

**MARGRETHE ODGAARD**

# Never odd or even neve ro ddo reveN



## **Solo exhibition at MUNKERUPHUS April 6 – June 10, 2019**

MUNKERUPHUS is proud to present the first large-scale solo exhibition at a Danish art institution with the textile designer Margrethe Odgaard, bringing together new works that have never been shown before with her renowned design practice.

MUNKERUPHUS was home and workplace for the ground-breaking Danish artist and designer Gunnar Aagaard Andersen (1919–1982) from 1958 until his death. In addition to Aagaard Andersen's artistic practice we have in recent years implemented a new profile for the house - examining the relationship between form and material, control and chance. Today it serves as an exhibition space for contemporary art, design and architecture as well as interdisciplinary exhibitions, that are made specifically for MUNKERUPHUS.

This year Aagaard Andersen would have turned 100 years old and MUNKERUPHUS has served as exhibition space for 30 years. We are going to celebrate this special year with an ambitious exhibition program, featuring experimental art and design.

To open this season, we could not think of anyone better than the Danish textile designer Margrethe Odgaard, who has always been fascinated by Aagaard Andersen. The two share the same curiosity, hands-on production methods of investigation and promote an interdisciplinary approach that values the specific tools developed by the materials and spatial disciplines - blurring the boundaries between art and design.

For the exhibition we have invited Odgaard to leave her "normal" role as a textile designer to create new works, that do not have to meet the expectations of the design industry or anyone else. For the exhibition she is going to challenge some of the tools, that we use on a daily basis and will question when they are *odd or even* - In line with Aagaard Andersen's own practice which challenged the established idea that design has to be useful.

The exhibition will become a huge experiment in the entire house. Odgaard is going to explore colors, patterns and different materials. How is she going to influence the proces to emphasize the colors and structures of the various materials? And how will she maintain her artistic approach when she is going to collaborate with the industry, that per definition manufacture products?

For this exhibition Odgaard has a desire to question the industry's expectations for her as a textile designer, in which she often feels tightly defined. She wants to use the process as a creative sentiment where the end product is not the principal focus. It will become a liberating but also ambitious and demanding format. The experiments will result in a range of new works made specifically for MUNKERUPHUS.

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For the exhibition, Odgaard has established a unique collaboration with the design companies Kvadrat and ege, with whom Aagaard Andersen also collaborated with. At ege Odgaard has been allowed to enter the production site and work directly on the machines - just like Aagaard Andersen did it, when he worked with the them.

It is a dream for both Odgaard and MUNKERUPHUS to create this exhibition, and we can not wait to show you the result of Odgaard's exhibition *Never odd or even / neve ro ddo reveN*. Please join us for the opening of the exhibition on Saturday the 6th of April from 3 pm - 5 pm. Everyone is invited!

The exhibition *Never odd or even / neve ro ddo reveN* is generously supported by Kvadrat, ege, Danish Art Workshops, Oticon Foundation and The Beckett Foundation.

Press releases and high-resolution images are available on our website: [www.munkeruphus.dk/pressebilleder/](http://www.munkeruphus.dk/pressebilleder/). Please always use the credits and mention our photographer. If you would like to cover a MUNKERUPHUS exhibition, we are happy to put aside an exhibition ticket for you and guide you around.

If you would like to make an interview with Margrethe Odgaard and for other inquiries please contact Line Kjær: [lk@munkeruphus.dk](mailto:lk@munkeruphus.dk) / + 45 26367939 / [www.munkeruphus.dk](http://www.munkeruphus.dk)

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## Biography / About Margrethe Odgaard

Margrethe Odgaard (b. 1978) graduated from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in 2005 with further studies at the Rhode Island School of Design in the Rhode Island, USA. After graduating she worked as a print designer at The Fabric Workshop and Museum in Philadelphia, and later as a textile designer for Épice in Paris, before setting up her own design studio in Copenhagen in 2013. She has received both national and international awards alongside global recognition for her work with textiles, colors and patterns. In 2015 she received the Danish Arts Foundation three-year work grant, and in 2016 The Torsten and Wanja Söderberg Prize, which is the world's largest design award. Most recently, she received the Wallpaper Design Award for her collaboration with Kvadrat about the sustainable woolen textile Re-wool.

More about Margrethe Odgaard: [Instagram](#) and [www.margretheodgaard.com](http://www.margretheodgaard.com)

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## Margrethe Odgaard about Gunnar Aagaard Andersen

*I am especially inspired by Aagaard Andersen's enormous energy, which he would throw in every possible direction, and with this great courage and excitement! Art, architecture, typography, furniture design, textile design - he would include everything in his work and by constantly varying in form and materials, he would get to new areas where no one had ever been or ever looked before. Aagaard Andersen's legendary polyurethane chair from 1964 is an excellent example of this. With this provocative, free-and-easy gesture Aagaard Andersen challenged the established image of Danish furniture design. He radicalised this laboratory process and let the material itself take over the role of the designer. In this way, I think he is just as relevant today, as he was back then.*

*We need to keep questioning our surroundings and how we are doing things to improve them. But every question and experiment also includes the possibility of failure. Aagaard Andersen was not afraid of failing, and he managed to collaborate with the industry in his research of new and artistic expressions. For my exhibition at MUNKERUPHUS I want to carry on Aagaard Andersen's approach and use his former home and workplace as a stage for my experiments.*

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