

## PRESS RELEASE

Kitty Crowther

*Entre deux eaux. Between Two Waters.*

12.09.–19.10.2025

The  
Norwegian  
Drawing  
Center

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Kitty Crowther. Photo: Théodore Bauthier.

Tegnerforbundet – The Norwegian Drawing Center is thrilled to present the work of Kitty Crowther, with her first art exhibition in Norway. Kitty Crowther (b. 1970) is an acclaimed Belgian illustrator, author and artist. She has built a remarkable and widely celebrated career in children's literature, known for her enchanting and vivid illustrations, often fearlessly tackling emotional subjects. The exhibition features drawings and monotypes from recent years, a relatively unknown side of her prolific production.

### **Entre deux eaux. Between Two Waters.**

The title of the exhibition – *Entre deux eaux. Between Two Waters* – reflects the experience of existing and observing from a space between, a notion which is echoed in Crowther's background. Born in Brussels to an English father and Swedish mother, she was imbued with a sense of dual identities, simultaneously local and foreign. She also grew up with a hearing impairment, a trait that often required her to deduce meaning through other senses. This made her adept at building bridges between her experience of the world and what those around her seemed to be communicating. She built a rich internal universe in the process, which she expressed from an early age through drawing.

### **Series of pencil drawings and monotypes**

The exhibition features two main series of works: one series of pencil drawings and one series of monotypes. The series of pencil drawings, comprising more than 150 works, is titled *Face the Day* and was created during the pandemic. These works are products of the confusion and isolation of the time. They depict faces and mimic the feeling of standing, perhaps for a little too long, in front of a small mirror above your bathroom sink – seeing hallucinations of a face reflected back at you,

forming and unforming. Crowther's intention is for the viewer to have a dialogue with the work. As we observe the face in front of us, we co-create the image.

The second group of works is a series of monumental monotypes which mainly feature faces. These larger monotypes branch off from the first set into their own powerful expression, a visceral, raw confrontation of color, each one with its own unmistakable identity. The exhibition also displays monotypes portraying hybrid creatures on the spectrum between plant and animal, carrying notes of simultaneous growth and decay. These vegetal structures might belong under or over the water, or be creatures caught between the forms of flower, sunburst or starfish. All of them challenge the categories of classification, embracing the blurry boundaries and living textures of the natural world. In contrast, Crowther's drawings in pencil are sharp and bold against the amorphous body of the monotype, giving a rich display of her expressive and energetic wielding of the drawn line.

### **About Kitty Crowther**

Kitty Crowther is renowned for her evocative work, primarily in both writing and illustrating children's literature, where she combines intricate drawings with deeply emotional narratives. With a career that includes over forty books, Crowther's work has been widely translated and distributed internationally. Crowther has been recognized through numerous awards, including the prestigious Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA), which praised her for blending imagination with reality, and for her mastery of both line and atmosphere. As an artist and illustrator, she has held solo exhibitions at galleries and venues across the world.

**Curator:** Rosanna Vibe.

**Producer:** Hilde Lunde.