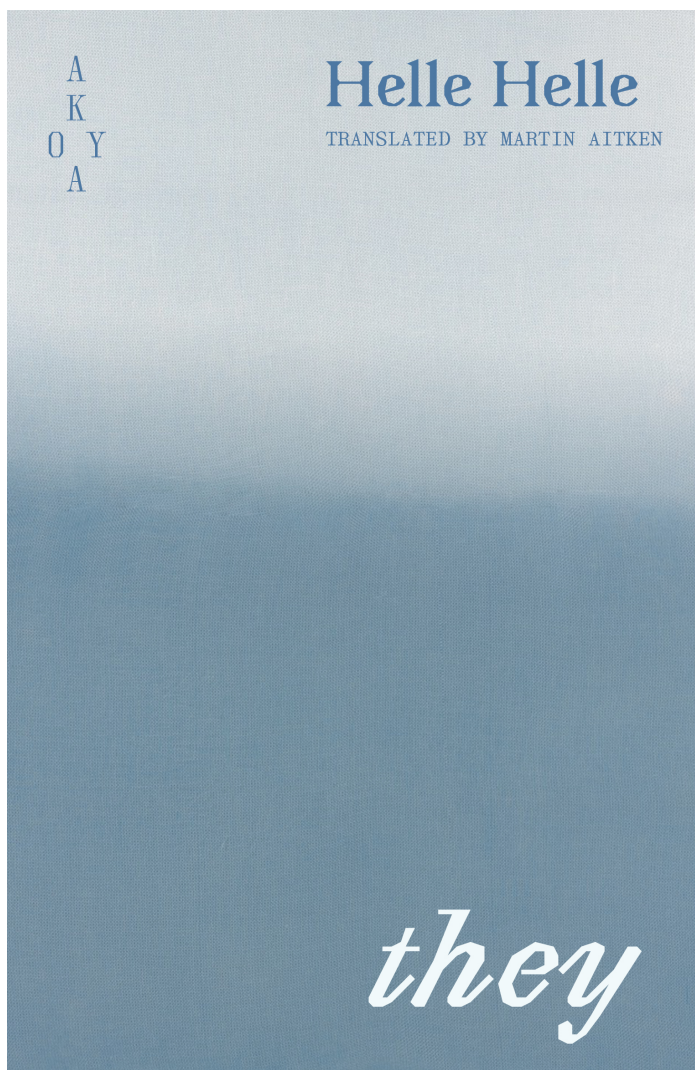




EMBASSY OF DENMARK
London

Cultural Newsletter

February 2026



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Book Release: *they* by Helle Helle

they by acclaimed Danish writer Helle Helle will be published in the UK by Akoya Publishing, translated by Martin Aitken. *they* is a tender study of a mother and daughter in the small Danish town of Rødby. Their days go by uneventfully until the mother begins to feel unwell, and her diagnosis – though they do not talk about it – begins to cast a shadow over their quiet daily life.

Helle Helle will be in London for the release at Daunt Books in Notting Hill, where she will be interviewed about the book by freelance writer, critic and editor Catherine Taylor.

they by Helle Helle is out on 5 February. Helle Helle will be in conversation at Daunt Books in Notting Hill on 5 February at 6.30pm.

Photo: Akoya Publishing

[TALK AT DAUNT BOOKS 5/2](#)



UK Premiere of *The Last Viking* at Glasgow Film Festival

Filmmaker Anders Thomas Jensen's *The Last Viking* will premiere in the UK at Glasgow Film Festival. The film follows a thief, played by Nikolaj Lie Kaas, on a mission to retrieve his loot after spending 15 years in prison for robbery. He soon encounters a problem, as his brother, played by Mads Mikkelsen, has dissociative identity disorder and currently believes he is the Beatles' John Lennon – and he is the only one who knows where the key is.

The Last Viking will be screened at Odeon Glasgow Quay on 27 February at 8.30pm and 28 February at 4.40pm.

Photo: Rolf Konow

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The Art of the Quartet Performs at Ronnie Scott's

The Art of the Quartet will perform two shows at Ronnie Scott's. The quartet plays boundary-pushing contemporary jazz compositions by Danish saxophonist Benjamin Koppel. Koppel will be joined by Kevin Hays on piano, Scott Colley on double bass and Peter Erskine on drums, and together they form a quartet where musical dialogue and listening are essential to the experience.

The Art of the Quartet performs at Ronnie Scott's on 12 February at 5.30 and 8.30pm.

Photo: Ronnie Scott's

BENJAMIN KOPPEL, PETER ERSKINE, KEVIN HAYNES, SCOTT COLLEY - THE ART OF THE QUARTET

ronnie scott's
JAZZ CLUB

12 FEBRUARY 2026



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Screening of Danish Oscar & BAFTA Nominee *Mr Nobody Against Putin*

Four years after the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Danish-Czech documentary *Mr Nobody Against Putin* will be screened at the Czech Centre. The documentary follows a Russian primary school teacher who starts documenting the increasing militarisation of schools following the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The film has received nominations for Best Documentary at both the Oscars and the BAFTAs.

Mr Nobody Against Putin will be screened at the Czech Centre in London on 24 February at 7pm.

Photo: František Svatoš

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Amanda Vesthardt at Young V&A

Danish textile artist Amanda Vesthardt is finishing a six-month placement at Young V&A in February. She has been working in 'The Shed', a studio space inside Young V&A with windows that let visitors at the museum see her work in progress. Amanda has been creating a library of experimental techniques, and during her open studio hours, visitors can come in and see her work.

