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Go Down with Me

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Kari Brandtzæg
Jon Refsdal Moe
Trude Schjelderup Iversen
Vegard Vinge

ISBN	9788284620466
Publisher	MUNCH
Binding	Paperback / softback
Territory	World excluding Norway
Size	305 mm x 228 mm
Pages	206 Pages
Illustrations	165 color
Price	£30.00

- Vanessa Baird (b. 1963) has established herself as one of Norway's foremost visual artists since the 1990s
- Featuring works specifically made for this exhibition
- The room installation *You Must Never Go Down to the End of Town if You Don't Go Down with Me* contains intense depictions of the brutality of war and human suffering and are shown in full in the book
- Made for MUNCH on the occasion of the exhibition at Munchmuseet, Norway from 11 October to 31 December 2024

Vanessa Baird is confrontational, morbidly funny, even infamous, with her sharp, oblique observations of herself and her times. **Go Down with Me**, the book accompanying MUNCH's exhibition of the same name, is richly illustrated with works from her whole career. This includes the installation *You Must Never Go Down to the End of Town if You Don't Go Down with Me*, created especially for MUNCH, which reflects on the ongoing wars in Ukraine and the Gaza Strip.

Also included are thought-provoking essays by Kari Brandtzæg, Jon Refsdal Moe, Trude Schjelderup Iversen and Vegard Vinge, demonstrating Baird's ceaseless productivity and unique ability to hit where it hurts the most.

Vanessa Baird (b. 1963) lives and works in Oslo. Baird was educated at the National Academy of Arts in Oslo, Norway and Royal College of Art in London, UK. Baird is considered one of Norway's leading contemporary artists known for her works on paper, ranging from large scale murals - to intimate series. Baird is represented in the British Museum's Prints and Drawing Collection as well as key Norwegian collections, such as The National Museum of Norway, Stavanger Kunstmuseum and KODE. Baird has done several permanent commissions in public spaces in Norway. **Kari J. Brandtzæg** is a senior curator at munch. Since joining Munchmuseet in 2015, Brandtzæg has curated several significant exhibitions, including *Tracey Emin / Edvard Munch: The Loneliness of the Soul*, which was one of the opening exhibitions at the new museum in Bjørvika in 2021. **Trude Schjelderup Iversen** is a senior curator at Public Art Norway (koro). Since 2023, she has been jury member and curator for the national memorial for the 22 July 2011 terror attacks. Currently, she is working on the Migration and Architecture project, which is based on repeated collaborations with various artists, including Suzanne Lacy and Knut Åsdam. **Jon Refsdal Moe** is a professor of dramaturgy at Stockholm University of the Arts and holds a position as professor II in theatre studies at the University of Bergen. As an author, Moe has published novels, essays and criticism, including the literary works *Rant 1* and *Rant 2* (Fanfare, 2017 and 2019). His latest publication, *And Then Comes the Chorus*, was released by Varamo Press in 2022. **Vegard Vinge** is a Norwegian theatre director and performance artist. His critically acclaimed productions, which transcend the boundaries between theatre, visual art and video, have been shown at numerous theatres and festivals in Norway and abroad. Together with Ida Müller, he runs the independent theatre company Vinge/Müller.

