

ASTRID KROGH. SPACE ODYSSEY

Exhibition I 12 February - 16 April 2022 Preview I Saturday 12 February 2022

"It is nothing but a breath, the void..." Rainer Maria Rilke

As scientific exploration reaches the limits of the detectable and comprehensible, so it too relies on the creativity and imagination of scientists and artists to push boundaries and interpret the Universe. With these thoughts in mind, the Danish artist Astrid Krogh reached out to one of America's pioneering astrophysicists, Dr. Margaret Geller from the Center for Astrophysics in Cambridge, Massachusetts, with whom she initiated an ongoing correspondence on the patterns in the Universe. Opening fundamentally new perspectives, this encounter has given birth to a series of new works, which will be presented in the exhibition *Astrid Krogh - Space Odyssey* at Galerie Maria Wettergren in Paris, from 12 February through 16 April 2022.

The Universe is flooded with patterns, from the smallest particles to intergalactic structures, infinite in numbers and in constant change, chaotic and organized at one and the same time. Krogh, who has always been fascinated by the force of patterns, approaches these empirically but tenderly, using light as her main source, both natural daylight and artificial light, which she organizes in different patterns, mixing random and order. By exploring a large specter of materials and techniques, including organic seaweed, gold leaf, fiber optics, mirror foil and photographic cyanotypes, Krogh thrives to reveal, in an almost alchemist way, the deep poetic feeling and grace of the Universe through the metamorphosis of these materials. This interdisciplinary approach is highly characteristic of Krogh's vocabulary, who since the end of the 1990s, has continually combined different disciplines and materials in the fields of textile and light art. Concurrently, it echoes an ever-growing tendency among contemporary artists and designers today, opening up for new fields of interference between art and science.

Address I 121 rue Vieille du Temple, 75003 Paris Opening hours I Tuesday - Saturday, 11 am - 7 pm Phone I +33 (0)1 43 29 19 60 Email I info@mariawettergren.com





Planet 2021 Gold leaf, silver, platinum, aluminium, optic fibers, light monitors Ø150 x 25 cm Limited edition of 8 unique pieces



Planet Light Flux

















After working for several years on cosmic themes, this summer, Danish artist Astrid Krogh had the idea of turning her eyes from the sky to the ground, looking down instead of up for answers. Every morning, when she went for a swim in the sea, she took her scuba-diving glasses to look at the world under the water and collected seaweed, which she dried when she got home. She had the idea of placing the seaweed in some kind of order to make a pattern, but during the making of these algae pictures, she realized this was not going to work...so she blended them instead into one big chaotic order...like the galaxies in the universe.

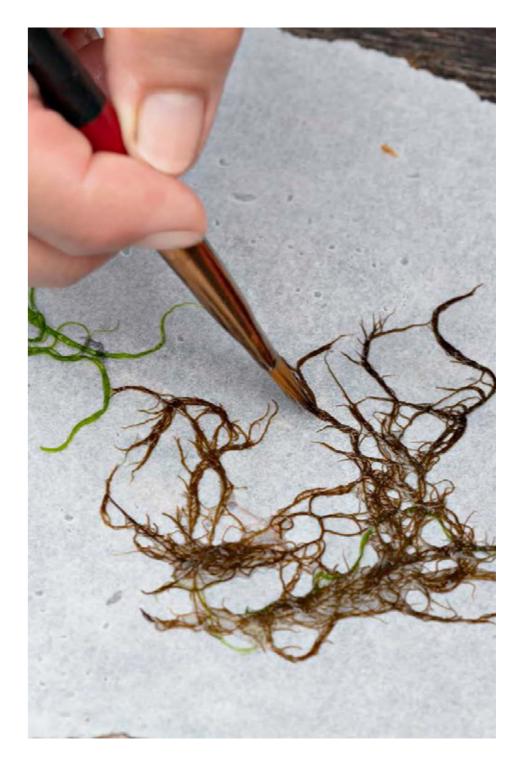
Seaweed in the Universe 2021 Seaweed, glass, LED, walnut 112 x 112 x 14 cm Unique piece



