

LIFE-BOATS

A SAILING SCULPTURAL INSTALLATION IN CONCRETE



BY ARTIST MARIT BENTHE NØRHEIM

WITH DIRECT SOCIAL PARTICIPATION AND ARTISTIC EXCHANGE
AND INCORPORATED MUSIC BY COMPOSER GEIR JOHNSON

Life-boats is an art installation in the form of three sailing figureheads depicting a life cycle in different stages: The young woman on her way out into the world (My Ship is Loaded with Longing); the pregnant woman (My Ship is Loaded with Life) and the aging woman (My Ship is Loaded with Memories). Life-Boats is co-creative art in motion. Through dialogue and artistic exchange, the art is brought to fruition in the encounter with the audience - across borders - along the old waterways of Europe. Environmentally friendly electric motors provide the energy. The alternating crew of the ships communicate the art from location to location.

Marit Benthe Norheim's work is ARTIVISM for PEACE, for the importance of sharing our personal stories and DREAMS across cultures and, most importantly, for the crucial COOPERATION on humanity's huge challenges.

"Everyone has been inside a woman. In there, life is created and nourished. We share all the biological components in a life cycle, which means that there is far more that unites us as humans than separates us". Quote: Marit Benthe Norheim.

Every sculpture has its own identity and story/narrative as their external appearance and their interior relate.

The project has taken eight years to complete in collaboration with a ship engineer, boat builder and other craftsmen, students, artists and researchers. Approximately 500 people of all ages, occupations, cultures etc. have contributed. In 2016-2017, Life-boats sailed with volunteers under the auspices of the European Capital of Culture Aarhus2017 where they visited more than 60 different ports. Aalborg is the home port for Life-boats.

The summer voyage of 2019 sets off from Aalborg and sails along the East coast of Vendsyssel.

FOR SAILING PLAN AND MORE SEE WWW.LIFE-BOATS.COM, AND FOLLOW LIFE-BOATS ON FACEBOOK



Photo: Life-boats in front of Copenhagen Contemporary on Papirøen in Copenhagen

TECHNICAL DETAILS:

LENGTH: 12 METERS

HEIGHT: 3 METERS, DRAUGHT 1.2 METERS

WEIGHT: EACH BOAT WEIGHS APPROXIMATELY 20 METRIC TON OF WHICH ABOUT HALF IS BALLAST.

OPERATION: $2 \times 13 \text{ KW} = 26 \text{ KW}$ ELECTRIC MOTORS WITH BOW AND STERN PROPELLERS. EACH ELECTRIC MOTOR IS DRIVEN BY 84 ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY, RECHARGEABLE DRY CELL BATTERIES. 98 PERCENT CAN BE RE-USED WHEN THE BATTERIES ARE SPENT.

THEY ARE CONSTRUCTED LIKE CANAL BOATS IN FERROCEMENT IN COLLABORATION WITH SHIPPING ENGINEER AND FERROCEMENT-BOAT BUILDERS

THE SHIPS ARE CE CERTIFIED IHT. CATEGORY C AND APPROVED FOR COASTAL SAILING FOR UP TO 8 M / SEK. THEY SAIL UP TO FOUR NAUTICAL MILES PER HOUR.

CREW IN EACH BOAT: CAPTAIN, FIRST MATE AND DECK HANDS

THE PROJECT IS RUN BY THE INDEPENDENT INSTITUTION LBSS (LIFE BOATS SALING SCULPTURES) AND THE LIFE BOAT SUPPORT ASSOCIATION.



TOP: MY SHIP IS LOADED WITH MEMORIES DURING SAILING AND BUILDING PROCESS. **MIDDLE:** MY SHIP IS LOADED WITH LIFE, DURING SAILING AND CONSTRUCTION PROCESS. **BELOW:** MY SHIP IS LOADED WITH LONGING, DURING SAILING AND CASTING/MOLDING PROCESS

PORTS VISITED BY LIFE BOATS: AALBORG, GJØL, LØGSTØR, GLYNGØRE, JEGINDØ, STRUER, LEMVIG, THYBORØN, THISTED, NYKØBING-MORS, SKIVE, MARIAGER FJORD, HADSUND, RANDERS, GRNÅ, EBEITØFT, AARHUS, HOU, HORSSENS, JUELSPINDE, FREDERICIA, MIDDELFART, ASSENS, FÅBØRG, SVENDSBORG, LOHALS, KARREBAEKSPINDE, VORDINGSBORG, RØDVIK, DRAGØR, KØBENHAVN PAPIRØEN, SØNDERBORG, GRÅSTEN, AUGUSTENBORG, ÅBENRÅ, HADERSLEV, VEJLE, UDBYHØJ, HALS

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