

HEDMANKLING are delighted to present the project **SHADES DOWN IN TOKYO TOWN**
– An exhibition that features the creatures and their spectacular spectacles.

CALM & PUNK GALLERY, TOKYO, 13TH – 26TH OF NOVEMBER 2010

Shades Down In Tokyo Town will showcase original spectacles and sunglasses created by specially commissioned artists, designers and craftsmen from Europe and Japan.

Selected by HEDMANKLING for their remarkable artistic, conceptual, experimental skills, they work over a variety of platforms utilising a diverse range of materials.

Artists exhibiting are Ann-Sofie Back, BCXSY, Bernhard Willhelm, BLESS, Charlie Le Mindu, Helle Mardahl, Henrik Vibskov, Iris Schieferstein, Josefin Arnell, Kling by Kling, Maiko Takeda, ManfreDu Schu, Mykita, Piers Atkinson, SWD/Skyward and Walter Van Beirendonck.

HEDMANKLING is established by curator and exhibition designer Sofia Hedman and artistic director and designer Karolina Kling and offers a new aesthetic world of experimental and amusing exhibitions and exhibition design.

As sunglasses have never been a particularly popular subject in the museum or gallery and have rarely been exhibited in their own right, HEDMANKLING aim to address this within their own unique parameters. In keeping with the ethos of artist Karolina Kling's working process, HEDMANKLING has commissioned these artists to create an imaginary character and base their sunglasses design on that fantastical persona. What results is an incredible cluster of hypothetical characters, which envelopes the spectator and can be constructed as a direct reflection of today's avant-garde mind. The result is an absolute outburst of authenticity and integrity.

Inspired by the Oliver Goldsmith vintage archive – opened to the public in 2009 – the exhibition will include a selection of iconic sunglasses from the company. Revolutionising the concept of eyewear, the Oliver Goldsmith brand introduced acetate to sunglasses production creating humorous and avant-garde designs setting the bar when it came to eyewear design.

Edited by fashion curator, researcher and archivist Gemma A. Williams, the exhibition catalogue presents an exploration of this provocative subject via essays, conversations and reflections from leading theorists, artists, researchers and curators. Hoping to define the essence of this unusual accessory it includes submissions from Gus Wylie, Beatrice Behlen, Claire Goldsmith, Dr. Will Brooker, Ian Nader, Caroline Cox, Sonnet Stanfill, Neil Handley, Robert Rubbish, Marco Pecorari, Patricia Frost, Mary Carton, Diane Pernet and Amy de la Haye. The catalogue will also illustrate the unique working process of HEDMANKLING and photography by Gavin Fernandes, all via the elegant and complete graphic design of Serge Martynov.

The exhibition will tour to London, Gothenburg and Stockholm during 2011.

For any further information, please visit www.hedmankling.com

For press inquires press@hedmankling.com

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