

Stenshede

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Three Lions and

A close-up photograph of a polished rock surface, likely granite or a similar igneous rock. The surface is covered in a dense, granular texture with various sizes of white and grey mineral inclusions. The lighting highlights the reflective nature of the polished surface.

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The Health

Claus Ørntoft

Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter

Three Lions and Nine Hearts

Claus Ørntoft ©
Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter
Three Lions and Nine Hearts

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Forord

Preface

Hendes Majestæt Dronningen bad mig se på parken, inden vi mødtes første gang. Fordi Hendes Majestæt var optaget af, at løsningen skulle være stedsbestemt – at det ikke bare skulle være noget, der var dumpet ned fra ”det blå”. Men at det skulle forholde sig både arkitektonisk og indholdsmæssigt til stedet. Det er lige min boldgade!

The Queen asked me to look at the park before we met for the first time. Her Majesty was concerned that the solution be site specific. That it wasn't just something that looked as if it had simply fallen out of the sky but related to the site in terms of its content as well as architectonically.
That is just up my street!

Claus Ørntoft

Kunstner/Artist

*”Vi føre løver i vort skjold
af hjerter tæt omsatte,
dem førte vi fra hedenold
og ingen abekatte.”*

*“We carry lions on our shields
with hearts so closely wreathed,
from heathen times we carried them
- and not some minor apes.”*

Grundtvig

Jeg gik og kikkede på parken og spekulerede. Når nu Dronningen henvendte sig, syntes jeg, at løsningen skulle være en løve. Jeg har igennem hele min produktion haft løven med mig, fordi jeg har været optaget af de romanske stenmestre, som byggede de tidlige granitkirker i Danmark – og som brugte Dyret som sindbillede og Dyret som fortælling. Stenmestrene havde selvfølgelig aldrig set en løve, men de forstod fortællingen om det stærkeste dyr med store kræfter, som er svære at styre. Beskyttende, som vi kender dem fra døbefontene, men også som store kræfter, man skulle tage sig iagt for!

I walked around the park and pondered. Seeing as it was the Queen who had approached me, I thought a lion would be fitting. The figure of the lion has always been a feature of my production, because I have always been interested in the Romanesque stonemasons who built the early granite churches in Denmark and used the Animal as Emblem and Animal as Narrative. The stonemasons had never seen a lion before, but they understood the tale of the strongest animal, powerful and difficult to control. It is protective, as we can see in baptismal fonts, but also with great powers that one had to be wary of.

I kept circling around the theme of the lion - and SAW a lion standing abandoned in the large - in inverted commas - empty, park space.

Jeg var inde på forskellige andre løsninger, men løven blev ved med at rumstere, uden at jeg kunne bruge den til noget. Indtil jeg kom på, at der jo er tre løver i Rigsvåbenet. Pludseligt kunne jeg se, hvordan jeg i et enkelt greb kunne løse alle de krav, jeg havde til opgaven: At løsningen har et klart forhold til stedet, og at jeg indenfor våbenskjoldet som udgangspunkt havde fri bevægelighed, både indholds- mæssigt og arkitektonisk. Løverne indtager ube-

I looked at other possible solutions, but the idea of the lion kept resurfacing without any obvious way that I could use it. Then I realised that there are actually three lions in the Royal coat of arms. I suddenly saw a simple solution that would fulfill all the requirements: The solution would have a clear relationship to the location and, within the coat of arms, which I had taken as my starting point, had free movement, both in terms of content as well as



Claus Ørntoft

Til venstre: Hendes Majestæt Dronning Margrethe II og Claus Ørntoft til afsløringen i Marselisborg Slotspark
To the left: Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II and Claus Ørntoft at the unveiling ceremony in Marselisborg Palace Park

sværet området foran slottet og gør det til sit territorium. De skaber retning i rummet og rum imellem sig uden egentlig at røre parken.

architectonically. The lions occupy the area in front of the palace with ease, and make it their territory. They create direction in the space and the spaces in between them without actually touching the park.

Altså: De tre løver er sprunget ud af våbenskjoldet i en fri tolkning. Hjerterne er drysset ud og ligger som et indirekte hint til Rigsvåbenet. Og så sidder der jo også tre løver på slottets gavl!

Thus, the three lions have leapt out of the coat of arms in a free interpretation. The hearts are scattered around them and create an oblique reference to the coat of arms. And there are also three lions on the palace's gable!

Da jeg fik idéen, tænkte jeg, at det skulle være tre sejrende løver, som indtog parken, og at det var ligetil! Men da jeg gik fra idé til proces, indså jeg hurtigt, at det var en umulig opgave at lave sejrende løver, fordi det i min verden ville repræsentere det fuldkomne og blive et postulat. Og at det derfor måtte være en proces mod det sejrende. Senere i arbejdet måtte jeg konstatere, at det er tre løver i en proces.

When I got the idea, I thought that it would be three triumphant lions that occupied the park and that it would be easy! But when I went from idea to process, I quickly realised that creating triumphant lions was an impossible task, because in my world it would represent perfection and would become a postulate. And that it thus had to be a process towards triumph. Later in the process I realised that these are three lions are in the midst of a process.

Tak til Deres Majestæt for tilliden.

Thank you, Your Majesty, for your confidence in me.

Processen har været tidskrævende – næsten 5 år fra 2008 til 2012 – og mange har bidraget til arbejdet. En stor tak til Aarhus Kommune og de andre gavegivere for, at værket er blevet realiseret, og tusind tak til alle, der direkte eller indirekte har medvirket til realisering af skulpturerne og udstillingerne og til færdiggørelse af denne publikation.

The process has been time consuming - almost 5 year from 2008 to 2012 - and many have contributed to the work. A big thank you to Aarhus Municipality and the other gift donors for realizing the completion of the work, and thank you to all those who directly or indirectly have contributed to the accomplishment of the sculptures and the exhibitions, and to the completion of this publication.

Mygdal, maj 2013

Mygdal, May 2013



At se en verden i et sandkorn

To see a World in a Grain of Sand

*Else Marie Bukdahl
Dr. phil.
Adjungeret professor/Adjunct Professor*

*"At se en verden i et sandkorn
og en himmel i en vild blomst,
holde uendeligheden i sin hånd
og evigheden i en time."*

*"To see a World in a Grain of Sand
And a Heaven in a Wild Flower,
Hold Infinity in the Palm of your Hand
And Eternity in an Hour"*

William Blake

Meget ofte bliver man præsenteret for følgende spørgsmål: Hvad kan billedkunst betyde for det enkelte menneskes forsøg på at orientere sig i en ofte uoverskuelig verden og for samfundsudviklingen som sådan? Et af svarene på dette spørgsmål er, at billedkunsten formidler en indsigt om os selv og verden omkring os, som det verbale sprog ikke kan udtrykke på samme måde og i visse tilfælde slet ikke kan indfange. Hvis vi overhovedet ikke interesserer os for billedkunst, er der derfor mange oplevelser og forskellige former for viden om både den ydre og indre verden, som vi går glip af. Og netop fordi det billedkunstneriske sprog er så intenst og så stofligt, kan det gøre små aspekter og omfattende perspektiver i vor verden særligt nærværende og vedkommende. Endelig har især skulpturen en sjælden evne til at give det sted, hvor den er anbragt, en ny identitet, etablere uventede visuelle inspirerende dialoger med omgivelserne og skabe nye rammer for poetiske oplevelser i et travlt og ofte gråt hverdagsliv.

One is often presented with the following question: What is the significance of visual art for the individual's attempts to orientate themselves in an often-confusing world and for the development of society as a whole? One of the answers to this question is that visual art conveys an insight into ourselves and the world around us which verbal language cannot express in the same way and in some circumstances cannot capture at all. If we are not interested in visual art at all, then there will be many experiences and different forms of knowledge about the internal and external world that we will miss out on. And it is precisely because the language of visual art is so intense and so material that it can make small aspects and wide-ranging perspectives in our world particularly immediate and relevant. Finally, sculpture in particular has the unusual ability to provide the location in which it is situated with a new identity, to establish unexpected, visually inspiring dialogues with its surroundings and to create new settings for poetic experiences in a busy and often drab daily life.

The great Italian Renaissance artist Leonardo da Vinci highlighted the special knowledge that exists, which is expressed in the language of the visual arts and "does not speak with words (and even less with numbers)". This knowledge expresses itself "with the help of the works of art, which exist and which are visible in the same way as natural things. It announces itself through the works to all the ages of the universe". This is - the French philosopher Merleau Ponty points out - a case of "silent knowledge" which transfers forms to artworks from things that "have not been drawn out of their hiding", as the



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Claus Ørntoft



Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

*Udvikling af form og bevægelse i skitser
Development of form and movement in sketches*

henvender sig til øjet. Man må forstå øjet som sjælens vindue". Det drejer sig derfor først og fremmest om at fokusere på de aspekter af vor verden, som vi overser, men som alene billedkunstnerne har blik for og kan udtrykke gennem de kunstneriske virkemidler. Gennem billedkunsten bliver ukendte aspekter af vor verden afdækket.

German poet Rilke said in reference to the French sculptor Rodin. This knowledge emanates from the eye and is intended for the eye. The eye should be regarded as the window of the soul" 1). It is first and foremost a matter of focusing on the aspects of our world that we overlook, but which only the visual artist can see and is able to express through artistic means. Through the visual arts, unknown aspects of our world are uncovered.

I mere end femogtyve år har den fremtrædende

billedhugger Claus Ørntoft skabt en perlerække af granitskulpturer, der først og fremmest er placeret i det offentlige rum, både i Danmark og i andre nordiske lande (Norge, Island, Grønland). Det er altid

lykkedes ham at skabe skulpturværker, der ikke alene er præget af en overbevisende kunstnerisk kvalitet, men også opretter et netværk af visuelle dialoger med omgivelserne. Hans skulpturprojekter i det offentlige rum er derfor altid stedspecifikke, idet de fremhæver den særlige karakter, der præger det sted, hvor de bliver placeret. Og når de bliver anbragt i anonyme miljøer, giver de dem en ny identitet og en ny profil.

For over twenty years, the prominent sculptor Claus Ørntoft has created a string of granite sculptures, which are situated first and foremost in public spaces, both in Denmark as well as other Nordic countries (Norway, Iceland, Greenland). He has always managed to create sculptural works which are not only characterised by a compelling artistic quality, but also establish a network of visual dialogues with their surroundings. His sculpture commissions in the public space are thus always site-specific, because they accentuate the particular character marking the location in which they are situated. And when they are situated in anonymous environments, they give them a new identity and new profile.

Begyndelsen

Da Claus Ørntoft i 2008 begyndte at arbejde på et stort nyt skulpturprojekt, der skulle placeres i parken ved Marselisborg Slot, var det første han gjorde, at studere stedet meget grundigt.

