Happy Holidays from SASS!

SASS 2024 Submission Deadline: 1 December

Fall Book Talk

Executive Council Elections
CONTENTS

Happy Holidays from SASS ................ 3
Message from the Vice-President .... 4
Join or Renew ...................................... 5
In Memoriam ....................................... 6
Announcements ................................ 7
Funding Opportunities ................... 8-9
Call for Applications .................. 10-11
Upcoming Events ...................... 12-13
SASS Book Subvention ............... 14-16
Meet the Executive Council .......... 17-26
Vote! ............................................ 27-30
SASS 2024: Seattle ...................... 31-43
Happy Holidays from SASS

Scott A. Mellor | president@scandinavianstudy.org

Submit an Abstract  Support SASS

From the Desk of the President

As the holiday season approaches, I extend warm wishes to all our members.

This year, SASS is actively addressing key concerns within the community. We’re exploring ways to address inequities in the field, particularly in conference participation. Despite limited resources, your support through donations at this year’s end can contribute to making our events more accessible. You can click on the “Support SASS” button above to make a year-end donation to support our organization.

At the time of publication of this issue of News & Notes, we have two weeks until the submission deadline for SASS 2024: Seattle. As Olivia notes in her message this month, the conference itself may seem far in the future, but the behind-the-scenes planning has already begun. Click on the link at the top of the page in order to submit your abstract by Dec 1, 2023. Please note that there will be no deadline extension this year.

Additionally, we’re focusing on the declining language enrollment in the United States. In the coming months, expect a survey seeking your input on how SASS can effectively address this issue.

Happy holidays!

Scott A. Mellor

Scott A. Mellor | SASS President
As I write this message, we have two weeks until the December 1st deadline for paper proposals for SASS 2024: Seattle (https://form.jotform.com/232615538294057). Although this deadline, and especially the SASS conference itself, might feel like a good way off yet, the behind-the-scenes labor to keep the Society running never stops, and the planning necessary to make the conference happen is well underway. On behalf of both SASS and the Department of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Washington, I can say that we are very excited to welcome you to Seattle in May. We can’t wait to reconnect with colleagues, to make new professional acquaintances, and to hear about your ongoing research and teaching. Click the button above to submit your abstract before 1 December.

One of the ways that you can contribute to the field and the Society in the meantime is to vote in the upcoming Executive Council elections. Executive council members head and serve on committees related to our various scholarships; they advise the Executive Officers; and they influence both sustaining and new directions that SASS will take as a learned society. We want to extend our thanks to the Executive Council members who have now served their four-year terms, Verena Höfig and Liina-Ly Roos. We are also grateful to our colleagues who are now running, and we ask all members in good standing to read the candidates’ profiles on pages 12-15. For more information about the Executive Council make-up, be sure to read the position descriptions and profiles of current members on pages 5-11. And of course, please take a moment to vote before 1 February, 2024. Click on the button above to cast your vote.

Sincerely,

Olivia Noble Gunn

Olivia Noble Gunn | SASS Vice-President
JOIN OR RENEW!

You Are SASS

VISIT
HTTPS://APP.GLUEUP.COM/ORG/SASCANDSTUDY
/ OR CLICK THE BUTTON BELOW TO JOIN OR RENEW YOUR SASS MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

A DETAILED INTRODUCTION TO OUR NEW MEMBERSHIP MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CAN BE FOUND IN THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF NEWS & NOTES

Renew Now!
In Memoriam

akn@uw.edu

BIRGITTA STEENE (1928-2023)

Professor emerita of Scandinavian Studies, Comparative Literature, and Drama at the University of Washington Kerstin Birgitta Steene died on November 1, 2023. She was born in Uddevalla, Sweden, on October 7, 1928. She was predeceased by her father Ragnar (1889-1961), mother Katrine (Kathe) (1903-1994), and son Mikael Steene (1962-2015).

Professor Steene was known as an international authority on the films of Ingmar Bergman and the writings of August Strindberg, topics she taught at the University of Washington from the 1970s. She was first appointed as Professor of Comparative Literature at the UW in 1973. Steene earned a Fil. kand. from the University of Uppsala in 1951. She earned a MA (’56) and Ph.D. (’60) in English and Comparative Literature at UW. Steene also held appointments at Louisiana State University-New Orleans, the University of Alberta, the University of Pennsylvania, Temple University, the University of California, Berkeley, Freie Universität, Berlin, Gothenburg University, Åbo Academy University, and Stockholm University. She was professor of Scandinavian Studies at UW from 1973 to 1995, retiring from the Department of Scandinavian Studies in 1995.

Steene was a prolific researcher, authoring eight books, editing six more, and publishing numerous articles as well. She is best known for Ingmar Bergman (1968, new edition 1975), The Greatest Fire: A study of August Strindberg (1972), and Ingmar Bergman: A Reference Guide (2005). Her contribution was recognized by her colleagues, who elected her to serve as president of the International Association of Scandinavian Studies (IASS, 1984-6) and the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies (SASS, 1987-9). She also served as editor of the journal Strindbergiana (1995-2000) and on the editorial board of Cinema Journal and Scandinavica. The University of Uppsala awarded her an honorary doctorate in 1982. Steene’s academic work was also recognized by the King of Sweden and the Governor of Washington with honorary awards. Professor Steene remains connected to the University of Washington and Department of Scandinavian Studies through the Kathe and Ragnar Steene Endowment, which supports advanced undergraduate and graduate students “who have demonstrated academic merit in their study of Scandinavian culture.”

Submitted by Andrew K Nestingen
Is there anything you would like to share with the SASS membership?

Please send announcements and suggestions to newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org. If approved before the last day of the month, announcements will appear in the next month’s issue. Please indicate if you would also like your announcement to appear on scandinavianstudy.org.

SASS is hiring!

SASS is looking for a part-time executive assistant to help with administrative and related tasks. This position is fully remote and answers to the Executive Director. Candidates can set their own work hours with the average weekly commitment being 5-10 hours (with an increase in tasks in the weeks leading up to the annual conference). Knowledge of Scandinavia and a Scandinavian language is appreciated but not required.

The ideal candidate will have experience in:
- social media management
- data entry
- basic IT and website management
- event planning and organization

Compensation:
- $17/hour
- waived SASS membership fee for the duration of employment
- waived registration fee for the annual conference
- 4 nights hotel and round-trip travel to the conference
- $50 daily stipend when traveling on SASS business

Please email a CV and letter of interest to the Executive Director at exec-director@scandinavianstudy.org by Dec 15, 2023.

In the Next Issue

Register for SASS 2024: Seattle, plan your trip, and learn about the keynote speaker!
The Winterthur Research Fellowship Program is accepting applicants for the 2024-2025 cohort, offering financial support to scholars at all stages of their careers through short-term, dissertation, and postdoctoral awards. Maker-Creator Fellowships also enable artists and creatives from a breadth of disciplines to find new inspiration for their work.

