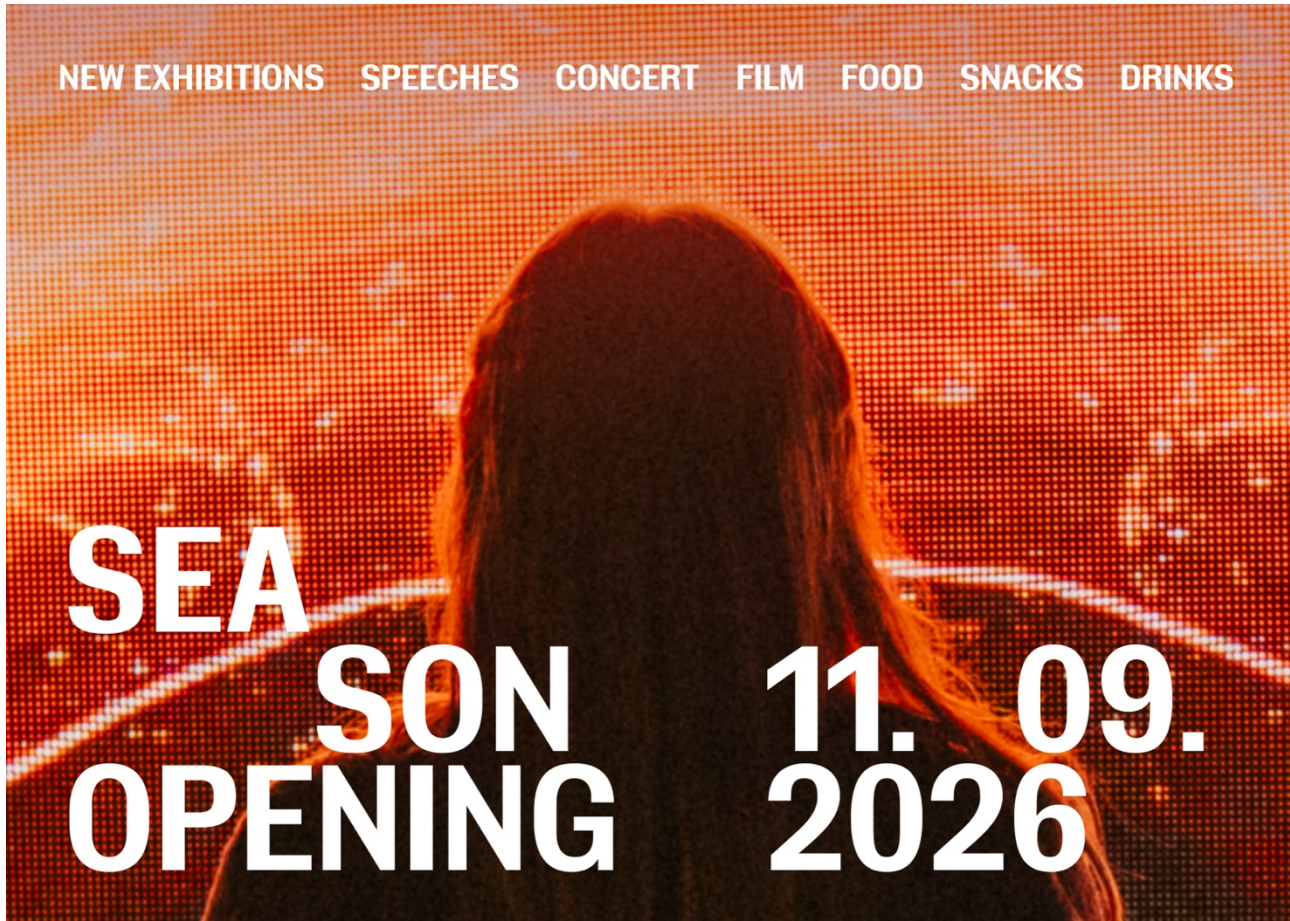


August 2026
PRESS RELEASE

Season Opening: 11 September 2026
MAPS – Museum of Art in Public Space, Køge



From the infinite darkness of the universe to art in the midst of everyday life: MAPS opens a new season with two new exhibitions and presents the programme for the year ahead.

