

A night-time photograph of a construction site. In the foreground, a body of water reflects the scene. On the left, a large crane is visible. In the background, several multi-story buildings are lit up, and a construction site with temporary structures is visible on the right. The sky is dark blue with some clouds and a crescent moon.

Cool Construction with Temporary Art and Architecture



The artist collective The Mermaids created the longest painting ever to appear on the metro hoardings. **Floating or Flying** is 185 meters wide (606 feet) and has a slight phosphorescent effect, which gives the artwork an almost magical appearance when it is reflected in the water below. Øster Søgade, October 2014.

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**DURING THE CONSTRUCTION OF
THE METRO CITYRING
WE HAVE 6 KM FENCE AROUND
21 CONSTRUCTION SITES**

**THE FENCES WE USE FOR
ART AND
OTHER GOOD STUFF TO MAKE
A BETTER CITY
WHILE WE ARE BUILDING**

**WE CALL IT BYENS HEGN AND
COOL CONSTRUCTION
m.dk/byenshegn**



Seismic Wave by artist Carl Krull is one of the longest murals ever painted on the metro hoardings. It is no less than 100 meters (328 ft.) wide. The artist is inspired by the instrument that measures the duration and force of an earthquake. Øster Søgade, July 2015.



Cool Construction

by Metroselskabet

The Danish metro company, Metroselskabet, is expanding the existing metro in Copenhagen with a new city circle line, Cityringen. Cityringen adds 17 stations to the 22 stations on the existing metro lines, which means that several central squares in the city will be occupied by construction sites until 2019 when the circle line is finished.

Due to the miniscule size of the medieval Danish capital most construction sites are located in tight residential areas and squeezed into little local squares, which demands a lot of tolerance from residents and business owners.

In fact, a construction project of such massive proportions impacts the everyday lives of all Copenhageners which is why Metroselskabet and the municipalities of Copenhagen and Frederiksberg created a project that gives something back to the city's residents.

The project is called Cool Construction and is a way of turning 21 green construction site hoardings into temporary urban labs for the benefit of residents, business owners, visitors and passers-by.

Cool Construction is the biggest art exhibition in Denmark and is financed by the sale of advertising space on dedicated parts of the hoardings. Anyone with a great idea can apply to become part of the project – artists, locals, amateurs – Cool Construction is yours!





The gigantic cutter-head of one of the four tunnel boring machines is hoisted into the shaft at Nørrebroparken. From here it continues its tunnel drive towards Nørrebro Station. May 2015.



Cityringen is the largest construction project in Copenhagen since year

1618



Henrik Plougmann Olsen, CEO of Metroselskabet, gives his speech at the official opening of Fie Norsker's artwork in Kongens Nytorv, May 2012. The artwork was part of a project initiated by the association Forskønnelsen, which invited six established artists to produce artworks for metro hoardings with financial support from the Danish Arts Foundation.

It's all yours!

When I visit the Metro construction sites, I often make a point of walking around the site to look at the fantastic artwork on the construction site hoardings; hoardings which live and change with the city and which often allow for interaction with the audience.

'Cykelmyggen Egon' (a fictional character from a children's book about a bicycling mosquito named Egon) was featured on hoardings in three different parts of the city, and it reminded me of all the times I have read aloud to my children. And the impressive 'Happy Wall' at Kongens Nytorv always offered me a new version of itself. I only mention a few examples here, but fully acknowledge the many different artists who have contributed with works of art for the green Metro hoardings.

As a public-sector company we have a special responsibility, along with our partners in the municipalities of Copenhagen and Frederiksberg, to ensure that the city can continue to thrive while we construct the new Metro line. It is our ambition to give something back to the city, and to the individuals who make use of the city's urban spaces while we are generating construction noise and dust.

The works on our fences are the result of an initiative which we call Cool Construction or, in Danish, 'Byens Hegn' (The City's

Hoardings). Cool Construction aims to be a model example of how construction sites in inner cities should not put the surrounding urban environment on hold, but instead generate new activities and new spaces in the urban setting. At the same time, Cool Construction is an invitation to everyone with an idea and the ability to improve the temporary urban spaces created by the Metro construction. Cool Construction is therefore not just our project – it is yours as well!

By Henrik Plougmann Olsen, CEO of Metroselskabet



The construction site in Skjolds Plads (a small square in Nørrebro) is located in the middle of a residential area and the hoardings are placed right up against the buildings. October 2014.