These awards give researchers unparalleled access to an independent research library and museum whose collections encourage understanding of the Americas in a global context from the 17th to the 20th centuries, set in a 1,000-acre estate of preserved meadows and farmland with a world-class naturalistic garden. Read more about our recent fellows’ projects and see how our collections and community support a broad range of scholarly and creative work.

Academic Programs staff are always available to talk about project feasibility and the application process for the best outcomes for research at Winterthur. Contact us with your questions or to set up a time to speak about your research interests.

We particularly encourage applications that bring new and critical scholarly approaches to the library, museum, and garden collections. The application deadline is January 15, 2024.

More information can be found on the Winterthur website: https://www.winterthur.org

IRLA
Independent Research Libraries Association

For more information about funding and programming supporting research at Independent North American Research Libraries, visit the website of the Independent Research Libraries Association here: https://irla.lindahall.org
In the interest of maintaining a grantmaking portfolio that supports inquiry into issues of vital social, cultural, and historical import, the Higher Learning program at the Mellon Foundation has launched a Call for Concepts inviting ideas for research and/or curricular projects focused on any of the three areas listed below. We hope you will encourage the higher education institutions that are part of your networks to apply.

This call is open to all accredited, non-profit, four-year degree-granting institutions in the US that offer liberal arts education. As always, Mellon seeks to support institutions with a demonstrated record of excellence in the humanities, and we particularly welcome concepts from institutions that are minority-serving (MSIs) and/or have not received Mellon funding in the last five years. The grantmaking areas are:

• Cultures of US Democracy
• Environmental Justice Studies
• Social Justice and Disciplinary Knowledge

Institutions may submit up to three concepts total, with each submission consisting of an online application form and a project description. Envisioned projects should be achievable with contributions from Mellon of $250,000–$500,000, with durations of up to three years. The final number of proposals selected will depend on the number and substance of the submissions. In order to be considered, registrations must be completed by November 30, 2023, with an application submission deadline of February 15, 2024.

Find more information here: https://www.mellon.org/article/call-for-concepts-higher-learning-2024
UNDERGRADUATE AURORA BOREALIS PRIZE

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study is happy to accept nominations for the Undergraduate Aurora Borealis prize. SASS will award a $500 prize for one outstanding undergraduate paper submitted in the calendar year preceding the nomination deadline (January 1). Faculty and Teaching Assistants are strongly encouraged to nominate outstanding student work using the link below. Note that you will need to provide the student’s name, institutional affiliation, email address, and the nominators comment’s regarding reasons for the nomination. Undergraduate papers may be in any field provided that the topic is significant to the field of Scandinavian Studies.

The nomination link is always open. The committee will review all nominations for the previous calendar year in January and February. Prize winners will be notified in March.

BALDWIN LANGUAGE FELLOWSHIP

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study invites applications for a summer language fellowship. The fellowship is made possible by the Birgit Baldwin Endowment. The recipient of the fellowship will be known as the Birgit Baldwin Language Fellow.

Entry into Scandinavian Studies requires strong knowledge of a Nordic language. Many students have trouble accessing study opportunities in the Nordic languages. The fellowship is intended to support a High-School or College student seeking to begin or develop language study in a Nordic language. Students acquiring a second language or undertaking advanced study are not prioritized. Students from underrepresented groups in SASS are especially encouraged to apply. The scholarship provides up to $9000. Applicants may submit applications up to February 15. An announcement will be made by March 1st.

For more info: scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships/baldwin-language-fellowship/
BIRGIT BALDWIN FELLOWSHIP

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study (SASS) is pleased to offer the Birgit Baldwin Fellowship in Scandinavian Studies, a grant to encourage the research and writing of dissertations for the PhD in topics concerned with Scandinavian (Nordic) literature or film that can most effectively be pursued in the archives and libraries of the Nordic countries. The stipend is $30,000 payable in two installments for travel to and living expenses in the Nordic region during one academic year. The application deadline is 1 December of the preceding year.

Applicants must be earning their degrees in North American universities and must be members in good standing of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study, both during the year in which they submit applications and in the fellowship year. After completion of the fellowship year, the Birgit Baldwin Fellow will be invited to give a short report at the next annual meeting of SASS.

For more info: scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships/baldwin-fellowship/

HAUGEN SCHOLARSHIP

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study (SASS) is pleased to offer the Einar and Eva Lund Haugen Memorial Scholarship in support of graduate student research. Honoring the ground-breaking cultural and linguistic work of Einar and Eva Lund Haugen, this $7,500 annual scholarship supports Ph.D. candidates as they conduct research and fieldwork about Nordic or Nordic-American topics in the Social Sciences or History, broadly defined. We are especially excited to support applicants that demonstrate a need to travel to the Nordic region or areas in North America far from their home institutions to conduct research in archives, libraries, and museums or to pursue fieldwork or excavations.

For more info: scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships/haugen-scholarship/
Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have for over the past century shown the benefits of shared action and solidarity. The three states sought recognition of their independence following World War I, and following World War II – through the years of Soviet occupation – they maintained that recognition through collaborative efforts. In recent decades the joint efforts of their peoples were seen in the peaceful Baltic Way demonstration in August 1989 when Balts joined hands from Tallinn to Vilnius across a distance of 600 kilometers, and in the three countries’ together joining NATO in 2004. Today, the three Baltic countries are leading the world in per capita aid to Ukraine after Russia’s invasion in February 2022.

Gathering at the 29th biennial conference of the Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies (AABS), to be held on the campus of Yale University on June 13-16, 2024, will be hundreds of people dedicated to the study of the peoples and lands around the Baltic Sea. We especially encourage proposals for panels, though individual paper proposals will also be accepted. Proposals may be from all fields of the humanities and social sciences, education, technology, and public health. We particularly welcome proposals focusing on issues of transnational security, safety and well-being. We encourage proposals that draw attention to the larger shared space throughout the Baltic Sea region as well as to the role the peoples of the Baltic are playing on an all-European and global scale.

Proposals for panels and papers are due by December 4, 2023.

The 2024 AABS Conference Program is divided into ten broad divisions:

- Arts, Music, and Religion
- Communication and the Media
- Education and Technology
- History, Memory, and Identity
- International Relations and Regional Security
- Judaic/Jewish Studies
- Literature and Linguistics
- Philosophy and History of Ideas
- Politics and Economics
- Sociology and Anthropology

Submit a Proposal:

https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/aabs/aabs24/
FALL 2023 BOOK TALK
ONLINE EVENT

Claus Elholm Andersen

in conversation with Dean Krouk

Join Scandinavian Studies editor Dean Krouk on Tuesday December 5, 2023 at 10 am CST (17:00 CET) for a conversation with author and scholar Claus Elholm Andersen about his upcoming book Knausgård and the Autofictional Novel.

This event is free to SASS members. Pre-registration required.

Register: https://app.glueup.com/event/fall-2023-book-talk-89296/
The Executive Council and the Book Subvention Award Committee are thrilled to announce the winners of the 2023 prizes.