Marselisborg Slot er opført af arkitekt Hack Kampmann i 1899-1902 som folkegave til det nygifte prinsepar, senere Kong Christian 10. og Dronning Alexandrine og tilhører i dag Kongeparrets barne-

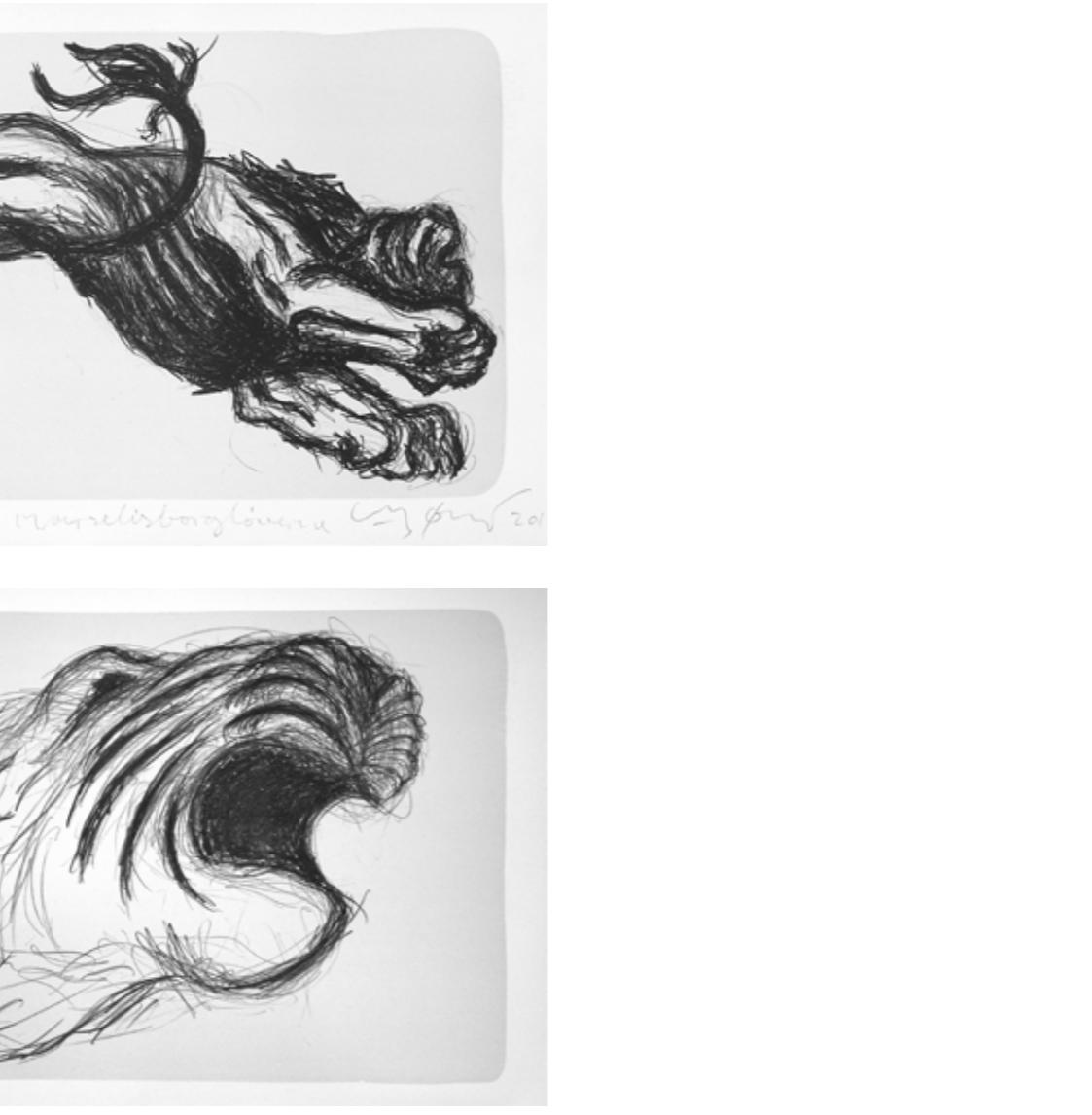
The Beginning
When Claus Ørntoft started work in 2008 on a large new sculpture commission to be situated in the park at Marselisborg Palace, the first thing he did was to study the site in great detail.

Marselisborg Palace was built by the architect Hack Kampmann between 1899-1902 as a public gift to the newlywed crown prince couple, later King Christian X and Queen Alexandra. The palace and

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Claus Ørntoft

*Udvikling af form og bevægelse, tegning direkte på sten
(litografier)*

*Development of form and movement, drawing directly on stone
(lithographs)*



Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

barn Hennes Majestæt Dronning Margrethe 2. og Hans Kongelige Højhed Prinsgemalen. Den ca. 13 ha store park blev etableret af anlæggsgartner L. Chr. Diederichsen og præget af den romantiske engelske havestil. Parken rummer bl.a. skrånende græsplæner omgivet af træer, små sører og små bakker med lav bevoksning. Også en rosenpark og en køkkenhave er blevet anlagt i parken. Når Kongefamilien ikke har residens på slottet, er parken tilgængelig for offentligheden.

Claus Ørntofts analyser af alle de små nuancer og de større anlæg i parken indgik i hans undersøgelser af, hvor projektet skulle placeres. Han stillede sig først og fremmest følgende spørgsmål: Hvordan kan jeg skabe et skulpturprojekt, der både kan blive en integreret del af parken og kan tilføre den nye perspektiver og nye kunstneriske kvaliteter. Resultatet af disse mange studier blev, at han begyndte at arbejde med et projekt, der med fordel kunne anbringes på den grønne flade, der afslutter den skrånende græsplæne, der vender mod sydøst. Han blev efterhånden overbevist om, at det ville være optimalt at lade de tre løver i Danmarks rigsvåben, så at sige springe ud af dette og i en fri fortolkning løbe ned ad den plane del af græsplænen. Netop rigsvåbenet rummer, som han har udtrykt det - "så megen symbolik", der bliver visualiseret i løveskulpturerne.

Han kom ligeledes til det resultat, at de røde hjerter i rigsvåbenet også med fordel kunne forlade deres faste plads og få et nyt tilholdssted i det grønne sammen med de tre skulpturelle løver. Denne beslutning resulterede i, at løverne både kunne referere til rigsvåbenet og blive frie dyr, der kunne være i stand til

its park can only be inherited by the reigning monarch and today it belongs to the couple's grandchild, Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II. The approximately 13 hectare park was established by the landscape architect L. Chr. Diedrichsen and is in the English Romantic landscape style.

The park has sloping lawns surrounded by trees, small lakes and low hills with vegetation. A rose garden and a herb garden have also been established in the park. When the Royal family is not in residence at the Palace, the park is open to the public.

Claus Ørntoft's analyses of all the small details and the larger plantings in the park were a part of his considerations of where the commission should be situated. He asked himself, first and foremost, the following question: How to create a new sculpture commission, which could become both an integral part of the park, whilst also providing it with new perspectives and new creative qualities. These detailed studies resulted in him commencing work on a project which would benefit from being placed on the green surface at the end of the sloping, southeast-facing lawn. He gradually became convinced that it would be best to let the three lions from Denmark's national coat of arms, leap out of it, and in a free interpretation, run down the level stretch of lawn. The national coat of arms has, as he puts it - "so much of the symbolism" that is visualised in sculptures of lions.

He also came to the conclusion that the red hearts in the national coat of arms would benefit from leaving their usual location and being given a new stomping ground on the green, alongside the three sculpted li-

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Claus Ørntoft

**Modeller i målforhold 1:14
Models scale 1:14**

at forholde sig til parken og omskabe det sted, hvor de blev anbragt, til en ny lokalitet med en ny profil. De fritliggende hjerter ville komme til at fremhæve denne nye profil. Claus Ørntoft besluttede, at alle tre løveskulpturer skulle være i bevægelse. Han forestillede sig, at de havde bevæget sig i heftig fart ned langs den skrånende græsplæne og fortsatte deres spring, løb og andre bevægelser på den plane græsflade. De ville kunne skabe nye blikretninger i rummet, som de erobrer, og også etablere rum mellem sig. De skulle placeres på en sådan måde i forhold til den offentlige sti, at parkens gæster næsten ville blive trukket ind mellem dem og blive en del af dem, blive aktive deltagere, når de bevæger sig på vej mod andre mål.

Efter at placeringen af projektet med de tre skulpturelle løver var fastlagt, begyndte han at arbejde på at finde ud af, hvorledes selve skabelsesprocessen skulle forløbe.

Skitser og modeller

Den første del af skabelsesprocessen bestod af tegnede skitser. Claus Ørntoft lavede en lang række tegninger af de tre skulpturelle løver for at finde frem til den optimale komposition og bevægelsesrytme.

Under det kontinuerlige arbejde med skitserne blev hans forestillinger om, hvorledes løveskulpturerne skulle forarbejdes klarere og klarere. De fik forskellige bevægelsesmønstre og blev placeret i et forløb,

ons. This decision meant that the lions both alluded to the national coat of arms, as well as becoming liberated animals, who could relate to the park and transform the place in which they had been situated into an area with a new profile. The detached hearts would highlight this new profile. Claus Ørntoft decided that all three lion sculptures would be in movement. He envisioned them moving at intense speed down the sloping lawn and continuing their leaping, running and other movements along the level grass surface. They would be able to create new directions for the gaze in the space they were conquering, whilst establishing space amongst one another. They would be placed on the public path in such a way that the park's guests would almost be drawn in amongst them and would become a part of them, become active participants when they moved along on their way to other objectives.

After the location of the commission with the three sculpted lions had been established, he started to work on deciding how the creative process should progress.

Sketches and models

The first part of the creative process consisted of drawn sketches. Claus Ørntoft produced numerous drawings of the three sculpted lions in order to identify the best composition and patterns of movement. During the ongoing work with the sketches, his ideas of how the sculpted lions were to be processed became increasingly clear. They were given different patterns of movement and were placed in a scenario which meant that they respectively stood



Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

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Claus Ørntoft

*Modeller i målforhold 1:14 i Marselisborg Slotspark
(fotomontage).*
*Models scale 1:14 in Marselisborg Palace Park
(photo montage)*



Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

således at de henholdsvis stod og løb efter hinanden i en halvcirkelformet bevægelsesrytme. Den bagerste løveskulptur står på to ben og strækker forpoterne i vejret. Den næste samler benene og er på vej til at springe. Den forreste løve løber i fuldt firspring. Claus Ørntoft kalder selv de skulpturelle løver for - "den oprejste, den langstrakte, den krummede". Når man studerer disse skitser, kan man se, at det er under selve arbejdet med dem, at der hele tiden opstår nye ideer om, hvorledes de skulpturelle løver skal modelleres og senere hugges i granit. Skulpturerne forskellige bevægelser og deres volumen træder mere og mere synligt frem, efterhånden som tegneprocessen skridt frem. Under arbejdet med disse skitser tænker han ikke alene på det fremtidige modelleringsarbejde, men også på granittens indbyggede udtryksmuligheder og begrænsninger.

