

Press Release – July 2026

On Friday, 31 July, the Banner Gang of the Fjaltring–Trans Residents' Association and the association ET4U once again invite the public to the opening of a new banner exhibition along Thorsmindevej at the entrance to the village of Fjaltring.

The Mermaids from Fjaltring

- created especially for the occasion by the Polish artist Malgorzata Malwina Niespodziewana.

About the banners, Malgorzata Malwina Niespodziewana says:

"The Mermaids from Fjaltring is inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's *The Little Mermaid*. The fairy tale invites multiple interpretations; my primary interest lies in the sisters, who support and protect one another. For many years, I have explored the figure of the mermaid from mythological, symbolic, feminist, narrative, and research-based perspectives. Through the analysis of literary texts and visual representations, I reflect on themes of sisterhood, community, participation, and the body in art.

The Mermaids from Fjaltring is my contribution to the ongoing discussion about the role of artistic language, as well as to new interpretations of fairy tales and cultural heritage."

Niespodziewana is primarily a printmaker, but she also works with objects, installations, and video. She graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Kraków, holds a PhD, and is Professor at the University of the National Education Commission in Kraków.

The body is a central point of reference throughout her artistic practice, which also engages with the biographies, writings, and artistic practices of women avant-garde artists such as Katarzyna Kobro, Erna Rosenstein, and Maria Jarema.

Her work further explores narrative themes centred on female figures in fairy tales, viewed from feminist, anarchist, and critical perspectives. At the same time, she investigates the motif of the transformation of the female body, for example into a plant or an animal.

Niespodziewana has participated in numerous solo and group exhibitions around the world, and her work is represented in several international collections.

An important aspect of the banner exhibition programme in Fjaltring is that each exhibiting artist visits the village. Niespodziewana will be in residence in Fjaltring during **Week 43**, where, among other activities, she will meet pupils at Fjaltring Friskole. The week will conclude with a **Polish community dinner on 25 October**, followed by an artist talk in which Niespodziewana will present both her banner exhibition and her wider artistic practice.

The exhibition opens on **31 July at 5:00 pm** and will remain on view in Fjaltring until **18 December 2026**.

In the summer of **2027**, the exhibition will travel to the village of **Sønder Nissum**.

The exhibition is supported by the **Danish Arts Foundation** and **Erasmus+**. In addition, the **Sønder Nissum Citizens' and Sports Association** has secured funding for the exhibition from **Holstebro Municipality**.