

# locustprojects

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**FOR IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE:**

## NEW MAJOR IMMERSIVE INSTALLATION BY METTE TOMMERUP CREATES AN OTHERWORLDLY LUMINOUS SPACE FOR REFLECTION AND TRANSFORMATION

Locust Projects presents  
MAIN GALLERY  
Mette Tommerup:  
*Made by Dusk*

**Exhibition Dates:**  
November 21, 2020-  
February 13, 2021

**Related public programs:**  
PERFORMANCE: *Liminal*  
Tues. Dec 1, 6-8pm; four  
30-min socially-distanced  
activations  
[See images here](#)

**Public Hours:**  
Wednesday-Saturday,  
11am-5pm  
BY APPOINTMENT AND  
WALK-IN BY CAPACITY  
[Link to make  
appointments](#)

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**Press Images:**  
[Available here](#)



Mette Tommerup, *Made by Dusk*, 2020, installation view at Locust Projects. Photo by Zachary Balber.

***“With this work, Tommerup encourages us to take advantage of our own current ‘great pause’ to reconsider meaning and purpose in this deeply unsettling time.” – Eleanor Heartney on *Made by Dusk****

[Miami, FL] Locust Projects presents *Made by Dusk*, a new large-scale installation by Miami-based artist Mette Tommerup inspired by the Nordic Goddess, Freya, the untamed goddess of love, war, beauty, gold, and transformation. The exhibition opens to the public by appointment and walk-ins (capacity permitting) with extended hours Saturday, November 21, 2020, 11am to 7pm.

*Made by Dusk* reflects on the potentials of the liminal space of twilight with its enveloping atmosphere of warm glittering golds evoking diminishing rays of sunlight and smoky grays as the infiltrating night. In the world created by Tommerup, a Danish-born artist, dusk is a time of transition supportive of creation and transformational change intended to envelop and suspend the visitor in the timeless, magical, and ethereal space made by dusk.

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Mette Tommerup, *Made by Dusk*, 2020, installation view at Locust Projects. Photo by Zachary Balber.

*Made by Dusk* is the third and final work in a trilogy of recent installations in which Tommerup explores art's ability to provide experiences of reflection, connection and restoration. For the final installment at Locust Projects she's created a place of refuge where visitors can avail themselves of the healing potential of what H.G. Wells referred to as "the great pause," that moment when time seems to stop and the possibilities of day melt into the stillness of the night.

Entering through a narrow antechamber, visitors to the exhibition find walls covered in flickering amber-gold light and shadows cast from golden wire sculptures. Beyond lies a large great hall draped with massive tapestries and canvases in grays and golds, punctuated by light and shadow. These tapestries are part of Tommerup's efforts to rethink the nature of painting. In all three installations in the trilogy, she has explored various brushless methods of applying pigment to canvas. These include literally drowning her paintings in the sea, burying them in the earth, folding and crushing them to create serendipitous pigment patterns and allowing them to be stained by the elements. Such processes transform the canvases into records of larger external forces.

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According to Heartney, the essayist for the exhibition brochure, “Tommerup resists the idea that a painting is an isolated discrete object. Instead, she envisions her canvases as elements in a larger entity comprised, in the words of Italian critic Germano Celant, of ‘a continuous surface existing in time ad infinitum’.”

The massive tapestries surround an amphitheater of floating benches suspended by wires and seeming to defy gravity. Together the elements comprise a reimagining of Freya’s Hall of Seats, (Sessrúmnir), which according to Norse mythology, received fallen warriors. Utilizing the principle of tensegrity to produce structure through dynamic equilibrium—as discovered by the sculptor Kenneth Snelson and adopted by futurist Buckminster Fuller—the structure, crafted of wood and cables, invites the visitor to take a seat and hover for a moment in infinity and timelessness.

Tommerup’s version of Freya’s Great Hall reimagined at Locust Projects is what the artists sees as “an opportunity to build a forum for a dialogue for how women can be the catalyst for transformative change in the world today.” In this space of refuge and inward reflection and the gathering of feminine forces and transformative powers, “Tommerup marries myth and modernism in the belief that art can help us reimagine possible futures...” says Heartney, “Transforming Freya’s hall of the dead into a space for connection and contemplation, she honors a female sensibility that prizes communion over division, reverence for nature over domination, empathy over individualism and life over death.”

Read the full essay on *Made by Dusk* by Eleanor Heartney [here](#).



## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Mette Tommerup (born Denmark 1969) is a painter and storyteller who creates simultaneously earnest and satirical narratives to frame her production of objects, whether they are digital or made from canvas and paint. Tommerup has exhibited at The Bass, Perez Art Museum Miami (PAMM) and The FIU Frost Museum of Art and has work in many public and private collections, including work in the permanent collection of Wilmer Hale in Washington DC, the Lowe Art Museum, and Perez Art Museum Miami. Honors include acquisition of work through the Art Purchase Program at The American Academy of Arts and Letters in NYC. Publications include *Miami Contemporary Artists*, *Miami Arts Explosion*, *100 Degrees in the Shade* and *Man as Object: Reversing the Gaze* and exhibitions have been reviewed in *Art in America*, *Artnet.com*, *The Miami Herald* as well as mentions in the *New York Times*. *Made by Dusk* is Tommerup’s first commission at a nonprofit alternative

space. Tommerup received an MFA at the School of Visual Arts in New York City in 1995. Mette Tommerup is represented by Emerson Dorsch Gallery.

Photo above: Mette Tommerup, photograph by Pedro Wazzan.

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## **ABOUT LOCUST PROJECTS**

Founded by artists for artists in 1998, Locust Projects is Miami's longest running nonprofit alternative art space. We produce, present, and nurture ambitious and experimental new art and the exchange of ideas through commissioned exhibitions and projects, artist residencies, summer art intensives for teens, and public programs on contemporary art and curatorial practice. As a leading incubator of new art and ideas, Locust Projects emphasizes boundary-pushing creative endeavors, risk-taking and experimentation by local, national and international artists. We invest in South Florida's arts community by providing artists with project grants and empower creative careers by supporting the administrative work of being an artist through an onsite artist resource hub and access to pro bono legal services.

Locust Projects 2019-2020 exhibitions and programming are made possible with support from: The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation; The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners; The National Endowment for the Arts Art Works Grant; Via | Wagner Incubator Grant Fund; Hillsdale Fund; the Albert and Jane Nahmad Family Foundation; The State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture; Funding Arts Network; The Jorge M. Pérez Family Foundation at The Miami Foundation, Kirk Foundation; Miami Salon Group; and the Wege Foundation; and the donors to the Still Making Art Happen Campaign and Locust Projects Exhibitionist members.

**ART HAPPENS HERE.**