Et nærmere studie af de to skitser af den oprejste løve viser klart, at de skulpturelle løver træder mere og mere tydeligt frem, og deres former får større styrke og intensitet, efterhånden som tegneprocessen skridt frem. Claus Ørntofts arbejdstegninger af løveskulpturerne har ikke skarpt profilerede konturer, der skaber en lukket helhed, men løst skitserede omrids, der giver plads for liv og bevægelse og rummer åbninger til omgivelserne. Allerede i disse arbejdsskitser, der egentlig er selvstændige kunstværker, kan man se, at løveskulpturerne sitter af liv og bevægelse og rummer optimale forlæg for det fremtidige tredimensionale arbejde.

The next phase of the creative process is the work of transferring the results from the sketches to the wax models of approx. 20 cm, or one 14th of the finished

and ran after each other in a semi-circular pattern of movement. The rearmost lion sculpture stands on two legs and stretches his front paws in the air. The next gathers his legs and prepares to leap. The lion at the front runs at a full gallop. Claus Ørntoft calls the lion sculptures "the upright, the elongated, the curved". When studying these sketches, one can see that during the work on them, new ideas have constantly arisen on how the lion sculptures should be modelled and later carved in granite. The sculptures' various movements and their volume become more and more apparent as the drawing process progresses. During the work on these sketches, he has not only thought of the future modelling work, but also of the inherent expressive possibilities and limitations of granite.

A closer study of the two sketches of the upright lion clearly shows that the lion sculptures become increasingly defined, and their forms acquire more strength and intensity as the drawing process progresses. Claus Ørntoft's preparatory sketches for the sculpted lions do not have the sharply defined contours which create a closed whole, but rather, a loosely sketched outline, which provides space for life and movement and has openings into the surroundings. In these preparatory drawings, which are actually independent artworks, one can already see that the lion sculptures quiver with life and movement and are optimal models for the future work in three dimensions.



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Claus Ørntoft

Til højre: Model i målforhold 1:5
To the right: Model scale 1:5

Til venstre: Model i målforhold 1:3
To the left: Model scale 1:3

Proportionerne på de færdige skulpturer er tænkt således:

1) Den oprejste løve:
Højde ca. 3,70 meter
Længde ca. 1,20 meter
Dybde ca. 1,00 meter

2) Den krummede løve:
Højde 2,20 meter
Længde 2,30 meter
Dybde 0,96 meter

3) Den langstrakte løve
Højde 1,20 meter
Længde 3,70 meter
Dybde 1,14 meter

The proportions on the final sculptures are intended to be:

1) The upright lion
Height 3.70 meters
Length 1.20 meters
Depth 1.00 meters

2) The crouching lion
Height 2.20 meters
Length 2.30 meters
Depth 0.96 meters

3) The stretching lion
Height 1.20 meters
Length 3.70 meters
Depth 1.14 meters



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Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts



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Claus Ørntoft

Armering til lermodeller 1:1
Armatures for the clay models 1:1



Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

eller på ca. 20 cm eller en 14. del af den færdige skulptur. De er så små, at Claus Ørntoft kan have dem i hånden og modellere dem, således at deres tredimensionale form efterhånden kan træde frem med både tydelighed og intensitet. Gennem dette tredimensionale arbejde bliver der taget grundlæggende beslutninger om skulpturerne komposition og bevægelser.

After these first crucial decisions had been made, Claus Ørntoft started to model the sculpted lions in clay. First on a scale of 1:5 and thereafter 1:3. While working with these clay models, the sculptor considers more precisely the form and volume of the sculpted lions. He has also cast the clay models in bronze so they can be preserved. These bronze sculptures function not only as preparatory pieces for the large lion sculptures, but also as independent works. One can see in these models, that he has tightened and varied the composition and volume. And the forms are marked by greater intensity and expressive power.

The various scale models vividly demonstrate the step by step development of the sculpted lions prior to the commencement of the very difficult work with the final, full-scale clay models. The model on a scale of 1:1 becomes the direct source for the granite sculptures. He uses the clay models on a scale of 1:3 as calculation models. (Fig.) When he starts modelling with clay - when the sculpture has just been set up - one can clearly see the traces of the energetic work of the hands. (fig.) The modelling work in clay on such a large scale is particularly demanding, because Claus Ørntoft constantly needs to ensure that the often very bold sequence

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Claus Ørntoft

Til venstre: Modellering af løver i ler 1:1
To the left: Modelling of lions in clay 1:1

Til højre: Hennes Majestæt Dronningen på besøg i Claus Ørntofts atelier i efteråret 2011
To the right: Her Majesty The Queen in Claus Ørntoft's studio in the autumn of 2011



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Claus Ørntoft

*De færdige lermodeller 1:1
The finished clay models 1:1*

at de kan hugges i granit uden at miste deres spændstighed. Den store skala, som han nu skal modellere i, fordrer også, at han fokuserer meget på at øge den indre spænding og styrke i den indre kerne i løveskulpturerne, for at deres bevægelser kan blive så dynamiske og kraftfulde, som det overhovedet er muligt. Hertil kommer, at de store gennemgående linjer i skulpturløvernes kroppe og rytmen i de hurtigt skiftende formforløb er blevet intensiveret. De færdige lermodeller viser, at det er lykkedes ham at løse denne opgave på en både selvstændig og kunstnerisk overbevisende måde.

Støbning og hugning i granit

Efter at denne modelleringsproces, der rummede så mange fint løste kunstneriske problemer, er afsluttet, blev de skulpturelle løver støbt over i glasfiber, fordi det er et både stærkt og let materiale, der egner sig til at blive transporteret. Efter at denne proces var afsluttet, blev glasfiberudgaverne af løveskulpturerne sejlet til Kina for at blive hugget i en blå kinesisk granit. Den blå farve henviser til de blå løver i rigsåbenen. De røde hjerter, der bliver spredt hen over plænen, hvor løveskulpturerne boltrer sig, er hugget i rød granit, således at de kan henvise til hjerterne i rigsåbenet.

Claus Ørntoft rejste selv til Kina i ca. to og en halv måned og arbejdede sammen med de kinesiske stenhuggere, for at huggeprocessen kunne blive så præcis som muligt.

De tre skulpturelle løver er alle meget forskellige, men har dog nogle træk tilfælles.

Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts



of movements is sustainable and stable enough to be carved into granite without losing its suppleness. The large scale he is now modelling in, also requires him to focus a lot on increasing the inner tension and strength within the inner core of the sculptures, so that their movements become as dynamic and powerful as possible. Also, the large continuous lines in the lions' bodies and the rhythm of the rapidly shifting modelling processes are intensified. The finished clay models show that he has managed to accomplish the task in both an independent and creatively compelling way.

Casting and carving in granite

After the completion of the modelling process, with its many good solutions to artistic problems, the sculpted lions are cast in fibreglass, because it is both a strong and light material, well suited to transportation. After the completion of this process, the fibreglass versions of the lion sculptures are shipped to China to be roughly carved in blue Chinese granite. The blue colour alludes to the blue lions in the national coat of arms. The red hearts, which will be spread out on the lawn where the lions are frolicking, are carved in red granite to allude to the hearts in the national coat of arms.

Claus Ørntoft travelled to China for around two and a half months and worked together with the Chinese stonemasons to ensure that the carving process was as precise as possible. The three sculpted lions are all very different, but have some common characteristics.

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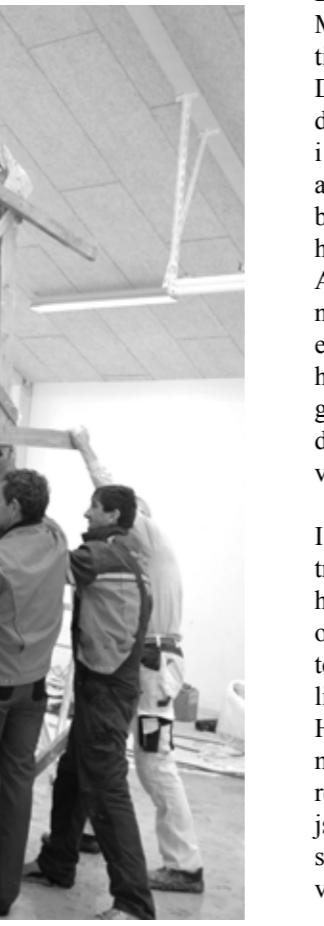
Claus Ørntoft

Gipsformen fjernes fra glasfiberløverne.
The plaster cast is being removed from the fiberglass lions

De kinesiske stenhuggere har ikke hugget løveskulpturerne færdige - men ladet dem fremtræde i en noget skitseagtig form. Claus Ørntoft overtager derfor arbejdet med at opstramme skulpturerne - både deres overflader, volumen og deres indre kraftcentre. Denne proces har han arbejdet på i 4 måneder. Medens han modellerede lermodellen, har han hele tiden tænkt på, hvad der kan overføres til granitten. Det har kun været muligt for ham at foretage sådanne overvejelser, fordi han selv har hugget direkte i granit i tyve år. Han kender til bunds denne stenarts væsen, og hvad den kan udtrykke, og hvilken bærekraft den har rent fysisk. Han har derfor altid haft "en løbende dialog med granitten." Alle tre skulpturelle løver er konvekse, fastorganiserede og sluttede helheder. Der er kun én åbning, et konkavt element. Det er den åbne mund. Løverne har henholdsvis strakt sig så voldsomt eller sprunget og løbet så stærkt, at de gisper efter vejret. Men den åbne mund skaber også en særlig ekspressiv virkning.

I hugningen af alle tre løver har Claus Ørntoft foretrukket at bruge en stor spidsmejsel. Med den giver han skulpturen det endelige kunstneriske udseende og den spændstige indre kraft. Han arbejder især intenst med den indre kerne i granitten og dens særlige evne til at skabe formspændinger og volumen. Han ved præcist, hvilke fysiske love, den massive monumentale granit er underlagt. Det er vigtigt at respektere dens særlige væsen. Med sin spidsmejsel kan han både fjerne store flager og bearbejde små nuancer. Han har ladet sporene efter hugningen være synlige. Derved bliver overfladen noget for-

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Opstramning – færdiggørelse
Firming up - completion

The Chinese stonemasons have not finished carving the lion sculptures - but left them in a rather rough form. Claus Ørntoft therefore takes over the task of tightening the sculptures - their surfaces, volumes and their inner power cores. He has worked on this process for four months. When modelling the clay models, he had constantly considered what could be translated into granite. It has only been possible for him to make these considerations because he has carved directly into granite for over twenty years. He knows the character of this stone to its core, what it is capable of expressing and what it can bear on a purely physical level. That is why he has "a constant dialogue with granite." All three sculpted lions are convex, internally organised and closed units. There is only one opening, one concave element. This is the open mouth. The lions have all stretched themselves so vigorously, jumped or run so fast, that they gasp for air. But the open mouth creates a particularly expressive effect.

