

# **NICOLAI HOWALT BOOK BECOMES AN EXHIBITION AT NIKOLAJ KUNSTHAL**

**This autumn you can experience 82 images created by internationally acknowledged Danish photographer Nicolai Howalt at Nikolaj Kunsthal. His original photographs developed on antique paper from his book 'Old Tjikko' will be presented at the Upper Gallery of the art centre , thus for the first time making it possible to get completely close to the works.**

## ***Variations of Old Tjikko***

The photo exhibition *Variations of Old Tjikko* enables you to get a close artistic experience of the world's oldest tree, the roots of which date back more than 9,500 years.

In 2015, Danish artist Nicolai Howalt went to the Fulufjället National Park in Dalarna, Sweden, in order to photograph the old spruce known as *Old Tjikko*. Using a single photographic negative from this journey, Howalt has developed the same image of Old Tjikko on different kinds and sizes of old, outdated and obsolete photographic paper. The structure, provenance and age of these papers together cause Old Tjikko to appear in a series of highly distinctive artistic variations. The papers, some of which date back to the 1940's, themselves create an artistic impression, adding an aesthetic and meditative layer to the thousands of years old tree.

The exhibition has been created specifically for the Nikolaj Kunsthal Upper Gallery as an extension of Nicolai Howalt's book 'Old Tjikko', and this is the first time these photographs are exhibited together.

## **An installation concerned with time**

The meeting of tree, motif and the photographic development process creates a space in which time and expression are defined by the photographic materials. Due to the age of these papers, the silver of their photographic emulsion has become unpredictable and uncontrollable, thus making each image entirely unique, even though they depict the same object. The diversity of these papers seems to reveal glimpses of a distant and different time. Dormant traces have been brought to life by Howalt, and his image of a tree, frozen in time, also comes

across as an image of the changing millennia, evoking another, almost incomprehensible, timeline.

Nicolai Howalt is a Danish visual artist living and working in Copenhagen and one of the most acclaimed Danish photographers. He has created a large series of exhibitions both in Denmark and internationally, and he has taught at art schools in several European countries.

The exhibition *Variations of Old Tjikko* can be seen at the Upper Gallery of Nikolaj Kunsthal from August 28 2020 to January 24 2021.

Opening on August 27, 2pm to 6pm

Artist talk with Nicolai Howalt on August 29, 11am to 12am