The Making of Seaweed in the Universe













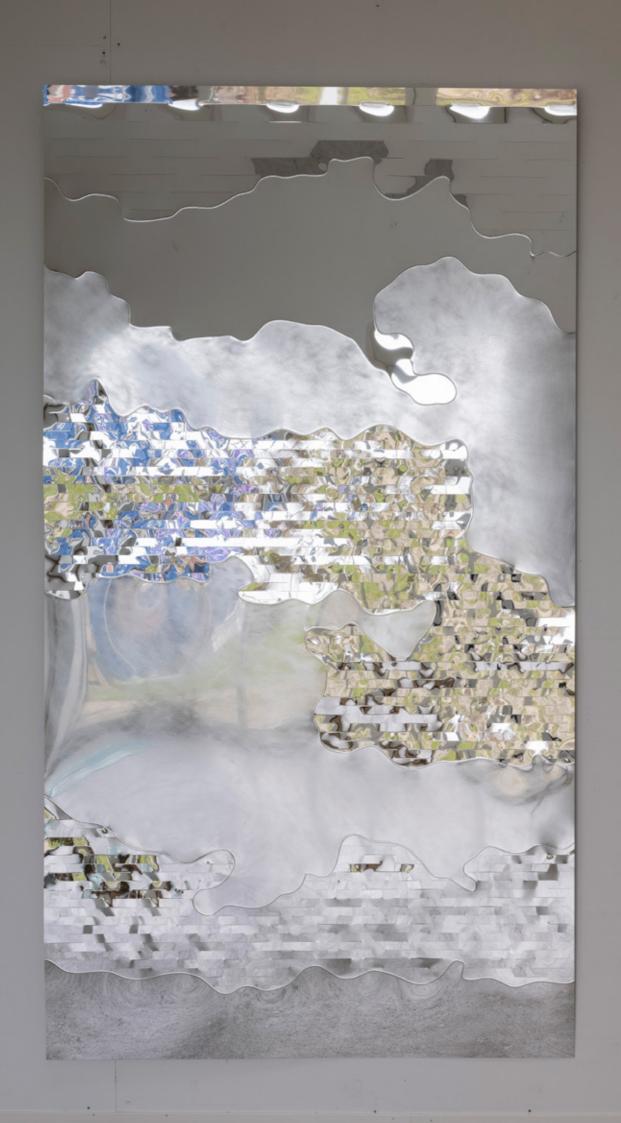
Square of the Universe
2020
Pigment, aluminium foil, gold leaf, platinum
leaf, glass
160 x 160 x 10 cm
Unique pieces











With its aluminum mirror surface of engravings and perforations, forming large clouds of an ever-changing character, *Cloud Illusions*, invites the spectator to meditate on the flux of light. The interaction with the ambient daylight is both strong and subtle with soft reflections moving through light shadows over the floor. The soft quality of the thin mirror surface gives a slight vibratory motion to the work, enhancing the feeling of life and inviting the mind to float like clouds in the sky. The fluidity of the material combined with Krogh's calligraphic traces and the vertical format may equally recall the spirit of the Chinese wash drawings from the Sung Dynasty, in which the idea of capturing the breath of life and nature by means of only one color was essential. Only in Krogh's work, color and life are no longer added, they are reflected.

Cloud Illusions

2021
Perforated and impregnated aluminum
120 x 220 x 8 cm
Unique piece









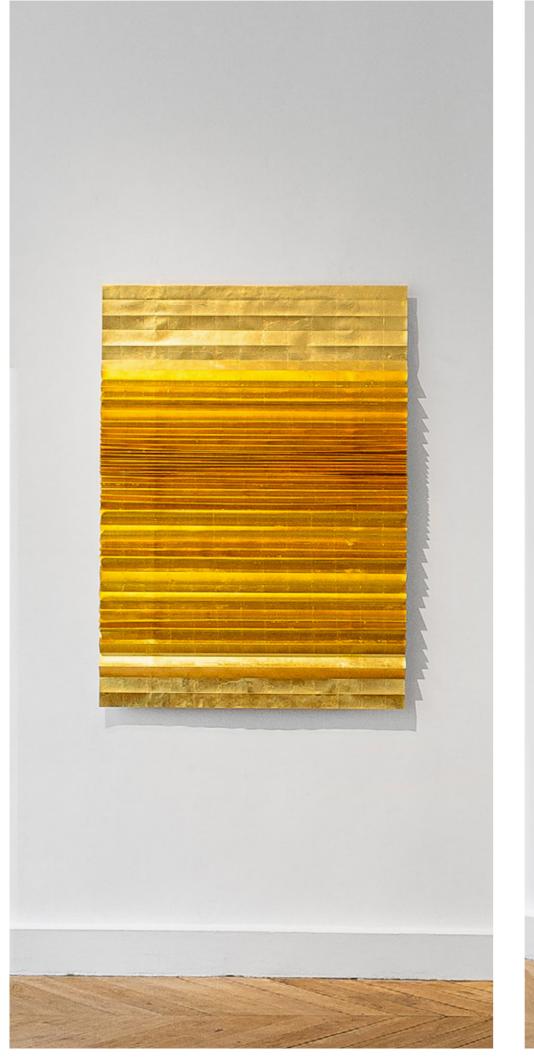
My Golden Horizon
2020
Gold leaf, pleaded paper
100 x 140 x 5 cm
Unique piece

In the words of the acclaimed author Bradely Quinn... "A brighter horizon dawns in Astrid Krogh's spectacular artwork, My Golden Horizon, a dazzling display of light and reflection inspired by the power and transcendence of the sun. Humans have long held the belief that all life comes from the sun, gazing in awe as streaks of red, yellow and orange paint the sky when it rises and sets. These flashes of colour appear to be tinted with gold, separating the horizon from the earth by fiery bands of gleaming light. Reflected over water, the golden strata created by the setting sun are mirrored in layers of ephemeral colour that sparkle underneath the sky.

Forces of nature have always been a source of inspiration for Krogh, who typically uses colour, reflection and material to recreate the light she observes in the world around her. Fascinated by the luminescence of gold and its enduring ability to represent light throughout history, Krogh noticed how the material emanates the colours of the sun itself. Inspired to capture a striking sunset she viewed at the water's edge, Krogh transferred thin sheets of beaten gold onto paper, carefully forming pleats and folds that capture and reflect ambient light. The lustrous surface that resulted formed an expansive, lateral horizon that intensifies the bands of colour seen in the sky. Tiers of pleats were compressed to make the colours appear darker and more intense, while wider folds were opened to diffuse the light and reflect it away from the surface. Together, the nuances of colour they create form an ethereal composition, relying on shadow and light to determine the intensity of each tone.

As we explore this illusory horizon with our imagination, Krogh invites us to remember the feelings and perceptions that surround the setting sun. Yet, Krogh, as her work reveals, is no illusionist. She wants viewers to understand the mechanics of her creation, to see the subtle layers, simple folds and the measured applications of gleaming gold. My Golden Horizon will inspire a new awareness of the colours in the sky, and enable us to see the sun with new eyes."

Bradley Quinn, 2017











Seaweed Cyanotype, Triptych 2021 Paper, cyanotype 78 x 108 x 4 cm / frame Unique piece











Seaweed Cyanotype, Mosaic 2021 Paper, cyanotype 105 x 135 x 6,5 cm Unique piece



Seaweed Cyanotype 2021 Paper, cyanotype 79,5 x 110 x 4 cm Unique piece

ASTRID KROGH



Born in 1968, lives and works in Copenhagen, Denmark

After graduating in 1997 from the textile faculty at The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, School of Design, Astrid Krogh established her own studio the following year, where she started using optical fibers to create woven textiles, thereby weaving with light itself. As colored light is transmitted through the fibers, the textiles change appearance and transform the spaces around them. Krogh's point of departure from conventional textile design was not merely her fascination for light, but also her attraction to shape-morphing objects and shifting colorways. "I use light as both a material and a technology", Krogh explains. "The presence of light is an essential component of my work. Light enables my textiles to pulsate, change patterns and create an entire spectrum of ever-changing colorways".