The Haraldsgade Quarter Urban Renewal Project (Haraldsgadekvarterets Områdeløft) created the **Birch Forest** in Skjolds Plads. It consists of large photo panels on the hoardings and real birch stems. Skjolds Plads, October 2012.



Certain sections of the hoardings are dedicated to advertising administered by the media companies Clear Channel Denmark and City Media. Profit from the advertising funds the Cool Construction project.

Enriching Copenhagen

Cityringen (the city circle line) is the most expansive construction project in the Danish capital since King Christian IV founded Christianshavn in the 17th Century. Construction work of this proportion is bound to cause nuisances – from mess, to noise and construction dust. This is why Metroselskabet in collaboration with the City of Copenhagen and Frederiksberg Municipality has decided to create a project that will give something back to the city and which will contribute positively to life in the city's public places and urban spaces.

During the time it takes to construct the new Metro line Cityringen, the city is host to some 6 kilometres of hoarding around 21 construction sites in the middle of Copenhagen and Frederiksberg. The green wooden hoarding has been given the title 'Cool Construction' – and it constitutes the biggest art exhibition in the country.



The Sea Is (Havet er) by the artist collective Reinholdt & Siem is made up of a blue photo collage and two thousand silver sequins placed by hand. The sequins move when the wind blows mimicking ripples on the sea. Nørrebro Station, April 2015.



This is how the metro hoardings look when they are not maintained or decorated regularly. Sønder Boulevard 2013.



The **Wooden Dragon** (Trædragen) is made by neighbour and artist Jakob Bue and artist Rune K. Drewsen. The piece is constructed by recycled wood scavenged around Copenhagen. Sønder Boulevard, August 2013.

”Cool Construction is a bit like an open air museum. Only more interesting, since most of the art is interactive and the scenery keeps on changing. A great project that transforms introverted construction sites into interactive artworks.”

Maarten van Tuijl

architect at temp.architecture, Amsterdam



Light Fence (Lys Hegn) by Hans E. Madsen is designed to make the passage between the metro construction site and a football club house feel more comfortable and fun to use. Vibenshus Runddel, August 2013.

The hoardings displayed **Obey Propaganda** when the world-renowned street artist Shepard Fairey opened an exhibition in Copenhagen. During the same visit he decorated several large gables and created temporary installations around the cityscape. Kongens Nytorv, August 2011.





”..you establish a sense of community around the hoardings..”

Tina Saaby

City architect and neighbour, København K

I think Cool Construction helps create urban spaces. The project truly succeeds when the decorations on the hoardings help define the area around them. I especially like the area around Enghave Plads where you can peek into the construction site from your own little urban space. There is something special about that feeling. I believe the fact that both amateurs and professionals are invited to decorate the hoardings reflects the spirit of Copenhagen.

”Other cities can learn a lot from Copenhagen – especially how to treat public space in an eligible way – how to deal with bikes, with balconies or with construction fences. That’s what it’s all about: Creating cities for the inhabitants!”

Jens Böhm

senior architect, strategic projects metro, MVG Munich



93%

neighbours like that the
hoardings are decorated

Two boys are looking through the windows to the construction site at Enghave Plads. The mural above the window was painted by the Canadian graffiti artist Other. May 2014.



Danish architect Johan Sonne Amhild's installation **Weaving Wood** changes expression as you walk past it. Kongens Nytorv, May 2014.



Unreal Estate was created by Torgeir Stige and Kim Frydenlund Grane in collaboration with students from the local school, Nørrebro Park Skole. The work was donated to the school at the end of its exhibition period. Nuuks Plads, August 2012.

The artist collective Big City Brains created **Imagination Rules the World**. The 40 meters (131 feet) wide mural painting greets the daily passers-by in the park. Vibenshus Runddel, February 2013.



Everyone is Invited

Cool Construction is a democratic venture. There is room for everyone on the green hoardings; from the art academy graduate and publically-acclaimed artist to kindergarten children from the local childcare facility.

State-subsidised art in public spaces very often consist of sculptures or murals which are designed to last a hundred years. On the Metro hoardings we experiment with temporariness and changeability in the public environment, and it has been a priority from the project's inception that Cool Construction should also involve new and untrained artists.

