

Æstetisk Seminar

*Æstetisk Seminar er tilrettelagt af Anette Vandsø og Niclas Nørby Jochumsen Hundahl,
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Frictions in Houseplant Art: Mediating Domestic Plants – Countering Plant Deafness

While landscape painting is an established aesthetic category with a rich tradition of critical scholarship, the depiction of houseplants in interior paintings has remained largely untheorized. This presentation argues that the establishment of ‘houseplant art’ as a coherent category with its own history and aesthetics, proves to be the fruitful ‘friction’ that uncovers new layers in well-known paintings allowing us to see and study the rise of indoor nature. In Hidden Plant Stories we have systematically collected Danish paintings featuring houseplants from 1820 to 1920. Through the exhibition series Plantfever – The World in the Windowsill three partnering museums activated the historical material in dialogue with their own museum histories and collections. The presentation examines this as a visual counterculture, that focusses on marginalized plants, challenging not only plant blindness, but indeed the “plant deafness,” that prohibits us from paying attention to the layered stories concerning care, gender, class, coloniality and ecology in which the house plant has its roots.

Torsdag den 7. maj 2026, Kl. 14:15-16:00

Kasernen, bygning 1584, lokale 124

Alle er velkomne/All are welcome