Few artists speak this refined language as fluently as Astrid Krogh, who uses light to describe aspects of nature that words simply cannot. The lingua franca in Krogh's world describes the feelings evoked by the beauty of the dawn, and the emotions stirred when the sunset streaks extraordinary colors across the sky. Her vocabulary is nuanced by sensory experiences, which are articulated through a lexicon of color and light. Krogh's vernacular encompasses the ripples that cause sunlight to sparkle on the surface of a lake, and the surging, blue tinted waves that change color as they break on the shore.

Widely recognized as one of the most pioneering Scandinavian artists in the field of light installations and textile art, Krogh is working at the intersection between art, architecture and design. Krogh's works have been exhibited in various international institutions, such as the Boston Fine Art Museum; Le Musée Eugène Delacroix, Paris; Tournai International Triennial of Contemporary Textile Arts, Belgium; Malmö Kunstmuseum, Sweden; the Tefaf Maastricht Fair, Holland and Design Miami/Basel, Switzerland. Krogh's works are included in important museum collections, such as the Designmuseum Danmark and the 21C Museum International Contemporary Art Foundation. Krogh has been making monumental light installations and site-specific commissions for private and public collections, such as the 21C Museum International Contemporary Art Foundation in Cincinnati, the Danish Parliament in Copenhagen; the Longchamp Flagship store in Paris; the Danish University Center in Beijing, China, and the Maersk building in Copenhagen. Krogh's pieces are published in important books about contemporary textiles, architecture and design, and the artist has won several prizes, including the Thorvald Bindesboell Medal, the Inga & Ejvind Kold Christensen Prize, the Annual Honorary Grant of the National Bank of Denmark, the Finn Juhl Architecture Prize and the CODA Awards.

ASTRID KROGH

Born 1968, Denmark

Selected Private & Public Collections / Commissions:

Designmuseum Danmark, Copenhagen, Denmark

Trapholt Museum of Contemporary Art, Kolding, Denmark

21C Museum International Contemporary Art Foundation, Cincinnati, USA

The Danish Parliament, Copenhagen, Denmark

Nya Karolinsky Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden

University of Kentucky HealthCare, Lexington, USA

The Danish University Center, Beijing, China

Longchamp, Paris, France

Danish Library, Copenhagen, Denmark

Danish State Railways, Denmark

- 2021 Rytm, Upssala Kommun, Uppsala Central Station, Uppsala, Sweden Drottning Silvias, Nya Barn-och Ungdomssjukhus, Goteborg, Sweden
- 2020 Løvfald Axeltorv, Nakskov, Denmark
- 2019 Goldenrod. University of Kentucky Healthcare, Lexington, USA
- 2018 A Square of the Universe. Designmuseum Danmark, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2017 Commission, Church, Rigshositalet, Copenhagen, Denmark Commission, Danish University Centre, Beijing, China
- 2016 Commission, Children Hospital, Göteborg, Sweden

Commission, Church, Rigshositalet, Copenhagen, Denmark

2015 Commission, Nya Karolinska Solna, Stockholm, Sweden

Commission Teglverkets School, Oslo, Norway

Commission, Malmø Högskola, Sweden

Commission, Nykøbing Katedralskole, Denmark

Commission, Printemps Paris, France

- 2014 Commission, Longchamp, Paris, France
 - Commission, 21C Museum Hotel, Durham, North Carolina, USA

