

Daniel Hansen

The point of origin for Daniel Hansen's works is the awareness for the fact that every recording and mediation of history always is to a certain degree subjective and in the end not more than a story. Hansen is especially interested in the questions which kind of symbolic meaning is attached to specific places and often geological objects within the depiction of 'facts' and how they can and should contribute to the credibility of information. After intensive research and the preoccupation with historical material which often is situated in a Scandinavian or Nordic context, the artist creates digitally edited photographs of minerals, plants or landscapes taken in an almost scientific way. In combination with rewritten or self-written texts on a window, a brass plaque and paper, the story gets transformed to a parallel story with a poetic character.

Hansen's work 'An Island Between' tells its viewer about the scientific exploration, history and the claim of an island between two lands which functions as a symbol for conflicts connected to fossil resources. Hansen places a small descriptive text on a dark table next to a semi-authentic, geological artefact that is a small stone fragment surrounded by air bubbles, encased in epoxy resin which supposedly was found on the island. Two bright lights rise above the object, adding to its already museal impression. There might be some truth to this history about the island. We may discover it or not. However, Hansen does not give us an explanation of which parts belong to the world of fiction or reality. It is rather the artist's intent to lead us to a more reflective and critical mindset and let us realize - in times of fake news and postcolonial discussions - that things are not always as they seem or are portrayed.

Daniel Hansen (b. 1991) studied creative photography in Sweden and visual arts in Trondheim and Oslo, Norway. Hansen's first publication 'Grönland' was also his diploma project. Already before his graduation, Hansen's project 'The History of Botany' was exhibited in two solo shows at Galleri Fisk in Bergen and Fotogalleriet in Oslo. In autumn 2018, Hansen's series 'Lapidarium' was part of two group shows in Oslo and Norway. The second part of the series 'An island Between' will be exhibited in Stavanger in the end of April 2019. Hansen lives and works in Oslo. For more information about his projects, exhibitions and publications, please visit www.danielhansen.se