

# Royal Danish Consulate General New York

## For Immediate Release

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## Danish Artists Embrace New York, Backed By \$2 Million in Funding for 42 Creative Collaborations with New York Artists.

(New York, NY – October 18, 2006) With the aim of sparking new connections between artists in Denmark and New York, the Danish Arts Council has launched a \$2 million initiative that includes \$1,8 million in grants to support creative collaborations between visual and performing artists, arts institutions and writers from both sides of the Atlantic. Although European art exhibitions and performance festivals are common here, this initiative, called **DaNY Arts**, is innovative in its emphasis on the creative process itself. It is also uncommon that New York artists, who were invited to apply for grants, are benefiting so directly from another government's support.

**DaNY Arts** supports 42 collaborations between Danish and New York artists. The Arts Council does not require that these collaborations yield art works or performances, but the artists themselves are already envisioning new pieces to be presented in New York, Denmark and the rest of the world over the next two years.

"We decided to pass up the typical week long national festival in favor of supporting a more integral, meaningful, and, hopefully, long-term presence of the artists on the New York art scene," said Danish Arts Council Chairman Lars Liebst. "In creating this program the Danish Arts Council is looking towards a globalized world where artists work together with a healthy disrespect for national borders. New York seemed a natural place to start out. We hope that **DaNY Arts** is trailblazing in the freedom it gives to the artists; in demonstrating such confidence in them."

"New Yorkers and Americans probably recognize the names Hans Christian Andersen, Victor Borge and Lars Von Trier," continued Arts Council Chairman Liebst, "but that is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to Danish artists and their influence abroad. For example, how many New Yorkers are familiar with the great dancer Bournonville or the painter Asger Jorn? Not many, I bet. But they should be. These men made enormous international contributions to modern dance and painting. Today, groundbreaking Danish artists are in no short supply but many voices have yet to be heard outside of Denmark. We hope that by supporting them in bringing their creative ideas to this multi-cultural city, we can help expand their vision, their connections, and the recognition they receive.



“At the same time, New York artists might come to realize that Copenhagen could become for them an incubator of creativity, perhaps like Paris was for American artists in the 1920s”, said Danish Consul General in New York, Torben Gettermann. “Danes are more than hospitable to cutting edge art from New York, still a city of mythical proportions to many of us. There is much to be gained from this relationship.”

**DaNY Arts** collaborations include: Bang on a Can with Ars Nova, Athelas and Holland House; *ImprovEverywhere NY Meets Creative Actions Copenhagen*, recruiting citizens of Copenhagen and New York to participate in the creation of public art; *Word Up NyCph* featuring spoken word artists Claus Ankersen and Jackie Scheeler; *Grounded: Was Man Meant to Fly?*, a collaborative think tank between artist groups at White Box Gallery; *Public Address*, collaborative newspapers featuring New York and Danish artists and theoreticians; and *The Music That Sustains Us*, an integration of improvisation, classical music and modern grooves, featuring arrangements of works by Leonard Bernstein and Carl Nielsen, among others.

Collaborating institutions include: PS 122 and Kaeidoskop Teater, P.S. 1 Contemporary Art Center and artist Thierry Geoffroy, Pen American Center and Danish Pen, The Joyce Theatre and Dansk Danseteater, The New Victory Theater and five Danish children’s theatre ensembles, among others.

More than 200 individual artists and 40 arts organizations participating in **DaNY Arts** were chosen, on merit, from a pool of 120 applicants, and decided upon by a committee of five Danish Arts Council members, who were assisted by an American advisory group of respected New York arts professionals. **DaNY Arts** is made possible by the Danish Arts Council, the Danish Consulate General in New York, in collaboration with New York Foundation for the Arts.

**Attached, please find a complete list of participating DaNY artists and institutions.**

For additional information, please contact Danish Cultural Attaché, Irene Krarup, tel: (212) 705 4938, (917) 655 5362 or Senior Consultant for the Danish Arts Agency, Lone Ravn, tel. 001 45 33 74 50 20, 001 45 25 30 25 68.



**The following artists and institutions have received funding under DaNY Arts:**

*Alex Villar / Lars Mathisen*  
*Annie Gosfield / Esbjerg Ensemble & Holland House*  
*Arts at St. Ann's / Plan B Teater*  
*Bang on a Can / Ars Nova, Athelas Sinfonietta Copenhagen & Holland House*  
*Ben Street, Bill Frisell & Paul Motian / Jakob Bro*  
*Charlie Todd / Karoline H. Larsen*  
*Chris Washburne / NYNDK Jazz, Søren Møller*  
*Common Room / Demokratisk Innovation*  
*Cuong Vu / Jesper Løvdal*  
*DanSpace Project / Dansens Hus & Dansescenen*  
*Douglas Paulson / Parfyme Deluxe*  
*Gregory Sholette / Publik & Nis Rømer*  
*Jackie Scheeler / Claus Ankersen*  
*Jeff Sugg / Trojan Horse International*  
*Lach / Erwin Thomas*  
*Lia Gangitano / Maria Finn*  
*Maura Reilly & Brooklyn Museum / Lillibeth Cuenca Rasmussen*  
*Michael Lowenstern & Todd Reynolds / Mathias Reumert, Thomas Knak & Opiate*  
*Movement Research / Dansens Hus & Dansescenen*  
*Nathaniel Rich / Hald Hovedgaard*  
*Nili Belkind / Dalia Faitelson*  
*Office Apart & Kristine Siegel / Nanna Debois Buhl*  
*Office Apart / Line Felding*  
*Open Space / Ensemble Nordlys*  
*Participant INC / Jasper Sebastian Stürup*  
*Pen American Center / Dansk Pen*  
*Performa / Klangforum*  
*P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center / Thierry Geoffroy*  
*PS122 / Ditte Lyngkær Pedersen*  
*PS122 / Kaleidoskop Teater*  
*Robert Wilson & Watermill Foundation / Dadadans*  
*Sean Curran Dance Company & National Dance Institute / Uppercut Danseteater*  
*Stephan Kammerer Quartet / Alpha*  
*Tim Berne / Lotte Anker*  
*The Flea / Erik Pold*  
*The Joyce Theatre / Dansk Danseteater*  
*The New Victory Theater / Danish Children's Theater Festival*  
*The Ontological-Hysteric Theatre / Henrik Vestergaard Pedersen*  
*& Kulturhus Århus*  
*White Box / Jacob Fuglsang Mikkelsen*