The 2023 Book Subvention recipients are Amanda Doxtator, for her upcoming monograph “Visions and Victims: Art Melodrama in the Films of Carl Th. Dreyer” and Olivia Noble Gunn for her translation of Camara Lundestad Joof’s memoir, “I Talk About it All the Time”. Both books will be published by the University of Wisconsin Press. Details of the books and their publication dates can be found on pages 13 and 14.

APPLICATION OPEN NOW!

Applications for the SASS Book Subvention are accepted on a rolling basis. The Executive Council will award one prize in 2024. Application received in 2024 after the prize has been awarded may be eligible for consideration for the 2025 prize, depending on the date of the book release. Visit our website at https://scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships/book-subvention/ for more details and to submit your application.

CLICK HERE TO APPLY

https://scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships/book-subvention/
Danish film director Carl Th. Dreyer, one of the twentieth century’s most famous filmmakers, is best known for his masterpiece, The Passion of Joan of Arc, and his midcentury classics, Day of Wrath and Ordet. Both viewers and scholars largely leave his early work, for Nordisk Film, on the shelf, dismissing it as immature melodramatic fare produced for a company known for superficial, popular entertainment. In the received historiography, Dreyer broke with Nordisk in the pursuit of developing his film as a high art, eventually succeeding on the world stage as an auteur and eschewing melodrama in favor of austere art film.

Amanda Doxtater offers a necessary corrective to the narrative of Dreyer’s essentially bifurcated career. Close readings of Dreyer’s Nordisk films alongside his mature work reveal a stylistic throughline Doxtater terms “art melodrama,” a form combining the ambiguity, stylization, and consciousness of art cinema with the heightened emotional expressivity and dramatic embodiments characteristic of melodrama. She argues that Dreyer’s major artistic concerns known from his later work—pathos, authenticity, the embodiment of psychological duress, and so on—find their first expression in his Nordisk melodramas, complicating not only our understanding of his later films but also of his early works, and even our understanding of the melodramatic mode in general. Indeed, extending well beyond the career of a singular director, this book challenges assumptions about the relationship between “low-brow” melodrama and “high-brow” art cinema.

Amanda Doxtater is an assistant professor and the Barbro Osher Endowed Chair of Swedish Studies at the University of Washington.

Anticipated Release Date: May 28, 2024
uwpress.wisc.edu
In this biting, lyrical memoir, Camara Lundestad Joof, born in Bodø to Norwegian and Gambian parents, shares her experiences as a queer Black Norwegian woman. Joof’s daily encounters belie the myth of a colorblind contemporary Scandinavia. She wrestles with the fickle palimpsest of memory, demanding communion with her readers even as she recognizes her own exhaustion in the face of constantly being asked to educate others about racism.

“I regularly decide to quit talking to white people about racism,” writes Joof. Discussions with white people about racism often feel unproductive, the occasional spark of hope coming at enormous personal cost. But not talking about it is impossible, a betrayal of self. The book is a self-examination as well as societal indictment. It is an open challenge to readers, to hear her as she talks about it, all the time.

Camara Lundestad Joof is the 2020–24 playwright in residence at Nasjonalteateret (The National Theatre) in Oslo, Norway; her works have also been staged in Sweden, Denmark, Italy, and Germany. Recent plays include Samtaler med bror and De må føde oss eller pule oss for å elske oss.

Olivia Noble Gunn is an associate professor of Scandinavian studies at the University of Washington and the author of Empty Nurseries, Queer Occupants: Reproduction and the Future in Ibsen’s Late Plays.

Anticipated Release Date: June 11, 2024

uwpress.wisc.edu
Meet the SASS Executive Council

As a 501c(3) organization registered in the state of Utah, SASS is governed by an Executive Council constituted primarily of elected representatives. The task of the Executive Council is to ensure that the organization is serving our mission, abiding by our constitution and bylaws, and being good stewards of the societies funds. Council members chair and serve on committees that award prizes and fellowships, plan SASS events, vet new society initiatives, and manage the business of the organization.

The following pages outline the duties of the various council member positions and provide brief bios of currently serving members. In addition, this month’s issue of News & notes features a longer interview with outgoing councilmember, Liina-Ly Roos. Please take a moment to read through the job descriptions and bios before reviewing the latest round of candidates for positions on the Executive Council. Please follow the link on the candidate pages to vote before February 1, 2024. Voting instructions can be found on page XX.

If you are interested in serving on the Executive Council, reach out to Vice President Olivia Noble Gunn at vice-president@scandinavianstudy.org

Our Mission:

Founded in 1911, the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study has as its objectives:

• The promotion of Scandinavian study and instruction in America;
• The encouragement of original research in this country in the fields of Scandinavian languages, literatures, history, culture, and society and the publication of the results of such research in the quarterly journal Scandinavian Studies;
• The fostering of closer relations between persons interested in Scandinavian studies in North America and elsewhere.

Constitution

Bylaws
The SASS President serves a six-year term - two years as Vice President, two years as President, and two years as Financial Officer. During their two years as president they act as the leader of the Executive Council and the academic head of SASS. They also lead the Executive Committee.

The Vice President serves a six-year term - two years as Vice President, two years as President, and two years as Financial Officer. During their two years as Vice President they act as the head of the Baldwin Fellowship Committee, the Nominating Committee, and the Strategic Planning Committee. They serve as the recording secretary at Council Meetings and serve on the Executive Committee.

The Financial Officer serves a six-year term - two years as Vice President, two years as President, and two years as Financial Officer. During their two years as Financial Officer they provide oversight over SASS’s finances and the financial duties of the Executive Director. They also serve as liaison to the Conference Organizing Committee and serve on the Executive Council.

The Executive Director is the only full-time SASS employee and is the only non-elected member of the Executive Council. The ED runs the day-to-day operations of the society, including financial oversight, IT, conference organization, communications, management of the Executive Council duties, and all the other tasks that keep the society running. They also serve as a member of the Executive Council.

* Due to the rotation of council members, we do not need to elect an officer this cycle. We will be electing a new officer in 2025. If you are interested in serving on the board or if you would like to nominate someone, reach out the Vice-President Olivia Noble Gunn at vice-president@scandinavianstudy.org
Scott A. Mellor | President

Scott A. Mellor is distinguished faculty associate at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he has worked in this capacity for over twenty years. He works mostly in Medieval studies and folklore. He has published a book on an oral-formulaic analysis of poems in the Poetic Edda and articles on such various topics as the Life of Saint Ansgar, ballads, and Hans Christian Andersen. His ongoing project is on folk culture on the Åland Islands. Mellor is the past president of the Association of Swedish Teachers and Researchers in America (ASTRA) and is co-editor of a volume on Finland-Swedish culture for Journal of Finnish Studies.

Olivia Noble Gunn | Vice-President

Olivia Noble Gunn (she/her/hers) is an Associate Professor and the Sverre Arestad Endowed Chair in Norwegian Studies at the University of Washington. Her research interests include Norwegian literature and culture after 1880, comparative literature, performance studies, feminism, critical race studies, and queer theory. Olivia has published research on the dramas of Henrik Ibsen, figures of the child, and constructions of family, class, gender, and racialization in Norwegian literature and film. Her teaching interests range from the modernist Norwegian novel to representations of sexuality in the Nordic countries.