Sketch for Frederiksbergbyggeriet, Århus, Denmark

2013 Askim Ungdomsskole, Norway

Sketch, Hospital Lillebælt, Denmark

2012 Lightmail, 21C Museum Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA

Private commission, Morild, Paris, France

2011 Kamelia, 4 x 4m Neontapestry, Kolding, Denmark Sketch, Two Tunnels Project, Bath, UK

Sketch, Högskolen, Oslo, Norway

- 2010 Myriad, 5 x 5m Light tapestry, Ceremony Room, Halden Prison, Norway
- 2009 Vollsmose Kulturhus, 4 x 4m Light mobile, Odense, Denmark

Gigantium, 5 x 6m Neontapestry, Aalborg, Denmark

- 2008 Flower of Life, Light mobile, Sittard Hospital, The Netherlands
- 2007 Light fall, NRGI Aarhus (SHL architects) Light tapestry, Aarhus, Denmark Flora. Kolding Commune, 12 x 11m Neon wallpaper, Kolding, Denmark Coral, Birkerød Aktivitetscenter, 5 x 5m Swimming Pool Mosaic, Denmark
- 2006 Snow flakes, Løvåsen Sykehjem, Bergen, Norway Facade, 8 x 100m, Birkerød Aktivitetscenter, Denmark

Sketch, S. Gabbana, Portofino, Italy

- 2005 Glasfacades, Frederiksberg Slots Ridehus, Denmark Grønnegades Kulturcenter, Næstved. Neon tapestry, Denmark
- 2003 Polytics, Neon Tapestry The Danish Parliament, Christiansborg, Denmark Ornament. 2,6 x 3,6m Neon tapestry, The National Art Foundation, Denmark
- 2002 Reception, DSB, Sølvgade. Glass facade in optic fibers, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2001 DSB, Sølvgade, 8 x 12m Carpet, Copenhagen, Denmark

Mærsk Data A/S, Vibenhus Runddel. Steel & neon weaving. Copenhagen, Denmark

2000 Design for Velux A/S, Denmark

1999 The Royal Library, Copenhagen, Denmark

Diamanten, Copenhagen, Denmark

Solo Exhibitions

2021 Space Odyssey, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Paris, France

- 2016 Remembering Landscapes, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Paris, France
- 2015 National Bank, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2012 SKY, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Paris, France
- 2011 Design Miami/Basel, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Basel, Switzerland
- 2010 Gallery NB, Viborg, Denmark
- 2006 Ideal House 2006, IMM Messe, Cologne, Germany
- 2005 Potential Volumes by Light. Malmø Kunstmuseum, Malmø, Sweden
- 2002 Tapeter. Det Dansk Kunstindustrimuseum, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2000 Light Mail, Trapholt Museum of Contemporary Art, Kolding, Denmark

Group Exhibitions

- 2021 COSMOS. Design From Here and Beyond. CID Grand Hornu, Belgium Matter at Hand, Hostler Burrows Gallery, New York, USA Design Miami Basel, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Switzerland In A Slow Manner, Maison du Danemark, Paris, France Radiant. Light and (e)Motion, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Paris, France
- 2020 Nouvelle Vague, Scandinavian Art & Design 1999-2020, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Paris, France
 - TEFAF Maastricht, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2019 Design Miami Basel, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Basel, Switzerland PAD London, Galerie Maria Wettergren, London, UK PAD Paris, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Paris, France
- 2018 The Salon Art + Design, Galerie Maria Wettergren, New York, USA Design Miami Basel, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Basel, Switzerland
- 2017 Design Miami Basel, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Basel, Switzerland PAD London, Galerie Maria Wettergren, London, UK PAD Paris, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Paris, France
- 2016 Design Nu, Designmuseum Denmark, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2015 Crafted: Objects in Flux, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, USA Design Miami Basel, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Basel, Switzerland Textile Art of Today, Bratislava, Slovakia
- 2014 Design Miami Basel, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Basel, Switzerland Designers Days, Musée de la Chasse et de la Nature, Paris, France Building with Textiles, Textile Museum, Tilburg, The Netherlands PAD London, Galerie Maria Wettergren, London, UK PAD Paris, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Paris, France
- 2013 Design Miami Basel, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Basel, Switzerland PAD Paris, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Paris, France The Rijswijk Textile Biennial 2013, The Netherlands Mindcraft, Il Saloni, Milan, Italy
- Installations Nordiques, Musée Nationale Eugène Delacroix, Paris, France 2012 PAD London, Galerie Maria Wettergren, London, UK
 - PAD Paris, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Paris, France
 Movements, Risør Kunstpark, Norway
 Design Miami Basel, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Basel, Switzerland
- Design Miami, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Miami, USA 2011 PAD Paris, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Paris, France

