

Rendezvous in the bog

He does not pay attention to us. His full attention is directed at the beautiful hen. A rendezvous in the meadow. The suitor has a rank posture. The hen gazed admiringly at him.

The pheasant is hated by many. The bird is imported and acts as a hunting bird. Pheasants are reared in many places in large poultry farms, so they can be picked off when the hunting of pheasants starts. The hunting season for pheasants is on from October through January.

The pheasant does not really fit into the Danish nature. It is too gaudy with insane colours: The blue head, the scarlet red plot around the eye, on the back the copper-red edged black feathers, the black belly and long-tipped tail. And the bragging behaviour of the bird.

Originally, the pheasant was native to Asia as a mixture of birds from the

Caucasus and from China. It was first introduced in Denmark in the 15th century. In the 18th century, it was set free into the nature in Denmark and has since spread throughout the country.

The pheasant have a pleasant taste. Before the pheasant was introduced, the history tells us that it was the Common Heron and the Peacock, which was the menu at the banquets of the bourgeoisie until the introduction of the pheasant in the 15th century.

Danish writers describe the pheasant with words like scratchy, lumbering, devilish, odd and hysterical. They compare the bird with a decorated birch-rod with which Danish children wake up their parents on Shrove Monday (fastelavnsris).

It is difficult to be an alien in the land of the Danes, you see.



*A male pheasant,
Lille Vildmose,
August 2018*

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