

Art at Oslo Airport

The main aim of the artistic decoration at Oslo Airport was to “bring works into the airport’s buildings and open spaces that were independent expressions of high artistic quality and intrinsic value - linked to place, time and function,” as it says in the main plan for ornamentation that was formulated in connection with the development of Oslo Airport. “The ornamentation should stimulate the experience of the public when they arrive at the airport. It should reinforce the memory of a journey, of a country, of a place one has been and of meetings with people. It can give inspiration and experiences to those who come and to those who leave. The art should function for those who see it; for those who overlook it, it should also function - as an echo, a mood, an unconscious impression.

“The ornamentations should demonstrate a will to focus on art and ornamentation in a size and with a quality that reflects the airport’s national significance. The desire is to show a large and international audience the diversity of the arts in Norway. The distinctively Norwegian should come as a reflection of the landscape and architecture of the place. As a whole, together with the building and installations, the art will be a picture of its time,” as the plan continues. The choice of artists was made through both open and invitational competitions and judged by an ornamentation committee. The following artists have contributed to the ornamentation:

Kåre Groven’s well known sculpture "Utkast" has been moved from Fornebu and now meets travellers outside the terminal.

<http://www.museumsnett.no/alias/frysja/kunstnere/Groven/Groven.htm>

Per Inge Bjørlo has created the sculpture series "Alexis" consisting of six sculptures in stainless steel. They are located in the departure hall, the arrivals hall and the railway station. With their sensual presence and withdrawn calm, the sculptures give a signal of common human experience. Per Inge Bjørlo works with a strong personal artistic expression and the high quality of his exhibited work has gained him great national and international recognition. He has, for example, represented Norway at the Venice and Sao Paulo biennials, has been purchased by most public collections and has had several commissions for public artwork.

<http://www.kunstnerforbundet.no/kunstnere/55>

Carin Wessel has produced two textile constructions called "Ad Astra". One of them appears like a glowing cloud under the roof of the departures hall, right after security control; the other stretches like a nerve from the floor of the arrivals hall to the roof of the departures hall. Carin Wessel is an experienced textile artist who has had many significant commissions for ornamentation, including in government buildings. She is represented in public museums and collections and has gained great recognition through her clear, strongly coloured artistic expression and technical daring.

<http://www.kunstnerforbundet.no/kunstnere/437>

Anna Karin Rynander has contributed "Human in Motion" – eleven sound showers and two marathon dancers. In the sound showers, travellers experience various sound images and moods when they stand within a marked circle under the “shower”. The sound showers are located in the departures hall and the arrivals hall. The two marathon dancers greet travellers in baggage reclaim. The work consists of two light boards. Anna Karin Rynander is a young artist who has made an impact through her use of computer and video technology in an exciting and original artistic expression.

<http://www.rynander.com/>

Sidsel Westbø has decorated the glass walls in the six overhead walkways in the piers. The building’s light and open character is reflected through the abstraction of various landscape motifs and with a sure hand for drawing, use of colour and composition. Sidsel Westbø is a very experienced and highly respected artist. In her work as a graphic artist she has worked

particularly with small formats. She is represented in important collections and museums, including the National Gallery and the Museum of Contemporary Art.

<http://www.kunstnerforbundet.no/kunstnere/315>

Gunnar Thorsen has created "Skål", four drinking fountains in concrete, aluminium and wood fired stoneware. The fountains, which provide travellers with free Norwegian drinking water, also reflect the ground water reservoir that lies beneath the airport. The fountains are located in the piers. Gunnar Thorsen's ceramic work displays a materials based and strongly ornamental artistic expression. Thorsen has gained widespread recognition for his deliberate and investigative work on the relationship between form and function.

<http://www.kunstnerforbundet.no/kunstnere/293>

Jon Gundersen has provided "Dobbeltspiral – ROGGBIF", an installation in expanded metal for the pedestrian zone in car park P10. The material is of the same type as is used in the walls along the corridor and the title refers to the figurative illusions of intertwining spirals, created from elements consisting of overlapping "V"s. ROGGBIF stands for the initials of the colours red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet, in Norwegian. Gundersen studied at the national college Statens Håndverks og Kunst- og industrihøgskole. Many of his works are based on stone and wooden materials or the used items that we surround ourselves with. He puts these together and brings out the associative possibilities that lie within the objects. Gundersen has had very many commissions for work for public and private buildings. Museums that have purchased his work include the National Museum of Art in Oslo, Bergen Museum of Art and the North Norwegian Museum of Art in Tromsø.

<http://www.kunstnerforbundet.no/kunstnere/353>

Jan Groth has created the wall hanging for the quiet room located in the domestic pier. Through his black and white tapestry work, Groth has created his own expression of stillness and poetry. Jan Groth's work has been purchased by many well known galleries and collections, including the Metropolitan Museum in New York, the Guggenheim, the Tate Gallery, the Gobelins museum in Paris and the National Gallery.

Kai Gjølseth (graphic designer) has chosen and given form to 26 quotations that are to be found in the floors of the piers and the departure hall. The quotations are a mixture of Norwegian sayings, old Norse poetry and the verse of modern Norwegian poets. They are presented in 16 different languages.

Elisabeth von Krogh has provided two still life arrangements of ceramic pots. The pots stand on two plinths in the arrivals and departures levels of the railway station. Elisabeth von Krogh is a widely recognised potter who exhibits frequently and has experience of many public commissions. Her work has been purchased by the museums of decorative art and design in Bergen, Oslo and Trondheim, among others.

<http://www.kunstnerforbundet.no/kunstnere/175>

Floor boxes is a project consisting of 32 artworks made by nine different artists. The works have been placed in 30x30cm glass boxes recessed into the floor in the railway station and by the baggage carousels.

The artists are:

Anne Skaansar with "Ulriksfjellet"

<http://www.cs55.no/anneskaansar>

Karin Margaretha Valum with "Blomsterkraft"

<http://www.valum.no/index.htm>

Per Jonas Lindstrøm with "Blandet drops"

<http://www.kik.no/person.jsp?id=T1452286>

Kristin Wexelsen Goksøyr with "Under jorden"
<http://www.kunstnerforbundet.no/kunstnere/110>

Dag Skedsmo with "2 Plan"
<http://kunst.no/dag-sked/>

Karen Klim with "Meteor"
<http://www.kunstnerforbundet.no/kunstnere/168>

Sofie Persvik with "Troll i eske"
<http://www.kik.no/person.jsp?id=T1451322>