

Name: KIRSTI GROTMOL

Article: The Legacy of Edvard Munch. A place for living, working and taking care.

When the artist Edvard Munch died in 1944 he left all his belongings to Oslo City. There were thousands of paintings, drawings, prints, photos and writings from Munch's own hand. This huge and still partly unexplored material fills the Munch Museum and its archives in Oslo.

But it is not so well known that this generous and important gift came with a condition. Munch's estate at Ekely in Oslo should be used for the benefit of visual artists. Thus 44 family houses each with a separate studio were built in Munch's garden. Ekely is now the largest artist colony in Northern Europe. So what does it mean to live and work in this artist's colony? What kind of urban space is this?

Munch's living house was demolished by Oslo City in 1960. Only his atelier is left. For many years this building was more or less closed. But from 2016 the artists in the colony got permission to use it two months every year for exhibitions, concerts and projects. How to use this possibility to create a new vibrant space?

Ekely Artist Colony and nearby surroundings are now protected by cultural heritage law. But in spite of this the area is threatened by new building plans. How to protect the legacy of Edvard Munch is still a dire question.

Kirsti Grotmol is a visual artist and has lived and worked at Ekely since 1999. She is in the committee for the artists' exhibition projects in the Munch's Atelier. Kirsti Grotmol is also a filmmaker. Her documentary "The Girl from Nordland. Model for Edvard

Personal Information

**Visual artist, Film maker, Photographer, Critic/ writer, Cand. Phil.
Work and live in the Artists' colony Ekely in Oslo**

Education:

National College of Art, Crafts and Design , Oslo Norway

Escola Superior de Belas-Artes de Lisboa Portugal

Academy of TV and Film, Oslo Norway

Academy of Journalism, Oslo Norway

Academy of writing, Trondheim Norway

Cand. phil. -Norwegian College for Teachers of Art, Oslo Norway

Subject: Masks - own artistic work with masks as object of art, a theoretical analysis on the phenomenon of masks, and an analysis of the creative process

Exhibitions, Visual art:

Norway, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Romania, Poland, France, Germany, Russia, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia
Egypt, China, Taiwan, Japan, Brasil, Chile, Australia, USA, Canada

My fim "The Girl form Nordland. Model for Edvard Munch" :

2015 – 2017: The in daily Film program in The Munch Museum

2013 – 2014: Edvard Munchs Winterstudio, Ekely Oslo,

2015 : SVT 2, Swedish State Broadcasting Company

1994& 1995: NRK, Norwegian State Broadcasting Company

1995: 13th International Art Film Festival, Montreal Canada

1994: 4th International Art Film Biennale, Museum of Modern Art/ Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris France

I have been a critic of theatre, litterature and illustrated books – as well as a freelance writer since 1979.