

**Bjørn Berge**  
**Anette Rosenberg**

# Smell - The tale of a fading sense

## Lukt. Fortellingen om en falmet sans

Genre: Non-Fiction  
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English sample translation available

This book is a tribute to the free sense of smell in all its beauty and disgust.

The sense of smell is associated with the dark, the unruly, the erotic, the antisocial, the primitive—the very opposite of modernity and progress. When the senses fall into mutual imbalance and individual senses are suppressed or overwhelmed, we risk hallucinations taking over. We begin to invent our lives. This is unsettling in a time when the value of improvisation and the revelation of false information may prove more important than ever.

The book begins with an introduction to the significance of the sense and the adventurous diversity of odors, and continues as an olfactory historical journey through the earliest urban formations of antiquity, through the medieval plague epidemics and the industrial revolution, up to the present day. Along the way, we are introduced specifically to twenty smells that still play an important role in human life, from the smell of blood to the scent of flower meadows, farts, money, and garlic.

All illustrated with monoprints by visual artist Anette Rosenberg.



'Bjørn Berge offers us another treasure trove of insight and reflection. The text sharpens your senses and makes you appreciate the endless variety the world has to offer, which powerful forces are recklessly striving to flatten, homogenize, and standardize.'

Dagbladet, 6/6 stars

'Although odours are everywhere and we perceive them constantly, we only have a very limited vocabulary to describe them. For this reason alone, it is absolutely necessary to bring a book about the sense of smell onto the market.'

Martin Lindh, Publisher Haupt Verlag



**Bjørn Berge** is an architect and author. He has published numerous articles and books in Norway on architecture and building ecology. In 2016, he published *Nowherelands* – so far sold to 22 countries.

**Anette Rosenberg**, a Norwegian visual artist, with a particular focus on environmental issues, is a member of the Norwegian Visual Artists Association (NBK) and the Norwegian Association for Arts and Crafts (NK). She has previously worked with graphic design and textile design.

#### Foreign sales

World German (Haupt Verlag), Hungarian (Czer Kiado)

#### Previous titles

A Pacifist's Guide to Bombers (Luftens tyranner), 2019  
*Nowherelands* (Landene som forsvant), 2016

#### Rights holder

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#### Interview

[Read our interview with the author here](#)