

MATIAS FALDBAKKEN

Born, 1973, Hobro, DK
Lives and works in Oslo, NO

Education

1994-1998 The Academy of Fine Art, Bergen, NO
1996-1997 Staatliche Hochschule für Bildende Künste, Städelschule, Frankfurt am Main, DE
(prof. Thomas Bayrle)

Selected solo exhibitions

2025

Abstracts and Pewter Abstracts, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich, CH

2024

Recollect, chapter 2 (with Ida Ekblad), Kunsthaus Zürich, Zurich, CH

2023

ReCollect! Matias Faldbakken & Ida Ekblad, Kunsthaus Zürich, Zurich, CH

2021

Galerie Chantal Crousel, Paris, FR
Stupstock (with Torsten Andersson), STANDARD (OSLO), Oslo, NO

2019

Simon Lee, Hong Kong, HK
Parcours, Art Basel, Basel, CH
Paula Cooper Gallery, New York, NY, US

2017

Mur Saint-Bon, Paris, FR
Effects of Good Government in the Pit, Astrup Fearnly Museum of Modern Art, Oslo, NO
Reena Spaulings Fine Art, Los Angeles, CA, US
STANDARD (OSLO), Oslo, NO

2016

Paula Cooper Gallery, New York, NY, US
Thingumbob Screen Overlaps, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich, CH

2015

Fuel Sculpture, Art Altstetten Albisrieden, Vulkanplatz, Zurich, CH
CAPRI, Dusseldorf, DE
Overlap, Galerie NEU, Berlin, DE

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2014

Paula Cooper Gallery, New York, NY, US

STANDARD (Oslo), Oslo, NO

2013

Matias Faldbakken (curated by Anne Pontégnie), Le Consortium, Dijon, FR

Envy, Galerie Neu, Berlin, DE

Simon Lee Gallery, London, UK

2012

Shall I Write It, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zürich, CH

Bit Rot, STANDARD (Oslo), Oslo, NO

Portrait Portrait of of a a Generation Generation, curated by Marta Kuzma, Office for Contemporary Art Norway, Oslo, NO

Intervention #21 - Matias Faldbakken, Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam, NL

Maintenance, Simon Lee Gallery, Hong Kong, HK

Portrait Portrait of of a a Generation Generation, curated by Marta Kuzma, WIELS, Centre d'art contemporaine, Brussels, BE

2011

Oslo, Texas, The Power Station, Dallas, TX, US

Matias Faldbakken, bbb, centre régional d'initiatives pour l'art contemporain, Toulouse, FR

Television/Moonshine, Reena Spaulings Fine Art, New York, NY, US

One Night Only, UKS, Oslo, NO

2010

The Hills, STANDARD (Oslo), Oslo, NO

You Think You Go But You Gon't, Objectif Exhibitions, Antwerp, BE

An Alpha Disguised as a Beta, Giti Nourbakhsh, Berlin, DE

Known to Few, Unknown to Fewer, Simon Lee Gallery, London, UK

That Death of Which One Does Not Die, Kunsthalle Friedricianum, Kassel, DE

War After Peace (After War), Neue Achener Kunstverein, Achen, DE

Schinkel Pavillion, Berlin, DE

2009

Shocked Into Abstraction, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, UK

Extreme Siesta, Kunst Halle St Gallen, St Gallen, CH

Shocked Into Abstraction, The National Museum of Art, Design and Architecture, Oslo, NO

Reena Spaulings Fine Art, New York, NY, US

2008

The Way of the Bummer, Simon Lee Gallery, London, UK

Empty Glass, Galerie Giti Nourbakhsh, Berlin, DE

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2007

Not Made Visible, Christoph Keller, Zürich, jrp ringier, Zürich, CH

Nothing Doing, STANDARD (Oslo), Oslo, NO

I Don't Think So, Midway Contemporary Art, Minneapolis, MN, US

A Hideous Disease, Statements / Art Basel 38, Basel, under the auspices of STANDARD (Oslo), Oslo, NO

2006

I Missed the Part Where That's My Problem, Galerie Diana Stigter, Amsterdam, NL

II, Schnittraum, Cologne, DE

2005

All That Fall, STANDARD (Oslo), Oslo, NOR

Sharing Space, Dividing Time (The Nordic Pavillion), curated by Åsa Nacking), La Biennale de Venezia, Venice, IT