On Friday 11 September, MAPS invites you to its Season Opening with two new exhibitions, a presentation of the museum's programme for the year ahead, art both inside and outside the museum, a concert, film and food. The day also begins with a special prelude, as the next generation takes over the museum and opens an exhibition of works created through MAPS' learning programmes.

When MAPS opens its doors to a new season on 11 September, it also marks the beginning of a new year of art in public space. MAPS' Director Malene Natascha Ratcliffe will present the

museum's upcoming programme and the artists, projects and initiatives that over the coming year will bring art closer to people in Køge and across Denmark.

MAPS will present two new exhibitions as part of the Season Opening.

What is a black hole doing in the middle of the square in front of Køge Station—and a 17-metre-long ship on Enghavevej in Copenhagen?

With Cecilie Waagner Falkenstrøm's *A Black Hole Calling Us*, visitors encounter a large-scale interactive installation that invites them on a journey toward—and into—a black hole.

Visitors can step in between the installation's eight screens and position themselves at the centre. Here, their own bodies become part of the work, transformed on the screens around them, while an immersive soundscape intensifies the sensation of being drawn into another dimension.

The work operates at the intersection of art, technology, and science, exploring some of the most extreme phenomena in the universe and our fascination with the unknown. It raises questions about how we understand our own place in a universe we can never fully comprehend. By presenting the work in public space, MAPS transforms the square in front of Køge Station into a place for wonder, reflection, and an encounter with something that would normally be millions of light-years away.

A Black Hole Calling Us can be experienced in the square in front of Køge Station from 11 September and for one month, every day from 3.00 pm to 9.00 pm.

Supported by the New Carlsberg Foundation and the Danish Arts Foundation.

Cecilie Waagner Falkenstrøm, *A Black Hole Calling Us*, ARoS 2026. Photo: Mads Smidstrup

Cecilie Waagner Falkenstrøm is an award-winning Danish artist who has worked at the forefront of artificial intelligence and emerging technologies since 2016. Her works explore the relationship between humans and technology, raising questions about identity, existence, power, and our place in the universe. Her interdisciplinary practice brings together fields including AI, philosophy, astrophysics, and biotechnology in interactive and sensory installations. Her work has been presented at institutions including the V&A, Ars Electronica, the Kennedy Center, Wellcome Collection, and Copenhagen Contemporary. She has received several international awards, including the Lumen Prize and an Honorary Mention from Prix Ars Electronica.

In the exhibition *Preliminary Works for Tove Storch's The Ship*, MAPS takes a closer look at the process behind Tove Storch's 17-metre-long red concrete sculpture *The Ship*, created specifically for Enghavevej in Bavnehøj, southwest Copenhagen, offering a rare insight into how the work came into being.

Through models, drawings and sketches, the exhibition traces the journey from experimentation and material exploration to the finished work. In developing *The Ship*, Storch explored, among

other things, how plaster and concrete take shape when poured into stretched fabric and allowed to follow the force of gravity.

The result is a form that appears at once heavy and soft, solid and in motion, evoking associations with a ship, a drop, an opening, or a bodily figure.

The development of *The Ship* also took place in dialogue with local residents through workshops where they explored Storch's working methods themselves.

The exhibition thus opens the door not only to the artist's studio, but to the entire process through which material, place, history, and people come together to shape a work of art in public space.

The exhibition can be experienced at MAPS until 3 January 2027.

Tove Storch (b. 1981) graduated from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in Copenhagen in 2007, the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna in 2004, and Weißensee Academy of Art Berlin in 2006. She is a recipient of, among others, the Carl Nielsen and Anne Marie Carl-Nielsen Grant and the Danish Arts Foundation's three-year working grant. Her work is held in a number of public collections, including Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebæk; Malmö Art Museum, Malmö; and The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C.

Tove Storch lives and works in Copenhagen and is represented by Galleri Nils Stærk.

The next generation opens the day

As tradition has it, school students are the first to take over MAPS. At 4 pm, a student exhibition opens with works created in response to the practice of Brazilian artist Hélio Oiticica.

Throughout the programme, the students have explored art through the whole body. Inspired by Oiticica's work with colour, costumes, dance, and performance, they have created their own capes and choreographies, before translating their experiences of movement into drawings and collages.

The exhibition shows how artistic expression can move between body, space, sculpture, and image—and how art can become something we not only look at, but step into and take part in creating.