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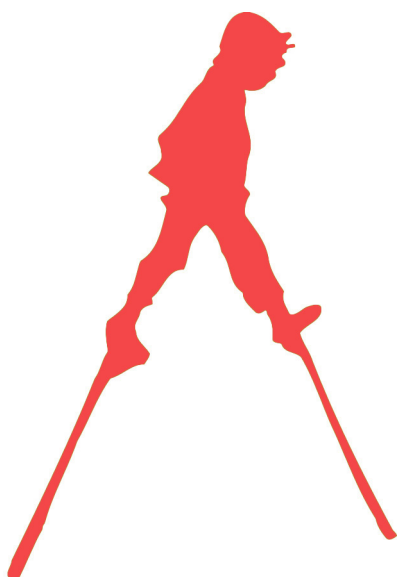
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Klaus Thestrup

Our Playground: A poetic tribute

Here is a tribute to the educators, the researchers and the practitioners at the BIN-Norden conference in Stockholm in May 2025. It was an intense experience meeting and talking to all these interesting people. I had the opportunity to read a poem to all the participants at the conference. You can read it here and you can also listen to it, if you follow this link. Enjoy!

<https://klausthestrup.com/our-playground-oplaesning-paa-bin-norden-i-stockholm/>



Our Playground

We know a lot in this vibrating everlasting space
About being in deep processes with children
Playing together in a modest everyday present

We are the experts in looking at and joining in
At the very same time inside this phenomenon play
Working and walking through a playful pedagogy

Here we are suggesting ways to become humans
Using tools and materials to understand and live life
Doing experiments to be a gentle part of a wounded world

Maybe we are the ones, who know the most on culture
On art unfolded in processes, on digital technologies
As a vivid part of the analogue and the global

At least we dare to be in the unknown and still untold
Breaking boundaries and creating new expressions
Making ourselves and children capable of agency

This is a community of researchers and practitioners
Basing our results on action and ongoing reflection
We hold our ground in the playground and talk about it

Be aware, we have just started a long journey
It might be us, who can change the future of this planet
Being sensitive to ourselves, to all and our connections

A toast for the Nordic approach, a toast for children
A toast for Bin Norden, a conference to discuss and act
A toast for our capacity to play and play again

Biography

Klaus Thestrup (b. 1959) is a poet, a researcher and a teacher. He writes about many questions in life, on digital play together with children and students and about being in open processes. He works at Aarhus University doing practice-oriented and experimenting teaching and research. He has a homepage where he presents his poems: klausthestrup.com.

He has also published a poetry collection in Danish on the joy of doing research: Thestrup, K. (20205). *At stå i det næste*. Poetry collection: Mellemsgaard. Localised 07.11.2025 at <https://mellemsgaard.dk/shop/3-digte/4665-at-staa-i-det-naeste---digte-om-kaerligheden-til-at-forske/>

