

LARS BOHMAN GALLERY

Ulrik Samuelson, *Efter naturen (Past Nature)*, 16 February – 7 April, 2013

We are very proud to present Ulrik Samuelson's first exhibition at the gallery.

Ulrik Samuelson has since the mid-1960s, formed his exhibitions as scenographic entities. After having completely abandoned painting in favor of environmental installations, he returned, with full force, to painting in the late 1980s. The new suite of paintings included in this exhibition breathes vitality and mystery in black and gold. The work shows building structures, historical and contemporary, veiled in a mysterious light that reminds us of a supernatural reality. The black starry sky is visible through gaps and cracks above. Nature is strongly present. An eternal blackened night prevails.

In one of the exhibitions several rooms Samuelson has created a reliquary of his recently deceased brother where works from the past is combined with contemporary ones linking them together and creating a bridge to the future. Samuelson's world is full of references and paraphrases to both itself and the history of art. His work creates a maze of memories and molds a visionary glance forward.

The combination of the mysterious spirited Nordic nature, a pinch of turn-of-the-century symbolism along with the ironic mind of the artist creates the base of the artistry. Peripheral objects like podiums, draperies, columns and classical ornamentation plays an important role.

Ulrik Samuelson was born in 1935 in Norrköping, Sweden. He lives and works in Stockholm, Sweden. He received his artistic training at The University College of Arts, Crafts and Design in Stockholm 1953-57 and at The Royal Institute of Art in Stockholm 1957-62 where he also was Professor of Painting 1970-78.

Samuelson has exhibited at numerous institutions in Sweden and internationally including The New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York; Louisiana, Denmark, Venice Biennale, Italy, Moderna Museet, Stockholm; Liljevalchs, Stockholm; Rooseum, Malmö and The Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France.

Ulrik Samuelson has created several public commissions including Kungsträdgården's subway station, Stockholm; the work *Parabol* on Sveavägen 13, Stockholm; the cinema theater Filmstaden Sergel, Stockholm; The National History Museum, Stockholm; Stockholm City Theatre, The National Bank of Sweden, Stockholm and The Department of Biology, University of Stockholm.

A catalogue is produced in conjunction with the exhibition.