

The official news bulletin of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study

News & Notes

VOLUME 69 • APRIL 2025





Society for the
Advancement of
Scandinavian Study

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VOLUME 69 | APRIL 2025

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Announcements

NEW FEATURES | JOB BOARD, ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEMBER DIRECTORY

Check out the new features on our website!

Check out the new job board, announcement board, and member directory!

SASS JOB BOARD

SASS members can post and view current job openings by logging into the "For Members" area of scandinavianstudy.org. Posts will appear within 48 hours and weekly emails will alert members to new posts. Check your email every Friday or log into to view new posts!

<https://scandinavianstudy.org/job-board/#!/board/Jobs>

All posts are subject to approval by SASS admins

SASS ANNOUNCEMENTS

SASS members can view and post announcements by logging into the "For Members" area of scandinavianstudy.org. Posts will appear within 48 hours and weekly emails will alert members to new posts. Check your email every Friday or log into to view new posts!

<https://scandinavianstudy.org/announcements-2/#!/board/Announcements>

All posts are subject to approval by SASS admins

SASS MEMBER DIRECTORY

SASS members can update their member profile, identify research interests, and search for other members by name, location, or research interest.

<https://scandinavianstudy.org/announcements-2/#!/board/Announcements>

All posts are subject to approval by SASS admins

In the Next Issue

2024 Aurora Borealis winners, 2025 Baldwin and Haugen recipients, meet the new Executive Council Members



Are you a SASS member?

SASS has been connecting scholars from across the US, across North America, and across the globe since 1911. Our annual meeting has provided a platform for scholarly collaboration and networking since the beginning. Our journal, *Scandinavian Studies*, is consistently ranked as the top peer-reviewed journal in the field. Our graduate student funding opportunities have sent dozens of young scholars abroad and our new initiatives like the SASS Book Talk, Book Prize, and the Baldwin Language Prize continue to expand opportunities for scholars like you

Your membership in the society provides more than just access to these programs for you - it provides the support that keeps these programs running and creates the infrastructure to develop future programs that respond to the changes in academia and the world.

Join or renew your SASS membership today and log into your new member profile to explore our new member-only features!

JOIN NOW!

scandinavianstudy.org/member-log-in/#myaccount

JOIN NOW!

scandinavianstudy.org/new-member-sign-up/#join

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS RATES

Sponsor | \$400/year

Sponsor level members can request a paper copy of the journal with no additional shipping fee. Sponsors also receive an annual gift

Sustaining | \$200/year

Sustaining level members can request a paper copy of the journal with no additional shipping fee

Standard+ | \$150/year

Standard+ level members also receive a paper copy of the journal mailed to your address on file.

Standard | \$130/year

Limited Resource+ | \$100/year

Limited Resource+ level members also receive a paper copy of the journal mailed to your address on file.

Limited Resource | \$80/year

Student+ | \$70/year

Student+ level members also receive a paper copy of the journal mailed to your address on file. Student+ level members are eligible for the Aurora Borealis Prize, the Birgit Baldwin Fellowship, the Haugegen Scholarship, and the Baldwin Language Prize

Student | \$50/year

Student level members are eligible for the Aurora Borealis Prize, the Birgit Baldwin Fellowship, the Haugegen Scholarship, and the Baldwin Language Prize

All levels of SASS Membership include:

- Member access to all SASS events and initiatives, including eligibility for the SASS Book Prize
- Free access to the SASS Announcements Board, SASS Job Board, and Member Directory
- A vote in all SASS elections
- Eligibility to present at the annual meeting
- Complimentary online access to *Scandinavian Studies* via the University of Wisconsin Press and a paper copy of the journal mailed to your address on file



SASS 2025: Minneapolis

SAHS LUNCHEON

Join us for a special author talk and luncheon in Larson Hall at the American Swedish Institute, co-hosted by the Society for Advancement of Scandinavian Study and the Swedish American Historical Society. Enjoy a delicious meal from FIKA, ASI's acclaimed café—featuring your choice of Lemon & Thyme Seared Salmon or Pumpkinseed Crusted Squash—along with coffee, tea, and plated cookies. Local author Eric Dregni will share insights from *Vikings in the Attic: In Search of Nordic America*. Known for *For the Love of Cod* and *In Cod We Trust*, Dregni offers a fascinating look at Scandinavian heritage in the U.S., blending history, culture, and humor in a way that will captivate scholars and enthusiasts alike.

Your ticket also includes admission to ASI's Turnblad Mansion and the Ann Wolff: The Art of Living exhibit. Don't miss this engaging afternoon of great food, conversation, and cultural exploration!<https://cvent.me/aKovRV>

Ticket available as an add-on to your SASS registration

FEE: \$55 (includes transportation to and from ASI)

Questions? Reach out to Carrie Danielson at cdanielson@fsu.edu

Already Registered? Sign into your Oxford Abstracts Account to update your registration and add a ticket!

<https://auth.oxfordabstracts.com>

ADD A TICKET!



SASS 2025: Minneapolis

GRAD STUDENT MIXER

Mingle! Make new friends! Discuss your work! Throw axes!

Join us for the SASS graduate student mixer at Bad Axe Throwing in the City Center on Friday April 25 from 8-10pm. (Follow signs for the parking ramp)

Ticket available as an add-on to your SASS registration

FEE: \$10 (guest tickets available for \$40)

Questions? Reach out to Kimberly at exec-director@scandinavianstudy.org



Already Registered? Sign into your Oxford Abstracts Account to update your registration and add a ticket!

<https://auth.oxfordabstracts.com>

ADD A TICKET!



SASS-y Maker Space

April 25-26

Join us on Friday and Saturday during the lunch break in St Croix II. Bring your knitting, your crocheting, your carving, your crafts as we take time between presentations to reconnect with colleagues and re-energize after the morning sessions.

Sponsored by the Sustaining Scandinavian Folk Arts in the Upper Midwest project and the Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.



Sustaining
**SCANDINAVIAN
FOLK ARTS**
in the Upper Midwest



SASS 2025: Minneapolis

EXHIBIT HALL

First there was a SASS Book Table. Then there was a SASS Book Room and now...the SASS Exhibit Hall! Join us on the 6th floor to meet and mingle with reps from academic publishers, artists, and Nordic organizations!

Find more info about the exhibitors here:

<https://scandinavianstudy.org/annual-meeting/sass-2025-minneapolis/>



SASS 2025: Minneapolis

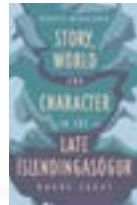
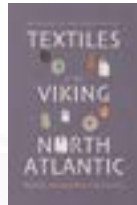
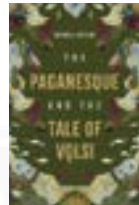
BOOK TABLE



Find more info about the publishers here:

<https://scandinavianstudy.org/annual-meeting/sass-2025-minneapolis/>

**Boydell
& Brewer**



PIMS

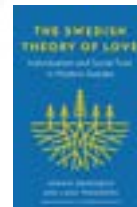


Routledge
Taylor & Francis Group



**SWEDISH-AMERICAN
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**UNIVERSITY OF
WASHINGTON PRESS**



Volante



SELF PUBLISHED





Marriott Minneapolis City Center

BOOK YOUR ROOM

SASS 2025: Minneapolis will be held at the Marriott Minneapolis City Center. The conference hotel is in a prime location in downtown Minneapolis. Top attractions like the Target Center, Target Field and US Bank Stadium are close by and easily accessible all year round with climate-controlled skyways accessed directly from the hotel. The Mississippi River, The Waker Art Center, and the Guthrie Theater are all within 1.5 miles of the hotel. The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Campus and the American Swedish Institute are both just a short taxi ride away. Minneapolis–Saint Paul International Airport and the Mall of America is accessible via light rail and bus.



To book a room:
<https://book.passkey.com/e/50888439>



SASS 2025: Minneapolis

TRANSPORTION

GETTING TO THE HOTEL:

LIGHT RAIL | Take the Blue Line towards MPLS - Target Field and get off at the Nicollet Mall stop. Walk two blocks south to 7th St. The hotel will be half a block down on the right. Fare: \$2 (Tickets can be purchased from ticket machines on the rail platforms or through the metro transit app)

PARKING | The closest parking ramp is the City Center Ramp (entrance on 7th) Fee: \$24.99 every 24 hours

TAXI or SHARED RIDE | Information about where to find taxi stands or where to meet shared ride drivers can be found here: <https://www.mspairport.com/directions/ground-transportation/>

GETTING TO ASI:

Attendees who purchase a ticket to the SAHS Luncheon at ASI will be provided with a payment code for a shared ride app. You will find this code in your registration packet. Volunteers will be available in the hotel lobby and at ASI to help you call a ride. The SASS registration desk on the 6th floor will be open from 10am-12pm on Thursday April 24 for SAHS attendees to pick up their packets and get their code.