On the giant canvas of the Metro hoardings you will therefore find a range of practitioners from self-taught graffiti artists to school children who are given the opportunity to display their artistic abilities and creative talent. More than 100 new projects are featured on the hoardings each year.



The users of the social venture called Settlementet in Vesterbro created the installation **Tangled Together**. Sønder Boulevard, August 2014.



Members of the creative youth community ULK at the National Gallery of Denmark invited neighbours to the construction site by the famous Danish Marble Church to help them design the decoration on the hoarding. The decoration is a photo collage of paintings from the National Gallery of Denmark. Marmorkirken, June 2013.



“It’s cool that so many people are able to experience our art...”

Lukas, Anna og Savan
Members of the creative youth community
ULK at the National Gallery of Denmark

Tourists often visit The Marble Church (Marmorkirken) and when they do then they can check out our artwork too. Our work is pretty accessible and has an imagery that most people understand. It’s cool that so many people are able to experience our art. It is also really nice to gain recognition for our work. We even received six out of six hearts in Politiken (one of the largest Danish newspapers).

These masks appeared out of nowhere on several metro hoardings around the city. Unsolicited artworks are often kept on the hoardings if they do not interfere with the installations of other artists or take up space that we need for other artworks. Nørrebroparken, April 2013.



A Village in the City – Portraits from Brumleby (En landsby i storbyen – Portrætter fra Brumleby) is a series of photographs by photographer Ken Herman. The photos are portraits of the inhabitants in the residential area, Brumleby, which is a part of Østerbro in Copenhagen. Brumleby was built during the cholera epidemic in Denmark from 1853-1872. Triangeln, November 2015.



George Koutsouris created **Rotating Waves** with propellers that spin when the wind blows. Unfortunately the piece was gradually vandalized – maybe due to its placement close to a street of night clubs or maybe because of the temptation of the moving propellers. Town Hall Square, September 2014.





A woman photographs Thomas Arendt's mural painting *Billions & Billions*. Sønder Boulevard, August 2015.



Nine Green Nuances (Ni grønne nuancer) by artist Hans E. Madsen is made of bent veneer panels and green LED light fixtures. Gammel Strand, November 2014.



”...there is something quite musical about the changeability..”

Hans E. Madsen
Artist

I enjoy these temporary spaces very much because there is something quite musical about the changeability in the exhibited artworks. It is a democratic process that shows the diversity of the arts: That the hoardings can be hosts to artworks by both talented school children and professional artists. It is very educational for the residents of the city.



Look what We Found in the Danish Nature! (Se hvad vi fandt i den danske natur!) by the artist duo Sælsomt Studio stretched across almost 100 meters worth of hoarding. Nørrebroparken, August 2011.

Semor lives in Düsseldorf but participates in the annual Beautification event on Sønder Boulevard every year. Sønder Boulevard, August 2014.



Artists from more than

17
countries



Kai Xiong is Chinese and is currently writing his PhD at the University of Copenhagen. His painting *Wild Copenhagen* is an interpretation of the relationship Copenhagengers have to animals. Vibenshus Runddel, October 2014.

An Idler's Vesterbro (Flanoerens Vesterbro) by
Tine Nedbo. Sønder Boulevard, August 2014.





Peter Birk from the town of Århus is working on his piece during the Beautification event on Sønder Boulevard, August 2014.



Bare Feet (Bare Fødder) by Ole Sparring is part of the project **Mirror of the City** (Byens Spejl) initiated by the association Forskønnelsen. The project invited six established artists to produce artworks for Cool Construction with financial support from the Danish Arts Foundation. Nørrebro Station, July 2012.

A Scarf is a Scarf is a Scarf... by Katrine May Hansen explores the cultural and historical relationship of head scarves from the Danish island Fano and the Indonesian island Java. Town Hall Square, September 2013.



Local Stories

Each individual Cool Construction artwork does not just decorate the site hoardings; many pieces also tell a story of the local neighbourhood or the part of the city where the site is located.

Some sites tell a very specific story – as does the big chestnut tree at Enghave Plads, referencing a real tree that had to be cut down to make room for construction. Or the birds' houses at Nørrebro, which replicate a range of prominent and well-known buildings in the neighbourhood.

At other sites, the artwork is more abstract, such as for instance at Frederiksberg, where three black-and-white artworks have become landmarks after a competition was launched by Frederiksberg Municipality for original artwork to be featured on each of the three construction sites in the municipality.

