

Letter of offer of temporary exhibition hire.

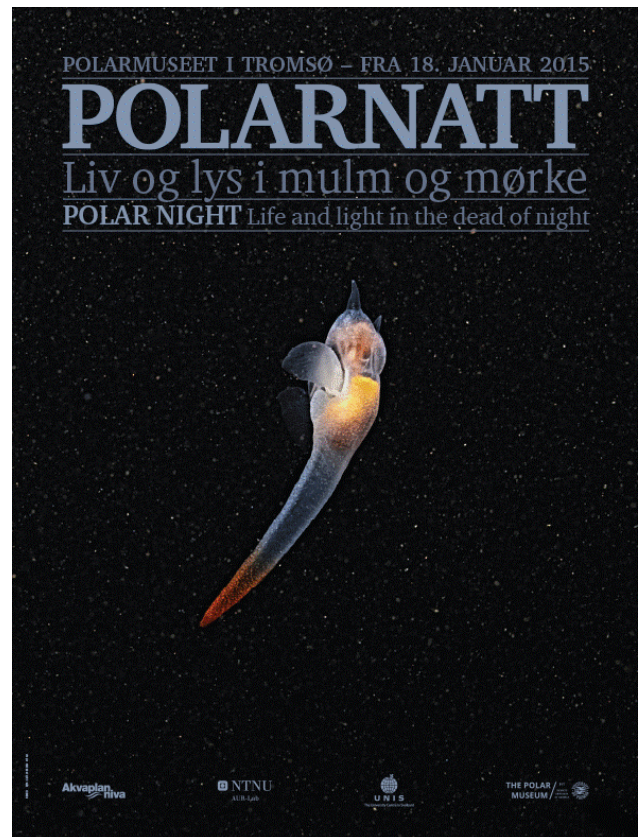
Polar night: Life and light in the dead of night

Producer: The Polar Museum – Tromsø University Museum in collaboration with UiT, UNIS, Akvaplan-niva and NTNU.

We long thought that life only stretched as far as the sun's rays could reach. We then discovered that animals lived deeper than light reached. But what about the dark winter?

Is the sea a deserted wasteland during the dark, cold polar night that only comes to life when the sun returns?

Researchers from UNIS, NTNU and UiT have studied this over recent years and all the findings are unambiguous: it's seething with life during the polar night – in deep as well as shallow water. Some animals even produce their own light! Using measuring rigs to collect data throughout the year, we have seen that plankton moves in unison during the winter too. Robots, cameras and divers can take a closer look at the various animals and plants and tell us exactly which species are doing what down there in the dark depths of the sea.



The exhibition *Polar night* discusses the light, animals and plants in the dark, animals that produce their own light and birds that feed on organisms moving in the sea during the winter time.

Link to the research project's own website (in English): <http://www.mare-incognitum.no/>

You can also follow the research group on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MareIncog>

DESIGN AND CONTENT

The exhibition is easy to install. It consists of 30 posters mounted in aluminium frames, six digital picture frames (two with sound through headset), luminous headings, a glass case with birds in winter plumage and an activity for children. The exhibition should be installed in a dark room,



with the only lighting being a faint blue light below. The visitors borrow torches, which they use to see the exhibition. This has proved to be extremely effective, as the visitors have used plenty of time to explore the exhibition in torchlight.

Each poster comprises of text in Norwegian and English and an illustration or photograph. The digital picture frames show six different films. Two of the films are talking heads, featuring two of the researchers talking about the research project in Norwegian and English respectively. We have two different films of the research activity underwater and two films featuring different time-lapses showing how the light changes on Svalbard over a four-day period in the polar night and throughout the whole year. In addition, a flip book of the exhibition has been developed that may be displayed on a monitor in the exhibition and/or may be read online. The responsive flip book may also be enjoyed on tablets and smart phones.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

- 30 posters containing text and photos mounted in black aluminium frames (60 cm X 80 cm)
- 6 digital picture frames, 15" Media HD, wall mounted (with films)
- 2 bird skins of Brünnich's [guillemots](#), mounted in upright standing position
- 4 bird skins of little auks, mounted in upright standing position
- Print files to order copies of fluorescent animals to hang up around the room. These are linked to the activity booklet for children.
- Print files: information leaflet and children's activity booklet
- Responsive flip book

LANGUAGE

All texts are in Norwegian and English.

SPACE REQUIREMENT

This exhibition is designed for a room of 50 m².

MARKETING

The Polar Museum will gladly provide the electronic file of our poster, which may be used to promote the exhibition.

INSTALLATION AND TRANSPORT

The exhibition should be installed in a blacked out room, faintly illuminated with blue accent lighting. The visitors need to use torches to explore the exhibition. The 30 mounted posters are divided into six themes, each with a heading on luminous and self-adhesive foil to be mounted directly on the wall. The walls of the room need to be painted black.

The frames should be mounted using two screws/nails. The six digital picture frames require power connection and shall be mounted with ... Two of these frames are accompanied by a headset, each of which hangs on a peg (not supplied).

Self-adhesive and fluorescent figures of a research robot and animals (copepods, Svalbard ptarmigan, little auks, puffins, starfish and plankton) shall be mounted on the walls, floor and ceiling. These form part of the educational provision for children and are linked to activity booklet.

The guillemots and little auks should be placed in a suitable display case. The display case is not supplied.

ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

As part of the exhibition, an educational activity booklet for children has been prepared. It is available in Norwegian and English. This enables the children to find out a little more about each fish, bird and organism featured in the exhibition. There are self-adhesive and fluorescent figures of the animals, which the children shall find and classify.

There is also an information leaflet about the research project on which the exhibition is based. This is only in English.

COSTS

The price to hire the exhibition is NOK 20,000 excl. VAT. In addition, the institution hiring the exhibition shall pay the transport costs to the next destination.

BOOKING

To book this exhibition, please contact:

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