

# Ada Madssen (1917-2009)

Caring for people – our responsibility, our occupation (1969)

Bronze sculpture, approx. 200 cm by 300 cm

Ellen Gleditschs house (P35)

You can touch the sculpture, if you like.

An open and curved pyramid form creates a space that is almost three metres high. There are two large symbolic hands within this space, with the palms opening towards the sky. A naked little boy and girl are sitting on the edge of the palms, with their legs dangling. The palm holding the boy is somewhat higher than the palm holding the girl. The boy is looking up, and his arms are hanging down along his sides. The girl's hands are folded, and she is looking down. The sculpture is in bronze, with an uneven surface, and has gained a greenish hue over time.

The sculpture is now placed between the buildings where health and social sciences are taught, in addition to the technology, art and design programmes. The title and content of these subjects are reflected in the expression and form of the sculpture. It communicates with 'Lying low/male nude' by Christine Aspelund on the other side of the street.

Ada Madsen was a Norwegian artist, mainly a sculptor, whose background is from institutions such as the Norwegian National Academy of Fine Arts. She was also the artist behind the statue of Queen Maud in front of the Royal Palace. In 2007, she was made an Officer of the Royal Norwegian Order of St. Olav, being one of the few visual artists to receive this order.