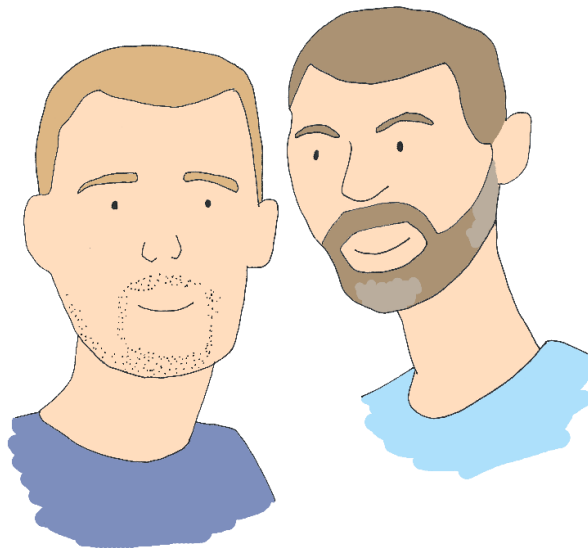


# ELMGREEN & DRAGSET SCULPTURES

## Family Guide

### Nasher Sculpture Center

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**Michael Elmgreen**  
born 1961  
Copenhagen, Denmark

**Ingar Dragset**  
born 1969  
Trondheim, Norway

**Michael Elmgreen** didn't grow up expecting to become an artist. His first interest was poetry, then he began approaching his work in a new way: *"Why not try to do my text experiments in different formats?"*

**Ingar Dragset** didn't always know that he would become an artist. He studied theater: *"Initially, I was drawn to theater because it was much more of a world of possibilities."*

Ingar and Michael met at a disco and began creating art together in 1995. The duo currently live and work in Berlin, Germany.

## STORIES

*"And there is a narrative, of course, embedded in our works, but the installations are also there physically because they something that is hard to convey in just your normal language."*

—Ingar Dragset

Elmgreen & Dragset often create scenes that suggest open-ended stories for us to think about.

Find a work of art with a person in it. Spend some time looking closely. What clues do the artists give you about the person? Use your imagination to come up with your own ideas about who the character is and what they are doing.

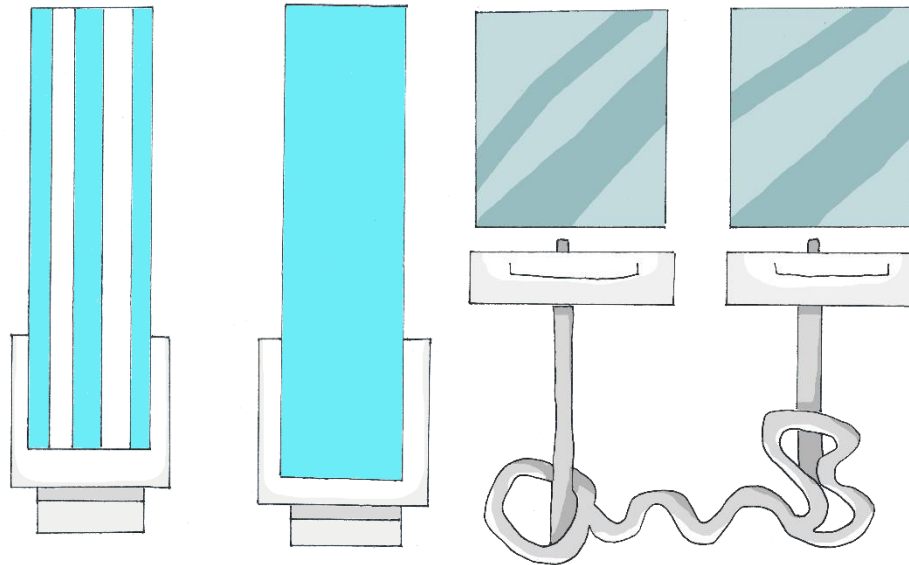


## PAIRS

Elmgreen & Dragset work together as a team on their art, and many of their sculptures feature pairs of things placed together.

Find an artwork that includes a pair of things. Imagine each object in the pair is a person.

What will they say to one another?



## POWER

*“Just simple change can show how fragile most power structures are when it comes down to it, and how easy it is to change something if you just agree upon it.”*

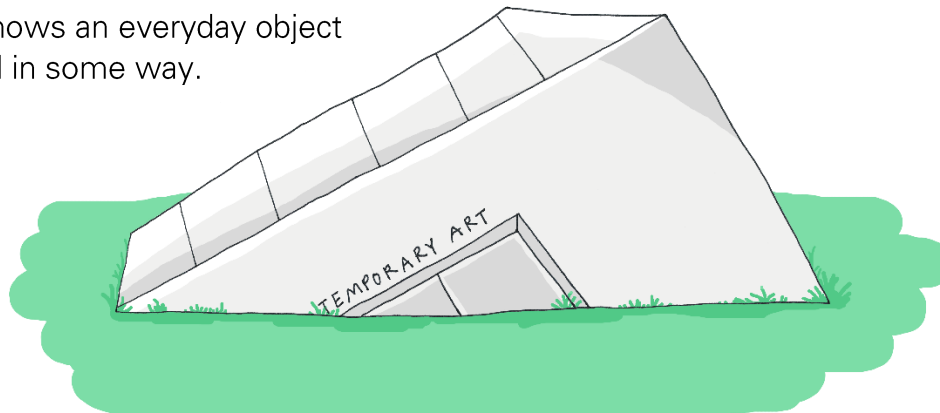
–Michael Elmgreen

Elmgreen & Dragset often question and challenge powerful people and things. They draw attention to those who have power and those who are powerless.

Find an artwork that shows an everyday object that has been changed in some way.

What power did this object originally have?

How did the artists alter or take away that power?



## EXPERIENCE

*“A work of art needs to have a degree of openness so that people can have the possibility of having a certain experience, but also the possibility of having the complete opposite experience as well.”*

–Ingar Dragset

Elmgreen & Dragset leave space for us to think about the work and create our own meanings, ideas, and connections.

Imagine the street signs are reflecting your favorite experiences from today. Draw what they will show.