New Works, Gallery Huuto, Helsinki, FI

2004

Rank Xerox (with Gardar Eide Einarsson), Bergen Kunsthall, Bergen, NO

2003

Getaway, Fotogalleriet, Oslo, NO

2001

Osculum Infame (with Gardar Eide Einarsson), NIFCA Gallery, Nordic Institute for Contemporary Art, Helsinki, FI

Selected group exhibitions

2025

Graffiti, Museion Bolzano, Bolzano, IT

2024

Form Matters, Matter Forms. Vom Readymade zum Warenfetisch, Kunst Museum Winterthur, Winterthur, CH
Matias Faldbakken, Anthony Burdin, Ann Greene Kelly, Stephen Lichty, Vernon Price, Kaari Upson, Liat Yossifor, Michael Beneveto, Los Angeles, CA, US

118 ½, Emalin — The Clerk's House, London, UK

2023

Before Tomorrow – Astrup Fearnley Museet 30 Years, Astrup Fearnley Museet, Oslo, NO

[Re]Purpose, Paula Cooper Gallery, Palm Beach, FL, US

Monochromes, Galerie Mehdi Chouakri, Berlin, DE

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2022

Sculptures by, Eva Presenhuber, New York, NY, US

2021

Lorck Schive Kunstpris, Trondheim Kunstmuseum, Trondheim, NO

2020

All in one, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich, CH

My Cartography, The Erling Kagge Collection, Fundación Banco Santander, Madrid, ES

My Cartography, The Erling Kagge Collection, Fondation Vincent Van Gogh, Arles, FR

2019

Concoction of Confusion, curated by Inti Wang, Golsa, Oslo, NO

2018

Buffalo buffalo Buffalo buffalo buffalo buffalo Buffalo buffalo, STANDARD (Oslo), Oslo, NO

Smooth Transitions, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich, CH

Always Different, Always the Same. An Essay on Art and Systems, Bündner Kunstmuseum, Chur, CH

The Weather Outside, Freedman Fitzpatrick, Paris, FR

Eurovisions: Contemporary art from the Goldberg Collection, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne AU

Eurovisions: Contemporary art from the Goldberg Collection, Canberra Museum and Gallery, Canberra, AU

20.000 Gun Shells, Pommery House /Champagne house Pommery, City of Reims, FR

2017

Black Feast, Simon Lee Gallery, New York, NY, US

Readymade, curated by Fredi Fischli and Niels Olsen, House Eva Presenhuber, Vnà, CH

Void to Void: Matias Faldbakken and Leander Djønn, Galerie Neu, Berlin, DE

2016

The Seeable, The Sayable. Kunstnernes Hus, Oslo, NO

Yinchuan Biennale 2016, Yinchuan, CN

He is left handed and walks with a cane, Galleri Riis, Stockholm, SE

11th Gwangju Biennale 2016, Gwangju Biennale, Gwangju, KR

For Pete's Sake, Carl Kostyal Stockholm, Stockholm, SE

Collected by Thea Westreich Wagner and Ethan Wagner, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, FR

2015

Works on Paper, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich, CH

Norwegian Sculpture Biennial, Vigeland Museum, Oslo, NO

Venice Biennale: Ideas for Change, curated by Maria Lind, Venice, IT

Beaufort Triennial 2015: Beyond Borders, Schore, BE

Vibrant Matter, KIOSK, Ghent, BE

Dissolving Margins, Paula Cooper Gallery, New York, NY, US

Future Light, Österreichisches Museum für angewandte Kunst, MAK, Vienna, AT

Art and the City, Zurich, CH

Love Story – Works from Erling Kagge's Collection, The Astrup Faernley Museum of Modern Art, Oslo, NO

Menneskeberget, Munch's Ekely, Oslo, NO

Works from the Astrup Faernley Collection, The Astrup Faernley Museum of Modern Art, Oslo, NO

2014

Elective Affinities, Simon Lee Gallery, London, UK

20 Years Galerie Neu, Galerie Neu, Berlin, DE

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Gold Gab ich Für Eisen, Galleri 2, Stamsund, NO

The crime was almost perfect, curated by Cristina Ricupero, Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art, Rotterdam, NL

Walk the line, Simon Lee Gallery, Hong Kong, HK

Chez Perv, Matias Faldbakken, Oscar Tuazon, Gardar Eide Einarsson, Team Gallery, US

Take Liberty, The National Museum of Art, Design and Architecture, Oslo, NO

J'ai Froid, Castillo / Corrales, Paris, FR

Chat Jet (Part 2) Sculpture in Reflection, Künstlerhaus Halle für Kunst & Medien, Graz, AT