Finally, several works and stories have been created by local artists who wish to make their own mark on the Metro hoardings.





The local street artist Kissmama painted [Waiting for the Bus while We're Waiting for the Metro](#) (Venter på bussen, mens vi venter på metroen) by the bus stop at Nørrebro Station, April 2014.



”Suddenly art is democratised...”

Katrine Ring
DJ and neighbour, Nørrebro Station

I live right across from Kissmama’s creatures on the hoarding by Nørrebro Station. To me, street art means that I experience my neighbourhood in a new way. Additionally, it has the ability to make people who have no experience with art begin to form ideas about it. Suddenly art is democratised and that is a big deal.



Vampire Mirror (Vampyrspejl) by artist Ivan Andersen is part of the project **Mirror of the City** (Byens Spejl) initiated by the association Forskønnelsen who invited six well-known Danish artists to decorate the metro hoardings with financial support from the Danish Arts Foundation. Enghave Plads, October 2012.

The view from the local bakery was drastically improved when Tore Rørbæk's **Today Tomorrow** (I dag i morgen) was painted on the hoarding right outside the shop in May 2013. The painting is a tribute to a chestnut tree that was cut down when the construction of Cityringen in Enghave Plads began.





Photo artist Sonja Strange created the enormous artwork **Fusion** by photographing the surrounding buildings through a small glass prism that she usually wears around her neck. Nuuks Plads, August 2014.

”It is kind of magical...”

Sonja Strange
Photo artist



I have been taking photos through a prism for the last couple of years. The technique enables Brorsons Kirken (a church in Nørrebro) to appear to be connected to an apartment building which in reality is located 300 feet down the street. It is kind of magical. You could almost get the sense that borders between people are dissolvable too.





The established artist Henrik Menné won a competition issued by Frederiksberg Municipality to decorate the hoardings on the three construction sites placed in the municipality. These pictures of [Area \(Felt\)](#) clearly show the changeability in Menné's installation at Solbjerg Plads. The same effect is noticeable in his installations at Frederiksberg Allé and Aksel Møllers Have. October 2012.



The bird houses made by students at the Danish School of Media and Journalism are replicas of iconic buildings and shops in the Nørrebro quarter. The students competed against each other to come up with the best idea for an installation that was both child-friendly and rooted in a local theme. Nørrebroparken, May 2012.



More than
1000
children involved

As a part of the annual 48 hour Festival in Nørrebro, artist Karoline H. Larsen created an artwork that passers-by could help construct. **The Puzzle Picture** (Puslebilledet) is the result of the participation of hundreds of children and adults. Nørrebroparken, April 2013.



Anders is working on the art piece **Nørrebro Embracing Imperfection** which was created in collaboration with artist Christian Olsen. Nørrebroparken, April 2014.

**”... I could hear the birds
chirp while I worked.”**

Christian Olsen
Artist



I have painted graffiti for over 20 years. I did this piece in late summer. It was warm and there were lots of kids playing football in the park. But the days I started painting in the early hours of the morning I could hear the birds chirp while I worked. That was really nice.

”This project is one of my favorite examples when I’m discussing with people how to enliven the city. There are many different ways to increase the feeling of security and comfort. It is amazing that you have thought how to keep tourists visiting Copenhagen during the construction project – now they are taking photos of Cool Construction. Very cool.”

Mari Larkovirta

Communication Officer, Adult Education Center of Helsinki.



Working in an urban environment means constant attention from passers-by. Artist Jacoba Niepoort is working on her piece [What's Hiding Behind the Wall](#) depicting the view that was and will be again in the place of this particular hoarding at Kongens Nytorv. May 2015.



Always old friend (Altid – din gamle røver) is a poetic tribute to Enghave Plads (the main square in the Vesterbro quarter), which used to be filled with people, but is now a construction site. The tribute is written by Danish poet and spoken word performer Claus Ankersen and received the jury's award for best artwork at the annual Cool Construction award show in 2013. April 2013.

Part of the Urban Buzz

The purpose of Cool Construction is first and foremost to give something back to Copenhagen's citizens, visitors and local businesses, allowing the changing artwork at each site to generate new public spaces while the capital's Metro expansion is under construction.

Each piece of art is unique and often allows for interaction with the public. An example could be an incorporated bench inviting citizens to sit down for a chat or a coffee break. Another example could be an enormous, interactive installation where the public contributes to the creation of something new; something which was not there before but now attracts people and creates a new space; new means of socialising.

