



PEOPLE WITH AIDS

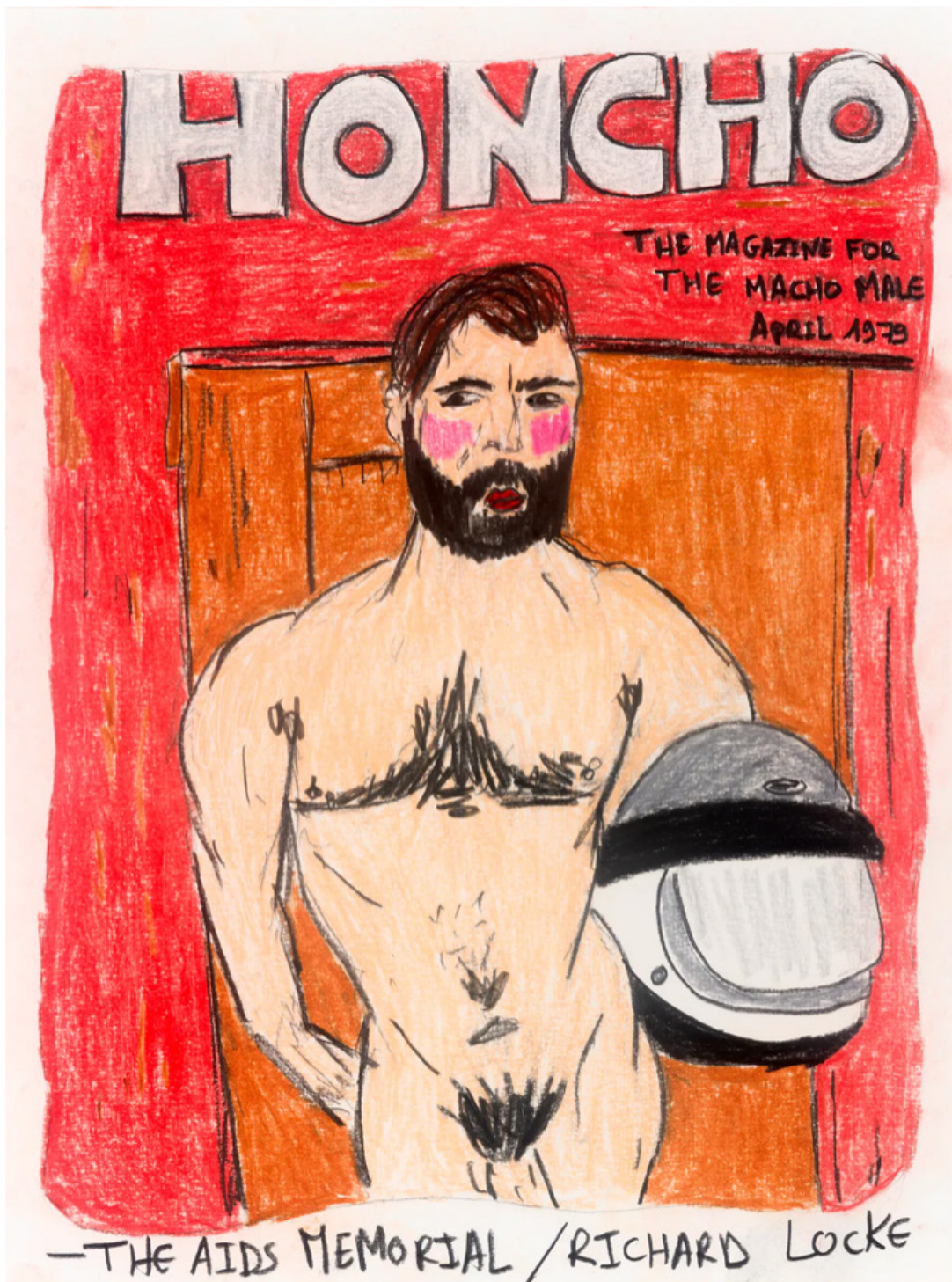
How artists subverted the language of advertising to talk about AIDS

A Norway-based exhibition, titled Every Moment Counts: AIDS and its Feelings, showcases work from creatives across photography, collage, typography and more from 1982 until the present

This year marks 50 years since the decriminalisation of same-sex relationships in Norway, a change in legislation that not only “legitimised sexual difference”, but also “had cultural, social and political repercussions”, according to the Henie Onstad Art Center in Oslo.

The legislation’s half-centenary is being marked by many cultural institutions in Norway as part of a national Queer Culture Year, and Henie Onstad’s contribution is a show entitled Every Moment Counts: AIDS and its Feelings.

Press Review
Creative Review, Emily Gosling, February 2022



Soufiane Ababri, AIDS Memorial, 2018

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Among the more graphic or illustration-led pieces in the show is a piece by Morocco-born, France-based artist Soufiane Ababri, which uses coloured pencils to recreate a vintage cover of gay men's mag Honcho. Redrawing the publication's dynamic all-caps masthead in wobbly, faux-naif hand-drawn lettering and showing a topless man gazing right into the lens (as pretty much all Honcho covers did), there's a strange sense of pathos in Ababri's brightly coloured rendition.

The exhibition takes its name from a series of photographic prints by Nigerian artist Rotimi Fani-Kayode, and presents more than 200 works across photography, film, installation, painting and more. Among the 60 international artists with work in the show are Elmgreen & Dragset, General Idea, Nan Goldin, Gran Fury, Keith Haring, Paul Maheke, Robert Mapplethorpe, Gang, Nancy Burson, Donald Moffet, Gretchen Bender, and Cookie Muller.

With works spanning 1982 to the present day, the exhibition organisers say the show will "reestablish the discussion on the complex historical as well as contemporary representations of HIV/AIDS".