In the carving of the three lions, Claus Ørntoft preferred to use a large pointed chisel. With this, he gives the sculpture its finished appearance and supple inner power. He works with the inner core of the granite in particular and its special ability to create tension and volume in the forms. He knows exactly which physical laws the monumental granite is subject to. It is important that he respects its particular nature. With his pointed chisel he can remove both large chunks as well as working on small details. He has allowed the traces of his chiselling to remain visible. This obscures the surface slightly and the volume and forms of the lion sculptures are



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Claus Ørntoft

Gipsformen fjernes fra glasfiberløverne.
The plaster casts are being removed from the fiberglass lions

flygtiget, og løveskulpturerne volumen og form bliver fremhævet. Samtidig opstår der en udtryksfuld mønstervirkning. Den resulterer i, at skulpturerne ikke kommer til at optræde som kopier af levende løver. De bliver ikke naturalistiske, men får deres egen særlige identitet og kommer til at leve i en verden, hvor fiktion og realitet krydser hinanden på mange uforudsigelige måder. Denne virkning bliver styrket gennem Claus Ørntofts særlige måde at hugge på. Han arbejder med brede greb og forløb, der får formerne til at træde frem på en anskuelig måde, men slører konturerne og frembringer en ekspressiv virkning, der understreger skulpturløvernes egenartede og selvstændige væsen.

I alle tre løveskulpturer er der fint afstemte relationer mellem et optisk bedrag og en præcist afmålt tyngdevirkning.

In all three lion sculptures, there is a finely tuned relationship between optical illusion and a precisely measured effect of mass.

This effect is accentuated by Claus Ørntoft's particular method of carving. He works with broad devices and processes, which make the forms stand out vividly, but blur the contours and emphasise an expressive effect, which accentuates the singular and independent nature of the sculpted lions.

In all three lion sculptures, there is a finely tuned relationship between optical illusion and a precisely measured effect of mass.

Når man betragter de skulpturelle løver, ser det ud som om, de erude af balance og er lige ved at falde. Den forreste løve kaster sig vandret frem - den midterste springende løve hælder 45 grader, medens den lodrette løve kun har en lille hældning. Løverne snart strækker sig, løber eller springer, samtidig med at de hælder - men at de kan falde er et optisk bedrag. Når man studerer dem nærmere, kan man se, at tyngden er rigtig fordelt, og at de er i lod. Men de er spændt ud til det yderste balancepunkt, og det skaber et intenst spændingspunkt, når man møder dem. Man kan ikke undgå at spørge sig selv, om de står fast eller kan vælte. Det er dette åbne spørgsmål, der skaber en særlig intens spænding, når beskuerne møder dem.

Det er først, når man har gået flere gange rundt

When one looks at the sculpted lions, they appear to be unbalanced and on the verge of falling. The lion at the front throws itself forward horizontally - the leaping lion in the middle leans at a 45-degree angle, whilst the vertical lion has only a slight tilt. The lions stretch, run or jump at the same time as they tilt - but the sense of them being on the verge of falling is an optical illusion. Studying them more closely, one notices that the weight is properly distributed and that they are vertically aligned. But they are stretched to the outermost point of balance, and this creates an intense point of tension when encountering them. One cannot help but ask oneself whether they will remain standing or whether they could fall over. It is this open question, which creates a particularly intense excitement when the viewer encounters them.

Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

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Claus Ørntoft

Glasfibermodeller omsættes til granit, Kina 2011
The fiberglass models are transformed into granite, China 2011

omkring de tre løveskulpturer, at man oplever været i hele sin styrke, både den voldsomme bevægelsesrytme, der gennemstrømmer dem, og den målrettede koncentration, som de udviser. Og for hver gang man bevæger sig rundt om de tre skulpturer, opdager man nye oplevelsesgivende og betydningskabende træk.

Den horisontale/langstrakte løve

Den forreste løveskulptur, som, vi forestiller os, har løbet i meget stærk fart ned af den skrånende græsplæne, fortsætter det hurtige løb, efter at den er nået den plane flade. Det er "den langstrakte løve". Den løber afsted med et voldsomt vandret kast fremad. Dens højre side bliver strakt endda rigtig meget ud. Det bliver markeret af dens højre pote. Denne del af dens krop hælder meget til siden for at forøge farten. Den forekommer os næsten at være en fartpil. Men den er samtidig i balance. Den strækker sig ud, så meget den kan, for at øge hastigheden og sætter forpoterne så langt frem, som den kan - igen for at sætte farten op. Dens volumen er kraftfuld, men uden at være for tung.

Selvom Claus Ørntoft har fokuseret på at visualisere rytmen i det hurtige løb, har han også formået at skabe spændstighed og intensitet i dens former. Den bliver selvstændig i granitten. Omridsene er forflygtigt til fordel for en fremhævelse af formen. Dette greb fjerner den også fra at være en kopi af en løve og profilerer den som et selvstændigt væsen. Dens åbne mund afslører ikke blot, at den søger at få vejet, den er også et aktivt, ekspressivt element.

sculptures several times, that one experiences the work in all its power, both the vigorous pattern of movement, which flows through them as well as the focused concentration that they exhibit. And each time one moves around the three sculptures, one discovers new experiential and connotative characteristics.

The horizontal / elongated lion

The lion sculpture at the front, which appears to have run at high speed down the sloping lawn, continues its rapid run after it has reached the flat surface. This is the "elongated lion". It runs off with a vigorous horizontal heave forward. The right side is actually stretched out a lot. Its right paw marks it. This part of its body tips to the side markedly to increase its speed. It almost appears to be a speeding arrow. But it is also in balance. It stretches out as far as it can, to increase its speed and puts its front paws as far forward as it can - again, in order to increase its speed. Its volume is powerful, but without becoming too heavy.

Although Claus Ørntoft has focused on visualising the rhythm of this rapid run, he has also managed to create suppleness and intensity in its forms. It is independent in the granite. Its outlines are weakened in favour of an emphasis on form. This device also removes it from being a copy of a lion and profiles it as an independent creature. Its open mouth reveals not only that it is trying to breath, but is also an active, expressive element.



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Den langstrakte løve. Skulpturer ved Claus Ørntoffs atelier
The stretching lion. Sculptures at Claus Ørntoft's studio

Den skulpturelle løve, der krummer sig voldsomt sammen, er på vej til at starte løbeturen med et kraftigt spring. Den er præget af en dobbeltbevægelse. Selve kroppen er spændt til det yderste, fordi den lægger al sin kraft i springet. Men den har sat halen mellem benene. Det giver en stramning og modsatrettede bevægelse, fordi den går indad. Det er en lille hilsen til de romanske stenmestre, der ofte placerede deres dyrs haler mellem benene. De gjorde det også, fordi halen på den måde blev et dynamisk ornament, der forflygtigede en naturalistisk virkning.

Den krummede løve
The sculpted lion, which arches dramatically, is on its way to start its run with a powerful leap. It is characterised by a dual movement. The body itself is tensed to its limits because it places all its power in the leap. But it has its tail between its legs. This provides a tightening and resistant movement, because it moves inwards. It is a little nod to the Romanesque stone masters, who often placed the tails of their animals between the animals' legs. They also did this so that the tail became a dynamic ornament, to dilute the effect of naturalism.

Den vertikale/ oprejste løve
Den skulpturelle løve, der - som vi forestiller os det - kommer sidst ned af den skrånende grønne plæne, rejser sig op på to ben og strækker poterne i en næsten dramatisk bevægelse mod himlen. Det er "Den oprejste løve". Det ser ud, som den vil gribe noget, som ikke kan ses endnu. Den drejer sig lidt til den ene side, og åbner klorerne i et energisk forsøg på at nå længere op - mod det, der er uopnåeligt, måske uendeligheden. Halen er snoet omkring dens ene bagpote, som om den slår et slag med den i sin iver efter at forsøge at nå så højt op som muligt. Den energiladede bevægelsesrytme, der præger den, starter i de store poter, der er solidt plantet på jorden. Derefter løber rytmen med stor styrke gennem de kraftfulde ben, videre op gennem den udspændte bryskasse, den kraftfulde rygsøjle, strejfer dens manue og sætter et intenst slutpunkt i dens åbne mund.

Det er lykkedes Claus Ørntoft at skabe en accelererende indre rytme, der stiger op igennem løvens krop

The arched lion
The sculpted lion, which arches dramatically, is on its way to start its run with a powerful leap. It is characterised by a dual movement. The body itself is tensed to its limits because it places all its power in the leap. But it has its tail between its legs. This provides a tightening and resistant movement, because it moves inwards. It is a little nod to the Romanesque stone masters, who often placed the tails of their animals between the animals' legs. They also did this so that the tail became a dynamic ornament, to dilute the effect of naturalism.

The vertical / upright lion
The sculpted lion which - we imagine - will be the last one down the sloping lawn, raises itself up on two legs and stretches its paws in an almost dramatic movement towards the sky. This is "the upright lion". It looks as if it wants to grab something, which cannot yet be seen. It turns a little to the one side and opens its claws in an energetic attempt to reach higher up - towards the unattainable, perhaps infinity. Its tail is curled around its one back paw, as if it is striking a blow in its eagerness to try to reach as high up as possible. The energy-laden pattern of movement, which characterises it, starts in the large paws, which are solidly planted on the ground. The rhythm then runs with great strength through the powerful legs, further up through the taut chest, the powerful spine, brushes its mane and creates an intense endpoint in its open mouth.

Claus Ørntoft has succeeded in creating an accelerating inner rhythm, which rises up through the



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Claus Ørntoft

*Den krumme løve. Skulpturer ved Claus Ørntofts atelier
The crouching lion. Sculptures at Claus Ørntoft's studio*

og frembringer en utrolig spændstighed og kompleksitet i dens bevægelser.

lion's body and generates an incredible suppleness and complexity in its movements.

Tradition og fornyelse.

Claus Ørntoft's skulpturelle løver er inspireret af studier af både de løver, der optræder i kunst, myter og religion og de virkelige løver. Løven arvede middelalderen fra oldgammel nærorientalske kulturer, og den har også præget kunsten i fjernøsten, især i Kina.

Men han har både i dette og i andre af sine projekter altid fulgt Leonardo da Vincis råd, der lyder sådan:

"Efterlign aldrig nogen. Ethvert af dine Værker bør være en ny Fremtoning af Naturen."

