MILKSHAKE #4

Christine Clemmesen and Minh Ngoc Nguyen

MELK Elisenbergveien 7 0265 Oslo

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• 06.05 - 29.06.2025

Christine Clemmesen (b. 1979) graduated from The Slade School of Fine Art in London with an MFA in Sculpture and from Glasgow School of Art with a BA in Photography.

Recent exhibitions include Møstingshus, Tørreloft, Arden Asbæk, Alice Folker Gallery, Rønnebæksholm Kunsthalle, Vandrehallen, Gæsteværelset/ Tone Bonnén, and Center for Photography. She is the recipient of a number of grants and awards and was nominated in 2022 for the FOAM Paul Huf Award for her photographic work.

Minh Ngoc Nguyen (b. 1992) holds an MFA in Photography from HDK-Valand in Gothenburg and a BA in Visual Communication from the Danish School of Media and Journalism in Copenhagen.

He has exhibited at Galleri Andréhn-Schiptjenko, CHART Art Fair, NEVVEN, Oblong, Fotografisk Center, and Röda Sten Konsthall, among others. His work is represented in the collections of KIASMA Helsinki, Danish Arts Foundation, Region Västra Götaland, Göteborg Stad, Nacka Kommun and Jönköpings kommun. MELK – Elisenbergveien 7, 0265 Oslo

MELK is excited to present MILKSHAKE #4, a duo exhibition with Copenhagen-based artists Christine Clemmesen and Minh Ngoc Nguyen. Two artists who explore materiality and image culture through distinct photographic approaches, yet both engage in contextualizing and questioning the boundaries of the still life genre.

Christine Clemmesen works with photography in an approach that challenges traditional representation. Her images consist of layers of narrative and experience in poetic and abstract forms. A primary focus is on the materiality of the prints, which are often on unconventional materials such as stained glass, silk, color filters and marble. The handmade artist frames function as a kind of press, where material is clamped between the image and the glass front and held as a pressed form – a sculptural translation of what a camera does.

Her focus is not on technical perfection, but on awareness of the medium. Clemmesen works anti-dogmatically with photography – regardless of whether it is analog or digital, sharp, or blurry, large or small. What is crucial is how the medium shapes the expression. The temporal dimension of photography is particularly poetic and a central part of her practice. It contains the ability to both abstract and precisely recognize the world, which makes it ideal for her investigations. This ability creates depth, where time and perception overlap and shift in a narrative that balances between documentary and fiction, and between action and composition. Minh Ngoc Nguyen merges pop imagery and stereotypes with a savvy, witty visual language that's both personal and universal. Drawing on his background in commercial photography, he creates striking, humorous, and relevant images, often in the still-life realm. By remixing Southeast Asian vernacular through a distinctly European lens, informed by post-internet tropes and contemporary image culture, he builds a visual language that reflects both glossy pop culture and layered identity.

Nguyen's artistic practice is rooted in photography – not only as a medium but also as a subject in itself. He primarily works with still life imagery, driven by a desire to explore photography's potential to both inform and manipulate our collective understandings of culture and identity.

Drawing from his Vietnamese heritage, he investigates Eurocentric representations of his culture and the ways in which visual pop culture distills and portrays Southeast Asia at large. He examines what is considered and labeled as "Asian," and how these portrayals have influenced his perception of cultural identity.

Crushed Crush (2022) Minh Ngoc Nguyen 41 x 31 cm Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle FineArt Pearl, frame Edition of 3 + 2 AP \bigcirc 1,400 + 5 % art tax

Untitled (2023) Minh Ngoc Nguyen 41 x 31 cm Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle FineArt Pearl, frame Edition of 3 + 2 AP \bigcirc 1,400 + 5 % art tax

Loom of the Fruit (2024) Minh Ngoc Nguyen 81×61 cm Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle FineArt Pearl, frame Edition of 3 + 2 AP $\in 2,850$ + 5 % art tax

Joyous Jack (2024) Minh Ngoc Nguyen 41 x 51 cm Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle FineArt Pearl, frame Edition of 3 + 2 AP €1,800

Substitutive Grin (2022) Minh Ngoc Nguyen 41 x 31 cm Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle FineArt Pearl, frame Edition of 3 + 2 AP \bigcirc 1,400 + 5 % art tax











Bitter Massage (2021) Minh Ngoc Nguyen $81 \times 41 \text{ cm}$ Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle FineArt Pearl, frame Edition of 3 + 2 AP $\pounds 2,500$ + 5 % art tax

This Narrow Room (2024) Christine Clemmesen 143 x 93 x 6 cm Photographic print on dibond, print on silk, custom-made frame in European cherry and mahogany Unique 95.000 NOK + 5 % art tax

Factum Combined (2024) Christine Clemmesen 122 x 82 x 8 cm Photographic print on dibond, aluminium, coloured gel, custom-made frame Unique 85.000 NOK + 5 % art tax

Handed to Eyes #1 (2024) Christine Clemmesen 36 x 46 x 2,5 cm Polaroid mounted on card, glass, card w drawing, aluminium frame Unique 16.000 NOK + 5 % art tax

Handed to Eyes #2 (2024) Christine Clemmesen 36 x 46 x 2,5 cm Polaroid mounted on card, print on silk, aluminium, aluminium frame Unique 16.000 NOK + 5 % art tax











Now What (2024) Christine Clemmesen 122 x 82 x 8 cm Photographic print on silk, custom-made frame Unique 85.000 NOK + 5 % art tax

Topical Moonlight (2024) Christine Clemmesen 122 x 82 x 8 cm Photographic print on silk, custom-made frame Unique 85.000 NOK + 5 % art tax

