



Scandinavian Studies Assistant Professor Michael Stern (center) talks with audience members after his March 7 lecture on Swedenborg and Strindberg.

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FRIENDS OF SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

12.3, Spring 2003

Published fall, winter & spring for the Friends of Scandinavian Studies

From the President's Desk

A busy year for Scandinavian Studies

The academic year is not yet over. Looking back, it has already been an energizing time for the Friends of Scandinavian Studies.

Our lectures on Icelandic archaeology, Scandinavian visions of landscape, and the mystical experiences of Swedish writers were well received, and our film series and the subsequent discussions have a strong following. In February, folk dancing waltzed off to a dazzling start.

With ever shrinking budgets within the university, it is vital that we make it clear that we crave the continuation of an excellent Scandinavian Stud-



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Calendar of Scandinavian Events

(Apr. 24) Every 4th Thursday • 7:00 pm • Sons of Norway Lodge (1836 Alder)

Folkdance: Hour of workshop and instruction followed by hour of music, dancing, and fun. All ages; free. Coordinated by Linda Gunn. Sponsored by the Friends of Scandinavian Studies, with the gracious accommodation of the members of the Sons of Norway Lodge. (Also: May 29)

Tuesday, May 20 • 7:30 pm • 122 Pacific Hall (UO, 1210 Franklin Blvd.)

Film: "Cold Fever" (Iceland, 1995), dir. by Fridrik Thor Fridriksson, 85 min., Icelandic/Japanese/English with subtitles. Another film by the director of "Children of Nature" (shown in the Scandinavian Film Series last October), "Cold Fever" is the story of Hirata, who finds himself canceling his vacation plans to Hawai'i after his grandfather reminds him of his duty to his parents. Seven years earlier, his parents were killed in an accident in Iceland, and Japanese tradition holds that their souls would not be at ease until the proper ceremonies were performed. Thus, Hirata sets out on a journey to the river where his parents perished. Along the way he encounters many obstacles and odd people and events in the land of fire and ice. Shown this term as part of the UO Yamada Language Center's Spring 2003 International Film Series.

Wednesday, May 28 • 3:30 pm • Place TBA (call 346-4051)

Work-in-Progress Talk: Visiting Fulbright Professor of Scandinavian Studies and Comparative Literature Louise Wallenberg, Cinema Studies, Stockholm University, "Straight Heroes with Queer Inclinations: Male Film Stars in the Swedish 1930's." Talk features Dr. Wallenberg's latest work on various formulations of masculinity in Swedish film.

Watch for these Upcoming Events in 2003-04:

- Norwegian landscape photography exhibit, depicting the Nordic sensibility toward landscape and its representation in artistic media (Fall 2003)
- Symposium on medical ethics in Scandinavia and the U.S., featuring medical ethicists, practitioners, policymakers, and writers from the U.S. and Scandinavia (Winter 2004)
- Lecture by a Scandinavian peaceworker who has helped broker peace agreements in the former Yugoslavian states and elsewhere (TBA)
- Second season of the Scandinavian film series (October 2003 through May 2004)

Scandinavian Film Series Continues...

The final film in the series will be shown on the second Tuesday of May, at 6:00 pm, in the International Resource Center, Erb Memorial Union (1222 E. 13th Ave.). Feel free to bring snacks. Each film is introduced by a faculty member or graduate student, and a short discussion will follow the film. Screenings are free and open to all.

May 13: "Songs from the Second Floor" (Nordic co-production, 2000), dir. by Roy Andersson, 98 mins., Swedish/Danish/Norwegian/subtitles. A "film-poem" inspired by the work of Caesar Vallejo. Presented by Visiting Fulbright Professor Louise Wallenberg.

Scandinavian Studies People

Board Members

Kathie Lindlan

Since June 2002, Kathie Lindlan has served as Secretary-Treasurer for the Friends of Scandinavian Studies. She takes minutes at Friends Board meetings, keeps track of all Board actions, and monitors the reports of the Friends' financial accounts at the UO Foundation.

Kathie feels a clear connection to Scandinavia through family ties and history. Her father's father emigrated from the Lindland farm in southern Norway in 1905, eventually settling in Minnesota. He married a descendant of Norwegian emigrants from Numedal who had settled along the Minnesota River in the 1860's.

Kathie and her husband, UO physics professor Michael Raymer (also a member of the Friends Board), have traveled extensively in Norway and lived in Oslo for three months. Kathie especially enjoys visiting Norway's wonderful "open-air museums," collections of *gammeldags* farm buildings and other regional artifacts gathered at a common site.