De tre løveskulpturer har en selvstændig udtryksfuld fremtoning samtidig med, at de er præget af en utrolig kraftfuld bevægelsesrytme, som man sjældent møder i de løvefigurer, man kender fra kunsthistorien. Hertil kommer, at de har en individuel karakter og derfor symboliserer de hver på sin særegne måde nogle af de egenskaber, som løven i kulturhistorien har haft. For Claus Ørntoft formidler de tre løver nok først og fremmest en oplevelse af mod, styrke, uholdenhed og en evne til uforfærdet

The three lion sculptures have an independent, expressive appearance whilst being characterised by an incredibly powerful pattern of movement, seldom encountered in the figures of lions that we are familiar with in art history. In addition, they have an individual character and thus symbolise in their distinct respective ways some of the properties that lions have had in cultural history. For Claus Ørntoft the three lions probably disseminate, first and fore-

Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

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Claus Ørntoft

*Den opretstående løve. Skulpturer ved Claus Ørntofts atelier
The upright lion. Sculptures at Claus Ørntoft's studio*

at møde udfordringer og tilskikkelse. Den ene løve strækker sig mod uendeligheden og vil griben. De to andre stormer frem med fuld fart for at erobre rummet og verden omkring dem, sende lys - og varmestråler ind i vores omgivelser og afdække nye spor i en kendt verden.

most, an experience of courage, strength, stamina and an ability to fearlessly face the challenges and vicissitudes of life. One lion stretches towards infinity and wants to grasp it. The two others surge forward at full speed to conquer the space and the world around them, sending rays of light and heat into our surroundings and uncovering new tracks in a familiar world.

Noter

- 1) "Eye and Mind" (1961) i The Primacy of Perception, Northwestern University Press, 1964, s 186. Maurice Merleau-Ponty fandt citatet fra Leonardo da Vinci i Robert Delaunay's bog, Du cubisme à l'art abstrait, Paris, 1957, p. 175. Se også Rilke, Auguste Rodin, Paris, 1928, p. 150.

Notes

- 1) "Eye and Mind" (1961) in The Primacy of Perception, Northwestern University Press, 1964, p 186. Maurice Merleau-Ponty found the quotations by Leonardo da Vinci in Robert Delaunay's book, Du cubisme à l'art abstrait, Paris, 1957, p. 175. Also see Rilke, Auguste Rodin, Paris, 1928, p. 150.

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Claus Ørntoft

Til venstre: Skulpturer ved Claus Ørntoffs atelier
To the left: Sculptures at Claus Ørntoft's studio

Nedenfor og til højre: Opsætning af løverne i
Marselisborg Slotspark
Below and to the right: The mounting of the lions in
Marselisborg Palace Park



Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts



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*Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter
i Marselisborg Slotspark*

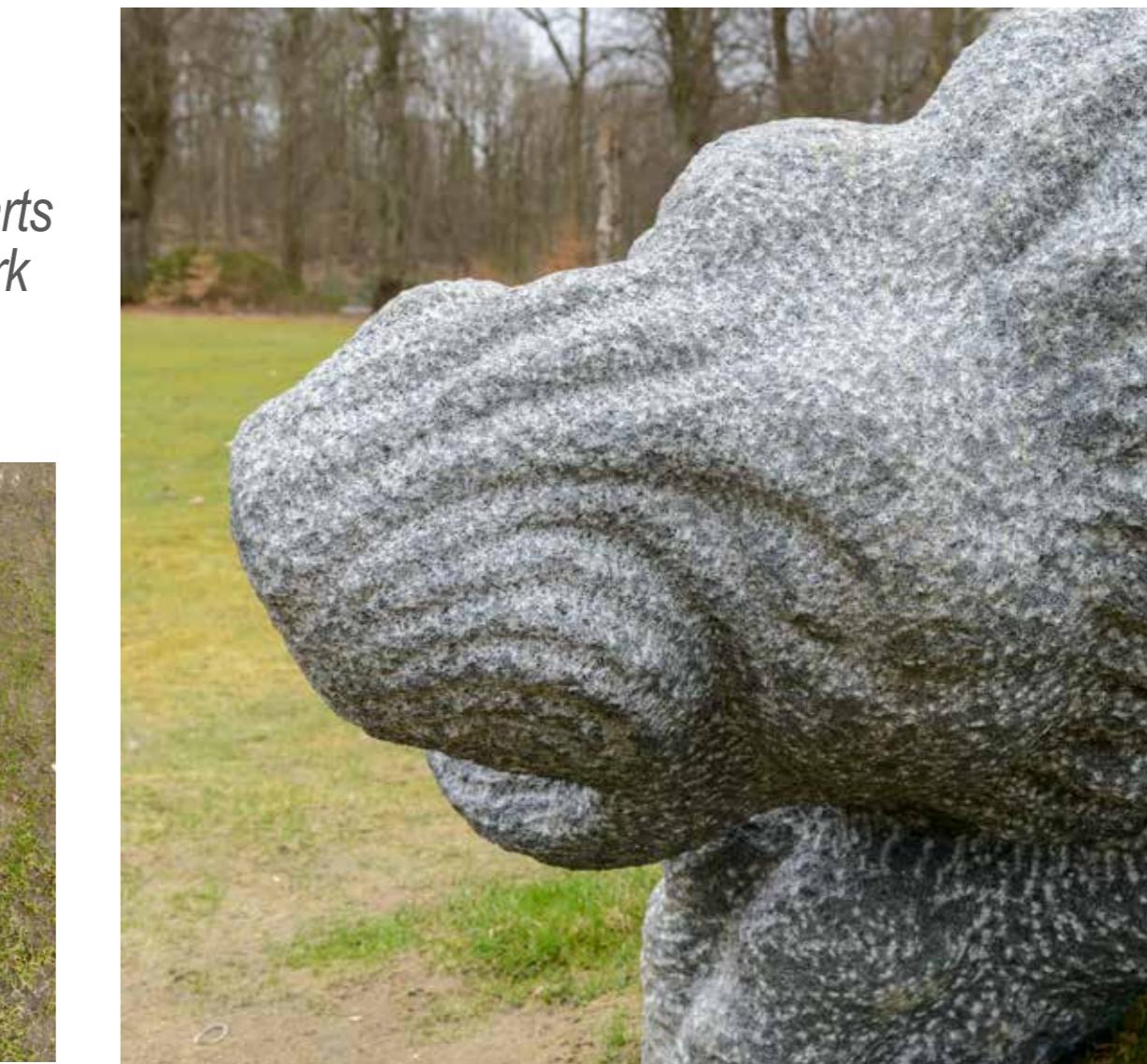
*Three Lions and Nine Hearts
in Marselisborg Palace Park*

*Claus Ørntoft
Kunstner/Artist*



Claus Ørntoft

Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts



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Claus Ørntoft



Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

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Claus Ørntoft



Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

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Claus Ørntoft



Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

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Claus Ørntoft



Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts



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Claus Ørntoft

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Claus Ørntoft



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Processen - skitser og modeller

*Claus Ørntoft
Kunstner/Artist*

Efter et møde med Hennes Majestæt Dronningen og Hans Kongelige Højhed Prinsgemalen, hvor vi drøftede projektet og dets placering i Marselisborg Slotspark, var mit forslag en skulpturel installation, som kunne trække en forbindelse mellem slottet, udsigten derfra og til det store ”tomme” rum nedest i parken. Min ide gik ud på, at de tre løver i rigsåbenet var sprunget ud af skjoldet. Jeg ville fortolke dem frit og ladet dem løbe og springe ned gennem parken. Imellem de springende løver skulle der ligge hjerter/søblade, som kunne rumme referencer til heraldikken i rigsåbenet.

Projektet skulle i et enkelt greb, uden egentlig at øre parken - og på en ubesvaret måde blive føjet ind i omgivelserne. Det skulle løse det arkitektoniske moment, som også Hennes Majestæt Dronningen fremdrog ved mødet. Forslaget skulle rumme en klar fortælling, som både havde alvor og humor, tyngde og lethed - og forhåbentlig en skulpturel værdi.

Her følger mine arbejdsnoter og nogle af mine skitser og modeller, som har ligget til grund for mit arbejde i udviklingen af skulpturerne til Marselisborg Slotspark. Først kiggede jeg i Jean C. Coopers, 1987, Encyclopaedia of Symbols for at uddybe betydningen af symbolerne ”løve” og ”tallet 3”. Dernæst søgte jeg at fastholde nogle overordnede skulpturelle og rumlige principper i mit arbejde frem mod de endelige skulpturer - gennem skitser, tegninger og modeller.

Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

Claus Ørntoft

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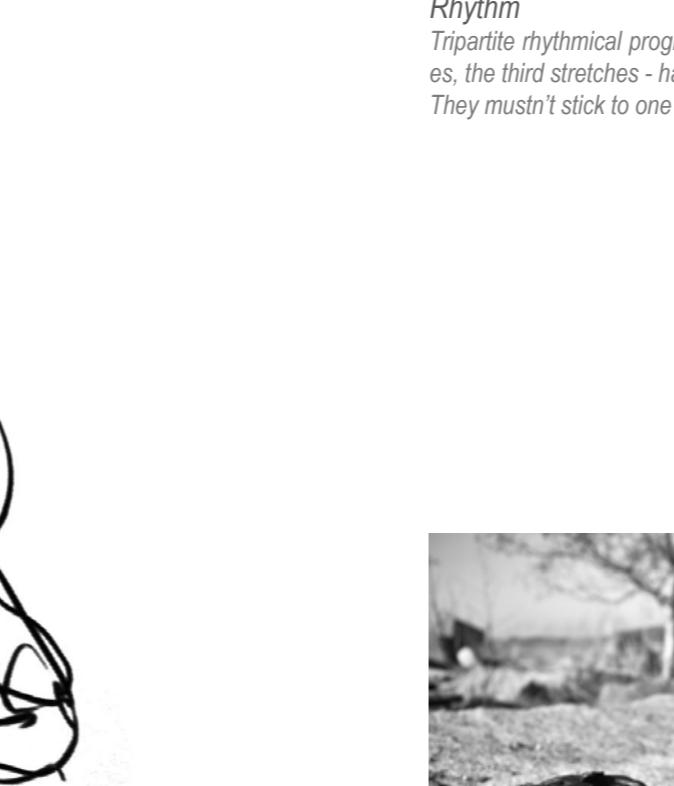
Following a meeting with Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Prince Consort, during which we discussed the project and its position in the park at Marselisborg Palace, I suggested a sculptural installation which could relate to the palace, and the view from it down to the large, “empty” space at the far end of the park. My idea was that the three lions had bounded out of the national coat of arms. I would interpret them freely and let them run and jump down through the park. Between the bounding lions the hearts, which refer to the heraldry on the national coat of arms, should lie.

The project should, through simple means, without really altering the park, and in an uncomplicated way, be integrated with the surroundings. They should solve the architectonic element, which Her Majesty the Queen also called attention to during the meeting. The suggestion included a clear story, which would be both serious and humorous, weighty and light-hearted — and hopefully also had sculptural qualities.

Here is my working notes and some of my sketches and models which has formed the guidelines of my work in the development of the sculptures for Marselisborg Palace Park. First I looked at Jean C. Cooper, 1987, Encyclopaedia of Symbols to deepen the meaning of the symbols “lion” and “number 3”. Next, I tried to maintain some overall sculptural and spatial principles in my work towards the final sculptures - through sketches, drawings and models.



flagverske / bresenische



Til venstre: Skitse, 2008
To the left: Sketch 2009

Nedenfor: Bronzeløver 1:14, 2008
Below: Bronze Lions 1:14, 2008



Ekstrakt fra Jean C. Coopers, 1987, Encyclopaedia of Symbols, Thames and Hudson

Løver

Tredelt rytmisk forløb, en springer op, den anden krummer, den tredje strækker sig ud – er kommet over på den anden side af stien; De skal ikke klæbe sig til hinanden - både individer og flok.

