

MELTING

Amund Sjølie Sveen / Slagr / Lawrence Malstaf



Do you know how many times you can fly to Thailand before the end of the world? Or how much CO2 is used to make a theater performance?

Karl Marx, 150 years ago, famously described the consequences of capitalism as «All that is solid melts into air». But Marx could not predict that today, even the ice is melting.

After *Economic Theory for Dummies* (2013) – which examines our current economic system, its background, development and function – Amund Sjølie Sveen is back with *MELTING*, moving further into the climate problem, the last 30 years of aggressive, deregulated finance capitalism, and our possible common future:

- *What happens when ice melts?*
- *What happens when the economies melt?*
- *What happens when society, welfare, social relations, public art funding and human future melt?*

MELTING is three things at the same time; its a lecture, its a concert and its theater. *MELTING* is political analysis, fragile music played on wineglasses, and a slowly rotating canvas that fills the space with its poetic weightlessness.

MELTING has the ambition to both enlighten and give space for contemplating your own life and choices; the small human and the big system. Whether you leave it calm or impatient when it comes to humankind's common future, you have hopefully become a bit wiser.

MELTING is a collaboration with installation artist Lawrence Malstaf (BE), and the musicians of *Slagr*.

«Even though the message might be discouraging, Sveen keeps the spirits up through a charming and humorous tone, granting the audience space to contemplate the message during the musical parts, enhanced by the slow rotation of the large mobile canvas.»

(review, *Scenekunst.no*, Venke Marie Sortland, 27.10.2016)

Amund Sjølie Sveen is an artist and musician who has, among other things, made *ECONOMIC THEORY FOR DUMMIES* (2013), trying to explain the entire economic system - from stone age to hedgefunds - in one hour.

Slagr plays 'acoustic ambience' for tuned glasses, vibraphone and strings; a beautiful, delicate and ever changing landscape, loosely build on Norwegian folk music. The Trio received a Norwegian Grammy (Spellemannprisen) for their last album *Short Stories*.

Lawrence Malstaf has made it his mission in life to make people able to experience the basic principles of physics in theaters and exhibition halls across the world. His speciality is large installations that gradually change and reveal the poetry around us.

Credits:

Title: Melting
Artist: Amund Sjølie Sveen / Slagr / Lawrence Malstaf

By and with Amund Sjølie Sveen

Music by Slagr: Hardanger fiddle: Anne Hytta
 Cello: Katrine Schjøtt
 Tuned glasses: Amund Sjølie Sveen

Installation: Lawrence Malstaf

Dramaturge: Gry Ulfeng

Co-produced by BIT Teatergarasjen, Bergen (NO)

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Web: <http://www.amundsveen.no/project/melting/>

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