



The composition is based on the ringing of the bell on the DS Donau, which is on display at the center. Photo: KORO



The sound installation has been placed in the new glass corridor connecting the new and older buildings of the center - between Villa Grande and the new extension.

Visiting address: Villa Grande, Huk aveny 56, 0287 Oslo
Art project: Camille Norments site-specific sound installation
Completed: October 2021
Kuratorer: Janicke Heggem Rudi Iversen and Stine Arnet Høyem
Project manager, KORO: Janicke Heggem Rudi Iversen
Photo: Niklas Hart
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Camille Norment's installation



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In the new extension of the Norwegian Center for Holocaust and Minority Studies (HL-senteret) on Bygdøy in Oslo, Camille Norment has created a site-specific sound installation.

The work can be experienced from multiple perspectives - as sound, physically as vibrations in the bench, and visually in that the sound spreads as movement in the reflecting pool outside. The composition is based on the ringing of the bell on the DS Donau, which is on display at the center.

The ringing of bells has several significances. Throughout history, bells have been rung in both celebration and sorrow. The use of bells is found in virtually every culture and dates back thousands of years. The artist's idea to use the ringing of the DS Donau's bell in this way creates an open and universal sound image with a vast reach. At the same time, the reference is also very concrete, alluding directly to a dramatic event in the occupation history of Norway, as the DS Donau was used for the largest single deportation of Jews from Norway during World War II.

Towards the end of the war, the ship was sunk by the Norwegian resistance movement. The ship's bell was later retrieved and saved for posterity. The history of the bell itself reinforces its symbolic significance in that the ringing can be understood as both a testimony to the gravity of the past and a messenger of hope for the future.

The sound installation has been placed in the new glass corridor connecting the new and older buildings of the center - between Villa Grande and the new extension. The ringing sound supports the function of the passageway as an interim space and a place where visitors have the opportunity for rest and contemplation. The sound composition is built up sequentially and also includes quiet parts.

Camille Norment

Camille Norment (born in 1970 in Silver Spring, Maryland) is an Oslo-based American artist who glides between different genres and expressions. In her work, whether it be an installation, sculpture or performance, Norment often reflects on the power of opposites. Her artistic practice is characterised by both technical and thematic complexity, with a profound resonance of thematic doorways and modes of interpretation.



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