Andrew K. Nestingen | Financial Officer


Kimberly J. La Palm | Executive Director

Kimberly J. La Palm has served as Executive Director of SASS since 2019. She holds a PhD in Germanic Languages and Literature with a specialization in Scandinavian Studies from UCLA. Her research focuses on Nordic drama and performance with a particular emphasis on medieval performance, film and television studies, adaptation, and audience studies. She has taught English Compositiona and Scandinavian Studies courses at UCLA, the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Viterbo University, and Augustana College.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Representation Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE</strong></td>
<td>There are four Language and Literature Representatives serving on the council at any given time. L&amp;L representatives serve a four-year term, with a new member starting their term at every conference. During their time on the council, L&amp;L representatives serve on the Aurora Borealis Committee, the Baldwin Committee and other organizational committees as needed. EC members are asked to attend four full council meetings per year - three virtual meetings and the in-person meeting that takes place at the annual conference.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE</strong></td>
<td>There are four History and Social Science Representatives serving on the council at any given time. HSS representatives serve a four-year term, with a new member starting their term at every conference. During their time on the council, HSS representatives serve on the Aurora Borealis Committee, the Haugen Committee and other organizational committees as needed. EC members are asked to attend four full council meetings per year - three virtual meetings and the in-person meeting that takes place at the annual conference.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*<em>INDEPENDENT SCHOLAR/INSTITUTIONAL MEMBER</em></td>
<td>There are two Independent Scholar/Institutional Member Representatives on the Executive Council. IS representatives serve a four-year term, with a new member starting their term every two years. During their time on the council, IS representatives serve on organizational committees as needed. The council is in the process of standardizing the committee duties of IS representatives. Representatives are asked to attend four full council meetings per year - three virtual meetings and the in-person meeting that takes place at the annual conference.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRADUATE STUDENTS</strong></td>
<td>There are two Graduate Student Representatives on the Executive Council. GS representatives serve a two-year term, with a new member starting their term every year. During their time on the council, GS representatives serve on organizational committees as needed. The council is in the process of standardizing the committee duties of IS representatives. Representatives are asked to attend four full council meetings per year - three virtual meetings and the in-person meeting that takes place at the annual conference.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Due to the rotation of council members, we do not need to elect an Independent Scholar/Institutional Member Rep this cycle. We will be electing a new Independent Scholar/Institutional Member Rep in 2025. If you are interested in serving on the board or if you would like to nominate someone, reach out the Vice-President Olivia Noble Gunn at vice-president@scandinavianstudy.org
Liina-Ly Roos

Liina-Ly Roos is an Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, she specializes in twentieth to twenty-first century Nordic and Baltic culture with a specific focus on post-WWII and contemporary film, television and literature. She has published on imagining the post-Soviet trauma in Nordic cinema in Baltic Screen Media Review (2014) and has a chapter in Nordic War Stories (ed. Marianne Stecher). Her current book project The Not-Quite Child, Invisible Structures of Memory and Migration analyzes the popular figure of the child in contemporary Nordic films and literature.

Rosemary Erickson Johnsen

Rosemary Erickson Johnsen is the Senior Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. She publishes in the areas of crime fiction and public humanities, including Contemporary Feminist Historical Crime Fiction (Palgrave Macmillan). She is co-editor of Public Scholarship in Literary Studies (Amherst College Press, 2021), and is a recent recipient of 2 NEH grants. A regular presenter at SASS conferences and book reviewer for Scandinavian Studies, she has published essays on Swedish crime fiction in the Los Angeles Review of Books and other public-facing outlets. She is also on the editorial board of the Journal of Popular Culture.

Lena Norrman

Lena Norrman is the former Senior Lecturer in Swedish at the University of Minnesota. Her research interests concern gender and storytelling in the Viking age and the Middle Ages, and folklore and the oral tradition. Both her dissertation and her book Viking Women: Narrative Roles in Woven Tapestries focus on female visual poetry. Her most recent work focuses on women in the Age of the Sturlungs, in Iceland and Scandinavia proper.

Mathias Nordvig

Mathias holds a PhD in Old Norse mythology and has a general background in Nordic literature and languages including Old Norse, Danish, Norwegian, and Icelandic. He teaches Nordic and Arctic cultural studies at the University of Colorado-Boulder. He has a weekly podcast called the Nordic Mythology Podcast, which addresses all aspects of Nordic mythology and the Viking Age. His publications include Volcanoes in Old Norse Mythology, Ásatrú for Beginners, Ásatrú Music: The Sound of Nordic Antiquity and Norse Mythology for Kids.
Verena Höfig

Verena Höfig (PhD ’14 Berkeley) is a professor of Old Norse and Medieval Studies at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich, Germany. From 2015-2022 she was a Post-Doctoral Researcher and later Assistant Professor of Germanic Languages and Literatures and Medieval History at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her research focuses on the intersection of literature, material culture, and social history in Scandinavia from the Viking Age until today.

Tim Frandy

Tim Frandy is a Sámi- and Finnish-American born and raised on Anishinaabe Aki in northernmost Wisconsin on the south shore of Gitchi-Gami, Lake Superior, amidst the region’s thousands of lakes and deep forests of pine, birch, maple, and balsam. Growing up in close relation with the woods and waters, the seasons and weather, the plants and animals has guided Frandy’s work on Indigenous sustainabilities, eco-relationality, and the Indigenization of ecological management, education, and health care systems.

Kelsey Fuller-Schafer

Kelsey A. Fuller-Shafer completed her Ph.D. in ethnomusicology at the University of Colorado Boulder. Her teaching experience includes courses in music, language, literature, history, and folklore at the University of Colorado and Augustana College. She has presented and published research on subjects ranging from Swedish jazz to Sami pop, and from Norse myth to Eurovision. She has worked as a Library and Archives Assistant in the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center and is currently the Access Services Supervisor at the DiMenna-Nyselius Library at Fairfield University.

Adam Hjorthén

Adam Hjorthén is Associate Professor of history and Senior Lecturer in North American Studies at the Swedish Institute for North American Studies (SINAS) at Uppsala University, Sweden. His research deals with Swedish-American relations and cultural memory/heritage in the 20th and 21st century. He is the author of Cross-Border Commemorations: Celebrating Swedish Settlement in America (University of Massachusetts Press, 2018), and co-editor of Swedish-American Borderlands: New Histories of Transatlantic Relations (University of Minnesota Press, 2021).
Sally Yerkovich

Sally Yerkovich is Director of Educational Exchange and Special Projects at The American-Scandinavian Foundation, where she oversees all fellowships and grants programs. In 2017, she created and implemented two new programs that support Scandinavian folk arts and cultural traditions in the Upper Midwest. Dr. Yerkovich is adjunct professor of Museum Anthropology at Columbia University. She serves as the chair of the International Council of Museums Ethics Committee and is leading the revision of ICOM’s core document, the ICOM Code of Ethics for Museums.