The artwork on the site hoardings is regularly accompanied by launches, poetry readings, events, photo sessions and other creative activities very near the Metro construction sites. In this way, Cool Construction plays a key role in ensuring that the local urban environment is not put on hold, but instead can function and develop while construction is ongoing in the middle of the city.



Rock 'n' Road is a series of photographs taken by Danish photographer Jørgen Angel of international rock stars throughout the 1960s and 70s. The Danish singer Annisette from the rock band Savage Rose is posing with the photographer in front of her portrait. Østerport Station, June 2015.



The **Generous Wall** (Den Generøse Væg) at Frederiksberg Station is the result of a competition with the intention of creating an urban space that supports the seating area outside the café. The Danish architect Frederik Lønøw won the competition and built the wall with help from carpenter students from Copenhagen Technical College and painter students from Technical Education Copenhagen. August 2014.



”People are so curious...”

Thomas Rise
Café owner, Frederiksberg Station

At my café we are extremely happy about the Generous Wall. It has really made a difference that it’s not just a boring hoarding anymore. It was really nice that we were asked our opinion about the decoration we wanted. I suggested the windows in the hoarding, so that guests are able to see what goes on behind the hoarding. People are so curious.

Piles (Bunker) by Petur Örn og Søren Duvald was created by the use of 45,546 shiny metal discs. Light and wind gave the piece a dynamic, shiny and compelling effect, which quickly drew passers-by to touch and change around the discs to write their names etc. Kongens Nytorv, February 2013.





More than
300
artists involved



NU · NOW · IMA by artist Helle Vibeke Jensen was both an installation on the metro hoarding on Town Hall Square and a published book. September 2012.



The Danish Broadcasting Corporation's art club (DR Kunstklub) exhibited the winning photographs from a public competition with the theme 'Kierkegaard'. Kongens Nytorv, October 2013.

Happy Wall by Thomas Dambo consists of almost 2,000 reversible wooden panels that enable passers-by to write words or create images on the hoarding. The hashtag #Happywall was used more than 5,000 times during the first 6 months of the installation's existence. Kongens Nytorv, April 2014.



”Good street art has to speak to the city’s residents...”

Thomas Dambo
Recycling artist



Good street art has to speak to the city’s residents without trying to sell them anything and without having hidden agendas. Producing art for the metro hoardings has been a great opportunity for me to experiment with large scale artworks in the middle of Copenhagen. And it has actually paved the way for me to go to Puerto Rico to build a new artwork.

”This project has transformed the space and the way people approach it – sometimes Cool Construction makes the environment more interesting and diverse than it was before the construction started. Due to the Cool Construction project my friends found the construction sites more interesting than many other places in the city.”

Lilia Voronkova

Social scientist and curator, Centre for Independent Social Research, St. Petersburg



Wheel of Niceness has spread a lot of joy at Enghave Plads. Passers-by have spun the wheel and been given random tasks such as: 'Free high-five', 'twerk' or 'do a happy-dance'. The installation was designed by Tarik Arnaoutović and Toke Krebs and won the Audience Award at the annual Cool Construction award show in 2014. Enghave Plads, June 2014.

Before I die ...



Before I die... is a participatory public art project started by Taiwanese-American artist Candy Chang. In Copenhagen it was initiated by a group of students with Henrik Jensen as leading figure. Enghave Plads, September 2012.



**”The energy that the hoardings
create is really nice...”**

Helene Olsen
Neighbour and art teacher

I am a big fan of Cool Construction. I think that the project helps move focus away from the construction site. And it has been a great pleasure for us, the neighbours. The energy that the hoardings create is really nice – all the exhibitions, openings and happenings. I am an art teacher and actually took a fieldtrip with my students to look at the art on the hoardings.



On selected hoardings there is made room for promotional posters for cultural events. To the right of the corner the installation **The Weather in Vesterbro** (Vesterbro Vejr) made by Frederik Bjerre Andersen and Rune K. Drewsen is visible. Enghave Plads, November 2014.

Transforming the City

Cool Construction experiments with the transitory and changeable aspects of public space, and with the inclusion of the surrounding environment. The construction site hoardings are thus not there for art's sake, but for the people who make use of the city's urban environment.

