

Swarm

An installation by Nanna Melland

In New York, capital of the world.

Welcome to the opening of Swarm at Collective2 Design Fair.

Who knows where a swarm is flying?

Thursday 8 of May is the opening of Collective2 Design Fair where the Norwegian artist Nanna Melland shows her installation Swarm.

Nanna Melland's installation, SWARM, is inspired from flight constellations in nature. Swarming is a collective behavior exhibited by animals of similar size that aggregate together, sometimes milling about in the same spot, moving en masse or migrating in some direction. As a term, swarming is applied particularly to insects, but can also be applied to any other animal that exhibits swarm behavior.

Swarms typify the double nature of group interaction. There are many advantages for individuals to gather in larger groups for protection, but if the swarm becomes too big, or in any other way falls out of balance, its very power and protection can turn from positive to negative. The consequences can lead to total destruction of the individuals and have massive repercussions outside of the swarm.

Aerial forms and symbols have followed human culture for thousands of years. Today, in our global society, enormous crowds of humans travel in the air – in large aerial flocks. The former representation of humans, bustling and traveling like ants, has changed. The earthbound woman and man have been lifted up into the air, whirling around together with thousands of others, in a fragile and complex world. This conquest of aerial space and the challenges that follow the extensive aerial traffic has consequences for our lives.

Nanna Melland's installation, SWARM, consists of thousands of small flat aluminium aeroplanes suspended in a cloud formation. The size of the installation and its relentless repetition of an otherwise familiar form seek to induce in the viewer an awareness of scale, vulnerability and a lack of comfort, similar to the feelings when faced with a natural swarm. There is beauty in the synchronized movements, but the force of the mass that is formed by thousands of tiny individuals is disturbing.

The viewer is invited to purchase airplanes from the installation, pin it on their clothing and move back into the world with a heightened sense of their place within the global mass, the very fragility of co-existence and a symbiotic relationship to others who have been engaged in same action.

Opening party: Wednesday 7 May, 18:00 - 21:00

NB! VIP pass needed.

Venue: Skylight at Moynihan Station

Represented at Collective2 Design Fair by Sienna gallery

<http://www.siennagallery.com>

**The Collective2 Design Fair
Skylight at Moynihan Station
360 West 33rd Street, New York, NY 10001
Between 8th and 9th Avenues**

Opening Hours

**Thursday May 8: 11am — 7pm
Friday May 9: 11am — 9pm
Saturday May 10: 11am — 7pm
Sunday May 11: 11am — 5pm**