Leslie Anderson

Leslie Anderson is Chief Curator of the National Nordic Museum. A former Fulbrighter to Denmark, she has organized major exhibitions with the Nationalmuseum and the Ateneum Art Museum, and developed programs featuring Presidents, Ministers, and Ambassadors. In 2023, she was the commissioning curator for Jónsi’s (Sigur Rós) FLÓD artwork. Leslie won the Association of Art Museum Curators’ Award for Excellence and the University of Florida’s “40 Gators Under 40” honor. She is a Seattle Arts Commissioner and Chair of Seattle’s Public Art Advisory Committee.
Graduate Student Scholars

David M. Smith

David M. Smith is a PhD student in Scandinavian Studies at UW-Madison, where he focuses on modern Norwegian literature. Prior to UW, he obtained an MFA in Literary Translation from the University of Iowa and continues to translate Norwegian authors such as Tarjei Vesaas on the side. He teaches Norwegian at UW and is an active member of NORTANA (Norwegian Teachers Association of North America). He is an avid user of Nynorsk and an advocate for the wider use and acceptance of the language standard.

Karin Filipsson

Karin Filipsson is a PhD student in the Department for Scandinavian Studies at the University of Washington where she teaches Swedish. She was recently awarded the Nadia Christensen Prize for Excellence in Nordic Studies for the academic year 2022-2023. Karin’s PhD project investigates the representation of postmigrant, transcultural identity in contemporary Swedish literature from a postcolonial perspective and analyzes how manifestation of inbetweenness relate to the contemporary discourse on migration as well as to the cultural memory of WWII and the understanding of Swedishness as whiteness.
N&N: What brought you to the field of Scandinavian Studies?

LR: I grew up watching Finnish television in Estonia and had lots of friends and relatives in Finland. I was also very excited about languages and literature, which led me to do my undergraduate in Finnish and Swedish at Tallinn University. During this time, I worked at a call center that provided customer service for companies in Finland and Sweden, which was a great language practice and a fascinating study of cultural dynamics between the Nordic and Baltic countries.

While I lived in the United States for a half year, I was invited to do a guest lecture on a Finnish novel and Estonian history (Sofi Oksanen’s Purge) at the Department of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Washington, and finding out about the program there, I was excited to apply for the MA-program. I really appreciated that the department at UW combined Scandinavian and Baltic studies, and that the field of Scandinavian studies in North America looks at the region and its cultures often in a comparative context. During my graduate study at University of Washington, I realized that I was particularly excited about film studies, and sometimes I still can’t quite believe how I found this field where both research and teaching are so fulfilling and thrilling.

N&N: In which Nordic languages are you proficient?

LR: Swedish and Finnish.

N&N: What is your primary area of research? Secondary?

LR: Primary: Swedish and Nordic film, literature, culture. I also work with Baltic film and culture, and areas like childhood studies, queer theory, postcolonial studies.

N&N: What are you working on right now?

LR: Mostly, I’m working on finishing my book, titled The Not-Quite Child: Rethinking Whiteness and Colonial Histories in Sweden through Images of Childhood. I have also just finished revisions on an article titled “Performing and Reimagining White “Western” Masculinity on the Baltic Screen,” which will be published in an open-access journal, Methis: Studia Humaniora Estonica in December 2023.

N&N: Do you have any recent publications or works?

LR: An article that was published in 2023: “Approaching Texts of Not-Quiteness: Reading Race, Whiteness, and In/Visibility in the Nordic Region” in Scandinavian Studies and “Mediating a Pluralised “We”: Amateur First-Person Filmmaking in Gabriela Pichler’s Amatörer” that was published last year in the Journal of Scandinavian Cinema.
Meet the Executive Council cont...

info@scandinavianstudy.org

Liina-Ly Roos (she/her/hers)

LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (2020-24)
Assistant Professor, Department of German, Nordic, and Slavic+, University of Wisconsin-Madison

N&N: How did you get involved with SASS?

LR: I was encouraged to go to SASS in my first year as an MA-student and I gave my first paper the following year. It actually became my first peer-reviewed article, and I’ve always really appreciated the encouraging atmosphere at the annual SASS conferences where the quality of papers matters, but so does the intellectual and collegiate community.

N&N: How did you find yourself on the Executive Council?

LR: I was nominated by Andrew Nestingen and felt very excited to give back to the society that has had a significant role for my own career, being a good space to discuss new ideas and to make many amazing professional connections.

N&N: What are your goals as a council member?

LR: To contribute and continue the great work that colleagues have put in to make this society work. It’s a relatively small society and being on the council has helped me understand more that it really needs its members to make things happen. One of the ideas I brought to the council was to organize bi-annual book talks where the members of the society (and sometimes guests) could share their recent work and that ideally would bring together scholars working in North America and in Europe and beyond. We’ve had a few of those now, and I hope that people will continue to submit ideas for book talks and come listen to those (either over Zoom in the fall or at the annual conference in the spring).

N&N: What has been the greatest benefit you’ve gotten from your affiliation with SASS?

LR: A wonderful intellectual community and interdisciplinary exchange of ideas that feels quite irreplaceable, especially in a smaller field like Scandinavian Studies.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL?

Reach out to Vice President Olivia Noble Gunnr at vice-president@scandinavianstudies.org to express your interest in serving!
Executive Council Elections

INSTRUCTIONS

The election of new members for the SASS Executive Council is now open. Please vote by February 1, 2024. The Executive Council is empowered to make all decisions for the Society, unless otherwise designated in the SASS constitution and by-laws.

The SASS constitution states, “The candidates for executive office and the executive council shall be elected by the majority of votes from the membership of the Society which reach the Executive Director within sixty days of the distribution of electronic ballots.” Those thus elected shall take office at the close of the annual meeting of the year in which they are elected.

The candidates have provided a biographical sketch and a brief statement outlining their vision, if elected to executive office or the SASS Executive Council. Please review these statements and follow the link below to cast your ballot. Remember, ballots must be submitted by February 1, 2024.

If you are interested in serving on the Executive Council, reach out to Vice President Olivia Noble Gunn at vice-president@scandinavianstudy.org

OBS! You MUST be a member in good standing to cast a vote. If you are eligible to vote, you will have received an email with your voter ID and the email address SASS has on file for you (You will need this to log into the voting site). If you did not receive this email, reach out to exec-director@scandinavianstudy.org with the subject line “Voter Credentials” to confirm your active membership and receive your voter credentials.

VOTE! Cast your ballot before February 1, 2024 at https://vote.electionrunner.com/election/iWENm
I am delighted to be considered for the Language and Literature Executive Council position in SASS. I believe that both my academic background as well as my leadership experience and service to the profession make me an excellent fit for this role. Moreover, I am excited for the opportunity to be more involved in SASS, and to contribute to the profession through service to this academic society at the organizational level.