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Curving Swoop (2024) Christine Clemmesen 143 x 93 x 6 cm Photographic print on dibond, coloured gel, cast bronze, custom-made frame in European cherry and mahogany Unique 95.000 NOK + 5 % art tax

Handed to Eyes #3-8 (2024) Christine Clemmesen 36 x 46 x 2,5 cm Polaroid and mixed media, aluminium frame Unique 16.000 NOK each + 5 % art tax





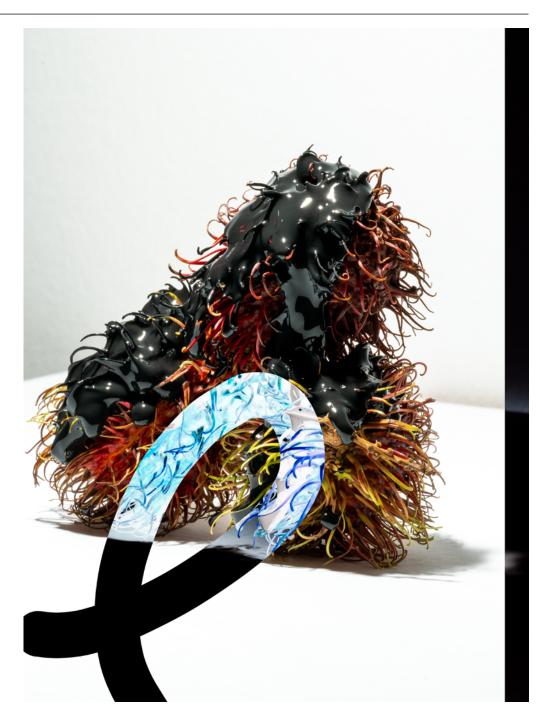




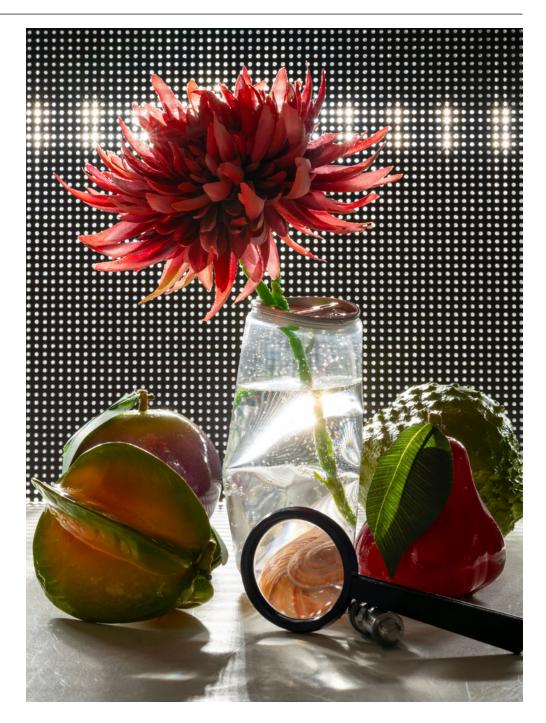




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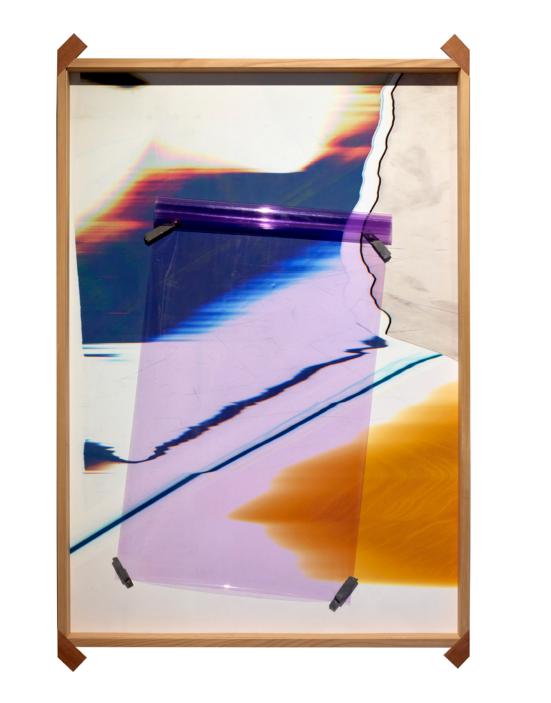
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Handed to Eyes #3 (2024) Christine Clemmesen 36 x 46 x 2,5 cm Photographic print on silk, coloured gel, glass, aluminium frame Unique 16.000 NOK



Handed to Eyes #4 (2024) Christine Clemmesen 36 x 46 x 2,5 cm Photographic print on silk, coloured gel, glass, aluminium frame Unique 16.000 NOK



Handed to Eyes #5 (2024) Christine Clemmesen 36 x 46 x 2,5 cm Photographic print on silk, coloured gel, glass, aluminium frame Unique 16.000 NOK



Handed to Eyes #6 (2024) Christine Clemmesen 36 x 46 x 2,5 cm Photographic print on silk, coloured gel, glass, aluminium frame Unique 16.000 NOK



Handed to Eyes #7 (2024) Christine Clemmesen 36 x 46 x 2,5 cm Photographic print on silk, coloured gel, glass, aluminium frame Unique 16.000 NOK



Handed to Eyes #8 (2024) Christine Clemmesen 36 x 46 x 2,5 cm Photographic print on silk, coloured gel, glass, aluminium frame Unique 16.000 NOK



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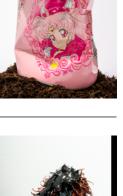
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