

Tomas Colbengtson born 1957 grew up in a small village near Björkvattnet in Tärna, under the polar circle of Sweden. In his artwork, he asks how colonial heritage has changed Indigenous lives and landscapes, both of the saemie and other Indigenous peoples. Having lost his mother tongue south saemie language, he works with visual art, using saemie history and collective memory as the source to his art. He is continuously experimenting with new forms of media and material, from overlay glass and metal printing to etching and digital art forms. This way, he seeks to assemble a language to formulate the loss but also rejuvenation of saemie identity.

He is initiator of one of the first art residence for indigenous artists "Sápmi salasta -Sápmi embraces. Colbengtson has been working as artist since 1991 and as indigenous curator since 2016

Tomas has exhibited in Austria, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Egypt, Faroeisland, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Greenland, Holland, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Norway, Russia, Spain, Swiss, Sweden and USA

[www.colbengtson.com](http://www.colbengtson.com)

2021 Initiator and curator of "Arctic Highway" Indigenous art exhibition  
2020 Public work: "Biessie giebnie" South saemie museum Snåsa, Norway Commissioned by: KORO  
2019 Curator of "Sápmi salastá" Indigenous Artist exhibition Granö, Sweden  
2018 Public work: "The dislocated – The recipient" Granö Västerbotten Commissioned by : Sjugnaregården  
2018 Public work: "Tsiegle"Vägvisaren,Pathfinder Satsfjäll,Saxnäs Sweden Commissioned by : Konstvägen sju älvar  
2017 Art director of Indigenous exhibition Sapporo Japan Sapporo, Japan  
2016-2017 leader of glass workshop, Urban glass studios, Brooklyn, N.Y. USA  
2015-18 Curating exhibitions with Faroeisland, Greenlandic, Nordic artists  
2015 Curator of "Vaapsten Bijre" Samisk art and duodji, Ájtte samemuseum Jokkmokk Sweden  
2014 Curator of artexhibition "Konstfack" Augeli museet Sweden  
1998-2008 Resident artist at KTH Royal institute of technology Stockholm, Sweden.  
Lecturer in Fine Printmaking at Konstfack National College of Art Craft and Design Stockholm,  
Member of the SDS/ Sami artist union  
2019 Tomas published his book "Faamoe" about his art and the south samie language. Publisher: Gaalitje

#### **Education:**

Valand school of Fine Arts Gothenburg  
Konstfack National College of Art, Craft and Design MFA painting  
Master class in Electronic Arts Copenhagen 1996, David Rokeby

#### **Public collection:**

The new National Museum, Oslo, Norway  
Uppsala Artmuseum, Sweden  
Art Council, Sweden  
Art Council, Norway  
Queen Sonjas Art-collection, Oslo, Norway  
Akureyri Art Museum, Island  
Norrbottens museum, Sweden  
Ajtté, Saemie museum Sweden  
RDM-De Samiske museum, Karasjok, Norway  
Nordnorsk Art museum, Tromsø, Norway  
Saemie parlament, Norway  
Aejlies Saemie museum, Sweden  
Örebro länsmuseum, Sweden  
Svenska Institutet, Paris, France  
Museum Kloster Bentlage, Germany  
Karolinska institute, Sweden  
Helgeland museum, Norway  
Aguelimuseet, Sweden  
Nibutani Ainu Museum, Japan  
Ainu Cultural Center, Sapporo, Japan

Grafikens Hus, Sweden  
Stockholm stad, Sweden  
Göteborg stad, Sweden

## Upcoming exhibitions :

### 2022

28/4-1/5 Market art, Galleri Helle, Liljevalchs, Stockholm  
5/6-4/9 Solo exhib/Installation Idre kyrka, Dalarna, Sweden  
17 juni Solos exhib. Saemie Sijte Sydsamisk museum Snåsa  
22/9 – 3/11 Soloexhib. SDG Karasjok Norway  
6/10 - 26/2 -23 Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno- Las Palmas Spain  
8/9-1/11 Yukon Arts Centre Canada  
9/12 – 3/3 -23 Solo exhib. National Nordic museum Seattle U.S

