

ALEXANDRIA

Benjamin A.H. Harpsøe (DK).
MFA-Exhibition, KHM2, Digital Version Malmö Art Academy
5 June 2020 – 20 June 2020



Exploring the notion of art as alchemy, that is the manipulation and transformation of materials into works of art, Benjamin A.H. Harpsøe examines the interrelation between science, spirituality, magic and art. Questioning the agency of objects, automatization and digitalization are placed in synergy with shamanic and religious signifiers, collectively narrating an investigation into the self.

Through the usage of nostalgic elements derived from his childhood home and upbringing at the Free Town Christiania this presents itself as a ritual of autobiographical translation. These elements function as footprints of the past - projecting meaning onto the future. Mimicking the way Christiania's bulwark of culture and spirituality seemingly stands against capitalist society, the works of art exist as practices of esoteric spirituality, alternating the notions of animism and shamanism, cultural connectivity, individuality and freedom.

The boundaries and hierarchies between human practice, spirituality and materiality are broken down, as Harpsøe's specificity of art presents itself as an interface between societies constituting structures and firm definitions, providing a new sensibility and bringing the ideology of Christiania into the future.

Benjamin A.H. Harpsøe (1986) lives and works in Copenhagen, Denmark
2020 Will graduate this summer from the master programme at Malmö Art Academy
2016 BFA the Royal Academy of Art, The Hague.