Rhythm

Tripartite rhythmical progression - one jumps up, the next crouches, the third stretches - has reached the other side of the path; They mustn't stick to one another — both individuals and a pack.

Lions

Lions are an ambiguous symbol, which stands for both good and evil. The lion represents the shining power of the midday sun, the principle of fire, and the Majesty's strength against military power. It is the king of the beasts, but it is also cruelty and savagery. The lion guards doors, gates, and treasures or the Tree of Life. The lion is also an ambiguous symbol for Christians; on the one hand it stands for strength and power, its royal nature as the Lion of Judah, on the other for saving humanity from the lion's jaws, which is to say the Devil as a roaring lion. It was believed that the lion slept with its eyes open, therefore it stood for vigilance, spiritual consciousness, and valour. As a guard it supported the pillars of the Church. It was also believed that lion cubs were stillborn, and that the father breathed life into them. The lion is therefore also a symbol of resurrection.

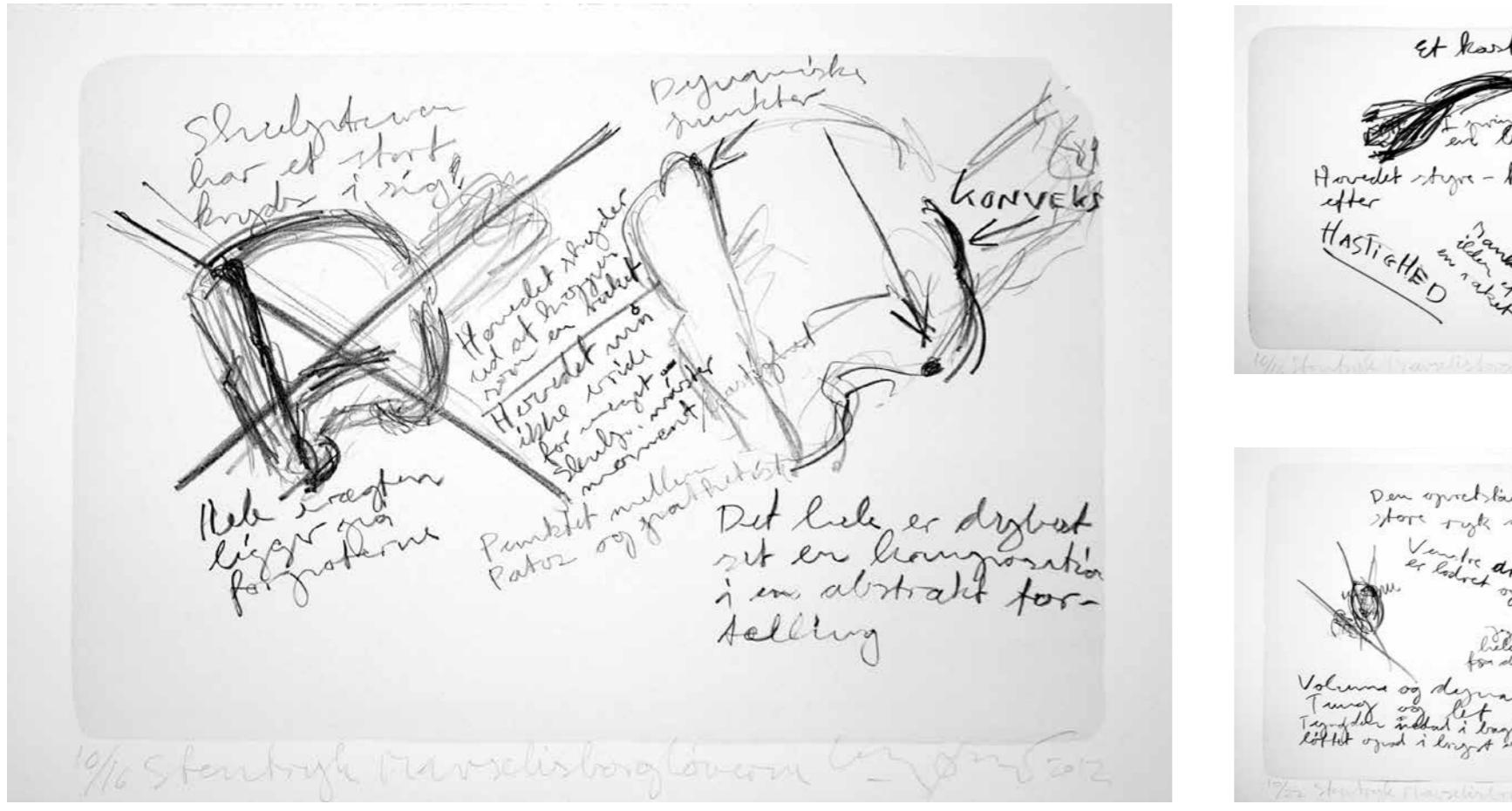
The number 3

The number 3 symbolises manifoldness, creative power, growth, and forward movement which conquers duality. The number 3 is the first number about which the word all can be used. 3 is the whole number - since it contains a beginning, a middle, and an end (Aristotle).

The power of the number 3 is found everywhere and stands for the tripartite world: heaven, earth, and water. It is the human being, as: body, soul, and mind - birth, life, and death - past, present, and future.

3 also implies accumulated experience and thus authority, since that which happens once or twice can be down to chance, while that which happens three times grants wisdom and power.

Extract from Jean C. Coopers, 1987, Encyclopaedia of Symbols, Thames and Hudson



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nd Nine Hearts

N

- Tre løver i våben
 - En fri tolkning
 - Tredimensionale løver;
 - Størrelse: lidt
 - får en mytologisk
 - Ved at sejre - i
 - Tredelt rytmisk
 - anden krummede
 - er kommet over
 - Alle har åben mund
 - Manken giver
 - Potentiel energi
 - spænder en bu
 - Fremadrettet øje
 - Angreb, vrid, b
 - Søblade / hjerte
 - imellem løverne
 - kongevåben;
 - Røde hjerter -

Notes about the

- Three lions on the coat of arms;
 - A free interpretation of the national coat of arms;
 - Three-dimensional, victorious, roaring Roman-esque lions;
 - Size: a bit bigger than real lions, so they have mythological tone;
 - On their way to victory — in a process;
 - Tripartite rhythmical progression — one jumps up — the next crouches — the third stretches as has reached the other side of the path;
 - All have an open mouth — active forces;
 - The mane suggests speed, dynamism, strength;
 - Potential energy, as when you pull back and tense a bow;
 - Energy moving forward;
 - Attack, twist, play, in the middle of a jump;
 - Hearts, lie spread out on the grass between the lions, “at random”, as on the early royal coats of arms;
 - Red hearts – love – passion.





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Claus Ørntoft

Til venstre:

Bronzeløver 1:3, 2011
To the left: Bronze lions 1:3, 2011

Nedenfor:

Bronzeløver 1:5, 2010
Below: Bronze lions 1:5, 2010



Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

Retning

Løbende nedover mod syd - lyset mod sig;
Værdilader rummet - skaber et rum imellem sig - indtager rummet
direkte - uden at man behøver at røre det;
Skaber retning i rummet.

Direction

Running downwards towards the south, against the light;
They give the space value — create a space between themselves;
They take in the space directly - without having to touch it
They create direction in the space.

Noter om det arkitektoniske moment:

- Løbende nedover;
- Værdilader rummet - skaber et rum imellem sig;
- Indtager rummet direkte -uden at man behøver at røre det;
- Skaber retning i rummet;
- Muligt at se skulpturerne fra Slottet;
- De skal ikke klæbe sig til hinanden - både individer og flok;
- Uden sokkel, løber direkte på græsset;
- Demokratiske i den forstand, at man kan gå lige til dem, uden en sokkel som mellemled;
- Skulpturerne skal ikke sprænge rummet ved at blive for monumentale, de skal forholde sig til menneskelige proportioner;
- Placeret i forhold til stien, så man går imellem dem, bliver en del af dem, mens man passerer;
- Løbende mod syd, lyset mod sig;
- Søbladene/Hjerterne i græsset mellem løverne virker samlende, rummet bliver aktiveret på en stille måde;
- Hjerterne bliver lagt i niveau med græsset; Fra Slottet vil man kunne se dem. Kommer man fra stien, kan man ikke se dem, før man befinner sig i nærheden af løverne.

Notes about the architectural element

- Running downwards;
- They give the space value — create a space between themselves;
- They take in the space directly - without having to touch it;
- They create direction in the space;
- Possible to see the sculptures from the Palace;
- They mustn't stick to one another — both individuals and a pack;
- Without pedestals, run directly on the grass;
- Democratic in the sense that you can walk right up to them, without an intermediary pedestal;
- The sculptures mustn't disrupt the space by being too monumental, they must be related to human proportions;
- Placed in relation to the path, so you walk between them, become a part of them, as you pass;
- Running towards the south, against the light;
- The hearts in the grass between the lions have a gathering effect, the space is activated in a quiet way;
- The hearts will be placed level with the grass. You will be able to see them from the Palace. If you come from the path, you can't see them until you are close to the lions.

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Claus Ørntoft

Spændthed

Angreb, vrid, leg, i et spring;

Potentiel energi, som når man trækker og spænder en bue tilbage;

Fremadrettet energi.

Tension

Attack, twist, play, in the middle of a jump;

Potential energy, as when you pull back and tense a bow;

Energy moving forward.

Til venstre: Bronzeløver 1:3, 2011
To the left: Bronze lions 1:3, 2011

Nedenfor: Bronzeløver 1:14, 2009
Below: Bronze lions 1:14, 2009

Til højre: Litografi, 2010
To the right: Lithograph, 2010



Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts



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Claus Ørntoft



Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

*Dynamik og styrke
Alle har åben mund. —aktive kræfter;
Manken giver hastighed, dynamik, styrke.*

*Dynamics and strength
All have an open mouth — active forces;
The mane suggests speed, dynamism, strength.*

*Til venstre: Bronzeløver 1:3, 2011
To the left: Bronze lions 1:3, 2011*

*Nedenfor: Bronzeløver 1:14, 2009
Below: Bronze lions 1:14, 2009*

*Til højre: Litografi, 2010
To the right: Lithograph, 2010*



8/12 Stantryk Marselisborgløvene 2010

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Claus Ørntoft

Til venstre: 2D skabeloner i målforhold 1:1
i Marselisborg Slotspark, 2008

To the left: 2D templates in scale 1:1
in Marselisborg Palace Park, 2008

Nedenfor: Bronzeløver 1:14, 2009

Below: Bronze lions 1:14, 2009

Interaktion

Skulpturerne skal ikke sprænge rummet ved at blive for monumental, de skal forholde sig til menneskelige proportioner;

Demokratiske i den forstand, at man kan gå lige til dem, uden en sokkel som mellemled;

Røde hjerter - kærlighed - lidenskab;

Søbladene/Hjerterne i græsset mellem løverne virker samlende; ummet bliver aktiveret på en stille måde.