I received my PhD in 2012 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I am a specialist in Old Norse and Early Modern Icelandic literature, with a focus on paleography and philology, hagiography and religious literature, and women’s and gender studies. I am also a scholar who both lives with disability and studies how disability was constructed, experienced, and understood in medieval Nordic society. My current research focuses on the representation and influence of female saints in Old Norse-Icelandic literature, with a particular emphasis on narratives relating to gendered expectations and presentations of disability.

My name is Nate Kramer. I’m an associate professor at Brigham Young University in the Department of Comparative Arts and Letters and am also currently serving as the director of the Scandinavian Studies program at BYU. My research interests include 19th-century Danish literature and philosophy, namely Søren Kierkegaard and H.C. Andersen, as well as trauma and memory studies. I have been a member of SASS for over three decades now and believe very much in the value and importance of SASS as an academic institution and its mission to facilitate academic research and interest in Nordic languages and literatures. In the past, I have worked on the Scandinavian Studies journal, participated regularly in the annual meetings, co-hosted one of the annual meetings, and hosted streams. I’m happy to stand for election and look forward to being of further service to the society. My hope would be to continue the already important efforts that have gone into shoring up and making the society what it is today while also looking forward and meeting future challenges that come our way.

VOTE! Cast your ballot before February 1, 2024 at https://vote.electionrunner.com/election/iWENm
Carrie Danielson is a Postdoctoral Fellow in Nordic Folklife in the Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She holds a PhD in Musicology (Ethnomusicology) from Florida State University and conducts research in the areas of music and migration, feminist care ethics, public folklore, and children’s music and dance cultures. Her current projects focus on music making among young Syrian and Afghan refugees in Sweden, culturally inclusive pedagogies in Swedish kulturskolor, and Scandinavian folk music and dance in the Upper Midwest. She has been a member of SASS since 2019 and is committed to supporting emerging scholars and underrepresented voices within and beyond our Society.

Terje Leiren is Professor Emeritus of Scandinavian Studies and History at the University of Washington, Seattle. He was the first holder of the prestigious Sverre Arestad Endowed Chair from 2007 to 2017. He served as Chair of the Department of Scandinavian Studies from 1995 to 2010 and was elected SASS President for 1994 and 1995. Professor Leiren believes that strengthening the financial stability of SASS is especially important if the Society is to prevail in its mission to support future scholarship in Nordic Studies.

Dr. Leiren is the author of four books and more than forty scholarly articles on Scandinavian history and culture. He served as Co-General Editor of the University of Washington book series New Directions in Scandinavian Studies, which published eleven books during his tenure.

Questions? | vice-president@scandinavianstudy.org

Cast your ballot before February 1, 2024 at https://vote.electionrunner.com/election/iWENm
GRADUATE STUDENT
vice-president@scandinavianstudy.org

RACHEL BOTT
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, MADISON

I am a third-year PhD student in Scandinavian Studies at the University of Wisconsin Madison. I received my BA in Scandinavian Studies from the University of Texas at Austin in 2018. During my undergraduate work I lived in Uppsala for a year to study Swedish. I completed my MA in Early Modern History at Uppsala University in 2020. My master’s thesis discussed gender, violence, and hybridity in Swedish supernatural ballads. My PhD work will continue examining Scandinavian ballads, but with a focus on the construction of the monster in late medieval and early modern Scandinavia. In addition to ballads and monsters, I have also begun teaching Swedish courses. I have taught both with the GNS+ department at UW-Madison, as well as through the Wisconsin Intensive Summer Language Institute. In addition to my work in Scandinavian Studies, I am interested in library technical services, and currently work as a Serials Acquisitions Assistant for UW-Madison Libraries. Currently, I am studying Danish under a FLAS fellowship, preparing to complete my PhD coursework, and running the Nordic graduate student writing group and presentation series. I believe that graduate students supporting each other is crucial to not only navigating our current and future work, but also for creating positive graduate school experiences. I would thus be thrilled to be a part of the executive council for SASS as a Graduate Student Representative. SASS is a crucial part of supporting Scandinavian Studies scholarship and building a community of Scandinavian Studies scholars. As a representative, I want to support other graduate students in the organization and learn more about how I can be involved with the society.

NATALYNA NIELSEN
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Natalya Nielsen is a third-year graduate student at the Department of Scandinavian at the University of California, Berkeley with a designated emphasis in Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies. Her interests include the intersection of literature and its socio-political contexts, especially for women and gender queer individuals. She is particularly interested in reception studies and how Nordic authors get taken up by their audiences for different feminist and political projects, especially projects of homo- and femonationalism. She was awarded the Berkeley Language Center Fellowship in 2022 for her work on critical race pedagogy in the Nordic Language classroom, and she also received the Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship and the Fritz O. Fernström Fellowship in 2023 for travel to Uppsala, Sweden for further studies in Swedish. She looks forward to working on the Executive Council for SASS and getting to know the scholars who are part of this wonderful academic community.

VOTE!

CAST YOUR BALLOT BEFORE FEBRUARY 1, 2024 AT https://vote.electionrunner.com/election/iWENm
MAY 9-11, 2024

RENAISSANCE SEATTLE HOTEL

PRESIDENTIAL THEME: Movement
MAY 9-11, 2024
Our world seems to be ever more kinetic, in motion, changing and unstable. Thousands of images move in front of our eyes daily on our mobile devices. We are on the move with local and global travel, and populations are on the move. The twenty-first century has seen the greatest phase of migration in history. Global capitalism is comprised of the unceasing movement of currency and investment instruments. Yet while movement may seem more salient in the twenty-first century, movements over time have also given shape to our world and our field, whether diasporic populations whose literary works came to be studied in far-flung universities, or, archives and museums that have collected and relocated artifacts from afar. To consider such historical movements points to another important meaning of movement. Movement may also be strategic, as people gather in solidarity through social movements, seeking to advance their goals: the feminist movement, the labor movement, the civil rights movement, the gay rights movement. The theme of movement is also fitting for the 2024 meeting because of the meeting’s collaboration with the National Nordic Museum in Seattle. The museum’s collection and archives are constituted by the movement of people and objects. By conceptualizing movement as the conference theme, we can consider the extent to which what we assume to be fixed, stable, and unmoving, can also be seen again in relation to movement. As the philosopher Thomas Nail wryly observes, “All that was solid melted into the air some time ago and is now in circulation worldwide, like dandelion seeds adrift on turbulent winds” (2022).
SASS 2024 will take place in Seattle, Washington at the Renaissance Seattle hotel, hosted by the University of Washington from May 9-11th. The presidential theme of this SASS meeting is movement.

This theme speaks to ‘movements’ as both contemporary and historical, strategic and reactionary as well as physical and ideological. The theme of movement invites us to examine the extent to which concepts that we assume to be fixed, stable, and unmoving may in fact be kinetic, malleable, and in motion. Past and present cultural, literary and political movements also shape our field, whether the so-called Scandinavian diaspora, pan-Scandinavianism, the Modern Breakthrough, or the collection and relocation of “Nordic” artifacts by archives and museums. SASS 2024 will be held in collaboration with the National Nordic Museum in Seattle, whose collections are constituted by the ongoing movement of people and objects.