Visitors can also experience Amanda's Sensory Textile Installation, a tactile and immersive installation with ambient sounds and colour-changing lights. Alongside the installation will be a den building activity, using some of the textile techniques Amanda has been working with. The installation is open from 10.30am-12.00pm for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and their families, and again from 1.30-3.30pm for families of all ages.

The Sensory Textile Installation is open at Young V&A on 7 February. You can visit Amanda in her studio on 14 February from 1-3pm.

[SENSORY TEXTILE INSTALLATION 7/2](#)

[MEET THE DESIGNER 14/2](#)

Photo: Kamil Kak



Talk: Greenland: What Next? Reflections from a Research Station in South Greenland

Professor Lise Autogena will give a talk this month at the Royal Philosophical Society of Glasgow. The Danish-born artist and professor of Cross Disciplinary Art at Sheffield Hallam University is the founder of the non-profit organisation Narsaq International Research Station. NIRS is a cross-disciplinary research hub addressing issues of human rights, climate change and environmental protection while working to ensure that research in the Narsaq region directly benefits the local community.

The talk takes place at the University of Glasgow on 11 February at 7.30pm.

Photo: Zane Cooper

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Maibritt Ulvedal Bjelke Exhibition at Project 78 Gallery

Project 78 Gallery present a new solo exhibition, *Breaking the Waves*, by Danish artist Maibritt Ulvedal Bjelke. Working with paper is central to her artistic practice, having developed her own way of painting, which uses strips of paper to create intricate and transfixing grids of colour. The exhibition includes one monumental piece by Bjelke, set in dialogue with smaller works.

Breaking the Waves is on view at Project 78 Gallery in St Leonards-on-Sea until 14 February.

Photo: Maibritt Ulvedal Bjelke

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Red Kite Performs in the UK

Marking the release of their new album, *Popludium*, the pan-European quintet Red Kite will perform three concerts in the UK. Their music blends genres to create a vibrant and modern style of jazz, which showcases each member's personal playing style. Red Kite is led by Danish pianist Esben Tjalve and features Fulvio Sigurta on trumpet, Hannes Riepler on guitar, Jasper Høiby on bass and Marc Michel on drums.

Red Kite will perform at the following shows:

- PizzaExpress Jazz Club in Soho, London on 22 February at 8 pm.
- Digbeth in Birmingham on 24 February at 8 pm.
- Bristol Music Club in Bristol on 25 February at 7 pm.

Photo: Kevin Gruetzner

22/2 LONDON

24/2 BIRMINGHAM

25/2 BRISTOL



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Malene Hartmann Rasmussen & James Mortimer Exhibition at James Freeman Gallery

James Freeman Gallery presents the exhibition *Brutes*, featuring works by Danish artist Malene Hartmann Rasmussen and British artist James Mortimer. Rasmussen's ceramic installations draw on fairytale and folklore in creating mystical and playful creatures. They are set against Mortimer's symbolic paintings of paradisaical lands, which feature man and beast co-existing.

Brutes is on view at James Freeman Gallery until 14 February.

Photo: Malene Hartmann Rasmussen, Egg-head, Glazed

stoneware, 24 carat gold lustre, 2025, 37cm H x 27cm W x 21cm D.

Image courtesy of Malene Hartmann Rasmussen and James Freeman Gallery. Photography by Sylvain Deleu.

Esben Weile Kjær Exhibition at St. Chad's

The exhibition *Lions* by Danish artist Esben Weile Kjær will be on view at St. Chad's. Esben Weile Kjær's is a graduate from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, whose artistic practice spans sculpture, installation and performance. In *Lions*, Kjær plays with power and materiality through two monumental rats, made of metallic gold fabric and filled with air.

Lions is on view at St. Chads, on Wicklow St, King's Cross, from 15 February–30 May. The exhibition is open by appointment.

Photo: Eline Willaert

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Thomas Søndergård Conducts the Royal Scottish National Orchestra

The Danish Music Director for the Royal Scottish National Orchestra (RSNO), Thomas Søndergård, conducts the orchestra in three concerts across Scotland this month, as they perform Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony. The repertoire also includes Brahms' Double Concerto for Violin and Cello.

Thomas Søndergård will conduct the RSNO at the following performances:

- 5 February: Perth Concert Hall, Perth
- 6 February: Usher Hall, Edinburgh
- 7 February: Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, Glasgow

Photo: Mihaela Bodlovic

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Monumental Danish Art Collection on Auction

One of the most significant private collections of Danish art will be on auction at Phillips' in London and New York this spring. Before the sale, part of the collection will be on view in London. The collection was amassed by John L. Loeb Jr, who was the U.S. Ambassador to Denmark at the beginning of the 1980s. His art collection contains iconic works from Danish art history from artists like Vilhelm Hammershøi, Anna Ancher and P.S. Krøyer.

The collection of Ambassador John L. Loeb Jr will be in London on 27 February–4 March. The exhibition is on view by appointment.

Photo: Vilhelm Hammershøi 1864–1916. Interior of Woman Placing Branches in Vase on Table, 1900 (Interiør med kvinde, der stiller grene i et glas, Strandgade 30) signed with the artist's initials "VH" lower right, oil on canvas, 15 3/4 x 15 3/8 in. (40 x 39.1 cm). Painted in 1900. Image courtesy of Phillips.

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