

ORDRUPGAARD

PRESS RELEASE

3 July, 2025

Exhibition period

3 September 2026 – 11 January 2026

Press presentation

1 September, 9.30 - 13.00
at The Hirschsprung Collection
and Ordrupgaard



DEN
HIRSCHSPRUNGSKE
SAMLING

PLANT FEVER. THE WORLD ON THE WINDOWSILL

ONE EXHIBITION. TWO MUSEUMS.

Ordrupgaard and The Hirschsprung Collection

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Most of us have at least one of them: a houseplant. In fact, Denmark has the highest number of houseplants per person anywhere in the world. In the upcoming special exhibition *Plant Fever. The World on the Windowsill*, created by The Hirschsprung Collection and Ordrupgaard, the two museums are the first ever to focus on the houseplants that surround us in our homes and daily lives. The result is a major exhibition that unfolds across both museums.

With the exhibition *Plant Fever. The World on the Windowsill*, Ordrupgaard and The Hirschsprung Collection tell the story of how a wealth of imported plants, then regarded as highly exotic, made their way into Danish homes in the nineteenth century. A veritable plant craze spread, and soon those previously foreign plants became a natural part of everyday life. Houseplants feature prominently in nineteenth-century paintings and drawings. Yet the hidden stories of these plants and their global origins remain an unexplored angle in Danish art history. That is now being changed by The Hirschsprung Collection and Ordrupgaard.

The plants were moved across vast distances as part of the large-scale plant transfers that began in earnest in the seventeenth century – displacements that transformed the flora and fauna of multiple continents. While many of the plants were or became endangered in their native habitats, they flourished in European living rooms. The plants brought Europe's colonial history into the home. At the same time, people and plants formed a bond that opened – and continues to open – up ways of entering into a more caring, diverse and historically aware relationship with nature.

The exhibitions feature works by artists such as Christen Købke, Bertha Wegmann, Peder Severin Krøyer, Anna Ancher, Christine Swane, Martinus Rørbye, Kristian Zahrtmann and Anna Syberg. In addition, at Ordrupgaard, visitors will find works by contemporary artists such as Camilla Berner, Jesper Christiansen and Randi & Katrine. At The Hirschsprung Collection, guests will also discover contemporary works created specifically for the exhibition by artists Jeannette Ehlers, Viktoria Wendel Skousen and Shékufe Tadayoni Heiberg.

The exhibition *Plant Fever. The World on the Windowsill* is part of the research project *Hidden Plant Stories*, involving scholars from Aarhus University as well as from The Hirschsprung Collection and Ordrupgaard. The comprehensive exhibition and research catalogue will be published by Aarhus University Press.

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A podcast produced by Besyv, with contributions from the aforementioned research group – and Ordrupgaard's director Gertrud Oelsner, The Hirschsprung Collection's director Karina Lykke Grand, and the exhibition's curators Gry Hedin and Rikke Zinck Jensen – will be part of the exhibition. This is the first time ever that Ordrupgaard and The Hirschsprung Collection collaborate on a joint exhibition shown concurrently at both museums. The exhibition at Ordrupgaard is curated by curator Rikke Zinck Jensen and art historian Pernille Leth-Espensen (PhD). The exhibition at The Hirschsprung Collection is curated by art historian Gry Hedin (PhD).

The exhibition design is created by exhibition architect and scenographer Anne Schnettler.

**The press preview will take place at both museums on 1 September.
Please see the programme below:**

**09:30: Arrival at The Hirschsprung Collection / light breakfast is served
10:00: Press view of the exhibition
11:00: Departure by bus to Ordrupgaard
11:30: Arrival at Ordrupgaard / light lunch is served
11:45: Press view of the exhibition
13:00: Return by bus to The Hirschsprung Collection**

**The Hirschsprung Collection
Stockholmsgade 20, 2100 København Ø**

**Ordrupgaard
Vilvordevej 110, 2920 Charlottenlund**

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