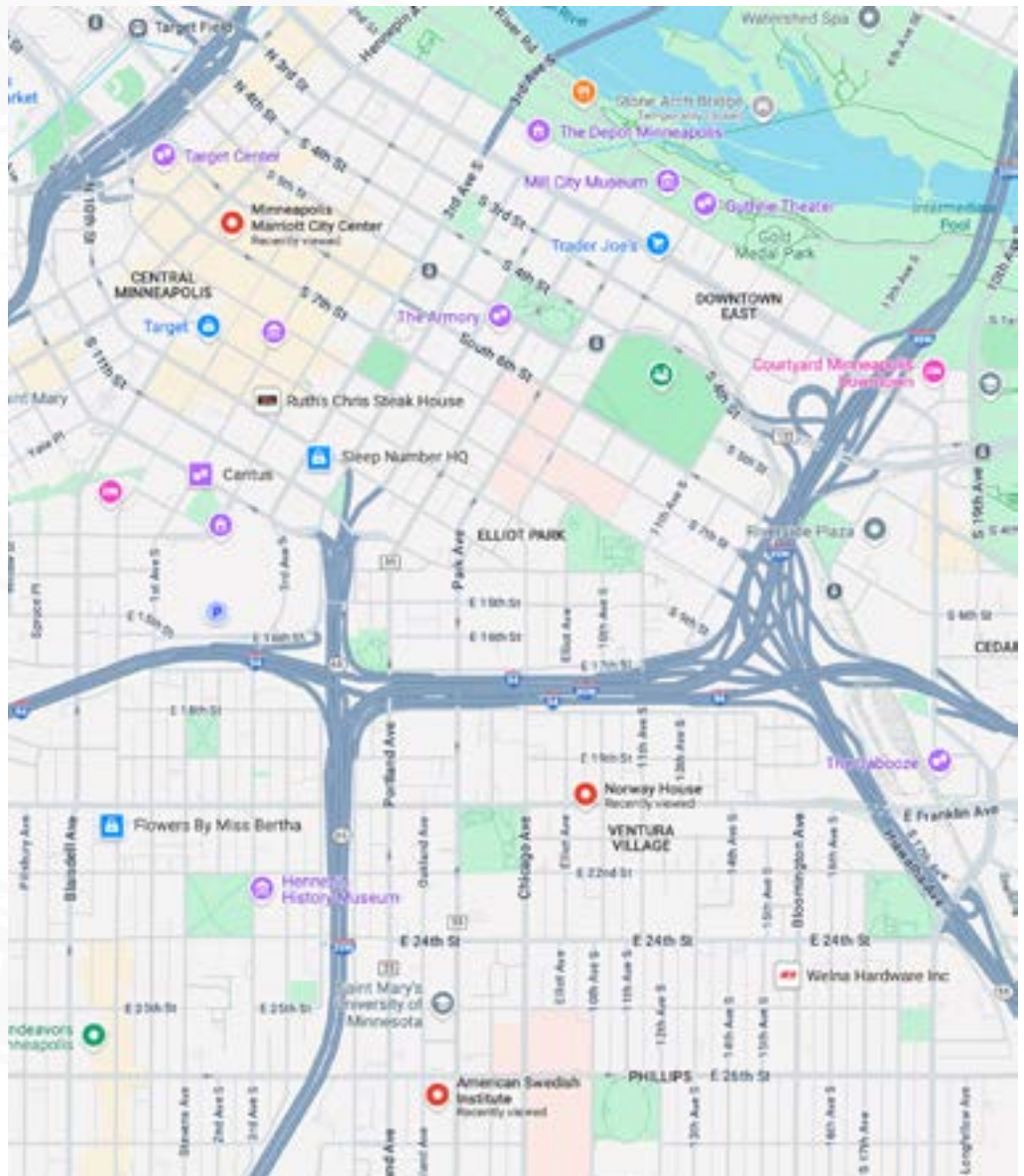
GETTING TO NORWAY HOUSE:

A shuttle bus will bring attendees to and from Norway House for the keynote and opening reception. Shuttle times will be listed on the online schedule and in your registration packet. The SASS registration desk on the 6th floor will be open from 3:00pm-5:30pm for attendees to pick up their registration packets. Volunteers will be in the hotel lobby and at Norway House to help you find the shuttle bus.



SASS 2025: Minneapolis

MAP



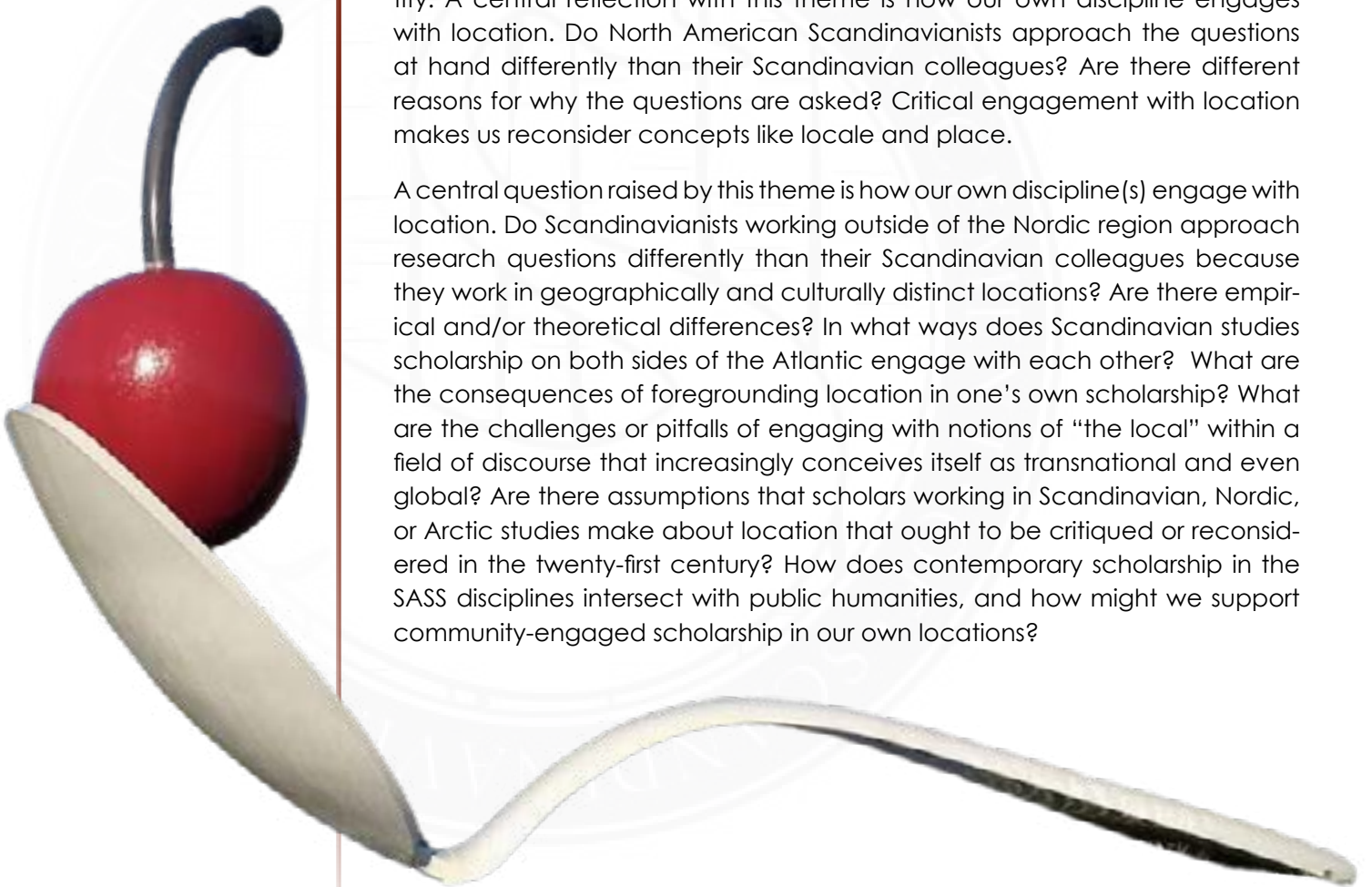


Presidential Theme

LOCATION

Location is a central theme to all our work. Between Literature, Linguistics, History, Area Studies, and Indigenous Studies, location is often the first consideration, inseparable from questions of positionality, context, and identity. A central reflection with this theme is how our own discipline engages with location. Do North American Scandinavianists approach the questions at hand differently than their Scandinavian colleagues? Are there different reasons for why the questions are asked? Critical engagement with location makes us reconsider concepts like locale and place.

