



TOO MANY CHEFS?

Curating Emotion, Collaboration, and Imagination.

MA Symposium

January 17–18, 2026

UKS Young Artists' Society, [Keyzers gate 1, 0165 Oslo, Norway](#)

Too Many Chefs? is a two-day public symposium exploring curating as a collaborative, imaginative, and emotionally engaged interdisciplinary practice. Bringing together 24 curators from the Master's programme in Curating at Aarhus University, the event presents current research into how curatorial work can be rethought as a social, sensory, and political act rather than a strictly institutional role.

Through experimental presentations, participatory formats, performed research, and collective exercises, the symposium asks how curating can operate as an expanded practice. The title *Too Many Chefs?* playfully challenges traditional hierarchies in curatorial work and proposes co-creation, collective agency, and shared authorship as fertile grounds for new cultural forms.

Hosted in Oslo at the UKS Young Artists' Society, the symposium invites audiences to reflect on how three intersecting themes shaping current curatorial discourse:

Collaboration: Co-creation, audience engagement, and distributed authorship.

How can curators, artists, and communities develop work together without reinforcing existing power structures?

Imagination: Re-reading histories and envisioning alternative futures through speculative and activist approaches. How might curatorial methodologies generate new forms of knowledge, solidarity, and world-building?

Emotion: Affect, empathy, vulnerability, and embodied spectatorship. How do emotional registers inform curatorial experience, and how can curators design spaces that support complex, communal, or sensory engagements?

January 17

09:30	09:40	intro	
09:40	10:10	Morten Mechlenborg Nørulf	Curating the night: Queer raves as sites of curatorial knowledge production
10:15	10:45	Sofie Søndervik Saether	Norm creative curating
10:50	11:20	Ekaterina Yakovenko	From lived spaces to places of memory: the role of place in shaping collective memory.
11:20	11:35	break	
11:35	12:05	Alexandra Hollis	One exhibition, endless narratives
12:05	12:35	Karin Gottlieb	The crisis of imagination
12:40	13:10	Ida Leisner	Imaginations of transgressive art museum exhibitions
13:10	14:10	lunch	
14:10	14:40	Michael Jonassen Nielsen	Risks of Hubris in Curatorial Communication
14:45	15:15	Phil Scott	A Thousand Words Say a Picture
15:20	15:50	Silla Simone	Curating the curated: Photography as curatorial practice
15:50	16:20	break	
16:20	16:50	René Høtbjerg Øhlenschläger	Concepts without objects – the staging of knowledge and imagination in libraries' curatorial practice
16:55	17:25	Connie Svabo	Curating Clothing as a Medium for Knowledge Production
17:25	19:25	reception and evaluation sessions	

January 18

09:40	10:30	Tinna Nielsen & Eva Sommer	Curating the intolerable
10:40	11:10	Dorthe Godsk Larsen	Religiousness of monuments
11:15	11:30	break	
11:30	12:00	Mima Sorocean	Living artworks
12:05	12:35	Dawit Algerson	Curating emotion
12:40	13:10	May Hamaoui Johnson	Museums as Emotional Landscapes
13:15	14:15	lunch	
14:15	14:45	Rebecca Myers	Conveying Truth: Artist–Curator Collaboration as a Care–Based Practice
14:50	15:20	Iiris Tarvonen	Tired of Good Intentions – Collective and Collaborative Curating as a Tool for More Inclusive Institutional Practices
15:25	15:55	Kamma Lauridsen	When boundaries fall – Cocreating when curating
16:00	16:15	break	
16:15	16:45	Asta Marie Tutavae Iversen	Cooking with Children: Recipes for Child–Curating Practice
16:50	17:20	Anja Høegh	When No One’s Watching: Objects from the Edges of the Archive
17:25	17:55	Rose Gamelsky	Exhibition–as–Research: Curating the Living Archive (Of the Symposium) as a Generative Method
18:00	19:00	evaluation sessions	

The symposium has been supported by:

