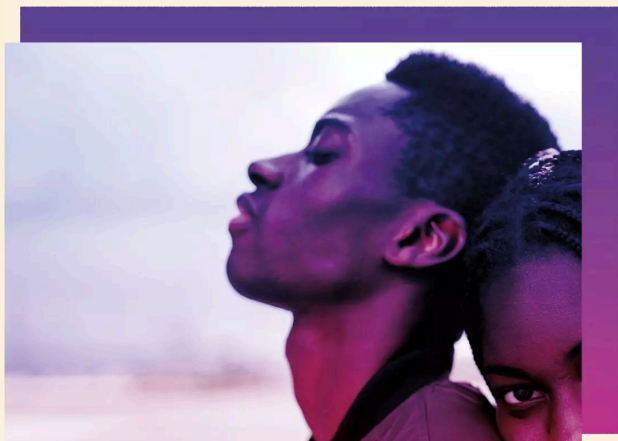
BUY THE BOOK



COSMOS

LUCIA ODOOM

TRANSLATED BY HUNTER SIMPSON



Book release:

***Cosmos* by Lucia Odoom**

Lucia Odoom's *Cosmos* is being published in the UK by Daunt Books Publishing. It is a story about Cosmos, a Ghanaian refugee living in Copenhagen, making a living collecting bottles with his Copenhagen-'family' the crows. When he falls in love with Elizabeth, he begins to understand home and belonging in a new way.

Cosmos is translated by Hunter Simpson and will be out in the UK on 30 July.

Photo: Daunt Books Publishing

BUY THE BOOK

Book release: *Lamento* by Madame Nielsen

Madame Nielsen's novel *Lamento* is being published in the UK by Prototype on 9 July. It is a great love story about the complexities of relationships, gender, art and reality. A sort of reverse auto-fiction, with *Lamento*, Nielsen is observing her former self and their relationship through the eyes of her ex-wife.

It is translated from Danish by Gaye Kynoch, who was awarded an English PEN Award for this translation.

Photo: Prototype Publishing

BUY THE BOOK



Lamento

Madame Nielsen
trans. *Gaye Kynoch*

Winner of an English PEN Award



Helle Helle at Edinburgh International Book Festival

The Danish author Helle Helle will be featured as part of the Edinburgh International Book Festival this August, where she and Norwegian author Vigdis Hjorth will be in conversation with Sophie Gee. Helle Helle's minimalist writing about ordinary people in suburban Denmark has for long been celebrated in Denmark, and now also in the UK, where her novel *they* was published in the UK in February.

The conversation with Helle Helle will take place at Venue B on Saturday 29 August at 18:15–19:15.

Photo: Mikkel Carl

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Agnes Obel performs at Somerset House

Danish singer-songwriter Agnes Obel will perform at Somerset House as part of their Summer Series. Obel is a classically trained pianist whose debut album *Philharmonics* amassed critical and commercial success, with the platinum-selling album winning her five prizes at the Danish Music Awards. Since then, she has evolved as a producer, and in blending elements of pop, jazz, neo-classical and electronic production, Obel creates an atmospheric and spell-binding sound, which has featured on the soundtracks for TV shows such as *The Last of Us*, *True Detective* and *Big Little Lies*.

Tickets are available for Agnes Obel's concert on 21 July.

Photo: Alex Brüel Flagstad

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Thomas Søndergård and the Royal Scottish National Orchestra at BBC Proms

Thomas Søndergård, the Music Director for the Royal Scottish National Orchestra (RSNO), conducts the orchestra for a performance at this year's BBC Proms. Together with soloist Kirill Gerstein, they will perform works by Oliver Knussen, Sergey Rachmaninov and Dmitry Shostakovich at the Royal Albert Hall on 3 August at 19:00.

Tickets are available.

Photo: Thomas Søndergård & RSNO © Sally Jubb

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Danish musicians at London festivals

A selection of critically acclaimed, Danish musicians internationally known and celebrated for their 'Copenhagen sound' will perform at festivals across London this summer:

- Erika de Casier at Pure Devotion at Old Royal Naval College on 7 August (tickets available)
- ML Buch and Erika de Casier at All Points East in Victoria Park on 22 August (sold out)
- Copenhagen-based Smerz at RALLY in Southward Park on 29 August (tickets available)

Photo: Colin Solal Cardo



[PURE DEVOTION](#)

[RALLY](#)



Bridge Quartet UK tour

The Scandinavian 'Bridge' Quartet with Danish drummer Emil Norman, formed as an homage to Sonny Rollins' iconic record 'The Bridge', are going on a UK tour in July.

