SUPERFLEX/FOREIGNERS, PLEASE DON'T LEAVE US ALONE WITH THE DANES

In 2002, posters with the words "FOREIGNERS, PLEASE DON'T LEAVE US ALONE WITH THE DANES!" were put up in the streets of Copenhagen as a comment on the increasingly reactionary immigration politics in Denmark. During the Danish EU Presidency in 2002, Denmark's immigration policies also became a point of interest and discussion in the international press. Foreigners, Please Don't Leave Us Alone With the Danes was received with some controversy, even provoking hate mail directed to the studio. The poster has since been widely presented in Denmark and abroad, including in exhibitions as a wall painting, and as a stack of free posters.

The original message still resonates within the contemporary Danish political climate, but has since become subtextual, having now also morphed into a humorous display of Danish self-deprecation. For some, the poster represents their political stance, for others, it works simply as an iconic interior design element. Since 2003, more than 100,000 posters have been distributed in Denmark. The artwork has become embedded into the cultural consciousness of Denmark, and can frequently be seen in local cafes, restaurants, organisations, political spaces, listings on real estate pages, and living rooms.

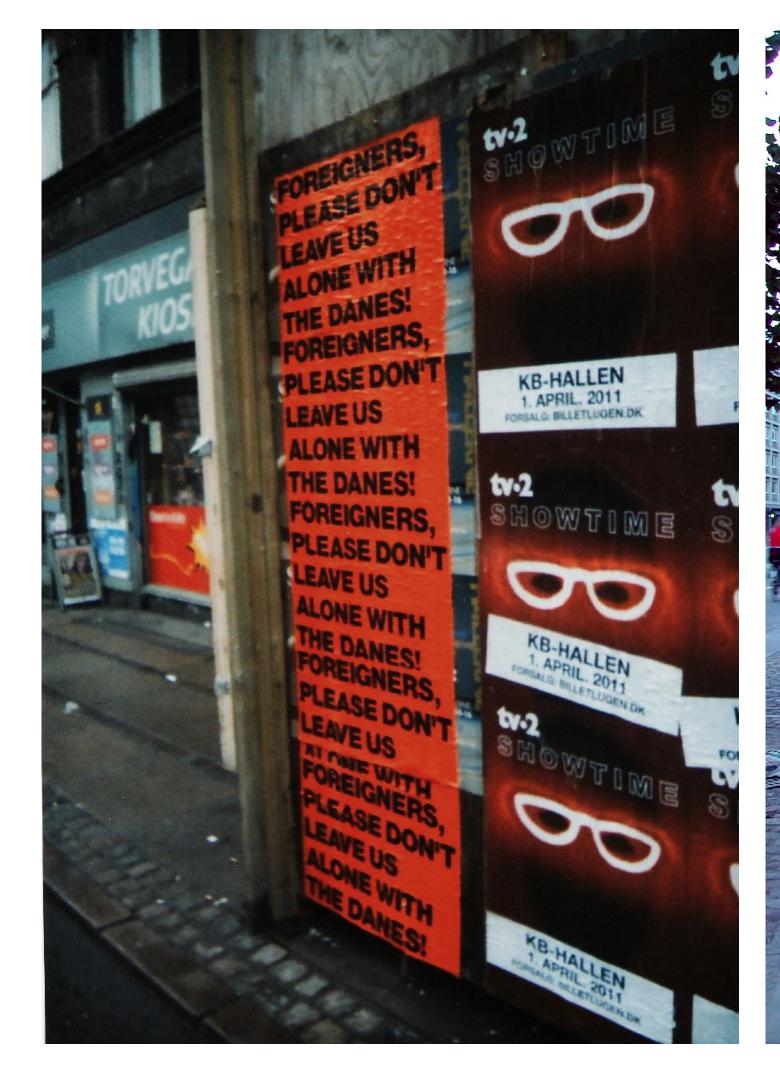
At the site of the Venice Biennale, SUPERFLEX will exhibit the artwork in two forms. First, a stack of the original poster would lay on the floor for visitors to take freely. Second, as a photo-slideshow of images viewed sequentially on a 70" monitor. The images will highlight the historical application of the poster in public spaces, and additionally, how a milieu of users have appropriated the poster in their private spaces. Private images will be sourced through an open call for members of the public to submit an image of the artwork featured in their homes and private spaces.

The following photos demonstrate the artwork's wide application and appropriation in both public and private realms around Denmark since 2002, and can give a sense of the visual artwork that will be included at the Biennale.



