



EMBASSY OF DENMARK
London

Cultural Newsletter

October 2025



Elmgreen & Dragset at Frieze Sculpture

A sculpture by the Danish-Norwegian artist duo Elmgreen & Dragset is part of Frieze Sculpture 2025. 14 sculptures make up the free public display in the historic English Gardens in Regent's Park, which all respond to the overarching theme 'In the Shadows'. Elmgreen & Dragset have collaborated since 1995 and presented numerous solo exhibitions internationally, many in the UK such as at V&A, Whitechapel Gallery and Serpentine. Failed ideals and fragile social systems are recurring themes in their work, which they also explore in the sculpture *Life Rings, Fig. 3*—an example of what they term 'powerless structures'.

Frieze Sculpture is on view in Regent's Park until November 2.

Photo: Elmgreen & Dragset, *Life Rings, Fig. 3*, 2023. Courtesy: Frieze. Photo: Linda Nyland

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Ole Faarup Art Collection Auction at Christie's

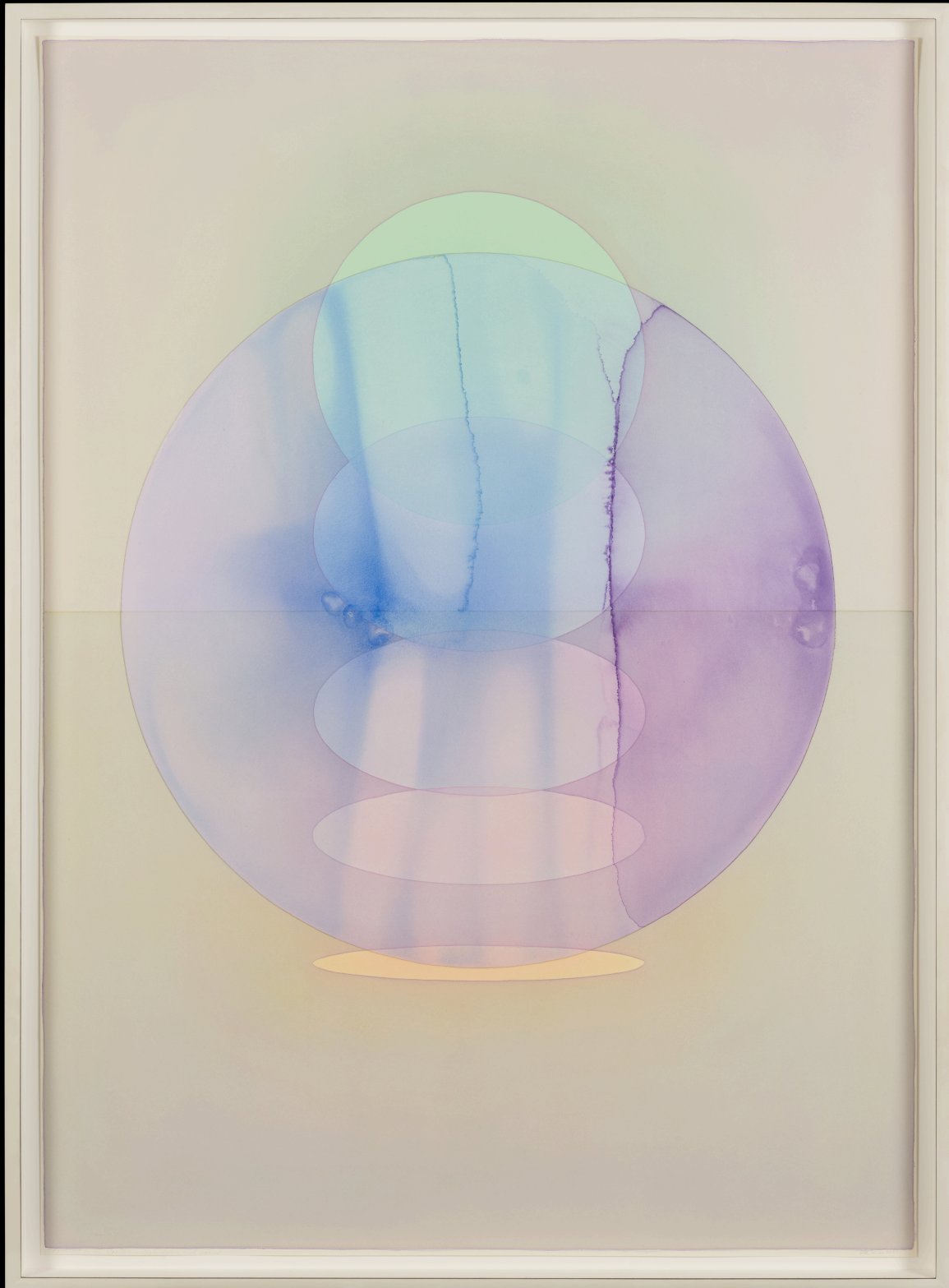
The Danish art collector Ole Faarup's interest in art was sparked in the 1960s during lunchtime visits to MoMA while working in New York. During his lifetime, he used his keen eye to shape one of the world's most important collections of contemporary art. That collection will now be auctioned at Christie's in London with proceeds from the sale benefitting the newly founded Ole Faarup Art Foundation.