A central question raised by this theme is how our own discipline(s) engage with location. Do Scandinavianists working outside of the Nordic region approach research questions differently than their Scandinavian colleagues because they work in geographically and culturally distinct locations? Are there empirical and/or theoretical differences? In what ways does Scandinavian studies scholarship on both sides of the Atlantic engage with each other? What are the consequences of foregrounding location in one's own scholarship? What are the challenges or pitfalls of engaging with notions of "the local" within a field of discourse that increasingly conceives itself as transnational and even global? Are there assumptions that scholars working in Scandinavian, Nordic, or Arctic studies make about location that ought to be critiqued or reconsidered in the twenty-first century? How does contemporary scholarship in the SASS disciplines intersect with public humanities, and how might we support community-engaged scholarship in our own locations?





STREAMS

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. 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.

For more details about a stream, click on the title below.

- AASSC: Canadian Nordic Studies [\(page 16\)](#)
- New Frontiers and the Land Left Behind [\(pg 17\)](#)
- Dis-location [\(pg 18\)](#)
- Musical Heritage of Norwegian Immigrants in the Upper Midwest [\(pg 19\)](#)
- Identity Within the Nordic Music Traditions [\(pg 20\)](#)
- Ibsen Society of America: Annual Ibsen Panel [\(pg 21\)](#)

AASSC CANADIAN

NORDIC STUDIES

In line with this year's conference theme of "Location," this stream will investigate and explore the ways that the location of Canada matters in terms of Nordic studies. Papers in this stream explore intersections between the Nordic regions and Canada, including Nordic-Canadian culture studies, Ca-



ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF
**SCANDINAVIAN
STUDIES IN CANADA**

L'ASSOCIATION POUR L'AVANCEMENT DES
**ÉTUDES SCANDINAVES
AU CANADA**

Friday April 25

8:30-10:00am | AASSC Executive Meeting (Minnesota Room)

10:30-12:00pm | *Teaching and Research on Nordic Literature and Societies in North America* (Minnesota Room)

1:30-3:00pm | *Navigating Land, Identity, and Resilience in the Arctic - Indigenous Perspectives on Location* (Minnesota Room)

Saturday April 26

8:30-10:00am | *Icelandic-Canadian Literature and Culture* (Minnesota Room)

10:30-12:00pm | *Nordic Identities and Life in Canada* (Minnesota Room)

1:30-3:00pm | *Gender, Religion, and Difference in Medieval Scandinavia* (Minnesota Room)



NEW FRONTIERS AND THE LAND LEFT BEHIND

The great waves of emigration from Scandinavia to the United States ended with the implementation of Immigration Act of 1924. The experiences of the Scandinavian emigrants in their new locations have been extensively explored and are a part of the national canon. Emigration research has moreover focused on the United States as a receiving country and the Scandinavian influences on American societal development, such as the influential conception that states with a higher population of Scandinavian descendants have higher levels of social trust and associated benefits.

Although the emigration issue was one of the most contentious issues in Scandinavian societies at the time, evident in the public discourse and official initiatives to stem the flow of citizens leaving, there has been relatively little research on the impact on the sending countries. This stream aims to explore how the exodus of up to 25% of the population had political and cultural implications on the Scandinavian/exiting countries and the places left behind. The possibility of exit became a powerful voice of discontent that amplified the voices of those who remained and became a catalyst for change. The stream furthermore seeks to examine the exchange and flows of ideas between the US and Scandinavia and the ongoing dialogue between the two locations and how the exchanges helped to usher in societal changes in Scandinavia at the turn of the century.

The stream will explore the impact and changes brought on by emigration across disciplinary boundaries.

Friday April 25

8:30-10:00am | *New Frontiers and the Land Left Behind I* (Excelsior Bay)

10:30-12:00pm | *New Frontiers and the Land Left Behind II* (Excelsior Bay)



DIS-LOCATION

Studies examining location tend to be topophilic because they normally signal a commitment to foregrounding the perceived virtues of place: connection, community, and identity. Similarly, “emplacement” as a critical method typically signals a commitment to historical realities, authentic experience, and archival evidence that works to undo prescriptive ideologies and the abstraction of theory. Something is imagined to be recovered by turning to the idea of location.

But what of unease with place? Robert Tally calls this mode of dis-location topophobia, thereby intending to capture not the outright fear of place (that would be topophobia) but instead an awareness of the contingency of inhabitation. He wants the term to convey “a certain identifiable ‘place-mindedness’ that informs our activities and thinking” (Topophobia, 23), one that with its medical suffix comes close to signaling disorder or disease but should more properly be used to describe experiences of dis-ease. Freudian notions of Unbehagen and the Unheimlich are clearly in play for Tally, as is the idea of “not-thriving” (vantrivsel).

Papers in this session will engage with literature, film, drama, and media and/or cultural practices that are interested in a negative “place-mindedness”: depictions of being uneasy or out of place, of haunting’s temporal competition for place, or of spatial mobility (such as exile or migration) experienced as dis-location.

Friday April 25

8:30-10:00am | *Circulation and Dis-location* (Wayzata Bay)

10:30-12:00pm | *Geographies of Dis-location* (Wayzata Bay)

Saturday April 26

8:30-10:00am | *Exile, or not* (Grey’s Bay)

10:30-12:00pm | *Dis-ease and Haunting* (Grey’s Bay)



THE MUSICAL HERITAGE OF NORWEGIAN IMMIGRANTS IN THE UPPER MIDWEST

Norwegian immigrants who settled in the American Upper-Midwest during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries brought with them a rich tradition of both art and folk music for diverse purposes, including choral singing, congregational hymnody, dance and celebratory music, and concert repertoire. These immigrants established several institutions of higher learning, ensuring that their artistic traditions would be cultivated and shared with later generations. Key figures of Norwegian descent have had nation-wide influence on musical styles up to the present day, while collaborations between Norwegian citizens and the descendants of Norwegian-American immigrants continue to make vibrant contributions to the musical landscape of both urban areas and small towns across the prairies and woodlands of the Dakotas, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa. Although the circumstances of everyday life experienced by Norwegian immigrants were often very different from those of their counterparts in Norway, music has remained a thread that binds together those who left their homeland and those who stayed behind, giving individuals living on both sides of the ocean today a common point on which to build modern relationships.

This thematic stream will underscore the contributions Norwegians have made to music since the nineteenth century while highlighting the contributions immigrants made to cultural life and society, especially in the Upper Midwest of the United States. Tracing those contributions and studying cross-cultural influences will serve as the bases for assessing the indelible impact they have on Norwegian and Norwegian-American composers throughout the twentieth century.

Friday April 25

10:30-12:00pm | *The Musical Heritage of Norwegian Immigrants in the Upper Midwest* (Lake Calhoun)



IDENTITY WITHIN THE NORDIC MUSIC TRADITIONS

Friday April 25

1:30-3:00pm | *Identity Within the Nordic Music Traditions* (Norway House - Mondale Galleri)

This stream features lecture-recitals that focus on themes of Nordic musical identity. With the ever growing prominence of a global awareness of contemporary Nordic musical composition, much of which is supported contemporarily by the Council of Nordic Composers, we would like to encourage the submission of themes that approach a multidisciplinary view.

Ibsen Society of America ANNUAL IBSEN PANEL

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. 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.

Friday April 25

10:30-12:00pm | *Ibsen Society of America Panel* (Spring Park Bay)





SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

12:00 PM

SASS Fundraising Committee Meeting

12:00 PM to 2:00 PM | Exact location TBA

This meeting is open to members of the SASS Fundraising Committee.

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/152760>

2:00 PM

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting

2:00 PM to 6:00 PM | Exact location TBA

This meeting is open to members of the SASS Strategic Planning Committee.

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/152759>

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

9:00 AM

Executive Council Meeting

09:00 AM to 1:00 PM | St Croix II

This meeting is open to current members of the SASS Executive Council. If you are interested in running for the council, reach out to incoming Vice President Natalie Van Deusen at vice-president@scandinavianstudy.org.

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/158512>

*** AN ASTERISK INDICATES A GRAD STUDENT AUTHOR ELIGIBLE FOR THE AURORA BOREALIS PRIZE**

THURSDAY, APRIL 24 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

11:00 AM

SAHS Luncheon and Author Talk at ASI

11:00 AM to 1:00 PM | American Scandinavian Institute

Join us for a special author talk and luncheon in Larson Hall at the American Swedish Institute, co-hosted by the Society for Advancement of Scandinavian Study and the Swedish American Historical Society. Enjoy a delicious meal from FIKA, ASI's acclaimed café—featuring your choice of Lemon & Thyme Seared Salmon or Pumpkinseed Crusted Squash—along with coffee, tea, and plated cookies. Local author Eric Dregni will share insights from *Vikings in the Attic: In Search of Nordic America*. Known for *For the Love of Cod* and *In Cod We Trust*, Dregni offers a fascinating look at Scandinavian heritage in the U.S., blending history, culture, and humor in a way that will captivate scholars and enthusiasts alike.