Interaction

The sculptures mustn't disrupt the space by being too monumental, they must be related to human proportions; Democratic in the sense that you can walk right up to them, without an intermediary pedestal;

Red hearts – love – passion;
Hearts, lie spread out on the grass between the lions, “at random”;

The space is activated in a quiet way.



Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

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Kort om kunstneren

About the artist

*Else Marie Bukdahl
Dr. phil.
Adjungeret professor/Adjunct Professor*

Den originale billedhugger Claus Ørntoft har siden midten af 1980'erne gennemgået en meget iøjnefaldende kunstnerisk udvikling. På et tidligt tidspunkt har han besluttet sig for først og fremmest at arbejde med det mest genstridige, men meget udtryksmættede materiale. Det drejer sig om granitten. Både i sit materialevalg og i sit formsprog har han skabt frugtbare og egenartede forbindelser mellem tradition og nybrud og mellem det nationale og det internationale. 1)

The visionary sculptor Claus Ørntoft has undergone a striking artistic development since the mid 1980's. He decided early on to work first and foremost with a most unyielding, but also richly expressive material. The material in question is granite. Both in his choice of material and his idiom, he has created fruitful and distinctive connections between tradition and innovation and between the national and the international. 1)

Den middelalderlige danske romanske skulptur rummer både originale træk og spor af indflydelse fra den samtidige europæiske kirkekunst. Mange af vor tids billedhuggere oplever, at den er både nærværende og aktuel, men kun få har formået at genskabe den på en nutidig og kunstnerisk overbevisende måde. Det er lykkedes Claus Ørntoft at gøre det med en meget selvstændig kunstnerisk udtrykskraft. Det viser Skulpturlandskab (1986-88) med al ønskelig tydelighed. Han har placeret et vænderhoved og et tyrehoved på to monumentale stenblokke, der giver den smalle Grønnegade i Odense en ny profil. For - som Grethe Grathwol har udtrykt det - "ved siden af Grønnegades mere formelle fysiske og rumlige karakter har Claus Ørntoft også inddraget pladsen og opfattet den som et "socialt rum." 2)

Danish Romanesque sculpture of the Middle Ages contains both original characteristics as well as traces of influence from the European religious art of the era. Many contemporary sculptors have found it to have both immediacy and relevance, but only a few have succeeded in reinventing it in a contemporary and creatively compelling way. Claus Ørntoft has succeeded in doing this with a very original creative expressiveness. Sculpture Landscape (1986-1988) demonstrates this amply. He has placed the head of a ram and the head of a bull on two monumental stone blocks and provided Grønnegade, a narrow street in Odense, with a new profile. Because - as Grethe Grathwol describes it - "in addition to Grønnegade's more formal physical and spatial character, Claus Ørntoft has also drawn in the Square and interpreted it as a "social space." 2)

De to skulpturer har den romanske stenhuggerkunsts fortættede udtrykskraft og stramme komposition, men fremtræder som selvstændige kunstværker. 3)

The two sculptures have the condensed expressive power and stringent composition of the art of the Romanesque stonemasons, but appear as autonomous artworks. 3)

Når man møder Claus Ørntofts skulpturer i skolegårde, på offentlige pladser, ude i naturen eller tæt

When one encounters Claus Ørntoft's sculptures in school playgrounds, in public places, out in nature



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Claus Ørntoft

Til venstre: Tre Strejfere, 1999-2001, Ballerup
To the left: Three Rovers, 1999 - 2001, Ballerup

Nedenfor: Grønnegade, Odense, 1986 - 88
Below: Grønnegade, Odense, 1986-88



Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

ved kirkerne, bliver man hver gang overrasket over, i hvilken grad de giver det rum, som de er placeret i, en ny identitet. De inspirerer os til at skabe nye sammenhænge i vort liv, samtidig med at de etablerer en ny ramme om vort hverdagsliv og stimulerer vor skabende aktivitet.

or close to churches, one is surprised every time by the degree to which they create a new identity for the spaces in which they are located. They inspire us to create new contexts in our lives, whilst establishing new parameters in our everyday lives and stimulating our creative activity.

På den brede trappe i Hedegårdsskolen i Ballerup har Claus Ørntoft placeret 180 cm lange og 2 tons tunge dyr, der springer ned ad trinnene. Dydrene er blevet døbt Tre strejfere (1999-2001) - måske fordi de er på vej til at skabe overraskende begivenheder. Hver på sin måde bryder de trappens symmetri, og som kunsthistorikeren Birgit Jenvold har udtrykt det: "De spredt vilde gnister i skolens funktionalistiske amfipård." 4) Det er første gang, at Claus Ørntoft har arbejdet intenst med at visualisere bevægelse og hastighed.

På en lille øde ø i nærheden af Kristiansand i Norge, ligger der et stort fabeldyr, som synes at være strandet. Det har fået navnet Indadvendt Stranding (2002). Det krummer sig sammen og hviler sit store hoved på strandkanten. Der er ikke tvivl om, at det skaber et nyt rum i det øde landskab og bidrager til en ny forståelse for og oplevelse af stedet.

Et 6 meter langt fascinerende havdyr ligger ude i havet, ved bystranden i Kristiansand, Norge. Drømmeren (2007) ser ud, som om den er gennemstrømmet af bølgende rytmer, der modsvares af havets bølgebevægelser.

Ulvetid (2009) er blevet placeret på forpladsen ved bygning nr. 8 i Nørre Uttrup Kaserne, Aalborg , der er et anonymt regelret byggeri. "Ulvene" er sprunget ind på den monotone plads og har præget den



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Claus Ørntoft

*Indadvendt strandning, Ny-Hellesund, Norge
Introverted Stranding, 2002, Ny-Hellesund, Norway*

med en voldsom bevægelse og en dynamisk struktur, der har givet den en ny identitet. De fire dyr har ulvens omrids, men udtrykker først og fremmest bevægelser, der er så voldsomme, at de – som kunstneren selv har udtrykt det – synes at befinde sig ”på grænsen af tyngdekraften” og derfor afdækker, at der er forløb i naturen, der er så uforudsigelige og fulde af dynamik, at de sprænger vor normaliserede forestillingsverden. Det er også grundten til, at Claus Ørntoft først har modelleret, senere hugget dem på en sådan måde, at den indre kraft i dyrene er spændt næsten til bristepunktet.

Den ene ulv samler benene – parat til et næsten

springagtigt forløb – de tre andre har fuld fart på. De

strækker benene ud – de er sikkert på vej til angreb.

”Ulvene” symboliserer ikke smidighed og hurtighed, de er det. Hertil kommer, at de meget intenst og udtryksfuldt anskueliggør essensen af en hurtig og smidig bevægelsesrytme. De viser, at Claus Ørntoft i endnu højere grad end tidligere har formået at få granitten til at udtrykke meget forskelligartede bevægelsesmønstre.

Disse erfaringer videreudvikler han på en ny overraskende og kunstnerisk overbevisende måde i sit seneste store projekt Tre løver og Ni Hjerter.

notorious forecourt and marked it with a vigorous movement and a dynamic structure, giving it a new identity. The four animals have the silhouette of a wolf, but express, first and foremost, movements that are so extreme that they - as the artist puts it - seem to exist “at the boundaries of gravity” and thus reveal that there are processes in nature that are so unpredictable and dynamic that they shatter the normalised scheme of things. This is also why Claus Ørntoft first modelled and later chiselled them so that the power within the animals is stretched close to breaking point.

One of the wolves gathers its legs, preparing for a series of bounding actions - the other three are going at full speed. They stretch out their legs - they are probably preparing to attack. The “Wolves” do not symbolise suppleness or speed, they are it. They also illustrate, very intensely and expressively, the essence of a rapid and lithe pattern of movement. They demonstrate that Claus Ørntoft has, to a greater extent than previously, succeeded in getting granite to express very diverse patterns of movement.

He develops these experiences further in a new, astonishing and creatively compelling way in his latest major project, Three Lions and Nine Hearts.

Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

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Claus Ørntoft

Til venstre: Drømmeren, 2007, Kristiansand, Norge
To the left: The Dreamer, 2007, Kristiansand, Norway

Nedenfor: Ulvetid, 2009, Aalborg
Below: The Hour of the Wolves, 2009, Aalborg

Noter:

- 1) I bogen *Billedhuggeren Claus Ørntoft* (2004) har Birgit Jen-vold skrevet et stort kapitel, som hun har kaldt "En mærkelig følelse for granit" (pp. 10-40). Heri har hun fremlagt en nuanceret og fin beskrivelse af Claus Ørntofts liv og virke og fortolket nogle af hans vigtigste skulpturer, der er skabt i perioden 1993-2004. I samme bog, som hun har redigeret sammen med Hanne Posche, har hun skrevet en meget nytig oversigt over Claus Ørntofts værker, som hun har kaldt "Ørntofts arbejder - en kommenteret kronologi." Den rummer både hendes egne og Claus Ørntofts oplysninger om og kommentarer til de enkelte skulpturværker.
- 2) Grethe Grathwol, "Claus Ørntofts udsmykning til Grønnegade i Odense", *Claus Ørntoft. Granitarbejder 1985-1993*, 1993, p 4.
- 3) I kapitlet "Gotis gener - romanske associationer" i bogen *Billedhuggeren Claus Ørntoft* giver Inger-Lise Kolstrup et indblik i sammenhængen mellem Claus Ørntofts skulpturer og romansk billedhuggerkunst.
- 4) "The sculptor Claus Ørntoft" up. cit., p 84.



Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

Notes:

- 1) In the book *Billedhuggeren Claus Ørntoft* (2004) Birgit Jen-vold has written a great chapter, which she has called "A strange feeling of granite" (pp. 10-40). Here she has produced a nuanced and delicate description of Claus Ørntoft's life and work and interpreted some of his most important sculptures, created in the period 1993-2004. In the same book, which she edited together with Hanne Posche, she has written a very useful overview of Claus Ørntoft works, which she has called "Ørntoft work - an annotated chronology." It contains both her own and Claus Ørntoft information and comments for each sculpture works.

2) Grethe Grathwol, "Claus Ørntofts udsmykning til Grønnegade i Odense", *Claus Ørntoft. Granitarbejder 1985-1993*, 1993, p 4.

3) In the chapter "Gotis gener - romanesque associationer" in the book "The sculptor Claus Ørntoft" Inger-Lise Kolstrup provides an account of the relationship between Claus Ørntoft sculptures and Romanesque sculpture.

4) "The sculptor Claus Ørntoft" up. cit., p 84.