El Rey de Icod, Tenerife Espacio de las Artes, Santa Cruz, Tenerife, ES

2013

Metropolis: Reflections on the Modern City, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Birmingham, UK

Awaiting Immanence, Isbrytaren, Stockholm, SE

Fragile, Isola san Giorgio Maggiore, Venice, IT

2012

Painting Now, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich, CH

Oscar knows Gardar. Gardar knows Matias. Matias knows Fredrik. Fredrik sort of knows Gardar. Gardar knows Marius. And that Gardar knows Matias we already know. But Matias also knows Anders, STANDARD (OSLO), Oslo, NO

A Group Exhibition Featuring the Work of Robert Overby, Cherry and Martin, Los Angeles, CA, US

Bitume et astres dansent, parfois, dans la pure peur, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Paris, FR

Gestures in Time (curated by Katya Garcia-Anton), Qalandia International, Jerusalem Concatenation

Signature, Seriality, Painting (curated by Peter Amdam), Blain Southern, London, UK

Painting...EXPANDED, Espacio 1414, San Juan, PR

Documenta (13), Kassel, DE

Remote Control, ICA, London, UK

Abstract Possible – The Stockholm Edition, Tensta Konsthall, Stockholm, SE

The Devil's Fidelity, Marian Goodman Gallery, Paris, FR

An Ocean of Limonade, SMART Project Space, Amsterdam, NL

2011

Secret Societies, Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt, DE

Secret Societies, Musée d'art contemporaine, Bordeaux, FR

REBUS, Simon Lee Gallery, London, UK

Home of Metal: You Should be Living, Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Wolverhampton, UK

Out of Storage. Provisoire & Définitif, Centre for Contemporary Culture, Maastricht, NL

Sculpture Now, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich, CH

Screaming from the mountain, Sorlandets Kunstmuseum, Kristiansand, NO

Politics is Personal, Stonescape, Napa Valley, CA, US

Nothing Besides Remains, a LAND project, Marfa, TX, US

Gardar Eide Einarsson, Matias Faldbakken, Sebastian Helling, Kostyal Project Space, London, UK

MONODROME. 3rd Athens Biennale 2011, Athens, GR

Abstract Possible, Museo Tamayo, Ciudad de Mexico, MX

Anonyme Skulpturen, Galerie im Taxipalais, Innsbruck, AT

To The Arts, Citizens, Museu Serralves, Porto, PT

2010

I like the work, but my wife is still concern. Please keep me inform about new works., STANDARD (Oslo), Oslo, NO

Group Show (Almost A4 Person Group Show, curated by Brian Kennon), 2nd Cannon Project Space, Los Angeles, CA, US

The Mass Ornament (curated by John Rasmussen), Gladstone Gallery, New York, NY, US

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Today Art Museum Beijing (curated by Jonathan Watkins), Beijing, CN
The Moon is an Arrant Thief (curated by Oliver Martinez Kandt), The David Roberts Arts Foundation, London, UK
Destruction, Negation, Subtraction, Dissolution (curated by Rob Teeters), Kantor Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, US
Fresh Hell – Carte Blanche à Adam McEwen, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, FR
Groupshow, Praz-Dellavalade, Paris, FR
The Secret Knows (curated by Shamim M. Momin/LAND), The Virgin Mobile Free House, Austin, TX, US
Barbaric Freedom (curated by Anne Pontegnie), Simon Lee Gallery, London, UK
Forms of Organization I (curated by Dessislava Dimova), Red House, Sofia, BG
To The Arts, Citizens! (curated by Joao Fernandes and Óscar Faria), SERRALVES, Porto, PT
Suppose it is true after all? WHAT THEN? (curated by Asgeir Skotnes), Johan Berggren Gallery, Malmö, SE

2009

Rotations #2, Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art, Oslo, NO
The Malady of Writing. A project on text and speculative imagination, Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona (MACBA), Barcelona, ES
Black Hole, curated by Friedrike Nymphius, Kunsthalle Andratx, Mallorca, ES
Minima Moralia, Marvelli Gallery, New York, NY, US
Our Mirage, Art:Concept, curated by Caroline Soyez-Petithomme, Paris, FR
Floors / Walls, Galerie Giti Nourbakhsh, Berlin, DE

