Tomas Alfredson + Ernst Billgren = Market Art Fair 2014



In 2003 I was asked to contribute with a painting of a set subject matter to the movie "Fyra nyanser av brunt" directed by Tomas Alfredson. Having my painting directed by a film director stimulated the idea for a project, which has now been going on for almost ten years. Is there an alternative to the modern idea of a solitary artist always using him or herself as starting point? Having seen numerous examples of artists who would benefit from direction I had to pose myself the question; would my art benefit from direction?

Tomas Alfredson has directed the creation of a series of paintings I have made, which are currently on display at Market Art Fair. While this project has been going on we have also collaborated on other productions, such as the 2005 Christmas Calendar Show "Decemberdröm" on SVT (Swedish public service television) and the TV show "AK3" broadcast in 2006. These other projects have somewhat delayed the painting project.

At the beginning I could not anticipate the kind of major obstacles that would arise during the development of this project. It has been a clash between two worlds, between two separate traditions - film making and painting. What is really the main component of the outcome; independence or direction?

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