Cool Construction gives construction-site neighbours a better view and creates useful urban spaces by means of its giant canvases for art, school projects, cultural exchange, furniture and other creative activities. The temporariness combined with the quick turn-around of the displayed works also make it possible to experiment with the limits of what is acceptable in an urban space, including what works and what does not. The green hoardings are meant to attract the public and should not simply function as necessary safety precautions around the construction work that goes on at the sites.

Even within the construction sites there is now an increasing demand for art – on the inside of the hoardings. In 2014 a graffiti artist thus added a unique touch to the hoarding around a tower crane at the Poul Henningsens Plads site. Since then several other sites have expressed a similar wish for artwork on the inside of their temporary hoardings.



The painting **PH's tunnel workers** (PHs tunnelarbejdere) by Christian Olsen was made at the request of site manager Tim Reeves who wanted a piece of art inside his construction site. Poul Henningsens Plads, October 2014.



Ride the High Horse as King Christian (Højt til hest som Kong Christian) by Dina Brændstrup consisted of 11 life-size horses set up on the largest square of the city, Kongens Nytorv in August 2014.

”...why shouldn't we have something on the inside?”


Tim Reeves
Sitemanager, Poul Henningsens Plads



I saw the walls that had art on the outside and thought, why shouldn't we have something on the inside? The art really brightens the place up. Both the workers on the site and the guests we have comment on it. We also have good responses from the neighbours who have windows looking down on it.



Artist Marcello Roveda and neighbour to the construction site Tove Carstensen in front of Marcello's painting *Different Colores of View*. Sønder Boulevard 2015.

A large window with a view of a mural depicting a woman on a bicycle in a green landscape. The window is divided into several panes. The central pane shows a woman in a striped shirt and dark shorts riding a bicycle. The background is a vibrant green landscape with yellow paths and a tree. The window is set in a white frame. On the windowsill, there is a potted plant, a black pitcher, and other small objects.

Tove Carstensen's living room faces the metro hoarding on Sønder Boulevard, which means that she gets a new view every year at the Beautification event.

More than
100
projects annually



The Tree in the Middle (Træet i midten) by Preowned and No Title was created during the annual Beautification event on Sønder Boulevard, August 2013.

Graffiti artist Thomas Arendt invited the two artists Alex Face and Mue Bon from Thailand to join him at the Beautification event. Together the three artists created the piece *Ulmus*. Sønder Boulevard, August 2014.





The Little Spaces of the City (Byens små rum) by artist Lotte Agger consists of a number of black boxes containing little artworks that resemble or are connected to specific locations in Frederiksberg. Aksel Møllers Have, June 2015.



One of the many passers-by at the annual Beautification event snaps a photo of the mural painting **Your Big Size Buddies** by Tore Rørbæk and ZEPHA from France. Sønder Boulevard, August 2014.

”As a new ’Copenhagener’ the fence, in these years, is very characteristic for the City. It is big, green and almost everywhere. It was a very positive experience getting to paint my art on the fence. Neighbours were passing by, greeting me and inviting me for a coffee.”

Julien Deiss
Artist, Germany

German artist Julien Deiss lives and works in Copenhagen. His piece **Die Panin** could be seen on the hoardings at Nuuks Plads, April 2015.





Carl Krull spent a month painting [Seismic Wave](#). The placement on a hoarding in the middle of a lake meant that the artist had to wear a lifejacket while working. Øster Søgade, July 2015.

Collaboration with Locals

The 21 construction sites for Cityringen are distributed across the Western, Eastern and Northern 'bridge quarters' of Copenhagen; the inner city and Frederiksberg. All parts of the city have their own characteristics, and different people live close to each individual site, passing by the green hoardings every day. Metroselskabet consequently prioritises those initiatives that are rooted in and backed by the local community.

We continually work towards a fruitful collaboration with local stakeholders who wish to contribute with artwork to a given site. It is often down to the dedicated local involvement of artists and neighbours who want to add their touch to the local environment to realise the spirit of Cool Construction. The best example of this is perhaps the annual 'Beautification' of the Sønder Boulevard site which is organised in collaboration with Områdefornyelsen Vesterbro (an urban renewal project). At this recurring event, more than 50 local and international artists meet to redecorate the green Metro hoardings at the well-known construction site in the Vesterbro area.