The organizing committee encourages submissions that explore the significance of movement in Nordic culture, film, history, language, and/or literature. Other topics and approaches are also welcome.

Please submit paper or pre-constituted panel proposals according to the instructions at the link below either to the general pool or to a thematic stream by December 1st. Specific questions concerning streams should be directed to Stream Chairs. You will be informed of your paper or panel acceptance by February 15.

*A note on submissions: We will NOT be extending the deadline this year. Due to the academic calendar of our hosts at the University of Washington and the popularity of this conference, we MUST hold to the original December 1 deadline. Submissions MUST be submitted by midnight PDT on Dec 1, via the link below.

To Submit an Abstract: https://form.jotform.com/232615538294057
Every year, the organizers solicit stream proposals from the SASS membership. These streams reflect the year’s Presidential Theme, as well as the work being done by scholars across the SASS community. Streams provide an opportunity for members to seek out others working on similar topics and to connect with new scholars in their fields. Streams can also enable more in-depth understanding, sustained conversation, and collaboration with colleagues. The organizers encourage you to review this year’s streams outlined on the pages below and to consider submitting your abstract to one of them. As always, there is also a general paper pool. If you do not see a stream that compliments your research, feel free to submit to the general pool. Stream organizers will review submissions, and if your submission is not chosen for their stream, it will be considered for the general paper pool.

If there is a stream you would like to see at a future conference, please consider volunteering to be a stream organizer and submitting a proposal. You can expect a call for streams to come out in late July or early August of every year, with instructions about how to reach that year’s planning committee.

To Submit an Abstract: https://form.jotform.com/232615538294057
In his 2003 work, Living Pictures, Missing People, Mark Sandberg proposes a new genealogy of Nordic cinema with a particularly intimate relationship to material cultures. Because of the relatively late modernization of Nordic countries, he argues, recording technologies of modernity like film and photography, which promised new fantasies of mobility, flourished alongside a particularly material “effigy culture,” which included museum display, mannequins, performance practices, and the preservation of historical buildings. This material culture emphasized the authenticity of physical objects sought to safeguard a historical past perceived as rapidly disappearing. In recognition of the twenty year anniversary of Living Pictures, Missing People, this stream invites papers that reflect on the impact and provocations of Sandberg’s interdisciplinary monograph on a wide range of fields and scholarship within and in conversation with the Nordic Region. How has discourse and thinking changed in the 20 years since publication? What persons might be included in this consideration of missing persons?

Papers and panels might engage with a renewed examination of Sandberg’s underlying claim, that Nordic Cinema emerges from and reflects particular investments in materiality, by reframing it in terms of intermediality, questions of race, nation, ethics, genre, or desire. Comparative papers that engage contexts outside of the Nordic region are wholeheartedly welcomed. Potential papers might consider Sandberg’s work from various perspectives, including:

- Cinema Studies
- Museum Studies
- Performance Studies
- Tourism Studies
- Archive Studies
- Media Studies
- Ecocritical Studies

**CHAIRS:** Amanda Doxtater (doxtater@uw.edu), Maxine Savage, and Christopher Oscarson
Fairy tales and folktales remain as popular as ever. They have long played an essential role in Scandinavian folklore, cultures, literatures, languages, and pedagogies and have been pivotal in the field of Scandinavian Studies. But what is the status of the study of fairy tales today? What does the decolonization of the canon, inclusion of indigenous voices, and the challenges to Eurocentrism look like in contemporary scholarship on fairy tales and folktales? And how does the current scholarship reflect the historical and material circumstances of the societies in which the fairy tales were produced?

In this stream, we seek to showcase current scholarship on folk- and fairy tales in Scandinavian Studies. We want to explore the significance of folk- and fairy tales in Scandinavian literatures and cultures by offering a comprehensive multidisciplinary exploration. As such, we invite papers that investigate folk- and fairy tales through historical, social, literary, linguistic, compactional, and folkloristic perspectives. We welcome and invite papers that delve into the complexities of indigenous voices, the impact of colonialism, and the potential for inclusive DEIJA approaches to Scandinavian folk- and fairy tales.

**CHAIRS:** Claus Elholm Andersen (ceandersen2@wisc.edu), Tim Tangherlini, and Ann-Kathrine Havemose
THE DIGITAL NINETEENTH CENTURY

This stream welcomes papers and panels that apply computational methods to nineteenth-century cultural production in Scandinavia, including but not limited to literary works. We would like to shed new light on authors, characters, and literary devices, as well as affects, concepts, and ideas “on the move” throughout the period. Questions of interest include delimitations of genres, periods, and other critical categories, network analyses, measurements of change over time, and discussion of relevant methodologies. We especially welcome presentations that explore:

• The intersection between traditional and digital methodologies
• The uses and abuses of statistical methods
• Machine learning and AI
• Broader theoretical reflections on the status of computational humanities research
• The specific challenges and benefits of working within the Scandinavian context

We hope and expect that the sessions within the stream will provide fertile ground for exchange of knowledge on nineteenth century developments as well as for inspiration and discussion across diverse research groups and across more or less digital work, large and small, real and imagined.

CHAIRS: Ellen Rees (ellen.rees@iln.uio.no), Jens Bjerring-Hansen, Anders Skare Malvik
In line with the presidential conference theme of “Movement,” this stream invites papers on Nordic settler experiences in North America during any time period. We seek papers that challenge traditional migration histories in the Nordic countries in which Nordics have typically been viewed in isolation from the broader American settler colonial context due to a presumed exceptional benevolence. We are particularly interested in projects that understand Nordic immigrants as settler colonists who establish themselves as the rightful inhabitants of the land through Indigenous dispossession and displacement, exploitative labor practices, depletion of natural resources, and/or the exercise of white privilege. This stream engages increasing scholarly and public interest in histories of colonialism in the Nordic countries and the role of these histories in shaping Nordic identities, past and present. Scholars have examined Nordic participation in the global slave trade, settler colonialism in Sámi lands, and various forms of collaboration by Nordic individuals and groups with other European empires. We would like this stream to contribute Nordic settler histories in North America as a shared Nordic phenomenon to this growing body of scholarship. Papers may address the settler colonial histories, logics, and representations of one or several Nordic countries or territories (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Faroe Islands, Greenland [Denmark] and Åland [Finland]).

Some questions to guidestream submissions:

- How do Nordic settler experiences relate to, represent, and shape the processes of land-claiming and land-use? And the processes of claiming and commodifying natural resources?
- How was the Nordic settler experience racialized?
- What role did the construction and maintenance of white subjectivity and whiteness play in settler colonial logics and practices?
- How did the Nordics build and situate themselves in racial hierarchies in relation to other European settlers, African Americans, Asian Americans, and Indigenous peoples?
- How do Nordic settler experiences shed light on the entanglements of Native and African American histories?
- What gender ideologies are at work in Nordic settler colonial projects?
- What kinds of material cultures and cultural productions were established, formulated and given meaning in relation to Nordic settler experiences?
- How do the legacies of Nordic experiences in North American settler colonialism reverberate in the present, both in the Nordic countries and in North America?