Your ticket also includes admission to ASI's Turnblad Mansion and the Ann Wolff: The Art of Living exhibit. Don't miss this engaging afternoon of great food, conversation, and cultural exploration!

Pre-registration required.

Cost: \$55 (includes meal, museum admission, and transportation via ride-share app)
Sponsored by: Swedish-American Historical Society (SAHS)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150212>

4:00 PM

Meet the Shuttle Van to Norway House

4:00 PM to 5:30 PM | Hotel Lobby

Attendees will be shuttled from the hotel to Norway House for the keynote address and opening reception. Meet SASS volunteers in the hotel lobby to board the bus. Note that there is limited seating on the bus. Please plan for the first departure and know that you may need to wait for the second departure.

Parking is available at Norway House for attendees who would prefer to drive themselves.

Departure Times: 4:00pm, 4:30pm and 5:00pm
Return Times: 8:00pm, 8:30pm and 9:00pm

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/154660>

5:00 PM

INTRODUCTORY EVENTS featuring the Timbertrails Drum Group

5:00 PM to 6:00 PM | Norway House

Join us early at Norway House to visit the Mondale Galleri, browse Ingebrechtsens Gavebutikk, or have a drink at The Kaffebar for Hygge Happy Hour.

A special guest performance by the Timbertrails Drum Group will begin at 5:15 in the Sundet Family Aula followed by the keynote address in the same space.
Timbertrails: Scott Matrious, Tommy Benjami, Christopher Gahbow, Percy Benjami

Sponsored by: Sustaining Scandinavian Folk Arts in the Upper Midwest

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/152980>

*** AN ASTERISK INDICATES A GRAD STUDENT AUTHOR ELIGIBLE
FOR THE AURORA BOREALIS PRIZE**



THURSDAY, APRIL 24 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

6:00 PM

KEYNOTE LECTURE: “Nordic Settler Dreams and Ojibwe Survivance on the Mille Lacs Reservation”

6:00 PM to 7:30 PM | Norway House | **Gunlög Fur (Linnæus University)**

Taking the theme of locations literally, this talk takes a look at struggles on the Mille Lacs Ojibwe Reservation in central Minnesota, when Nordic settlers (most of them Swedish) sought to realize their dreams of land, almost for free, while Ojibwe people creatively and desperately used available means to hold on to their place in the world. During the decades around the turn of the century 1900, Indian reservations were opened for non-Indigenous settlement and in less than a generation, scores of Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, and later Finnish migrants took the opportunity to settle on Indigenous land, while Indigenous peoples saw much that was familiar crumble. Many Nordics, like Fredrika Bremer in 1848, envisioned Minnesota a “a New Scandinavia,” and actively set about making it so by fencing, farming, irrigating, building, logging, railroading on land, lakes, and rivers that were home to Ojibwe, Dakota, and many other peoples. This talk focuses on when one Mille Lacs chief, Me-ge-see, brought a Swedish settler to court for illegal settlement. Building on Swedish, American, and Ojibwe sources, I seek to place Swedish settlement, and Ojibwe struggles to defend their land in the context of rapid challenges within an emerging Indigenous-Immigrant borderland. It offers an invitation to tie threads of experiences together into a weave that exposes responsibilities and lasting entanglements in this history of crisis and change in the American heartland.

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/141601>

7:30 PM

OPENING RECEPTION featuring Lyz Jaakola in Performance

7:30 PM to 9:00 PM | Norway House

Have a snack and a drink, mingle with other attendees, enjoy our musical guest, and get excited for the conference!

Hors d'œuvres will be served. Cash bar available after the keynote

Lyz Jaakola in Performance: Lyz Jaakola, Nitaa-Nagamokwe (The lady who knows how to sing well), is a tribally enrolled Fond du Lac Ojibwe with Finnish-American heritage. An experienced music educator, activist, and musician, teaches at Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College; mentors Native youth in music composition; performs regularly for public media and festivals; has recorded six CDs; has music in local film, video, and television, including the Emmy-awarded PBS documentary, *Waasa Inaabidaa*; has published children's literature, and also serves on the Cloquet City Council. Her 2005 album, *Finndian Summer*, focused especially on mixed heritage. More recently, Lyz has helped Finnish author, Katja Kettu and documentarian, Maria Seppälä with a documentary, *Fintiaanit* produced for Helsinki YLE in 2019. In 2022, she composed an Indigenous opera celebrating the life and works of Dakota singer and opera composer Zitkála-Šá. She is the 2025 musician-in-residence at University of Wisconsin–Madison's Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures.

To learn more about Lyz Jaakola, click the link below:

<https://folklife.wisc.edu/projects/residencies/2025-musician-in-residence/>

Sponsored by: Sustaining Scandinavian Folk Arts in the Upper Midwest

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/141614>



FRIDAY, APRIL 25

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

8:30 AM

New Frontiers and the Land Left Behind 2

08:30 AM to 10:00 AM | Excelsior Bay | Chair: Kristina Tolinsson Ting (University of Tartu)

- *Locating Scandinavian Women Homesteaders in the Archives*
Caitlin Sackrisson (St. Olaf College)
- *Mapping Swedish Worcester*
Gregory Gaines (University of Maine)*
- *Placing S. M. Swenson and Swedish-Texans in the Plantationocene*
Lucia Hodgson (Uppsala University)
- *Celebrating the Centennial, Celebrating Whiteness? the 1925 Norse-American Centennial 'Why We Celebrate' Essay Contest and the Performativity of Whiteness.*
Erik Moe (University of Washington)*

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/149771>

8:30 AM

Swedish-American Relations

08:30 AM to 10:00 AM | Lafayette Bay | Chair: Dag Blanck (Uppsala University)

- *Kin Across the Sea: The Portrayal of Swedish-Americans in Stockholm Newspapers, 1920-1930*
Ulf Jonas Bjork (Augustana College)
- *Dissonance and Compartmentalization: Contemporary Swedish-American Perceptions of Sweden*
Adam Hjortén (Uppsala University), Adam Kaul (Augustana College)
- *LEGO Worlds and Cultural Modularity*
Richelle Wilson (University of Wisconsin-Madison)*

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150120>

8:30 AM

Nordic Film: Location and Mise-en-scène

08:30 AM to 10:00 AM | Lake Calhoun | Chair: Benjamin Bigelow (UMN)

- *Hytte Horror: Cabins in the Woods and Gendered Imaginings in Modern Norwegian Genre Cinema*
Elizabeth Stang (University of Washington)*
- *Locating the Implicated Spectator in Roy Andersson's Cinema*
Bradley Harmon (Johns Hopkins University)*

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/149769>

8:30 AM

Dis-Location: Circulation and Dis-location

08:30 AM to 10:00 AM | Wayzata Bay | Chair: Olivia Noble Gunn (University of Washington)

- *The Pathways of Nordic Art and Literature in the 1880s*
Susan Brantly (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
- *Mass of the Dead: Karl Ristikivi's All Soul's Night as Fairy Tale*
Ian Gwin (University of Washington)*

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/149764>

*** AN ASTERISK INDICATES A GRAD STUDENT AUTHOR ELIGIBLE FOR THE AURORA BOREALIS PRIZE**



FRIDAY, APRIL 25 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

8:30 AM

Old Norse I: New Readings

08:30 AM to 10:00 AM | Lake Harriet | Chair: Kate Heslop (UC, Berkeley)

- *Phantoms of Fertility and the Dísir*
Merrill Kaplan (The Ohio State University)
- *Beautiful and Blind: An examination of descriptions of Stúfr in Stúfs Saga*
Todd Michelson-Ambelang (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
- *The Life of Gunnhildr Þorkillsdóttir: Building Local Community in the Global Slave Trade*
Jacob Bell (Texas Tech University)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/141608>

8:30 AM

Folk Arts Education as Personal and Collective Healing: Case Studies from the Nordic Region

08:30 AM to 10:00 AM | Lake Nokomis | Chair: Anna Rue (UW-Madison)

- *Lyssna Till Musiken: Community Music and Healing in Sites of Transition*
Carrie Danielson (Florida State University)
- *Building Community, Building Musicianship: Revitalization of Traditional Music and Folk Music Communities in Iceland*
Caitlin Vitale Sullivan (University of Wisconsin-Madison)*
- *Making Dreamcatchers and Fish Decoys at a South Sámi Museum: Arts Workshops as Cultural Healing.*
Thomas DuBois (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
- *Weaving and Reweaving Threads: Duodji as a Method of Reclaiming Sámi Heritage*
Amy King (University of Washington)*

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150196>

8:30 AM

AASSC Executive Meeting

08:30 AM to 10:00 AM | Minnesota Room

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150756>

8:30 AM

Women's Studies

08:30 AM to 10:00 AM | Spring Park Bay | Chair: Monica Hidalgo (ASF)

- *Remembering Mama: Great Coffee and Scandinavian Immigrant Women in American Film, TV, and Advertising*
Ame Lunde (UCLA)
- *American and Swedish Feminist Activists and the Movement of Ideas, 1880s–1920s*
Saniya Ghanoui (University of Texas at El Paso)
- *Fertile and Fruitful Ground: Teaching and Researching Reproduction in Sweden and the United States*
Elina Nilsson (Uppsala University), Lena Hann (Augustana College)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150183>

*** AN ASTERISK INDICATES A GRAD STUDENT AUTHOR ELIGIBLE FOR THE AURORA BOREALIS PRIZE**



FRIDAY, APRIL 25 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

10:00 AM

COFFEE BREAK

10:00 AM to 10:30 AM | Pre-Function Terrace

All coffee breaks will be served on the Pre-Function Terrace. Grab a snack and a beverage and head into St Croix I & II to browse exhibits, mingle, or find seating. Small snacks and beverages will be served.