The annual Beautification event is organized by the urban renewal project Områdefornyelsen Vesterbro, Metroselskabet and a group of local volunteers. The event is a popular happening where artists spend two whole days working alongside each other. In this picture a naked woman has just used her body as a paint brush as part of the artwork **Awesome** (Formidabel) by Sesse Kristensen, Ania Nørgaard og Marcelo Leerer. August 2013.



At the Beautification event in 2014, Metroselskabet arranged guided tours around the hoardings. Here artist Tore Rørbæk is telling a group of people about his painting [Your Big Size Buddies](#). Sønder Boulevard, August 2014.

Urban Buzz by Organ 81 was painted during the Beautification event in August 2014.



Mikkel is helping Semor and Christian Olsen with their collective mural **CNNCTD** at the Beautification event on Sønder Boulevard in August 2014.



Rune K. Drewsen working on his painting [The Weather in Vesterbro](#) (Vesterbro Vejr) from a scaffolding platform at the Beautification event. Sønder Boulevard, August 2015.





Vertical Water by Johan Sonne Amhild is placed in a tricky location over a canal that several tourist tour boats pass through every hour of the day all year long. Gammel Strand, June 2015.



”... a unique opportunity to play and experiment.”

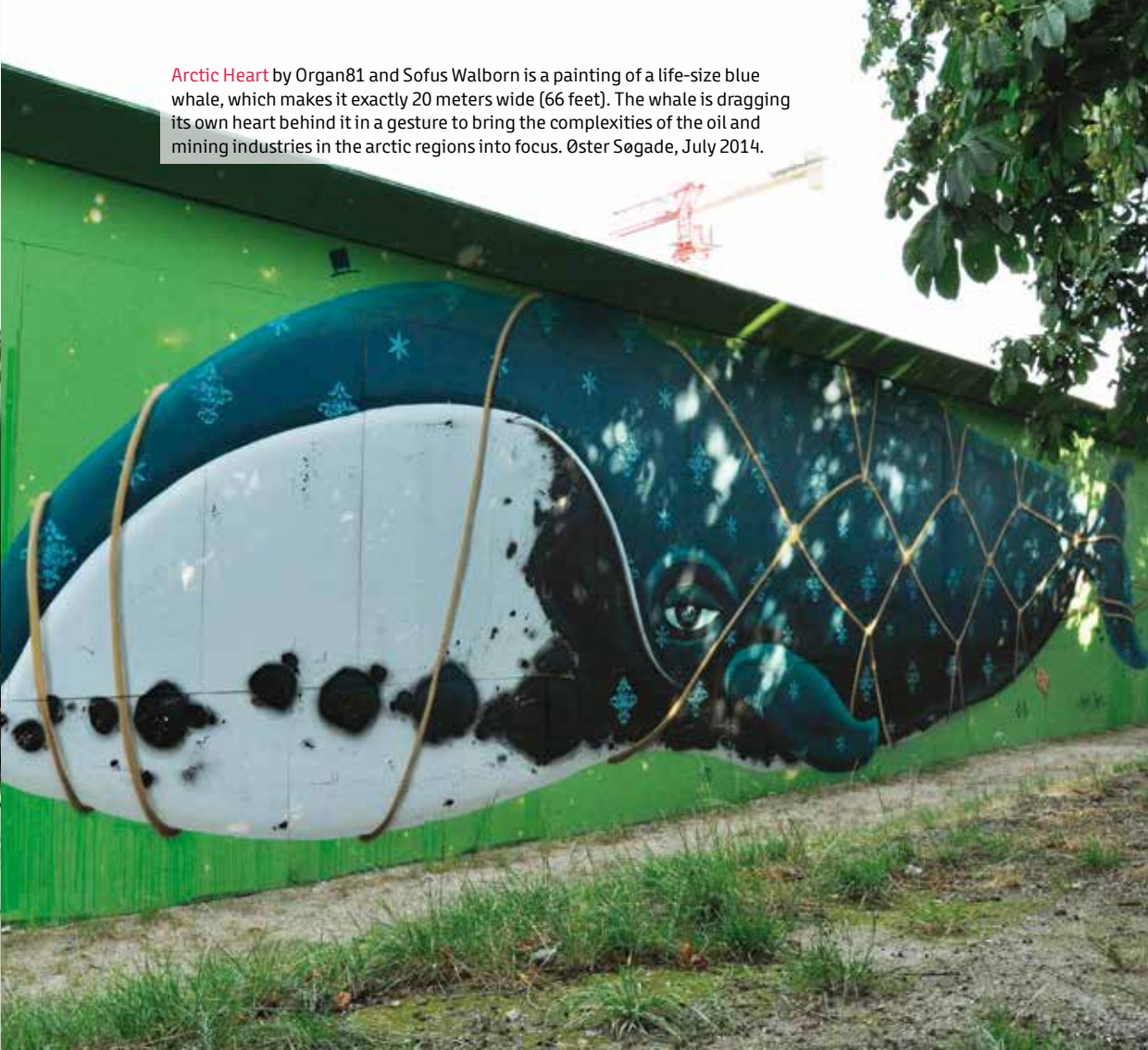
Bent Lohmann
Chairman of the Inner City Local Committee