2008

Possibilities of an Island (curated by Ruba Katrib), Museum of Contemporary Art Miami, Miami, FL, US
We have never met before, but it's with great anticipation of your understanding that I'm writing you and I hope you will in good faith give a deep consideration to my proposal below, curated by Mikkel E. Astrup and Eivind Furnesvik, STANDARD (Oslo), Oslo, NO
After October (curated by Tim Saltarelli), Elizabeth Dee Gallery, New York, NY, US
The Soft Shields Of Pleasure (curated by Søren Andreasen), Den Frie Udstilling, Copenhagen, DK
Art TLV, curated by Andrew Renton, Tel Aviv Museum Of Art / Helena Rubinstein Pavilion for Contemporary Art, Tel Aviv, IL
ABC – Art Berlin Contemporary, under the auspices of Galerie Giti Nourbakhsh, Berlin, DE
Revolutions – Forms That Turn, The Biennial of Sydney, Sydney, AU
Records Played Backwards (curated by Daniel Baumann), The Modern Institute, Glasgow, UK
35% VRAI 60% FAUX, Simon Lee Gallery, London, UK
Zuordnungsprobleme, Johann König, Berlin, DE
Norsk Hydro's Collection, The Henie Onstad Art Centre, Oslo, NO
Lights On, The Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art, Oslo, NO

2007

Paintings, Props and Problems (Still Unresolved), STANDARD (Oslo), Oslo, NO
Memorial to the Iraq War (curated by Mark Sladen), Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA), London, UK
Dislocations (Don't Try Popping Them Back Into Place), curated by Chus Martinez, STANDARD (Oslo)/ Arco, Madrid, ES
Fade Away and Radiate (curated by Andrew Leslie), Cohan and Leslie, New York, NY, US

2006

Defamation of Character (curated by Neville Wakefield), PS1 MoMA, New York, US
Art, Life and Confusion – The 47th October Salon (curated by René Block), ICA / Belgrade Culture Centre, Belgrade, RS
Deep Into That Darkness Peering, Galerie Joanna Kamm, Berlin, DE
The Norwegian Sculpture Biennial (curated by Cecilia Widenheim), The Vigeland Museum, Oslo, NO
The Metaphysics of Youth (curated by Luigi Fasso and Irina Zucca), Fuoriuso, Pescara, IT
White Stains, STANDARD (Oslo)/Extra City, Antwerpen, BE

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Theater of Life - Rhetorics of Emotions (curated by Nicolaus Schafhausen), Städtische Galerie im Lenbachhaus, Munich, DE

Mafia (Or One Unopened Packet of Cigarettes), STANDARD (Oslo), Oslo, NO

Entgrenzung (De-Limitation), Neue Gesellschaft für bildende Kunst, Berlin, DE

Cluster, (curated by Katie Holten), The Participant, New York, NY, US

Draft Deceit (curated by Marta Kuzma), Kunsternes Hus, Oslo, NO

Down by Law (curated by Maurizio Cattelan, Massimiliano Gioni and Ali Subotnick), Whitney Museum of American Art / Whitney Biennial 2006 / The Wrong Gallery, New York, NY, US

2005

Parallell Life (curated by Sun Won Kim, Vanessa Müller, Nicolaus Schafhausen), Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt am Main, DE

Performance Festival, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, NL

Start Kapital, STANDARD (Oslo), Oslo, NO

Populism, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, NL

Populism, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt am Main, DE

Populism, The National Museum, Oslo, NO

Populism, CAC, Vilnius, LT

2004

Now And Ten Years Ago, Kunst-Werke, Berlin, DE

Standard Escape Routes, ISCP, New York, NY, US

Criss Cross – Video/Film/Documentary Programme, NIFCA (Touring Exhibition)

LISTE 04, Basel, CH

On Reason and Emotion, Biennale of Sydney, Sydney, AU

MOMENTUM – Nordic Festival of Contemporary Art, Moss, NO

Emotion Eins, Frankfurter Kunstverein/Ursula Bickle Stiftung, Frankfurt/Kraichtal-Unteröwisheim, DE

2003

Art to the People, Bergen Kunsthall, Bergen; Kunsternes Hus, Oslo; Tromsø Fine Arts Society,

Tromsø, Bomuldsfabriken Kunsthall, Arendal, NO

Deathtime, 27. Canal, New York, NY, US

Total Motiviert, Kunstverein München, Munich, DE

BEKMÖRK, CCAB; Centre for Contemporary Arts – Belgrade, Belgrade, RS

2002

Where Am I? 2, National Museum of Contemporary Art, Bjørvika, Oslo, NO

Touching from a distance, Germinations 13, Cork, IE

2001

Fanzine 1, Gallery Konstakuten, Stockholm, SE

The UKS Biennial, Oslo, NO

2000

Spring exhibition, Fotogalleriet, Oslo, NO

The City Theatre, Stockholm, SE

1998

All or Nothing (videoscreening), MAC - Museum of Contemporary Art, Marseilles, FR