### 2023

Jan -april Swedish American Museum Chicago  
May -July Scandinavian House New York  
Aug -Oct National Nordic museum Seattle U.S.  
April Samisk senter for samtidskunst, Karasjok

### 2024

Jan - april American Swedish Institute Minneapolis U.S.  
June - dec Saemien Sijte Snåsa Norway

### 2025

Jan - dec Mötesplats Granö Sweden

## Exhibitions:

### 2022

22/1-12/2 Solo exhibition Galleri Helle Stockholm  
27/1-22/2 Solo exhi Sør-Troms Museum Harstad Norge  
2/3-22/5 House of Sweden, Washington D.C.  
11/3-8/9 Solo exhib. Museum Cerny Bern Swiss

### 2021

"Owerview effect: Museum of Contemporary Art, Belgrade, Serbia  
"De-Arctification" the Artists' Association of Lapland Kakslautanen Art Gallery Finland  
Konsthallen Sandviken, Sweden  
Sortland kunstforening, Norway  
Ebelingmuseet Eskilstuna, Sweden  
Glass art Pilchuck Seattle, US  
Solo exhib. Ajttémuseum Jokkmokk Sweden  
Solo exhib. MRK gallery Molde Norway  
Nordland museum Bodø, Norway

### 2020

Alta museum, Norway  
Galleri Sandler, Sweden  
Sturehof, Stockholm, Sweden  
Åmåls konsthall, Sweden  
Grafiktriennal Trelleborgs Museum, Sweden  
Sijti Jarngje Sørsamsik senter Hattfjelldal Norge  
Grafiktriennal Kulturens Hus Luleå Sweden

## 2019

Matter at heart, Telemarkmuseet Skien Norway  
ÁIGEMÁTK, Edsvik konsthall Stockholm  
Samiska veckan Umeå Sweden  
FAAMOE Littfest, Idunteatern Umeå Sweden  
5 "Indigenous Traces" exhibition Kulturbryggan Granö Sweden  
Kakslauttanen gallery Finland  
Galleri Lindberg Luleå Sweden  
Katuq Nuuk Greenland <https://katuq.gl/da/>

## 2018

Taseralik, Sisimiut, Greenland  
Sámi jubilee Östersund, Sweden  
Thorshavn, Faroe islands  
Skellefteå konsthall, Sweden  
Akureyri, Island  
Galleri Helle Knudsen Stockholm, Sweden  
Maerz Contemporary Molde, Norway

## 2017

The Agnes Varis Art Center, New York, US  
Gallery Maerz Molde, Norway  
Örebro länsmuseum, Sweden  
Galleri O Örebro, Sweden

## 2016

Det grønlandske hus, Copenhagen, Denmark  
Galleri Helle Knudsen, Stockholm, Sweden  
Sapporo Citizen Gallery, Japan  
Nibutani Ainu Cultural Museum, Hokkaido, Japan  
Canaria Islands, Spain

## 2015

Berlin artfair, Maerz Contemporary Berlin, Germany  
Gallery Urs von Unger Gstaad, Swiss  
Nuuk kunstmuseum Greenland  
Kunstmuseum Ilulissat Greenland

## 2014

Røros museum, Norway  
Lilla Galleriet, Umeå, Sweden

## 2013

Svenska Institutet, Paris, France  
Gallery NP33 Norrköping, Sweden  
Piteå Konsthall, Sweden.

## 2012

Norske Grafikere, Oslo, Norway.  
Ricklundgården, Saxnäs, Sweden.  
Galleri Konstforum, Norrköping, Sweden.  
Galleri Thomassen, Gothenburg, Sweden.  
Kiruna stadshus, Sweden.