Before the construction of the metro line began we thought a lot about the permanence of the temporary urban spaces that it would provide. This permanence gave us a unique opportunity to play and experiment with the townscape. I think that Cool Construction has provided a brand new platform for street art that we wouldn't have had if not for this project.

The typical exhibition period for artworks on the metro hoardings is between six and twelve months, but once in a while we show artworks for shorter periods of time. **November** by artist Stine Hvid was created specifically for the annual cancer campaign in November. Enghave Plads, November 2014.



Arctic Heart by Organ81 and Sofus Walborn is a painting of a life-size blue whale, which makes it exactly 20 meters wide (66 feet). The whale is dragging its own heart behind it in a gesture to bring the complexities of the oil and mining industries in the arctic regions into focus. Øster Søgade, July 2014.



Longest artwork is

606

feet long

”I appreciate very much that the Cool Construction project gives artists and designers a possibility to be able to present their work in this way. This project also makes art more accessible for people.”

Izabela Boloz

Designer, The Netherlands.



Designer Izabela Boloz in front of her installation *Stairway* on Sønder Boulevard. June 2015.



Trees on Enghave Square (Træer på Enghave Plads) is a temporary urban space built by Danish landscape architect, Kristian Skaarup. The installation consists of 7 trees with seating areas between them. The trees are taken care of by the local volunteers in the social venture Settlementet. Enghave Plads, October 2015.

Supernova is a light installation by Jonas Molbæk. The piece is an abstract depiction of a cosmic explosion – a supernova. Enghave Plads, October 2015.



Jonas Molbæk

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In 2015 graffiti artists Thomas Arendt, Tore Rørbæk and Frederik Hessel Dahl won the Audience Award for the mural painting [The Mythography of Sortedammen](#) (Sortedammens Mytograf), which they made in collaboration with a group of fourth graders from the local school, Bordings Friskole in Øster Søgade.

Thank you

Cool Construction is the result of the hard work of hundreds of artists, architects, designers and amateurs who make Copenhagen a better place to live and visit during the construction of Cityringen.

To celebrate all the talented people who contribute to the project, Metroselskabet hosts an annual award show called Hegnspælen (The Fence Post). Three prizes are handed out at the event: the Audience Award, the Jury Award and the Commercial Award. The latter was added to the lineup in 2015. The winner of the Audience Award is decided by a public online poll leading up to the award show. The winners of the Jury and Commercial Awards are decided by a jury consisting of 5 people with careers in art, architecture, visual culture and advertising.

All three winners receive a unique trophy created by the artist Bert who has been a part of Cool Construction since its very beginning. The trophies are carved from fence posts just like the ones holding up the metro hoardings.



The trophies are made by artist Bert who has been a part of Cool Construction since the project's launch in 2011.



Midsummer part 2 by Australian Rye Quartz has improved the view from Restaurant Skindbuksen in the centre of Copenhagen. Now guests are able to enjoy Quartz's colourful scenery while they eat rather than the view of a construction site. Kongens Nytorv, September 2014.



The German artist Semor is working on the mural **CNNCTD** at the annual Beautification event (Smukificeringen) on Sønder Boulevard in August 2014. Semor has been part of the Beautification since its launch in 2012. In Düsseldorf where he lives getting permission to paint in public spaces can be difficult, which is why he keeps returning to Copenhagen.



The Creature behind the Wall (Væsnet bag muren) by Thorbjørn Vinter and Christian Rask is connected to solar panels that make the creature's eyes light up at night. Sønder Boulevard, August 2014.

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2014



By Metroselskabet