The Society of Young Artists (UKS), Oslo, NO

MK Ciurlionis National Museum of Art, Kaunas, LT

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1997

Kommunikationszentrale, Videoabend, Bockenheim, Frankfurt am Main, DE

1996

ELECTRA – video room, Henie Onstad Artcenter, Oslo, NO

Novels

2024

Armes Ding (translated to German by Maximilian Stadler), novel, btb – Penguin Random House, Germany

2022

Stakkar, novel, Forlaget Oktober, Oslo

Upcoming translations in Sweden (Bonnier), The Netherlands (Uitgeverij Oevers), France (Fayard), Germany (btb – Penguin Random House), Denmark (Gutkind), Færøylene (Sprotin), Egypt (Al Arabi Publishing and Distributing), Turkey (Timas), Italy (Mondadori) a.o.

Shortlisted for Brageprisen (The Brage Price)

Shortlisted for Bokhandlerprisen (The Book Trader's Award)

Shortlisted for Kritikerprisen (The Critics Award)

2019

We are Five (Vi er fem), Forlaget Oktober, Oslo

Winner of The Norwegian Critics Prize for Literature.

Winner of The Norwegian Radio's Literary Award

Shortlisted for the Nordic Council Prize for Literature

Shortlisted for the Oslo Award

2018

The Waiter, Doubleday, London

2008

Unfun, J.W. Cappelen Publishing House

2006

Kaldt Produkt, Kagge Forlag

2005

Snort Stories, J.W. Cappelen Publishing House

2002

Macht und Rebel, J.W. Cappelen Publishing House / translated into Danish (Lindhardt&Ringhof) and Finnish (Johnny Kniga)

2001

The Cocka Hola Company, J.W. Cappelen Publishing House / translated into German (Blumenbar Verlag/and Heine [paperback]) and Russian (Baltrus)

Published writings/published projects (international)

2007

North Drive Press #4, History (Beginning of August 2007), Los Angeles, CA, US

Adelantando, Olga and Momin, Shamim (editor): The Impossibility of Translation, Artist's book /

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independent publication

2005

Lettre International, Scandinavian Issue, Copenhagen, DK

Frankfurter Allgemeine, Special Book Issue during Frankfurter Book Fair, October, Frankfurt am Main, DE

Catalogue for Michael Elmgreen and Ingar Dragset: Welfare Show, Bergen Kunsthall, Bergen, NO

Schaffhausen, Nicolaus a.o.: Populism, catalogue, Lucas and Sternberg, Berlin/New York, Germany/US

2004

Lettre International, America

Fabrik #01.04

Adbusters magazine Norway #01

Dagbladet Information, January 3rd (i2), DK

2003

Den Blå Port, Copenhagen, DK

PACEMAKER 2, Paris, FR

Corporate Mentality, Alexandra Mir (ed.), Lukas & Sternberg Inc, New York, NY, US

Journal for NorthEast Issues, #2 2003, GER

Kunstverein München, Drucksache Fall 03, Munich, DE

BLM – Bonniers Litterära Magasin, SE

O.K. Centre for Contemporary Art, Linz, AT

2002

NIFCA-info; Vapour Ware, FI

MANIFESTA 4; catalogue, DE

MARS; fanzine, Stockholm, SE

2001

NIFCA info 3/01; Reluctant Revolutionary; interview with J.O. Mallander, FI

2000

MOMENTUM prospectus PARK; Mediation of a specialized art to a fragmented public, NO

Other

2022

Installation: *Skyldner (Debtor)*, Norwegias Scenic Route Rondane, Kjølten, NO

2007

Theatre adaptation / performance of "Kaldt Produkt"

Teatret på Torshov / Nationalteatret

2006

Theatre adaptation / performance of "The Cocka Hola Company"

Münchner Kammerspiele / Stuttgarter Staatstheater

2002-2005

Editor of UKS-forum for Samtidskunst

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2000-2002

Oslo Kunsthall; editor of Publication 00, 01, 02

2000

Oslo Kunsthall; co-curator

UKS-Forum for Samtidskunst; guest editor of issue 1/2/00

1998

Bergen Museum for Samtidskunst; founder and owner