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Om udstillingerne Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter

About the exhibitions Three Lions and Nine Hearts

*Birgit Jenvold
Museumsinspektør/Curator*

"Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter" damper af energi og kraft, og løverne er spændt til det yderste. Det er monumental dynamik, så man tror, det er umuligt.

"Three Lions and Nine Hearts" exudes energy and power, and the lions are strained to the utmost. There is such monumental dynamism, that you would think it impossible.

Særudstillingen om arbejdsprocessen med skitser og modeller til billedhuggeren Claus Ørntofts skulpturinstallation "Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter" vistes fra den 3. november 2012 til og med den 1. januar 2013 på De Danske Kongers Kronologiske Samlings afdeling på Amalienborgmuseet. Efterfølgende kunne den ses på Aarhus Rådhus, og Kunstabgningen i Vrå i løbet af 2013. Udstillingerne fulgte efter afsløringen af værket i granit, der fandt sted i Marselisborg Slotspark med Hedes Majestæt Dronningens deltagelse den 26. oktober 2012.

De tre løver er sprunget ud af Danmarks rigsvåben i fuldt firspring, og hjerterne/søbladene er fulgt med. Billedhuggeren Claus Ørntoft har udført den imponerende skulpturinstallation "Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter" til Marselisborg Slotspark. Værket, der tager udgangspunkt i rigsvåbenet, er - efter ønske - en gave til Hedes Majestæt Dronningen ved 70-års-dagen i 2010 fra bl.a. Aarhus Kommune, en række fonde og organisationer. Den 26. oktober 2012 blev værket afsløret i parken ved Marselisborg Slot i Aarhus. Parken er åben for offentligheden det meste af året, og her kan skulpturinstallationen ses i parkens åbningstid, når slottet ikke er beboet.

The Danish sculptor Claus Ørntoft has created the impressive sculptural installation "Three Lions and Nine Hearts" for the park at Marselisborg Palace. The work, which is inspired by the national coat of arms, is — as wished for — a present to Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II on the occasion of her 70th birthday in 2010, given by Aarhus Council, and a number of foundations and organizations. The work was unveiled on 26 October 2012 in the park at Marselisborg Palace in Aarhus, which is Denmark's second biggest city. The park is open to the public for most of the year, and the sculptural installation can be seen in the park's opening hours, when no-one is resident at the palace.

"Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter" damper af energi og kraft, og løverne er spændt til det yderste. Det er monumental dynamik, så man tror, det er umuligt. Efter at have fulgt Claus Ørntofts arbejde i mere end tyve år er det en fornøjelse at konstatere, at endnu et hovedværk i billedhuggerkunsten er manet frem af granitten.

Having followed Claus Ørntoft's work for more than twenty years, it is a pleasure to see that another major sculptural work has been conjured from the granite.

The special exhibition about the sculptor Claus Ørntoft's working process with sketches and models for the sculptural installation "Three Lions and Nine Hearts", was shown from 3 November 2012 to 13 January 2013 at The Amalienborg Museum, part of The Danish Royal Collections. It could also be seen in Aarhus, and Vrå in the course of 2013. The exhibitions followed the unveiling of the work in granite, which took place in the park of Marselisborg palace with Her Majesty the Queen in attendance on 26 October 2012.



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Claus Ørntoft

*Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter, Amalienborg 2012
Three Lions and Nine Hearts, Amalienborg 2012*

Udstillingerne omfattede

- Tegnede skitser og forarbejder, herunder 16 lithografier og 6 heliografier, trykt på det Grafiske Værksted i Hjørring
- Bronzemodeller af de tre løver i målestok 1:14, 1:5 og 1:3
- Glasfibermodeller af de tre løver i målestok 1:1
- To bøger med litografier i granitomslag, 1 og 2 af i alt ni nummererede eksemplarer
- Fem mapper med projektpræsentationer fra 2008 til 2012
- Fotos af arbejdssproces, afsløring og placering i parken
- Tv-program, der følger processen med "Tre Løver og Ni hjerter", produceret af TV2 Nord

The exhibitions included

- Sketches by hand and preliminary works, including 16 lithographs and 6 heliographs printed at The Print Workshop in Hjørring.
- Bronze models of the three lions in approx.1:14, 1:5, and 1:3 scales.
- Fibreglass models of the three lions in 1:1 scale.
- Two books of lithographs with granite covers, two of a total of nine numbered copies.
- Five folders of project presentations from 2008 to 2012.
- Photographs of the working process, unveiling, and position in the park.
- TV program produced by TV2 Nord, which follows the long process of creating "Three Lions and Nine Hearts"

Lenders

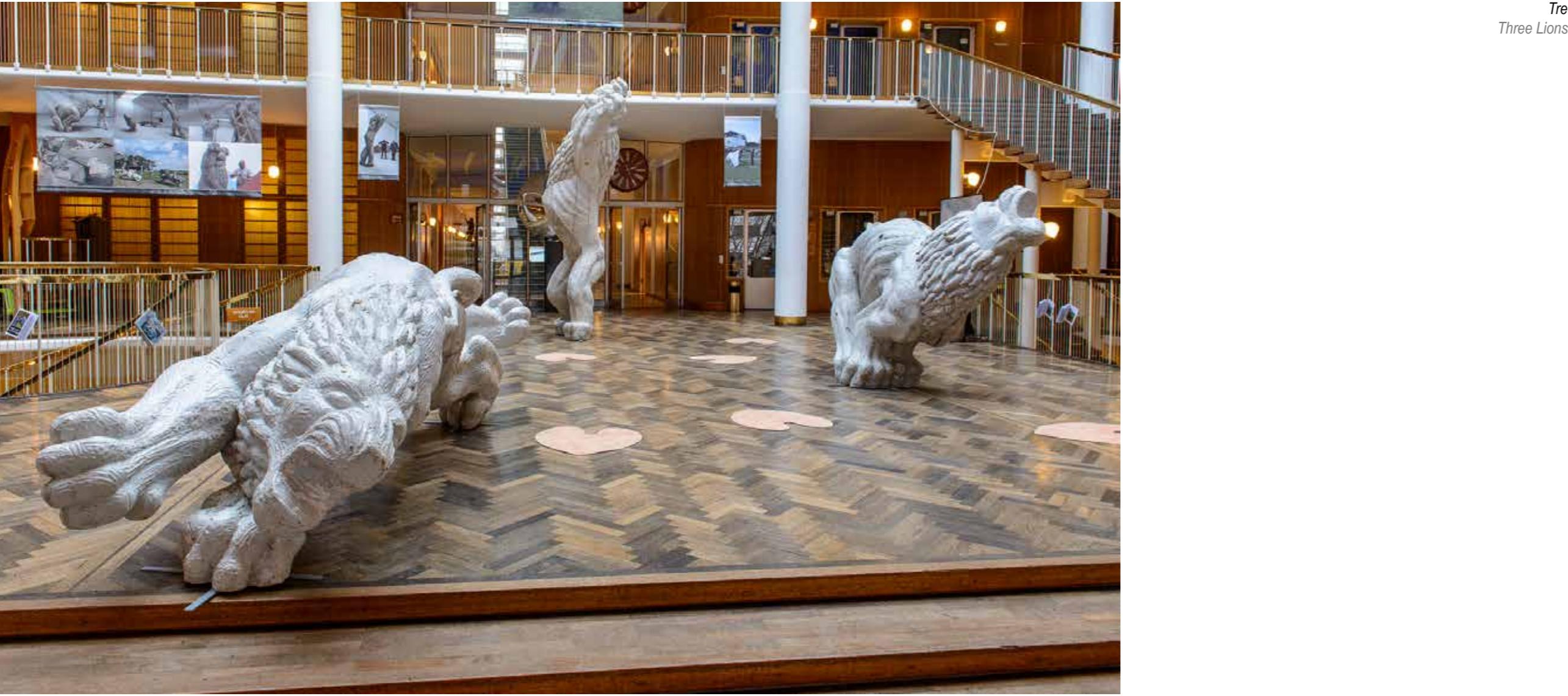
Hendes Majestæt Dronningen
Claus Ørntoft
Det Grafiske Værksted i Hjørring
Karin Salling
TV2 Nord

Donors

The sculptural installation is a present to Her Majesty the Queen on the occasion of her 70th birthday in 2010.
The donors are: Port of Aarhus, Aarhus Municipality, Aarhus University, Aksel Hjort Nielsen, Claus Hommelhoff, Danmarks Rederiforening, Danske Bank, Dansk Arbejdsgiverforening, Dansk Erhverv, Den Obelske Familiefond, Dronning Margrethes og Prins Henriks Fond, Finansrådet, Karin Salling, Landbrug og Fødevarer, Pressalit, Realkredit-

Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

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Claus Ørntoft

Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter, Aarhus Rådhus 2013
Three Lions and Nine Hearts, Aarhus Town Hall, 2013

foreningen, Realkreditrådet, Region Midtjylland,
Skykon, Stibo-Fonden og Systemfrugt.

Yderligere information

www.orntoft.com

www.amalienborgmuseet.dk

Billedhuggeren Claus Ørntoft, red. Birgit Jenvold
og Hanne Posche. Thaning & Appel, 2004.

Udstillingskatalog Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter, red Birgit
Jenvold og Hanne Posche. Amalienborgmuseet 2012

Prince Henrik's Foundation, The Danish Bankers
Association, Karin Salling, Danish Agriculture
& Food Council, Pressalit, Realkreditforeningen,
Association of Danish Mortgage Bankers, Central
Denmark Region, Skykon, Stibo-Foundation, and
Systemfrugt.

Further Information

www.orntoft.com
www.amalienborgmuseet.dk

Billedhuggeren Claus Ørntoft, ed. Birgit Jenvold
and Hanne Posche. Thaning & Appel, 2004.

Exhibition catalogue Three Lions and Nine Hearts. ed.
Birgit Jenvold and Hanne Posche. The Amalienborg
Museum 2012

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Claus Ørntoft

Til venstre: Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter,
Marselisborg Slotspark 2013
To the left: Three Lions and Nine Hearts,
Marselisborg Palace Park, 2013

Til højre: Løvebænken, Marselisborg Slotspark 2013.
Granitbænken var Aarhus Bys gave til Dronningen i forbindelse
med hendes 40 års jubilæum som regent i januar 2012
To the right: Lion bench, Marselisborg Palace Park 2013.
Granite bench, Aarhus City gift to the Queen for her
40th anniversary as ruler in January 2012



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Tre Løver og Ni Hjerter / Three Lions and Nine Hearts

Indeks

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Alle tekster og fotos er gengivet med ophavsretshavers tilladelse.

En særlig tak til Birgit Jenvold, museumsinspektør, De Danske Kongers Kronologiske Samling, Amalienborgmuseet for at stille materialet fra udstillingskataloget til rådighed for denne bog.

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Claus Ørntoft:

Side/ Page 14, 16, 25, 30, 31, 66, 67, 70, 71, 72, 74, 75, 78, 80

Hans Kiib:

Side/ Page 57, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65

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