

*WELFARE evokes the nostalgia for a messianic moment
or the potential communist shift
both suppressed by a warm layer
of kindness and Keynesian negotiation.
WELFARE accentuates the smokey reminiscent
of dialectical relationships
between revolutionary struggles and reforms.*

*WELFARE develops surprisingly on your skin
starting with vibrating luscious citrus and floral accords
while the raw animalistic base notes break out to form
a synthesis of the past and the present in the evolution of concepts.
You will be astonished to notice the sudden withering of WELFARE
as soon as you have started to get used to it
or taken this explosive composition for granted.*

TOP NOTES: mandarine, smoke grenades, social and economical well-being of all
citizens, bergamot, dilution of worker militancy and thyme

HEART NOTES: spikenard,* benzoin, leather, jasmine, machine-gun ammunition
from the Ådalen shootings 1931** and clove

BASE NOTES: vanilla, tobacco, ink from the Saltsjöbaden agreement 1938,***
musk, amber, universal health care and vetiver

**John 12:3, King James Bible: Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odor of the ointment. Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him, Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein. Then said Jesus, Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this. For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always.*

***In the fall of 1930, the management of a sawmill in Lunde in Ådalen announced wage cuts for all workers, in response the laborers began a strike, which was part of a much larger industrial conflict between the Swedish Employers' Federation (Svenska Arbetsgivareföreningen, SAF) and the Swedish Trade Union Federation (Landsorganisationen, LO), a struggle that had been waged since the late 19th century with the general strike of 1909 as the first major clash between LO and SAF, (the losses to employers was estimated to 25 million Swedish kronor). In May 1931, the management called in scabs to commence work in the mills and the county government ordered the police to protect them. The union organized a demonstration with a marching band playing the Internationale with thousands of people partaking in the event. The police called in Swedish military troops as reinforcements - troops that then opened heavy machine gun fire at the peaceful demonstrators. Four demonstrators and a spectator were shot dead and another five demonstrators were wounded. The next day in Stockholm, 80 000 people demonstrated against the murders and 12 000 people attended the funerals a week later and work stopped throughout the nation for a five-minute period of silence.*

****The agreement secured a stable relationship between labour and capital in Sweden, signed by LO and SAF at the Grand Hotel Saltsjöbaden (established by K. A Wallenberg). In 1932, the Social Democrats gained majority power in the national government and the Saltsjöbaden agreement ultimately ended any possibility of a substantial democratization of the means of production and led to joint regulation by LO and SAF. Another important result of the rise to power of the Social Democrats was the creation of the Swedish welfare state, an attempt to lower unemployment and realize the basic demands and social rights which the Ådalen strikers had been fighting for.*