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/156428>

10:30 AM

New Frontiers and the Land Left Behind 1

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Excelsior Bay | Chair: Erik Moe (University of Washington)

- *Socialism of a Different Color: Scandinavian-American Utopian Communities*
Julie Allen (Brigham Young University)
- *Nordic Utopian Communities Since the 1700s*
Teuvo Peltoniemi (Independent Researcher and Science Writer)
- *Lina Sandell's "Svarta Sarah" and Swedish-American Missiological Views of Race*
Mark Safstrom (Augustana College)
- *Emigration as an impetus for social change in Sweden; New Frontiers and the Land Left Behind*
Kristina Tolinsson Ting (University of Tartu)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/149772>

10:30 AM

Old Norse II: Emotion, Space, and Place

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Lafayette Bay | Chair: Merrill Kaplan (The Ohio State University)

- *The Saga of the Burning of Njál: Time, Place, and Space*
Claudia Pétersson (The Njál's Saga Tapestry Project)
- *Emotion, Stone, and the Medieval Icelandic Corpus*
Timothy Bourns (University of Washington)
- *Space and Place in Scandinavian Archaeology: Local Sites and International Teamwork*
Nancy Wicker (University of Mississippi)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/141629>

10:30 AM

ROUNDTABLE Michigan's Copper Country: A Crossroads of Nordic History, Heritage & Living Traditions

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Lake Calhoun | Chair: Mark Safstrom (Augustana College)

- Joanna Chopp (Finlandia Foundation), Clare Zuraw (Finlandia Foundation), Lindsay Hiltunen (Michigan Tech), Mirva Johnson (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150202>



*** AN ASTERISK INDICATES A GRAD STUDENT AUTHOR ELIGIBLE
FOR THE AURORA BOREALIS PRIZE**

FRIDAY, APRIL 25 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

10:30 AM

Bergman Studies

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Lake Harriet | Chair: Arne Lunde (UCLA)

- *Chess as Representation in Ingmar Bergman's "Det Sjunde Insegl"*
Theo Malekin (University of Illinois)
- *The Fleishy Substance of the Maternal (M)Other in Bergman's Persona and Autumn Sonata*
Maria Larsson (UCLA)*
- *Ingmar Bergman's Brecht*
Lynn Wilkinson (University of Texas at Austin)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150189>

10:30 AM

ROUNDTABLE Unearthing Hidden Collections: A Roundtable Discussion with Nordic Studies Librarians

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Lake Nokomis | Chair: Helene Larsson Pousette

- Brian Vetruba (University of Minnesota), Mara Engherman (EBSCO), L. Christine Ericson (University of Alaska), Todd Michelson-Ambelang (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Troy Wellington Smith (Library of Congress)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150204>

10:30 AM

Canadian Nordic Studies: Teaching and Research on Nordic Literature and Societies in North America

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Minnesota Room | Chair: Brynjarr (Perry) Mendoza (University of Tartu)

- *The Discovery and Advancement of Scandinavian Politics and the Nordic Model in North America*
Trygve Ugland (Bishop's University)
- *Trigger Warning: Reflections on Teaching Nordic Literature in Canadian Postsecondary Education*
Ann-Kathrine Havemose (University of British Columbia)
- *Laura Goodman Salverson and The Making of an "Icelandic Canadian"*
Sydney Lines (University of British Columbia)*

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150150>



*** AN ASTERISK INDICATES A GRAD STUDENT AUTHOR ELIGIBLE
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FRIDAY, APRIL 25 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

10:30 AM

Queer Studies: Public, Private and Archived Lives

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Spring Park Bay | Chair: Saniya Ghanoui (UT at El Paso)

- *Archive's Reading Room as a Site of an Artwork*
Katri Kivilaakso (The Finnish Literature Society)
- *Innate Queerness: Pathologizing Homosexuality in Late-19th Century Norway and the Private Letters of Ebbe Hertzberg*
Ethan Bjelland Hagberg (University of Washington)*
- *Glimma I Mörkret: the Intersectionality of Theatre and Pageantry in Sweden, and Swedish Traditions in America, "Intertwined"* (Museum Exhibit in Development)
Juliet Wunsch (West Chester University)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150182>

10:30 AM

Dis-Location: Geographies of Dis-location

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Wayzata Bay | Chair: TBA

- *Speculative Spaces: USVI Fiction Remembering Danish Colonialis*
Maxine Savage (University of Washington)*
- *Mountains of Doom: Perceptions of Icelandic Volcanos in Medieval European Traditions*
Elizabeth Swedo (Western Oregon University)
- *Small Towns in Contemporary Swedish Cinema: Authenticity, Performance and Mediation in Småstad (Johan Löfstedt, 2017), Tårtgeneralen (Filip Hammar and Fredrik Wikingsson, 2018) and Amatörer (Gabriela Pichler, 2018)*
Joel Frykholm (Stockholm University)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/149760>

12:00 PM

LUNCH BREAK

12:00 PM to 1:30 PM | Off-site

12:00 PM

Lunch Break | ASTRA Lunch Meeting

12:00 PM to 1:30 PM | Lafayette Bay

The annual ASTRA lunch meeting is open to all ASTRA (Association of Swedish Teachers and Researchers in America) members and all interested in joining ASTRA. Bring your own lunch and meet in Lafayette Bay at 12:30 for the meeting.



*** AN ASTERISK INDICATES A GRAD STUDENT AUTHOR ELIGIBLE FOR THE AURORA BOREALIS PRIZE**

FRIDAY, APRIL 25 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

1:30 PM

Women Making Modernism: Re-Thinking Scandinavian Art History

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Excelsior Bay | Chair: Rochelle Wright (University of Illinois)

- *A Panoptic View of Marie Hauge's Artistic Practices*
Øystein Sjøstad (University of Oslo)
- *Women in the Modernist Workshop: Frødis Haavardsholm and Nikolai Astrup*
Kesia Halvorsrud (KODE)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150199>

1:30 PM

ROUNDTABLE Archivism and Why History has to Hurt - Sponsored by ASTRA

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Lafayette Bay | Chair: Amanda Doxtater (U of Washington)

- Amanda Doxtater (University of Washington), Helene Larsson Pousette, Christopher Oscarson (Brigham Young University), Ursula Lindqvist (Gustavus Adolphus College)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150206>

1:30 PM

The Musical Heritage of Norwegian Immigrants in the Upper Midwest

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Lake Calhoun | Chair: Carrie Danielson (Florida State University)

- *F. Melius Christiansen as a Composer: His Legacy in Choral Music Today*
Jean Marie Hellner (Minnesota State University, Moorhead)
- *How Can You Forget Old Norway?—The Legacy of Norwegian-American Musical Traditions in Rural North Dakota*
Marla Fogderud (Northern State University)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150184>

1:30 PM

Old Norse III: Politics, Religion, and Literature

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Lake Harriet | Chair: Verena Hoefig (LMU Munich)

- *Links of Dynastic Crisis: The Norwegian Civil War in Medieval Icelandic Memory Culture*
Joshua Lee (University of California, Berkeley)*
- *Voyaging Out, Writing In: The Influence of Crusade Literature on Skaldic Poetry and Romance*
Kate Heslop (University of California, Berkeley)
- *The Scribal Hand(s) of the Norwegian Homily Book*
Jonas Wellendorf (University of California, Berkeley)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150178>



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FRIDAY, APRIL 25 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

1:30 PM

ROUNDTABLE What Does It Take to Submit a Successful Grant Application?