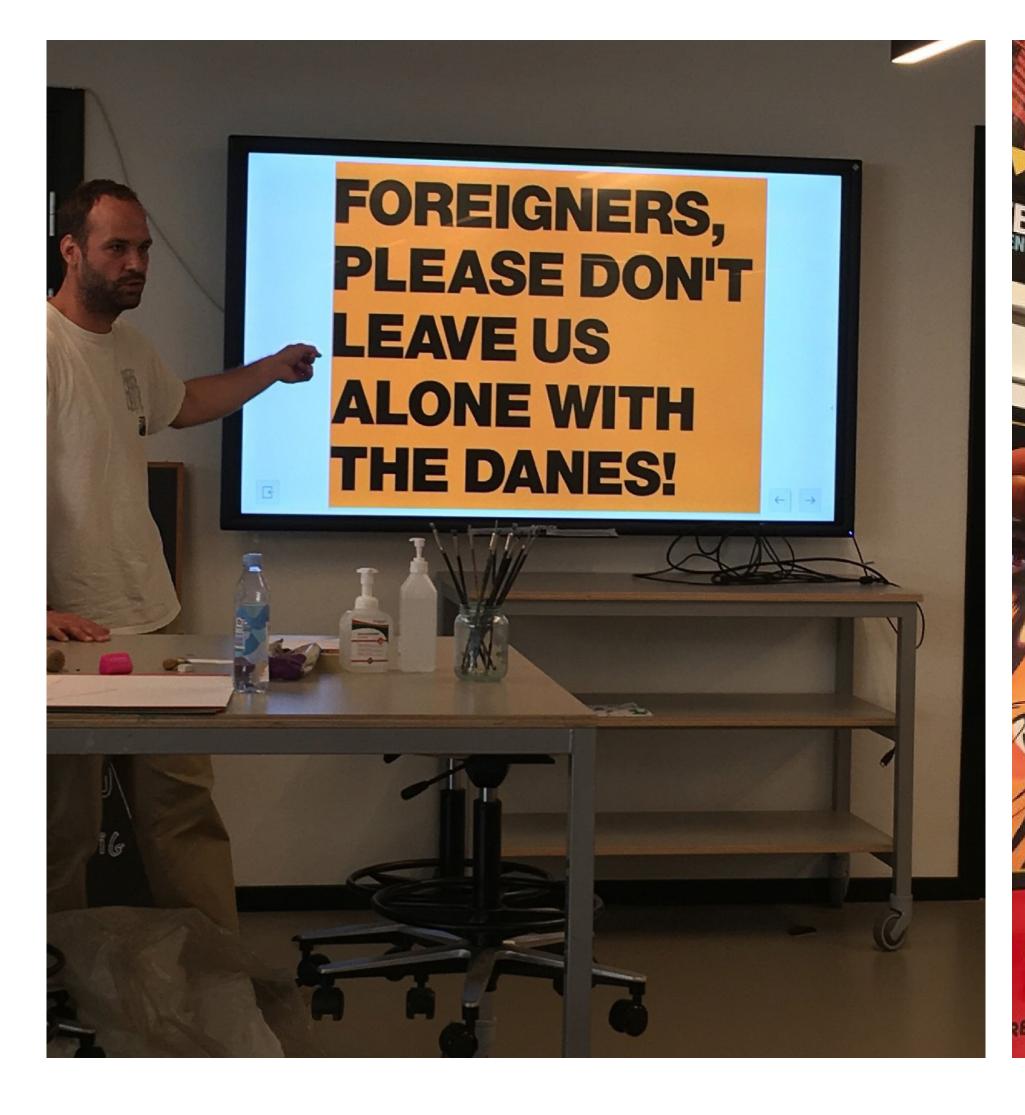








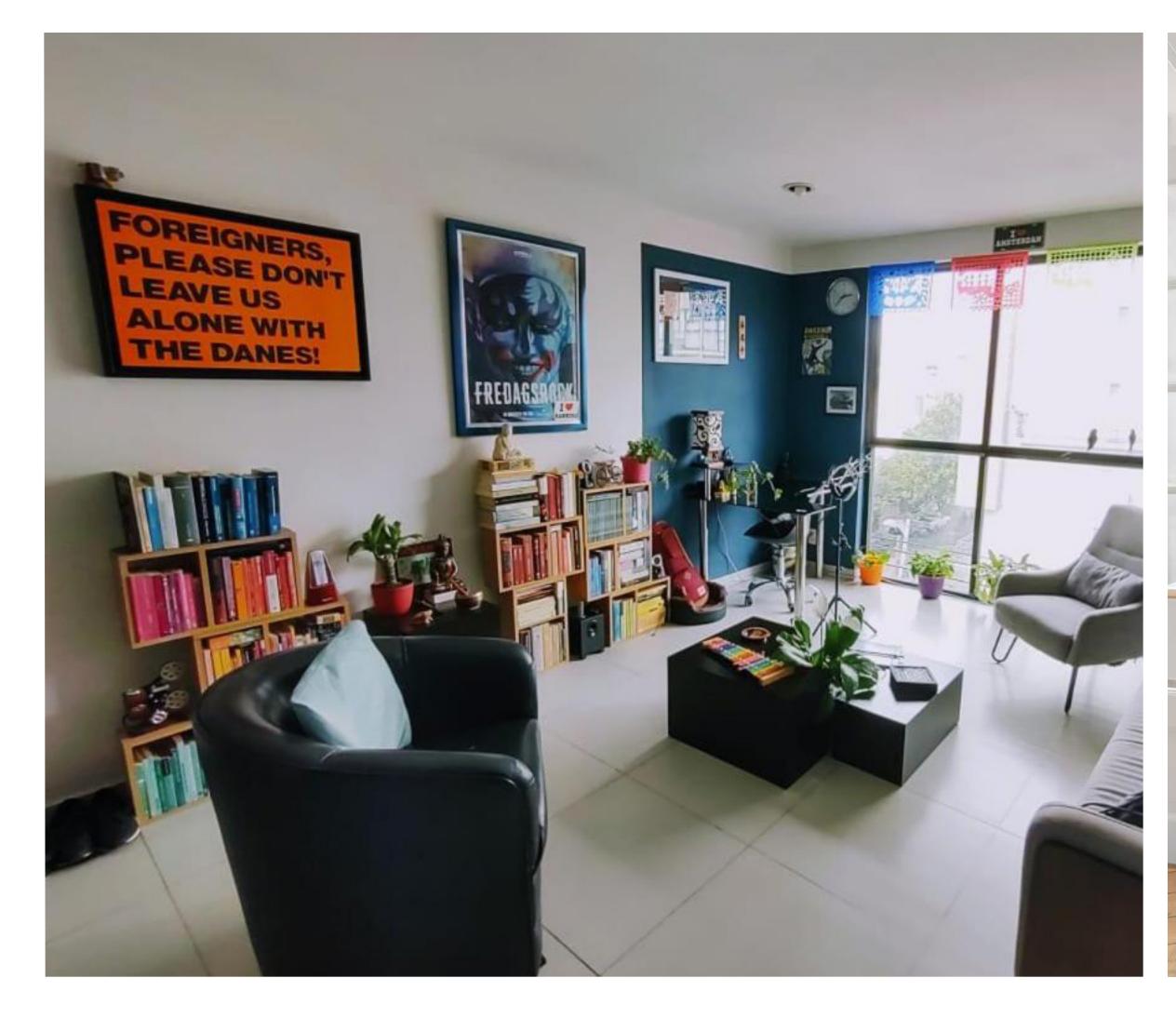




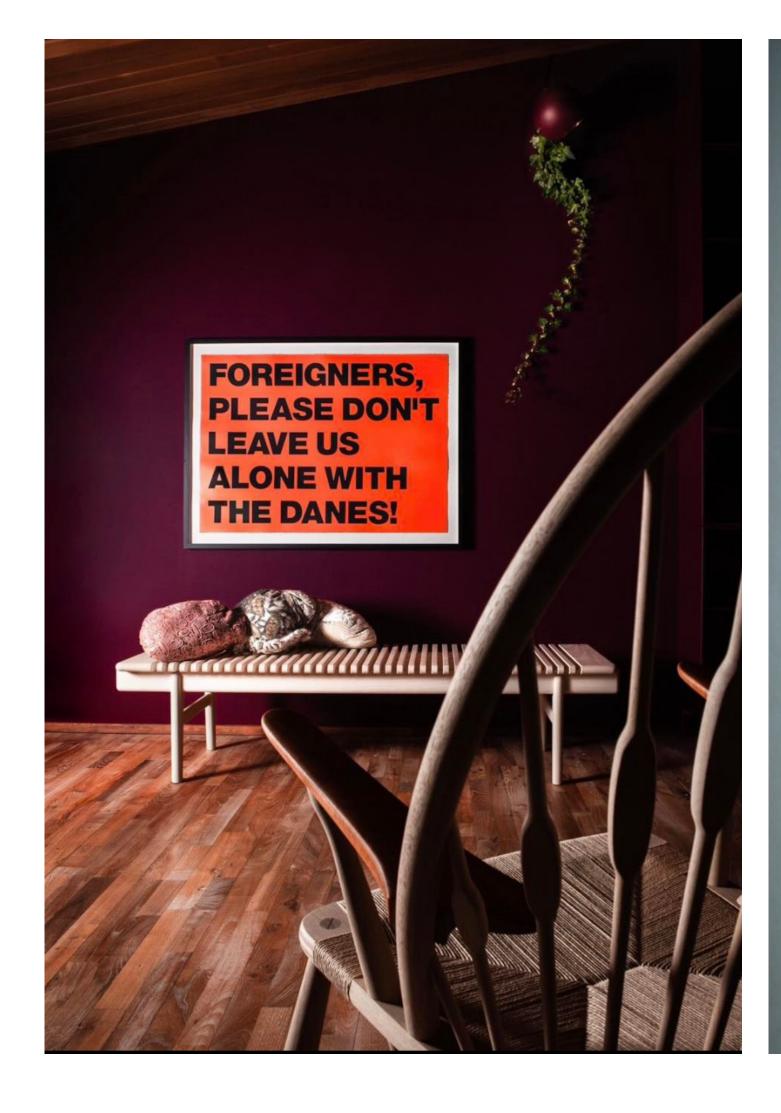




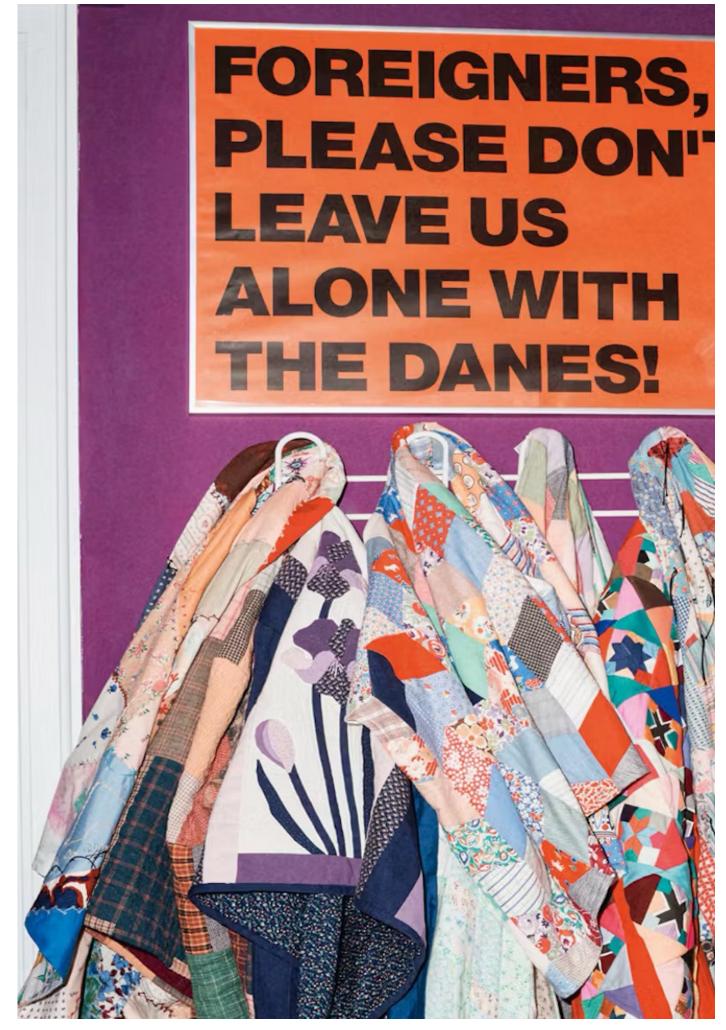






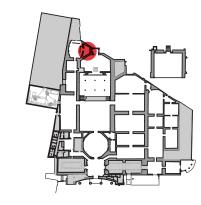






Central Pavilion, Salle 07

Superflex Foreigners Please Don't Leave Us Alone With The Danes!, 2002







LA BIENNALE **ARTE 2024**

Stranieri Ovunque Foreigners Everywhere

Exhibition Design

Giardini > Central Pavilion

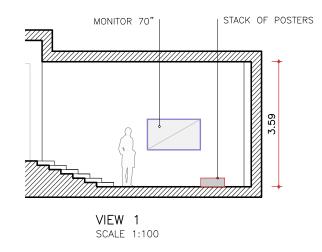
Preliminary Study | R00

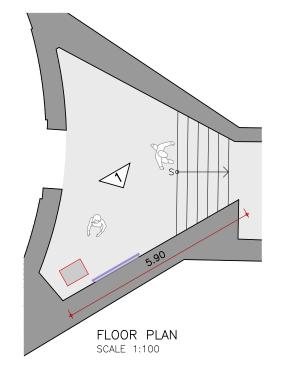
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Central Pavilion, Salle 07

Superflex Foreigners Please Don't Leave Us Alone With The Danes!, 2002







LA BIENNALE ARTE 2024

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23.11.2023

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