The Ole Faarup Art Foundation will continue Faarup's vision to support future generations of artists. The Foundation will allow Danish museums and public institutions to apply for funding for the purchase of artworks by younger Danish artists, including those from the Faroe Islands and Greenland, and younger international artists. International museums can likewise apply for support when purchasing works by younger Danish artists and additionally, funding may be provided when a younger Danish artist has their first major exhibition abroad.

Ole Faarup's art collection will be on view at Christie's London from 8–14 October.

Photo: Portrait of Ole Faarup. In the background: Chris Ofili, Blossom, 1997. In the foreground: Tim Noble and Sue Webster, Splitting the Difference, 1999. Photograph by Carsten Lauridsen. Photo: Alamy/Ritzau.

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Nordic Noir: Works on paper from Edvard Munch to Mamma Andersson at The British Museum

A new exhibition featuring more than 150 works by 100 artists from the Nordic countries opens at The British Museum. *Nordic Noir* is the culmination of a five-year project collecting graphic works on paper from the Nordic region.

A principal theme for the artworks is nature and the importance of preserving the unique features of the region like the fjords, mountains and forests. This is the especially the case for Danish-Icelandic artist Olafur Eliasson, whose watercolour made especially for the exhibition highlights the effects of global warming by using glacial meltwater as its medium. Other Danish artists featured will among others be Tal R and John Kørner.

The exhibition will be on view at The British Museum from 9 October 2025–22 March 2026.

Photo: *Don't look to the horizon – look down and around*, 2024, Olafur Eliasson. Courtesy of the artist and i8 Gallery, Reykjavik © The Trustees of the British Museum.

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MØ Performs in the UK

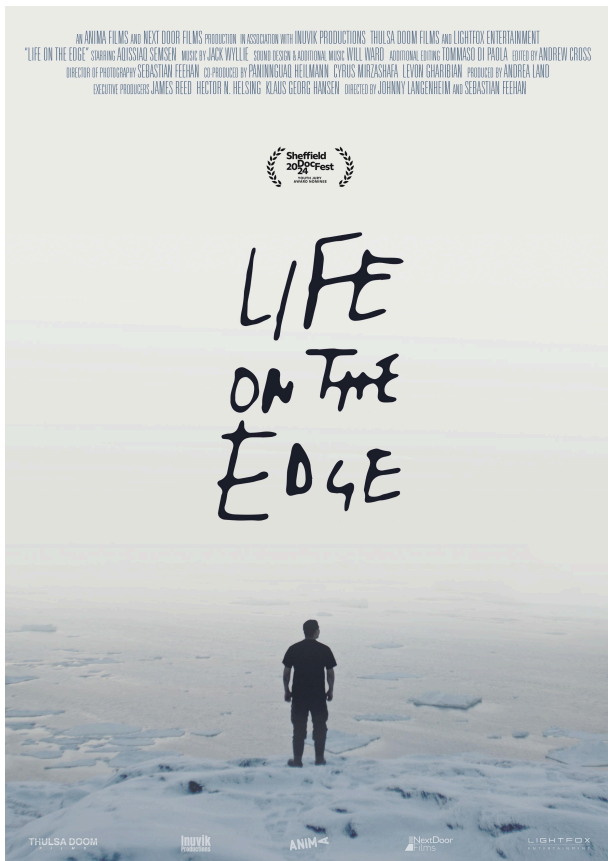
The Danish singer-songwriter MØ will perform three shows in the UK in October. The tour celebrates her fourth studio album, *Plæygirl*, with what she describes as “a darkwave indie dance party for people who don’t like dance parties”. On the album, MØ brings a Nordic twist to the atmospheric vibe of early-2010s club tracks with music you can fully immerse yourself in on the dancefloor.

MØ will perform at the following shows:

- 2 October: Fabric, London
- 3 October: Factory251, Manchester
- 5 October: Classic Grand, Glasgow

Photo: Casper Serjersen

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Life on the Edge Screening

The documentary *Life on the Edge* follows Aqissiaq “Nuka” Semsén, a 30-year-old suicide prevention counsellor on his travels across Greenland. Haunted by his best friend’s death and his own violent past, his encounters take him on a deeper journey of self-redemption, as he reforges his connection to the land and to his people. The documentary premiered at the Sheffield DocFest 2024, where it picked up a Special Mention. It will now be screened in London in connection with World Mental Health Day.

Life on the Edge will be screened at Karma Sanctum Soho on 10 October.

