

BLUEPRINT

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OPENING SHOT MIE OLISE KJÆRGAARD

Pyramiden is a town on the Svalbard Islands, between Norway and the North Pole. Named after the shape of the mountain that looms over it, the town was established by the Soviet Union in the 1980s as an exemplary coal mining settlement, but closed down in 1998 as it became too expensive to run. Danish-born artist Kjærsgaard visited the town this year, accompanied by photographer Simon Lidefjord, and the remnants of this entirely abandoned town forms the basis of an exhibition, *The Ruins of the Future*, at the Standpoint Gallery in London, 24 October-22 November. The show will include paintings and sculptures inspired by Pyramiden, along with a film made by Kjærsgaard. This image, showing the wooden entrance to the mine shaft, is a still from that work.