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Lake Nokomis | Chair: Sally Yerkovich (ASF)

- Marcus Cederström (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Sally Yerkovich (American Scandinavian Foundation), Monica Hidalgo (American Scandinavian Foundation), Jason Lavery (Oklahoma State University)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150203>

1:30 PM

Canadian Nordic Studies: Navigating Land, Identity, and Resilience in the Arctic - Indigenous Perspectives on Location

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Minnesota Room | Chair: Hilde Wallem Nielssen (HVL)

- 'From Plant-Based to Place-Based: Arctic Inuit Foodways as Inspiration'
Samantha Ruth Brown (University of Oregon)*
- 'Crossing Over the River of Blood: (Dis)locating Indigeneities and Sámi Myandash Stories'
Tim Frandy (University of British Columbia)
- 'Structures of Self: How Kalaallit Self-Identity Was Hidden in Plain Sight'
Asta Mønstad (University of California, Berkeley)
- 'Arctic In Mourning And Pain - 'Code-Stitching' as an Affective Methodology in Climate Debate and Decolonization'
Kristen Thisted (University of Copenhagen)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150155>

1:30 PM

Selma Lagerlöf and Film

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Spring Park Bay | Chair: Andrew Nestingen (University of Washington)

- *Selma Lagerlöf's Emperor in Hollywood: "Tower of Lies"*
Jennifer Watson (Marquette University)
- *Selma Lagerlöf's Jerusalemites in Silent Movies*
Anna Nordlund (Uppsala University)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150194>

1:30 PM

Danish Experiences

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Wayzata Bay | Chair: Poul Houe (University of Minnesota)

- *Under Sandet: Contested Spaces at the North Sea Beaches of Denmark in the Film "Land of Mine"*
Nadja Krämer (Minnesota State University)
- *Danes and Education: Ideas that Crossed the Ocean*
Edith Matteson (Independent Scholar)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/149761>



*** AN ASTERISK INDICATES A GRAD STUDENT AUTHOR ELIGIBLE FOR THE AURORA BOREALIS PRIZE**

FRIDAY, APRIL 25 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

3:00 PM

FRIDAY RECEPTION and MUSICAL PERFORMANCE featuring Sara Pajunen in Concert

3:00 PM to 4:00 PM | St Croix II and Pre-Function Terrace

Grab your coffee and afternoon snacks on the Pre-Function Terrace and then join us for a performance in St Croix III!

Sara Pajunen: Sara Pajunen is an interdisciplinary artist based in Minnesota (USA) specializing in music and the sonic arts.

Her work blends folk traditions (violin, hardanger d'amore, voice), still and moving imagery, environmental recordings, and improvisation. Born into the immigrant culture of Minnesota's Mesabi Iron Range, Pajunen's artistic practice is driven by the intersections of her ancestral roots, American cultural histories, and a deep connection to environments through sound. While questioning dominant American narratives, she searches for long-rhythm values and uncovers beauty and familiarity in the overlooked.

Steeped in both folk and classical music since childhood, Pajunen has studied folk traditions extensively in the Nordic countries and has released six audio albums that use traditional music in progressive yet reverent ways, resulting in singular collaborations.

As a composer and improviser, Pajunen's *Mine Songs: Sounding an Altered Landscape* challenges conventional boundaries between noise and music, using sound to alter our perception of the physical world. Longterm project *Mine Songs: Sounding an Altered Landscape* explores the transformed environment of the Mesabi Iron Range, investigating the fissure in our relationship with the earth and the complex stories we tell ourselves (or have been told) about history, power, identity, and agency. Works from *Mine Songs* have been presented on stage, in galleries, and as a 2024 audio album.

Pajunen has performed extensively in Europe and North America and her work has received funding from the Jerome Foundation, Minnesota State Arts Board, Kone Foundation, New Music USA, American Scandinavian Foundation, and the Arts Council of Finland - amongst others. She holds classical music degrees in both the United States and Finland, and a Master of Music in Contemporary Improvisation from New England Conservatory.

<https://www.sarapajunen.com/>

Sponsored by: Sustaining Scandinavian Folk Arts in the Upper Midwest

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/156429>



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FRIDAY, APRIL 25 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

4:00 PM

MEMBER EVENT: Discussion of the State of the Field with the SASS Strategic Planning Committee

4:00 PM to 5:30 PM | Minnesota Room | Chair: Kimberly La Palm (SASS)

All SASS members are strongly encouraged to join us for a town hall style discussion about the state of the field. Members of the SASS Strategic Planning Committee will facilitate the conversation and solicit feedback from the membership regarding the ongoing development of the SASS three-year strategic plan.

Organizers are researching the possibility of live-streaming this event to SASS members who are not able to attend the conference in person. More info to come

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150635>

8:00 PM

Graduate Student Mixer: Axe Throwing

8:00 PM to 9:30 PM | Bad Axe Throwing (in the City Center)

Add the "Graduate Student Axe Throwing Event" to your registration and join your fellow students at Bad Axe Throwing to work out some conference anxiety with axes!

This event is open to graduate students and their guests. You must pre-register to attend at the SASS rate.

Food and drinks can be purchased from the venue.

Bad Axe is located in the same complex as the hotel. Follow directions in the hotel to the attached City Center Complex.

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/153295>



*** AN ASTERISK INDICATES A GRAD STUDENT AUTHOR ELIGIBLE FOR THE AURORA BOREALIS PRIZE**

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

8:30 AM

Pedagogy 1: Contemporary Issues in Nordic Language Education

08:30 AM to 10:00 AM | Excelsior Bay | Chair: Anna Nordlund (Uppsala University)

- *Finnish Language Teachers' Use of English in University Beginner-Level Language Classes*
Natalie Lewis (University of Washington)*
- *Teaching Gen Z: College Reading and Writing in the Age of Social Media and AI*
Gergana May (Indiana University)
- *Integrating Literature in Language Teaching at All Levels: Instructors' Perspectives in a Finnish Language Case Study*
Eveliina Suunitty (University of Washington), Hanna Jokela (University of Turku), Niina Kekki (University of Turku)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150185>

8:30 AM

Dis-Location: Exile, or not

08:30 AM to 10:00 AM | Gray's Bay | Chair: Susan Brantly (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

- *Forced Displacement and How People Respond to It*
Gina Kavaliunaite-Holvoet (University of Washington)
- *Lost on the Way to Lagoa Santa? Topophilia in Peter Wilhelm Lund Biography and Historical Fiction*
Troy Wellington Smith (Library of Congress)*
- *Er ég kominn heim? Identities and Linguistic Backgrounds of Icelandic Third Culture Kids (TCKs)*
Nicholas Borbely (University of Wisconsin-Madison)*

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/149763>

8:30 AM

Language and Adaptation

08:30 to 10:00 AM | Lafayette Bay | Chair: Todd Michelson-Ambelang (UW-Madison)

- *English Idioms of Scandinavian Origin?*
Anatoly Liberman (University of Minnesota)
- *English Translations of Knut Hamsun's "Pan"*
Renessa Jessup (Minnesota State University)
- *"The Emperor's New Clothes" as Revolutionary Parable: Adaptations, Origins, Reception*
Marianne Stecher-Hansen (University of Washington)
- *Tove Fever: Reception(s) of Tove Ditlevsen Across Cultural Locations in the 21st Century*
Natalya Nielsen (University of California, Berkeley)*

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/156886>



*** AN ASTERISK INDICATES A GRAD STUDENT AUTHOR ELIGIBLE FOR THE AURORA BOREALIS PRIZE**

SATURDAY, APRIL 26 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

8:30 AM

Nordic Poetry: Contemporary Readings

08:30 AM to 10:00 AM | Lake Calhoun | Chair: Jordan Barger (University of Iowa)

- "Gråljus," 1979: *On Stone Fences, Preservation, and Sublimation in Cold War Poetry*
Jonas Taudal Baekgaard (University of Stavanger)*
- *The Street Where I Live: Place and Tove Ditlevsen*
Helen Durst (University of Washington)*
- *Listening in the Dark – Language, Location, and Alienation in Tomas Tranströmer's Poem "A Winter's Night"*
Victoria Haggblom (University of California, Berkeley)*
- *The Death and Life of the Author: Writing the "I" After Autofiction in Knausgård's 'Om sommeren'*
Madeline Zimring (University of California, Berkeley)*

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150134>

8:30 AM

Nordic Activism: Indigenous and Urban Concepts of Location

08:30 AM to 10:00 AM | Lake Nokomis | Chair: Patrick Erickson (University of Alberta)

- *Fugitive Aesthetics in Sámi Artists Lena Stenberg's Exhibition Borders and Pauliina Feodoroff's Performance Matriarchy*
Kristine Nielsen (Illinois Wesleyan University)
- *La Elva Leve: Water and Indigenous Environmental Justice in Poems and Songs of the Alta Dam Protest in Northern Norway (1979–1981)*
Jenna Coughlin (St Olaf College)
- "Navigating Internal Colonization: Comparing Sámi and Native American Socio-Political Movements and Activism in the Early Twentieth Century"
Steven Sabol (University of North Carolina at Charlotte)
- *Sticking the Debate: Immigration and Refugee Discourse on the Streets of Copenhagen*
Glenn Kranking (Gustavus Adolphus College)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150191>