Tournai International Triennial of Contemporary Textile Arts, Tournai, Belgium

Design Miami, Galerie Maria Wettergren, Miami, USA

2010 Galerie Maria Wettergren, Paris, France

It's a Small World, Shanghai, China

Cosmos, KunstCentret Silkeborg Bad, Silkeborg, Denmark

Il Saloni, Danish Crafts, Milan, Italy

2009 Il Saloni, Danish Crafts, Milan, Italy

It's a Small World, Danish Design Centre, Copenhagen, Denmark

2008 Il Saloni, Danish Crafts, Milan, Italy

2007 The Biennale for Craft & Design, Kolding, Denmark

2006 Honey I'm Home, Danish Design Centre, Copenhagen, Denmark

2005 5th Textile Art Biennale, Kaunas, Lithuania

Index 2005 Danish Design Centre, Copenhagen, Denmark

Konsthandverk 2005. Roda Sten, Göteborg, Sweden

Danish - Framing the Future of Design', The Danish Center

Use It, Dansk Design Center, Tokyo, Japan

2004 STUFF, Danish Crafts, Toronto, Canada

The 11th International Triennial of Tapestry, Lodz, Poland

2003 Scandinavian Design Beyond the Myth, Kunstgewerbemuseum, Berlin, Germany Derfor Danish Craft, Paustian, Copenhagen, Denmark

2002 Fremtidens Tradition, Danish Craft, Paris, France

2001 Young Nordic Design: The Generation X. Scandinavia House, New York Washington,

Mexico, Finland (Design forum), Berlin (Det Nordiske Hus)

2000 Danish Wave, China

Prizes

2016 CODA Awards

2016 Finn Juhl prisen

2013 Inga og Ejvind Kold Christensens Fonds hæderspris

2012 Knud V Engelhardts Mindelegat

2008 Thorvald Bindesbøll Medaljen

2003 Ole Haslunds Kunstnerfond

2001 Martha og Paul René Gauguins Fond

Grants

2015 The Annual Honorary grant of the National Bank

2012 Statens Kunstfond, Danish Solarfonden, udstillingslegat (+ 2006, 2009, 2011)

2012 Augustinus Fonden (+2000)

2011 Danish Crafts (+2007, 2009)

2010 Grosserer L.F. Foghts (+2000)

2007 Rejselegat, Kulturministeriets designpulje NON NOBIS FONDEN

2006 Gammel Dok Pakhus, København (+1999, 2000, 2001, 2003)

2004 Danmarks Nationalbanks Jubilæumsfond af 1968 (+2002)

2002 Statens Kunstfond's 3-årige arbeidslegat

Thomas B. Thriges Fond

Augustinus Fonden

Politikenfonden

Arbejdslegat, Statens Værksteder for Kunst og Håndværk

Other

2014 - 2018 Chairman. Project Support Committee, Crafts & Design, Danish Arts Foundation

2013 Board member for Denmark's Nationalbanks Jubilæumsfond af 1968

2010 Board member of Trapholt - Museum for art, design and Handicraft, Kolding

2006 Boardmember of "Kulturkanonen", Danish Ministry of Culture

2005 Leader of workshop Northern Fibre 06, Finland

2004 Curator, Biennale 2004 (Danish Craft)

2000 Member of 'Stroom'. Den Haags centrum voor beeldende kunst, Holland



