

Fotografisk Center presents the exhibition *In the Past We Made History* with the artists Tina Enghoff og Kent Klich focusing on testimonies, memory and the writing of history

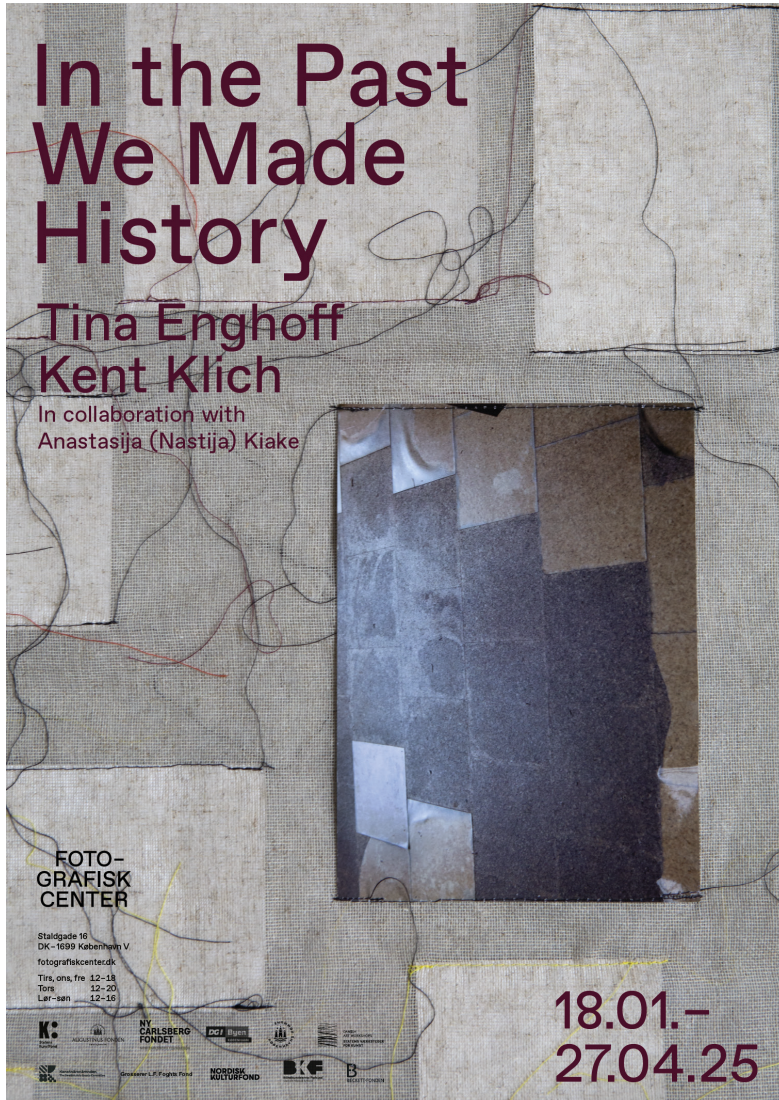


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© Tina Enghoff & Kent Klich: *In the Past We Made History*

Fotografisk Center presents the exhibition *In the Past We Made History* with the artists Tina Enghoff and Kent Klich in collaboration with Anastasija (Nastija) Kiake. The exhibition unfolds a comprehensive archive created in collaboration with people with refugee experience and takes its point of departure in 89 closed refugee asylum centers and emergency aid centers in Denmark that the artists have visited and documented in photography and video. The exhibition focuses on archives, personal testimonies, memory and the writing of history.

Opening: January 17, 5-7 pm
Exhibition period: January 18 – April 27, 2025

Staldgade 16
1699 København V
Danmark

info@fotografiskcenter.dk
fotografiskcenter.dk
+45 3393 0996

Memory fragments from 89 locations

In 2015, Europe experienced a large refugee and migrant crisis with over one million people seeking refuge. *In the Past We Made History* is an artistic inquiry in the form of an archive, focusing on strategies of remembering and bearing witness which are often left out of collective memory or official history writing. Consisting of oral history, photography, photogrammetry, and video installations, the archive forms a living tapestry as it continues to open itself up to change and transformation. The different threads can be seen as multiple timelines that bend the past and the present.

The archive interweaves the memory fragments of 89 locations in Denmark that functioned as refugee asylum centers and emergency aid centers for people with refugee experience until 2018. During the period from 2022-24 the artists have documented the architecture – buildings, rooms, surface textures – that shaped the framework of the newcomers' daily lives. These images are juxtaposed with photographs from local archives from all over Denmark and represent a broader history of migration.

Personal life stories and testimonies

People/Danes with refugee experience who have links to the local refugee asylum centers and emergency aid centers have actively collaborated with the artists, selecting from a wide range of photographs to establish the format of the archive and deciding what would be worth preserving. The archive thus unfolds and intertwines as individual archives as well as a collective archive, offering an opportunity to renegotiate and retell history, while bringing personal life stories and testimonies into focus.

The years between 2015-18 marked a paradigm shift in Denmark – from welcoming refugees to pursuing a more restrictive immigration policy. The archive *In the Past We Made History* aims to hold space for the importance of that period, as these former centers are now either already excluded or in the process of being erased from public memory in Denmark. This is expressed by the absence from the archives as much as in the repurposing and demolition of the buildings across the country.

The exhibition is supported by the Danish Arts Foundation, the Augustinus Foundation, and the New Carlsberg Foundation. The artists' production of works for the exhibition is supported by Danish Visual Artists, the Danish Arts Foundation, the Danish Art Workshops, the Council for Visual Arts, Grosserer L.F. Foghts Fond, the Beckett-Foundation, the Nordic Culture Fund: Opstart, and the Swedish Arts Grant Committee.

Event program

In connection to the exhibition a series of events will be held that unfolds *In the Past We Made History* and its themes:

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- Talk: "...as displacement and forced migration continues" January 30 at 5-6.30pm. Read more [here](#).
- Talk: "Witnesses, museums and alternative archives" February 27 at 5-6.30pm. Read more [here](#).
- Talk: "Untold stories given, a collaborative practice of sharing" March 13 at 5-6.30pm. Read more [here](#).
- Finissage April 24 at 4-6pm. Read more [here](#).

Practical information and contact

For further information please contact Fotografisk Center: +45 33930996 / sks@fotografiskcenter.dk. Press images are available [here](#).
Read more about the exhibition [here](#).

On occasion of the exhibition *In the Past We Made History* teaching material will be produced. The material can be downloaded for free from January 18 [here](#). All primary schools and high schools in the Municipality of Copenhagen have free access to Fotografisk Center.

For further information and opening hours please visit www.fotografiskcenter.dk

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