**CHAIR:** Lucia Hodgson (lucia.hodgson.extern@lnu.se)
A formalized Nordic art music tradition began to flourish with a delay of approximately one hundred years compared to the mainland Europe countries, arguably due to the topography of the Nordic countries. Nordic composers responded to the idiomatic qualities of their languages incomparable to the other musical movements who similarly assimilated the vernacular of folk traditions. Both this initial delay, and subsequent present abundance of composition, tie unquestionably into each Nordic language, dominated by the rhythmic sonorities associated with their national oral literary traditions. During the late 20th century, there was a new so-called movement nicknamed the homogenous “Nordic Sound”, constituting a conglomerate singular sound that dominated the Nordic compositional landscape. As this “Nordic Sound” has continued into the present day, how does it continue to influence the realms of both contemporary art and popular genres?

The stream of “The Shifting Evolution of Nordic Music” welcomes papers, lecture recitals, or full recitals that could include the following themes: interdisciplinary studies within Nordic music, the influence of migration on Nordic Performance Practice, the significance of Nordic music festivals on composition, Nordic LGBTQIA+ compositional trends, the relationship between contemporary Nordic Humor and Art Music, compositional trends that are being contemporarily reflected within the Nordic nations, composer or Poet profiles and their relationship to “Nordic Sound.” The following composers have significant anniversaries this year, and could be given particular consideration:

• Christoph Ernst Friedrich Weyse (1774-1842)
• David Monrad Johansen (1888-1974)
• Oskar Merikanto (1868–1924)
• Knudåge Risager (1897–1974)
• Kurt Magnus Atterberg (1887-1974)
• Pål Ísólfsson (1893–1974)
• Hans Christian Lumbye (1810–1774)
• Else Marie Pade (1924-2016)

This is also a significant year for the art songs of Ture Rangström (1884-1947).

The stream especially encourages composers, musicologists, and performers of Nordic Music to submit to this stream. If proposing a lecture-recital or full-recital, please detail the compositions, the performers, and the performers biographies.

**CHAIR:** Colin Levin (colinlevin@gmail.com)
Debates around the topic of motherhood have become increasingly common in the Nordic countries during the past decade. A general fascination with mothers is visible in contemporary media debates, literary fiction, social media, and academic research. We see a tendency to problematize common understandings and myths surrounding motherhood, for example through research and public discussions about maternal regret and the choice to remain childfree. Simultaneously, or perhaps as a reaction to this, the tradwife movement praises conservative ideals of motherhood while dressing their children in the earth-colored linen clothes of an imagined, glorified past. Many influencers are making a career out of presenting themselves as conventionally good mothers online. At the same time, Nordic mothers in the workforce can still count on being paid less than their male peers for the rest of their working lives. Motherhood can also be a position of political ethos, as we have seen with the climate action group Mothers* Rebellion, active in Norway, Sweden and Finland. How can we understand these conflicts and trends?

For this session, we invite proposals that examine the topic of Nordic motherhood. We welcome perspectives from a multitude of disciplinary fields. In what ways is the topic of motherhood represented, discussed, problematized and idealized in Nordic literature, art, media, policy, law, education, health care, commerce and politics? Topics can include but are not limited to:

- Motherhood as identity and experience
- Maternal ambivalence and regret
- Motherhood and migration
- LGBTQ+ and single mothers
- Non-motherhood and involuntary childlessness
- Surrogacy and adoption
- Postpartum depression
- Abortion
- Breastfeeding
- Momfluencers and motherhood as business
- The “motherhood penalty” and the gender pay gap
- Motherhood and activism
- Motherhood in far-right movements
- Historical perspectives on Nordic motherhood

**CHAIRS:** Daniela Lillhannus ([daniela.lillhannus@littvet.uu.se](mailto:daniela.lillhannus@littvet.uu.se)) and Jenny Björklund
Specialized fields like Nordic Studies, or even Finnish Studies, Swedish Studies, and their lesser-taught languages require constant teaching innovation to create and maintain student interest and institutional backing in our respective colleges and universities. While the teaching of language has in the past received fairly consistent professional attention at SASS, the teaching of all levels of culture, literature, and history courses in the Nordic context has not. Proceeding from the assumption that we have successes and dates from experimental projects to share with each other that can strengthen the field of Nordic studies, this stream proposal invites attention to pedagogical strategies that have worked in a variety of contexts for instructors in our field. This includes papers on pedagogy in Nordic language courses, papers that address course and curriculum design in the other research areas of Nordic Studies, as well as papers on the paradigm shift from specific language and culture focus to more pan-Nordic approaches.

This stream imagines a benefit from considering the following together in a comparative context:

- New pedagogical strategies for different levels of language instruction
- Teaching topics in language and society
- Hybrid instruction in advanced language and literature/culture classes
- Designing and teaching large gateway general education courses designed to fulfill university requirements and stimulate new student interest in the field
- Teaching anchor courses for majors in the face of declining numbers
- New approaches to the graduate seminar, especially including strategies for teaching pan-Nordic materials
- Colonial studies and racio-linguistic approaches to Nordic languages and culture

Several kinds of contribution to this stream are welcome:

- Papers that describe the course design and results for a specific course
- Papers that engage with pedagogy research about the teaching of content courses
- Papers discussing the changing landscapes of colonial studies in the Nordic context, reframing the underpinnings of Nordic studies in North America
- Comparative teaching strategies in North America and the Nordic countries
- Innovative teaching strategies within or across courses

CHAIRS: Anu Muhonen (anu.muhonen@utoronto.ca), Lotta Weckström
All proposed papers relevant to Ibsen studies will be considered for the Annual Ibsen Society of America (ISA) panel at SASS. The ISA panel aims to support the field of Ibsen studies by showcasing cutting edge research on Ibsen from a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives. Proposals for sharing new research on Ibsen and “movement,” as well as proposals guided by other themes and approaches, are welcome. Within Ibsen studies, “movement” could refer to manifestations of Ibsen on global and local stages, the dynamics of theatrical practices, adaptation, the sociopolitics and history of drama and performance, and more. Papers in Ibsen studies not selected will be considered for other relevant streams and panels at SASS.
Book your room now!
RENAISSANCE SEATTLE HOTEL

SASS 2024 will be held at the Renaissance Seattle Hotel. This beautiful hotel in the heart of downtown provides easy access to all things SASS 2024 and everything else that Seattle has to offer... at a great pre-COVID rate! The caveat is...there are only so many rooms available in our block so book early to ensure that you can take advantage of this unbeatable rate!

1 block from the iconic Seattle Public Library, 1/2 mile to the Bainbridge Island Ferry Terminal, the Seattle Art Museum, the Frye Art Museum, and less than 1 mile to Pike Place Market, the Seattle Aquarium, and at least 15 coffee shops.

Book your room today!

SASS rate available May 7-11, 2024

Single: $179
Double: $179

To Book: https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1685659831201&key=GRP&app=resvlink