

*Art in the social space.* The Nordic Center of Contemporary Art in Xiamen 2024.

The theme for the Danish group opening an exhibition at The Nordic Center of Contemporary Art in Xiamen, Southern China, on March 31, 2024:

#### THE EXISTENTIAL, SUSTAINABLE, AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE OF VISUAL ARTS

Art is always the result of new confrontations with reality and a striving to capture new insights into both the inner and outer worlds. Artists open up a new experiential space that contains markers towards new meaningful orientations, as well as revelations of false values. However, the visual artist also creates an independent experiential space, different from what poetry produces. This is because the visual language of artists is more intense and perceptible than even the poet's language. Through the artistic interpretation, the seen is experienced as something current, expressive, and present, generating new and unexpected ideas that are both larger and different from those we know from our everyday reality. Art also has an interdisciplinary aspect because it often contains visual dialogues with science and poetry and often - in a concrete and present way - reveals new perspectives in them.

Finally, over the past five decades, artists have increasingly emphasized that viewers - both children and adults - can be actively drawn into the artistic universe and stimulated to uncover new orientations, create new connections to the people around them, and discover new social and ethical obligations. Art operates in diverse ways in both cultural and social spaces.

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