They will perform at venues across the UK:

- 6 July: Spice of Life, London
- 9 July: Band on the Wall, Manchester
- 11 July: Zeffirellis, Ambleside
- 12 July: The Globe, Newcastle
- 14 July: Jazz At Heart, Leeds

Photo: Jay Chow

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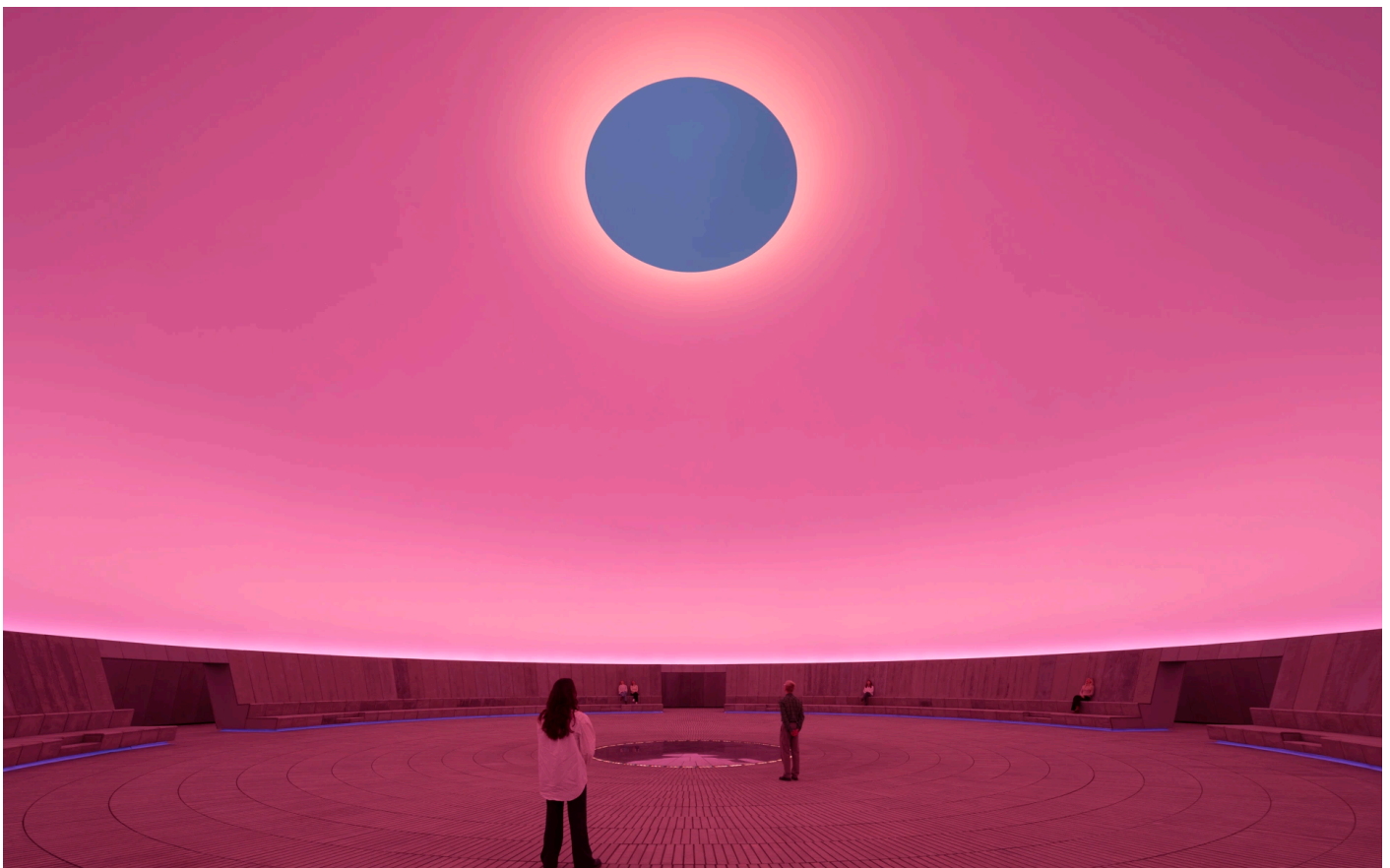
Klaus Thymann shortlisted for Earth Photo 2026

Five of the Danish photographer Klaus Thymann's works are shortlisted for Earth Photo 2026. His work *Timelapse camera Rwenzori Mountains, 2025, Uganda*, will be part of the exhibition at the Royal Geographical Society in London until 22 July before touring across the UK until March 2027.

See website for exhibition tour dates. The exhibition is free and open to all.

Timelapse camera Rwenzori Mountains, 2025, Uganda. Photo: Klaus Thymann

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James Turrell's *As Seen Below* at ARoS

The American artist and master of light, James Turrell, has created a new Skyspace for ARoS in Aarhus, Denmark, which opened on 19 June. It is an enormous dome featuring a six-metre wide opening to the sky. The dome has three different modes: open, with natural light coming in, colour shift, where the lid is closed and the colours inside change, and twilight, where the sunset or sunrise dictates the colour of the inside of the dome. The architects behind the project are Danish Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects, who have been working on the project for more than a decade with Turrell.

As Seen Below – The Dome, a Skyspace is Turrell's 100th Skyspace, and his largest yet in a museum.

The BBC has produced a 5-minute reel on the new, permanent installation, which can be accessed

through the link below.

James Turrell, *As Seen Below*. Solopgang. Foto: Florian Holzherr © ARoS 2026

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[BBC REEL](#)

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