Photo: *Life on the Edge*

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Danish Galleries at Frieze London and Frieze Masters

The Frieze London and Frieze Masters fairs return to Regent's Park in October. At Frieze London, *Editions* showcases limited-edition artworks by leading international artists, giving opportunities for new audiences to collect at affordable prices. Borch Editions will be one of the participating galleries at *Editions*.

Frieze Masters also returns with historical works, where Galerie Mikael Andersen will showcase works by Sonja Ferlov Mancoba in the *Spotlight* section. *Spotlight* focuses on under-recognized artists and lesser-known works by established artists, focusing on the period 1950s-70s. Frieze Masters also includes the *Studio* section, back in its third iteration, with the Danish art historian Margrethe Troensegaard as the assistant curator.

The Frieze London and Frieze Masters fairs are in Regent's Park 15–19 October.

Photo: Photo by Linda Nyland. Courtesy Frieze / Linda Nyland.

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Poul Ruders Composition Performed by the LSO

The London Symphony Orchestra begins a new series of concerts conducted by Thomas Adès exploring Nordic music alongside Adès' own works. The first concert will feature the contemporary Danish composer Poul Ruders' work *Paganini Variations for Guitar and Orchestra* (Guitar Concerto No 2) as well as compositions by Alex Paxton, Jean Sibelius and Adès.

The performance will be at the Barbican on 19 October. Use the discount code ADES20 for 20% off when ordering tickets.

Photo: Mark Allen

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Eva Helene Pade at Thaddaeus Ropac Gallery

The Danish artist Eva Helene Pade's solo exhibition *Søgelys* will open at Thaddaeus Ropac during Frieze week. Pade graduated from the Royal Danish Academy in 2024 and has quickly become a rising star. The exhibition at Thaddaeus Ropac is her first solo exhibition in the UK and follows her first major museum show at ARKEN Museum of Contemporary Art in Denmark earlier this year.

In Pade's work, sweeping crowds of jewel-toned bodies morph into each other. With this new collection of paintings, she continues her exploration of the violent and seductive forces between bodies in space.

The exhibition is on view at Thaddaeus Ropac from 14 October–22 November.

Photo: Den fundne (*The found one*), 2025. Oil on canvas. 300 x 300cm. © Eva Helene Pade. Courtesy Thaddaeus Ropac gallery, London · Paris · Salzburg · Milan · Seoul. Photo: Pierre Tanguy.

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Danish Films at BFI London Film Festival 2025

The 2025 BFI London Film Festival kicks off in October. On the programme is the Danish film *Vægtløs* (Weightless), which premiered in September at the San Sebastián film festival. Here debuting director Emilie Thalund won the main award in the New Directors Competition. The film follows fifteen-year-old Lea at a summer health camp as she navigates body image and an awakened desire for one of the camp's instructors.

Also on the programme are films co-produced in Denmark, including *Sentimental Value*, *Only on Earth*, *Ultras*, *Mother*, *Redoubt* and *More Life*.

The BFI London Film festival runs from 8–19 October.

Photo: Still from *Vægtløs* (Weightless). Louise Mclaughlin

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Aya Simone Bækhøj Schmidt residency at V&A Wedgwood Collection

Danish ceramicist Aya Simone Bækhøj Schmidt is currently an artist in residency at the V&A Wedgwood Collection, funded by the Danish Arts Foundation. The V&A Wedgwood is located in Stoke-on-Trent, traditionally known as The Potteries, and it houses one of the most important industrial ceramic collections in the world. The residency provides research access to the collection and the historical site and surroundings in The Potteries.

In her practice, Schmidt blends a sculptural, design-driven approach with a figurative focus. Her research explores the spiritual and sculptural dimensions of Indian clay practices and gendered artistic expression in ceramics.

Aya Simone Bækhøj Schmidt is an artist in residence at V&A Wedgwood Collection until November 2025.

Photo: Katia Autier



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Danish Oscar Entry Screened in London

The documentary *Mr. Nobody Against Putin* has recently been selected as the Danish entry for the Best International Feature Film category at the 2026 Oscars. The Danish-Czech co-production follows a primary school teacher turned unlikely whistle-blower as he begins documenting the aggressive militarisation of Russian schools.

Mr. Nobody Against Putin will be screened at Bertha DocHouse from 3–9 October.

Photo: František Svatoš

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Thomas Søndergård Conducts the Royal Scottish National Orchestra

Thomas Søndergård, the Music Director for the Royal Scottish National Orchestra (RSNO), conducts the orchestra in three performances in October. The first performance in Dundee features Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 3, the composer's love-letter to Scotland. Following that are two performances in Edinburgh and Glasgow where Mahler's Symphony No. 7 is the highlight of the repertoire.

Thomas Søndergård will conduct the RSNO at the following performances:

- 2 October: Caird Hall, Dundee
- 3 October: Usher Hall, Edinburgh
- 4 October: Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, Glasgow

Photo: Martin Bubandt

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