

Almost not spoken yet by the artist duo Hesselholdt & Mejlvang is a sensory and poetic total installation, where visual, tactile, and auditory elements are woven together into a larger, holistic experience.

The exhibition explores the connections that bind us across continents, cultures, and generations, highlighting the shared "We" in a world marked by fragmentation. Visitors are invited to reflect on our global history and interconnectedness, as well as the exchanges of materials, craftsmanship, visual expressions, ideas, food culture, and ways of life that have shaped our collective existence over time.

Almost not spoken yet insists on a language that transcends the vocabulary of division, instead emphasizing humanity, care, and presence. At the heart of the exhibition is the origin of materials and the time-consuming, delicate craftsmanship behind each individual artwork.

Textiles

Textiles play a recurring role in the exhibition. Over the years, Hesselholdt & Mejlvang have collected fabric from different parts of the world—textiles with visible traces of use, bearing stories and imprints from past lives. Flag-like objects, adorned with meticulously embroidered motifs and phrases sourced from news media, travels, and books, function as echoes of reality. The textiles are mounted on flagpoles made from various types of wood, each carrying its own story of origin and significance.

Please rest in peace for we shall not repeat the error

The work *Please rest in peace for we shall not repeat the error*, from 2018 is compiled from white pieces of cloth, stitched together in a large patchwork, with the title of the work embroidered across the surface.

The title of the work refers to Flame of Peace that burns in Hiroshima, Japan. The flame honours the victims of the atomic bomb that destroyed the city in 1945, but also has an additional symbolic purpose: the flame has burned continuously since it was lit in 1964, and will remain lit until all nuclear bombs on the planet are dismantled and the planet is free from the threat of nuclear annihilation. The artists asked people from around the globe to send them pieces of cloth and the personal stories woven into them. All these pieces of memory canvas are stitched together in the work and the stories are presented in written form, framed on the wall.

Acknowledgments

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Hesselholdt & Mejlvang

Sofie Hesselholdt (b. 1974) and Vibeke Mejlvang (b. 1976) are a Danish artist duo who have been working together since 1999. Their work explores concepts such as gender, power, and collective identity, and how these interact with and influence socio-political structures. Hesselholdt & Mejlvang's work is rooted in a deep engagement with the world, often incorporating performance, flags, installations, and active use of public space in their projects.

Site-specificity plays a crucial role, whether manifested outdoors in a remote forest, on an LED truck, on billboards, in a newspaper, as a tattoo, or within an art institution.

The artist duo created the work: *Native, Exotic, Normal / Circle of Flags* in 2016, which became part of the Horsens Art Museum collection in 2021. The artwork is located in Lunden and can be experienced year-round.