



SÁMI DÁIDDAČEHPIID
SEARVI

Sámi dáiddafestivála

Sami art festival

ALTA, NORWAY, NOVEMBER 21.-24. 2019



With this festival we at Sami Artist's Union - Sámi Dáiddačehpiid Searvi (SDS) want to show the effect the hard political and cultural struggle during the Alta actions 40 years ago has had on the survival of Sami culture, nature and society, and the stamp it has left on Sami art to this day.

We wish to celebrate the constitution of the Sami artist organisations and the Sami Parliament – all the results of the Alta actions, and show the work of the members of SDS in the year of our jubilee. SDS was established 40 years ago this November.

Our focus will be on Sami visual art, an art form vital in the fight for Sami rights and Sami culture. In addition to three exhibitions showing work from around fifty artists, the festival also conveys interdisciplinary projects, performance, street art, art videos, art actions, theatre, literature, music and more. It is important for us in SDS to gather artists, scholars and representatives from art institutions to seminars on Sami visual art including duodji (Sami craft). Many of the exhibiting artists will be present and will welcome conversations and discussions with the public and invited guests.

The 69 members of our organization show advanced professionalism in a variety of artistic expressions. Most of us hold degrees from art academies, colleges and universities. We have also fought to establish Sami Centre of Contemporary Arts and Karasjok school of art, and we have worked for the founding of scholarships and grants. Our members convey Sami contemporary art and crafts in the Sami area and beyond, and some of us work as curators, art teachers and scientists. SDS collaborates with the Sami Parliaments and the governments of Norway, Sweden and Finland.

SDS has been central in the establishment of a system for purchasing contemporary Sami art and duodji and has in extension of this proposed the establishment of a Sami art museum.

With support from:

