

Report on the Art Exhibition of 20 artists from February 7-28, 2022

The Third Art Exhibition in observance of UN World InterFaith Harmony

Venue: Kolding Main Library, Denmark

1. Setting up the Art Exhibition at Kolding Library, Denmark (February 7 from 12-5 pm)

It was necessary for us to negotiate with Kolding Library, to be allowed to start the Art Exhibition that should fall on any day within the first week of February 1-7, giving us the feeling of oneness with others throughout the world, that mark globally the World InterFaith Harmony Week on that same week.

We were fortunate to have made an earlier reservation for the Art Exhibition, which allowed the art exhibition to run for three weeks from February 7 to February 28.

20 artists accepted our invitation to an Art Exhibition with art works that could display images of love, mercy, peace, faith, fellowship, solidarity, responsibility, beauty of nature and our habitat in natural environment. The library provided us with 22 display boards. Two of these exhibition boards were used for information on World Interfaith Harmony Week and citations of religious texts in different religions on Love of God and Love of the Neighbor and Love for the good and some information on other activities we have planned to carry out to mark the global event until March. We were also provided with tables to place the artists' visit cards, leaflets, postcards or information on their art. The library also provided us with the materials related to hanging of paintings like hooks, ropes, steel wires, pins, thumbtacks.

We started setting up the scene for the Art Exhibition at 12 am and we finished at 5 pm. The Art exhibition displayed art of graphic design, paintings by acrylic and oil and one artist had collage out of collected drifted material from the beach. 62 pieces of art works in different sizes were on display boards. The artists were satisfied how the two rows of the display boards were placed side by side, giving an open space at the center for the meeting or encounters with people. That afternoon of February 7 was the start of the exhibition, when people started peeping and looking at the displayed paintings and prepared to know that the exhibition was scheduled to be on public display for three weeks.

2. The Launching and Formal Opening of the Art Exhibition on February 11 at 3 - 6 pm

Kunstudstilling: UN World InterFaith Harmony Week
Kolding Bibliotek: d. 07.02.22 – 28.02.22



Kunstnere
Karen Ellegård
Karen Friis
Annemette Vesterlund
Bodil Lund
Birthe Engedal Nissen
Jessica Reinert
Yousif Hamawandi
Jørgen Ibenfeldt
Anne Marie Mosegaard
Elin Johansen
Jytte L. Christensen
Karin Mogensen
Jasmin Clausen
Diddi Krarup
Kirsten Ellerkamp
Anni Rasmussen
Bodil Overgaard Junge
Merete Bang Thomsen
Batol Koulin
Elizabeth Padillo Olesen

WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK

The Official UN Observance in the 1st Week of February
Kom med til udstillingens
FERNISERING
D. 11. februar kl. 15.00
Koldings nye Viceborgmester Birgitte Munk Grunnet
holder åbningstalen.
The Filipino Singing Friends
vil optræde med sange fra deres traditionsarv.
Mød alle 18 kunstnere
Arrangeret af Kolding Provsti Tværkulturelle Arbejde
Kom og vær med

Adresse: Slotsøvejen 4, 6000 Kolding

The afternoon started with snacks over cup of tea and coffee with choices of Arabic, Burmese, Philippine and Danish delicacies. We had two volunteers who prepared tea and coffee at the library and who did serve the attending participants for health reasons.

See the program of the Launching/Formal Opening of the Art Exhibition as a separate document.

Elizabeth Padillo Olesen of the Cross-cultural Ministry of Kolding Deanery and Biak Chin Par Lian, the new Consultant coordinator of the Church Migrant Cooperation Ministry in Haderslev Diocese said words of welcome.

Other forms of art, like songs, music and dance got also place in the opening event. The Philippine Singing Group sang songs of Love of God and Love of the Neighbor. And they also danced the Filipino folksong, "Sa Labis ng Nasyon", partly affirming our common innate human freedom as seen in the movement of the winds, waves and the trees... They also led the community singing of a song about a dream for a wonderful world.

The Vice Mayor, Birgitte Grunett Mørk, gave the opening speech, which affirmed how our religions shape us as a great part of our identity and meaningful existence. She pointed out also how art and culture bind us together in something beautiful, we can appreciate and enjoy. She declared her public support for the UN World InterFaith Harmony Week and thanked the artists to have joined in the common work for love, peace and harmony.

The organist, Bente Ibenfeldt, gave a musical number of her own composition. She also played the piano, while people took time to have coffee, tea and snacks. She also accompanied the audience in singing the second song, "*En kæde af evige bånd*" (*A chain of eternal binds or links*) an old Danish song that points out the things that bind people together in life. (*Enclosed is the copy of song*)

Every artist was called to come forward and each received a token of appreciation- flower and a box of chocolate, presented to by Biak Chin Par Lian, together with Maria Jensen, a representative from the Board of the Cross Cultural Ministry of Kolding Deanery.

Something strange and beautiful took place in that exhibition: a young boy on a wheel chair at 13 year old came and presented his painting of joy in colors, acrylic 20x20 cm. and this offered art was also made part in the exhibition, making him the no. 21 artist. Poul Langkjær also received a token of appreciation.

Then the Art Exhibition was opened to the public, making it was possible see the works of art closely and for people to be free to go around and speak to the artists or ask questions.

The program started at 3 and continued until 6 pm. The library is open from Monday to Thursday at 8 am to 9 pm and open on Friday from 8 am to 6 pm and also open on Saturdays. The librarian informed that each day the Library has a thousand guests who get the chance to see and pass by the Art Exhibition.

We are now on talks about finding dates for the next Art Exhibition in observance of World Inter-Faith Harmony Week 2023. There are also new artists that have now registered for the next Art Exhibition

Links and materials:

1. The poster for the Opening of the Art Exhibition
2. The Program of the Launching/the Formal Opening of the Art Exhibition
3. The information given on the event by Kolding Library and the Kulturnaut in Kolding
4. Video of the Speech of the vice mayor: Birgitte Munk Grunnet
5. 3 Photos of the visit of the children fews days after the hanging up of the art works
6. Local video from the Facebook profile of Migrantsamarbejde Folkekirken in Haderslev Stift on the Launching of the Art Exhibition
7. Two songs for community singing
8. Youtube video on the Launching/Formal Opening of the Art Exhibition by Jonas Bock Nielsen

3 photos of the visit of the children few days after the hanging up of the art works. One of our artists, Jasmine Clausen Lund, oriented the children to the Art Exhibition