8:30 AM

Canadian Nordic Studies: Icelandic-Canadian Literature and Culture

08:30 AM to 10:00 AM | Minnesota Room | Chair: Natalie Van Deusen (U of Alberta)

- *The Poetics of Absence in Your Absence is Darkness*
Brynjarr (Perry) Mendoza (University of Turku)*
- *Reference and Allusion in Gimli Saga and Icelandic River Saga*
Andrew McGillivray (University of Winnipeg)
- *Reconsiderations of (New) Iceland*
Gudrun Gudsteinsdottir (University of Iceland)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150157>



*** AN ASTERISK INDICATES A GRAD STUDENT AUTHOR ELIGIBLE FOR THE AURORA BOREALIS PRIZE**

SATURDAY, APRIL 26 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

8:30 AM

Old Norse IV: Literature and Material Culture

08:30 AM to 10:00 AM | Spring Park Bay | Chair: Jonas Wellendorf (UC, Berkeley)

- *Re-opened Grave Mounds (in Old Norse Literary Tradition)*
Verena Höfig (LMU Munich)
- *American-Scandinavian Inscriptions: The Cincinnati Runestone*
Scott Shell (Independent Scholar)
- *Runic Studies - Education and Outreach*
Loraine Jensen (American Association for Runic Studies)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150179>

8:30 AM

Baltic and Soviet Perspectives 1

08:30 AM to 10:00 AM | Wayzata Bay | Chair: Adam Hjorthén (Uppsala University)

- *Epic Indigenization: Literature and Nation on the Soviet-Finnish Borders under Stalinism*
Diego Benning Wang (Princeton University)
- *The Impact of Settler Treaties: A Discussion of the Moscow Armistice's Impact on the Sámi*
Patrick Erickson (University of Alberta)*
- *Mapping Karelia: The Ideological Battle Over Land and Identity in the 19th Century*
Richard Byington (University of Illinois)*

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150130>

8:30 AM

Ibsen Society of America Panel

08:30 AM to 10:00 AM | Lake Harriet | Chair: Olivia Noble Gunn (U of Washington)

- *Out of Love and in the Shadows: The Wild Duck as a Portrait of a Woman Photographer*
Sigrid Lien (University of Bergen)
- *Commodifying Ibsen: Performing the Cultural Icon at the Ibsen Museum and Theatre*
Liana Torres (University of Washington)*

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/event/73717/program?session=149770>

9:30 AM

DAHS Board Meeting

09:30 AM to 12:30 PM | Cook's Bay

10:00 AM

COFFEE BREAK

10:00 AM to 10:30 AM | Pre-Function Terrace



*** AN ASTERISK INDICATES A GRAD STUDENT AUTHOR ELIGIBLE FOR THE AURORA BOREALIS PRIZE**

SATURDAY, APRIL 26 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

10:30 AM

The Colonial Past and Present in Scandinavia

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Excelsior Bay | Chair: Karin Filipsson (U of Washington)

- *The Lotti Miella, or Bird Mind, in the Works of Nils-Aslak Valkeapää*
John Prusynski (University of California, Berkeley)
- *Building a Planetary Consciousness: The Welfare Architecture and Colonialism of Landssjúkrahúsið in Tórshavn*
Frederik Braüner (University of California, Berkeley)*
- *Enslavement and Freedom: Anti-Slave Literatures and Slave Narratives in 19th Century Swedish Culture*
Åsa Bharathi Larsson (Södertörn University)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/156888>

10:30 AM

Baltic and Soviet Perspectives 2

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Wayzata Bay | Chair: Glenn Kranking (Gustavus Adolphus College)

- *Lithuania Transforms the West*
Darius Furmonavicius (Lithuanian Research Centre (UK))
- *Nation-State and Feminisms: Shifts in Ibsen Adaptations in Soviet and Post-Soviet Estonia*
Fred Gregor Rahouja (University of Washington)*

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150145>

10:30 AM

SASS SPRING BOOK TALK | Muus vs Muus

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Lake Harriet | Chair: Rosemary Erickson Johnsen (University of Minnesota, Crookston)

Join Rosemary Erickson Johnsen in conversation with translators Kari Lie Dorer and Torild Homstad about their recent publication, *Muus vs Muus: The Scandal That Shook Norwegian America*. Then come back after the lunch break for a round table discussion of the book with local experts.

The book will be available for purchase from the publisher in the exhibit hall.

EXHIBITOR | Minnesota Historical Society Press

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/141654>

10:30 AM

Dis-Location: Dis-ease and Haunting

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Gray's Bay | Chair: Maxine Savage (University of Washington)

- *Three Dead Boys, One Apparition: Eyolf, Wolfe, Jordan*
Olivia Noble Gunn (University of Washington)
- *Thriving and Languishing on Indigenous Land: Markens grøde and I de dage*
Mark Sandberg (University of California, Berkeley)
- *Naked Bodies, Climate Crisis: Dis-ease in Two NRK Shows for Kids*
Ida Johnsen
- *Health, Unwellness, and Dis-Location in Narratives of Migration across the Baltic Sea*
Liina-Ly Roos (University of Wisconsin, Madison)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/148800>



SATURDAY, APRIL 26 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

10:30 AM

Medieval Scandinavia in a Modern Context

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Lafayette Bay | Chair: Jonas Wellendorf (UC, Berkeley)

- *Medieval Roots of Contemporary Concepts of Wholistic Healing*
Connie Amundson (Lifetime Wellness Center NW), Tina Jacobson (Independent Experimental Filmmaker)
- *Narratives of the Nordic Viking Leif Erikson in Modern America: From Ole Bull's Boston to 'Crossings 200'*
Torgim Sneve Guttormsen (Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150180>

10:30 AM

Nation and Identity

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Lake Calhoun | Chair: Peter Leonard (Stanford University)

- *The Making of the Adoptee-Normative Body: A Feminist Analysis of Norwegian Media Representations of Adopted Koreans*
Minji Song (University of California, Berkeley)*
- *Vignettes from the Norwegian Continental Shelf* by Heidi Linde
Melissa Gjellstad (University of North Dakota)
- *Born American?: Situating Jonas Hassen Khemiri's Systrarna (2023) in World Literary Space*
Love Carlshamre (University of California, Berkeley)*

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150128>

10:30 AM

Migration, Race, and Cultural Studies

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Lake Nokomis | Chair: TBA

- *Khemiri: Writing into the Swedish Canon*
Karin Filipsson (University of Washington)*
- *Anti-Nordicism in Henrik Rytter's "Norden har ordet" (1937)*
Dean Krouk (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
- *Global Solidarity, Local Tensions: Sweden's Evolving Relationship with Blackness and Migration*
Ariana Collazo (University of Massachusetts Amherst)*

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/156887>

10:30 AM

Canadian Nordic Studies: Nordic Identities and Life in Canada

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Minnesota Room | Chair: Natalie Van Deusen (U Alberta)

- *"Education is the Lightest Load to Carry": Heritage and Inevitable Loss in New Iceland*
Birna Bjarnadóttir (University of Iceland)
- *"Not Only in Sápmi": A Sámi Activist's Experience of Norwegian Settler Colonialism in Bella Coola, B.C., Seen Through the Camera*
Hilde Wallem Nielssen (Western Norway University of Applied Sciences), Sigrid Lien (University of Bergen)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150147>



SATURDAY, APRIL 26 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

12:00 PM

LUNCH BREAK

12:00 PM to 1:30 PM

12:00 PM

NORTANA Lunch

12:30 PM to 1:30 PM | Lake Harriet

The annual NORTANA lunch meeting is open to all NORTANA (Norwegian Researchers and Teachers Association of North America) members. Bring your own lunch and meet in Excelsior Bay at 12:30 for the meeting.

Check the hotel website for more information about hotel dining options as well as other restaurants near the conference hotel.

