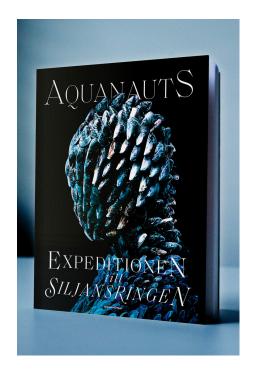
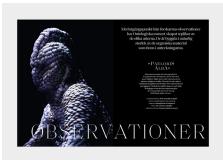
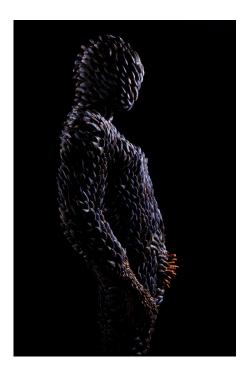
Aquanauts

Expedition to the Siljan Ring









Completely unexpected, seven trunks and a couple of wooden bins arrive at the Ontological Museum in Stockholm. The anonymous donation contains notes and diaries, photographic negatives on glass plates, a peculiar cranium and dried in traces of scent.

The diaries turn out to be written by Beata Gardelius, palaeontologist at the Swedish Museum of Natural History. The photographs and the drawings are done by Inga-Lisa Blomgren, assistant at the Institute of Geology in Uppsala. The research material is nothing than remarkable.

In September 1897, Beata Gardelius and Inga-Lisa Blomgren disappear during the expedition to the Siljan Ring. The faith of the two women has until now remained unknown.

The book Aquanauts – Expedition to the Siljan Ring is published in conjunction with the exhibition Aquanauts: The Expedition, which is shown at Kulturhuset Stadsteatern between December 2021 and March 2022. Based on the palaeontologist Beata Gardelius and the geologist Inga-Lisa Blomgren's diary entries from the late 19th century, it tells the story of the discovery of the mystical creatures *Homo Aquatis*.

Facts

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Through drawings, photographs and personal diary entries from the expedition to the Siljan Ring, the reader is invited into a fascinating world between fact and fiction. Here, the story of the discovery of the fascinating life form that the expedition encountered is told: the beautiful, androgynous and seashell-clothed humanoids *Homo Aquatis*.

Pompe Hedengren, who is artistic director of Aquanauts, says: "This is an experience for all senses and if the new findings of the researchers are correct, they are nothing than remarkable! Here, we get to meet the story and enter a parallel universe that may have existed. A dreamy world where life is both boundless and respectful."



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