
<https://kristiansand.kunstrom.no/object/270006/Fasaderelieff>

The Kristiansand Theatre Building Wall Relief



The wall relief on the outside of the Kristiansand Theatre building was made by the artist Henrik Finne in 1976. The relief is 340 square meters in size, and 16,000 bricks are said to have been used to create it. At the time, this was one of the country's largest artistic creations.

The model of the wall relief (which is today in the Kunstsilo collection) was photographed, and then routed onto the wall. On the model, the artist has determined how each of the 16,000 bricks should be laid, and this scheme had to be followed exactly. According to Finne, a small inaccuracy at the bottom could lead to "catastrophic shifts at the top of the brick wall." Finne was also curious to see if reality matched the idea, and if the composition behaved as he

had intended. Ahead of the masonry work, he told Fvn: "I have used all the many shapes in the relief to soften a block that is otherwise characterized by straight, large lines. Parts of the composition will be made of bricks that stand out from the surface, to create life and movement in the surface as people pass by on the street. And the nice thing is that this will not be a pasted-on decoration, but an organized part of the architecture. Individual art has the weakness that it only benefits a select few. Here I expect that thousands of people will see the wall, which may offend some, but hopefully delight many more!"

The building was designed by Hans Paasche Thorne, and belongs to the brutalism style of architecture.



Detail of the wall relief at the Kristiansand Theatre building