1:30 PM

Pedagogy 2: Innovations in Nordic Language Education

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Excelsior Bay | Chair: Edith Matteson (Independent Scholar)

- *How Swedish Do I Sound?*
Caroline Brekkan (University of Washington)*
- *Structures Advancing Social-Emotional Learning in Norwegian Nature-Based Kindergartens*
Olav B. Lysklett (Queen Maud University), Emily K. Johnson (University of Minnesota, Duluth)*
- *Escape Room as a Pedagogical Tool*
Emma Ojala (University of Minnesota)*

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/1501>

1:30 PM

Nature and Landscape

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Gray's Bay | Chair: Joseph Gonzalez (CSU, Fullerton)

- *(Un)homely Landscape at the Center of the World: Jørgen Nielsen's Prose Fiction*
Poul Houe (University of Minnesota)
- *Locating the Pastoral: Productivism and Ideologies of Settlement in Gunnar Sommerfeldt's "Markens grøde" (1921)*
Benjamin Bigelow (University of Minnesota)
- *Nature, Embedded: Swedish Nature Discourse Through Computational Techniques*
Peter Leonard (Stanford University)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150181>

1:30 PM

Politics in Norden

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Lafayette Bay | Chair: Ulf Jonas Björk (Augustana College)

- *A Practical Nordic Model*
Andrew Nestingen (University of Washington)
- *Crafting a National AI Strategy: From AI Sweden to Slöjd and Craft Pedagogy*
Molly Steenson (American Swedish institute)
- *Quo Vadis America? the American Election of 2024 in Sweden*
Dag Blanck (Uppsala University)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150126>



SATURDAY, APRIL 26 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

1:30 PM

Healing and Conflict in the Swedish Kingdom

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Lake Calhoun | Chair: Nicholas Borbely (UW-Madison)

- *Recipes for Hysteria: Women's Bodies and Women's Health in Late Sixteenth Century Sweden*
Joseph Gonzalez (California State University, Fullerton)
- *Strindberg's Mäster Olof and the Nineteenth-Century Church*
David Jessup (Gustavus Adolphus College)
- *Resistance to the Clergy in Finland 1560-1611*
Jason Lavery (Oklahoma State University)
- *Swedes on Foreign Campaigns: The Military Life of Anna Agriconia Åkerhielm*
Mary Ailes (University of Nebraska at Kearney)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150195>

1:30 PM

ROUNDTABLE More for Muus

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Lake Harriet | Chair: Rosemary Erickson Johnsen (UMN, Crookston)

Jill Locke (Gustavus Adolphus College), Brian Vetruba (University of Minnesota), Svea Larson (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Caitlin Sackrison (St. Olaf College), Melissa Gjellstad (University of North Dakota)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150634>

1:30 PM

ROUNDTABLE Teaching (and Thinking) with Things: Art and Embodied Activities in the Scandinavian Studies Classroom

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Lake Nokomis | Chair: Carrie Danielson (Florida State University)

Marcus Cederström (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Anna Rue (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Jason Schroeder (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150187>

1:30 PM

Canadian Nordic Studies: Gender, Religion, and Difference in Medieval Scandinavia

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Minnesota Room | Chair: Tim Frandy (University of British Columbia)

- *Embedded Hagiography: The Life of St. Petronilla in "Pétrs saga postola"*
Natalir Van Deusen (University of Alberta)
- *Mental Illness as Described in Old Norse-Icelandic Literature*
Kirsten Wolf (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
- *Madness and Religion in Medieval Sweden*
Christine Ekholst (Uppsala University)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150160>



*** AN ASTERISK INDICATES A GRAD STUDENT AUTHOR ELIGIBLE FOR THE AURORA BOREALIS PRIZE**

SATURDAY, APRIL 26 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

1:30 PM

Identity within Nordic Music

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Norway House | Chair: Kathleen Roland-Silverstein (Syracuse U)

Those wishing to attend this off-site session can use the ride-share app code provided in their registration packet to meet a car at the hotel lobby. Volunteers will be in the lobby and at Norway House to help you get to and from the venue. Please consider sharing a car with other attendees in order to limit vehicle emissions and minimize costs.

Please note that while Norway House is only about 2 miles from the conference hotel, there is not a good walking route between the two locations. This session has been scheduled adjacent to the lunch break in order to provide as much travel time as possible.

- *The Muses of Jean Sibelius: From Runic Singer Larin Paraske to Opera Singers Aino Ackté, Ida Ekman and Aulikki Rautavaara*
Kathleen Roland-Silverstein (Syracuse University)
- *Black Jazz, White Bodies: Race, Movement, and Danish Musical Identity*
Leslie Gay (University of Tennessee)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/150205>

01:30 PM

Literary Devices

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Spring Park Bay | Chair: **TBA**

- *Locations as Literary Devices – The Case of the Chronotope*
Øystein Hide (University of Bergen)
- *Hope and Despair at the Factory*
Morten Larsen (University of Washington)
- *The Night Shift: Nocturnal Spaces for Reading in Swedish Literature After World War II*
Johan Klingborg (Stockholm University)
- *Strindberg's Syndabocken*
William Johnsen (Michigan State University)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/156889>

01:30 PM

Climate and the North

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM | Wayzata Bay | Chair: Lucia Hodgson (Uppsala University)

- *"To Yzeland, and the farthest Thule's Frost": Politics of Race and Climate in Dryden and Purcell's King Arthur*
Jameson Foster (University of Colorado)*
- *Arctic Visions, Colonization of the Past and the New Green Front*
Frida Rosenberg (ArkDes)
- *Navigating Land, Identity, and Resilience in the Arctic - Indigenous Perspectives on Location*
Kirsten Thisted (University of Copenhagen)

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/149765>



SATURDAY, APRIL 26 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

3:00 PM

COFFEE BREAK

3:00 PM to 3:30 PM | Pre-Function Terrace

3:30 PM

AASSC EVENT: AGM

3:30 PM to 5:00 PM | Lake Nokomis

3:30 PM

SASS Business Meeting

3:30 PM to 5:00 PM | Minnesota Room | Chair: Scott Mellor (UW-Madison)

All SASS members are strongly encouraged to join us for the annual business meeting. SASS leadership will present important updates on SASS business and activities as well as solicit feedback and new business from the membership.

If there are items you know that you would like addressed in advance of the meeting, please reach out to SASS President, Scott Mellor at president@scandinavianstudy.org

5:30 PM

Cash Bar

5:30 PM to 10:00 PM | St Croix I

6:30 PM

SASS Banquet and Awards Ceremony

6:00 PM to 8:30 PM | Minnesota Room

Join us for the annual SASS banquet! Celebrate the end of another successful conference, hear announcements about the recipients of the Birgit Baldwin Fellowship, the Einar and Eva Lund Haugen Scholarship, The Baldwin Language Grant, and the 2024 Aurora Borealis Prize as well as other important announcements (and the book raffle!)

Standard, student, and exhibitor registration includes a ticket the closing banquet for one individual. Additional banquet tickets can be purchased as an add-on the your registration.

Buffet-style meal featuring local favorites & Cash bar

08:30 PM

Sustaining Scandinavian Folk Arts Event: Renee Vaughan with Ponyfolk in Concert

8:30 PM to 10:00 PM | St Croix II

Renee Vaughan: Renee Vaughan weaves the rich traditions of Scandinavian folk music through the resonant voice of the nyckelharpa, a bowed instrument with an ancient beauty. A captivating performer and storyteller, she brings the melodies of Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Finland to life, blending history, folklore and rhythm in every note.

For over a decade, Renee has engaged audiences at the American Swedish Institute, Norsk Høstfest, and recently with the Minnesota Orchestra's Nordic Soundscapes Festival, among others. In 2024, she served as Musician-in-Residence at UW-Madison's Nordic Folklife Department, where she explored the musical legacies of first-generation Swedish immigrants, launching the online collection Nordic Newcomers and an Upper Midwest Scandinavian Allspel tune archive to preserve and share these melodies.

A passionate collaborator, Renee is deeply involved in intercultural and intergenerational music ensembles, blending Scandinavian traditions with various cultural influences. As a community builder, she organizes concerts, workshops, presentations and folk dances to foster the growth and preservation of the Nordic folk scene.

ENTERTAINMENT CONTINUED...



SATURDAY, APRIL 26 CONTINUED

Details subject to change. Refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date information.

Ponyfolk: Ponyfolk was formed in 2014 by Clifton Nesseth (vocals, fiddle) and Paul Sauey (vocals, guitar, bass pedals). Based out of Duluth and Minneapolis, MN, the pair's multi-instrumentalist abilities and vocal harmonies have carved them out a reputation of creating maximalist soundscapes that are defined by droning layers of guitars, strings, and keyboard textures - undergirding emotionally evocative lyrical imagery. Mikey Marget (cello, vocals) joined in 2022. Heavily influenced by the Nisswa-stämman Nordic Music & Dance Festival, the band began exploring the intersection of Nordic & Americana music and is now co-producing Duluth-stämman in coordination with The Nordic Center of Duluth (June 13th & 14th, 2025). They released their first album of traditional tunes in February of 2025, and will be studying music in Sweden this summer thanks to grants from American Scandinavian Foundation.

Bandcamp: <https://ponyfolksy.bandcamp.com/album/the-woods-have-shown-us>

Website: www.ponyfolk.com | **Insta:** @ponyfolksy

<https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/#/event/public/73717/session/156433>



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