For travel in Norway, Kathie recommends two helpful books by Erling Welle-Strand: *Motoring in Norway*, which describes picturesque travel routes and gives details of sights along the way; and *Mountain Hiking in Norway*, which describes tours in the mountains of southern and northern Norway.

Kathie discovered that Norwegian parish records can be found in the Deichmanske Bibliotek, the public

library in Oslo. These genealogical records, dating back to the 1400's, have been published in bound book form. The books (published in Norwegian) also include descriptions and histories of farms.

Kathie holds master's degrees in math, education, and computer science. She has worked in software engineering and systems for a number of years, most recently as a graduate



student in the UO Department of Computer and Information Science.

While working on her UO degree, Kathie developed the Program Database Toolkit, a tool infrastructure that provides access to the high-level interface of source code for analysis tools and applications. The toolkit was developed for use by scientists at Los Alamos. (For more information about the toolkit, see <http://www.acl.lanl.gov/pdtoolkit/>.)

Graduate Students

Pilvi-Sisko Karjalainen

Many people do not realize that there is a small, industrial, Finnish city named Nokia that was the birthplace of the company with the same

name. It was also the birthplace of this year's instructor of Finnish language, Pilvi-Sisko Karjalainen.

Pilvi (the unusual name means "cloud" in Finnish) grew up and went to school in Nokia, and then spent one year after high school studying photography in Kuusamo, in northern Finland. Afterwards, she moved to Tampere, which has been her hometown ever since. And although she has lived in Stockholm for two summers, Italy for two-and-a-half years, and—most recently—Eugene for six months, she still considers Tampere "the best place in the world to live."

Pilvi's hobbies and interests include studying foreign languages and cultures, film, theater, karate ("the people in my club in Tampere are my second family"), cycling, jogging, hiking, and skiing. She also enjoys spending hours in bookstores and libraries, and "hours and hours" in front of the TV, watching movies or her favorite programs.

Pilvi studied at the University of Tampere, where she earned a master's degree in comparative literature. In addition, she studied Finnish, sociology, media studies, and linguistics. She spent one year in Rome as an exchange student, where she studied Italian theater and film. She has also taught Finnish in Italy at the University of Bologna.

Pilvi's future plans include pursuing a Ph.D. degree in comparative literature after she returns to Finland. The course work she is completing here at the UO will transfer for this degree after she re-enrolls.

She decided to apply for the Finnish instructor spot because she thought it would be an excellent way to spend the year after getting her master's degree, and she wanted work experience related to her studies. She notes that it has been a wonderful experience, "except the webs growing on my feet."

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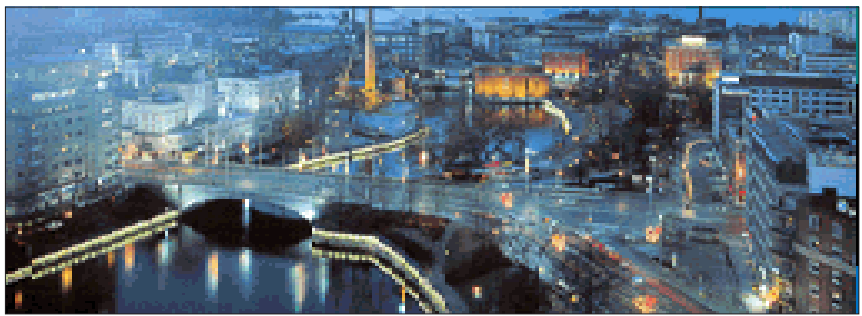
Pilvi, from previous page

When asked to compare the two cultures, Pilvi noted that life is not very different in Finland and the U.S. "I'm doing similar things as I would do at home," she said. "There are of course little differences in the customs that you come across in everyday life."

She added that studying at the university level differs quite a lot, however. For one thing, Finnish universities do not draw such a big distinction between graduate and undergraduate students, particularly since many Finnish students bypass the bachelor's degree and study for a master's degree from their first admission.

In addition, "students are expected to be very independent right from the beginning" in Finland, "and studying at the university is quite different from high school. There is an entrance examination to all programs. We don't pay tuition, and students are encouraged to take courses in many different subjects and faculties."

She remarked, though, that the trend in Finland is an



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President's Desk, from page 1

ies Program. The Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures provides solid leadership, but it is up to students and citizens to express their appetite for learning about all aspects of Scandinavia, be they literature and folklore, cultural traditions, or contemporary Scandinavian society.

The Friends of Scandinavian Studies supports the academic program, benefiting from the willingness of our professors to share their vast knowledge. We are happy to provide scholarships to students focusing on Scandinavian studies, to support Graduate Teaching Fellows who teach Scandinavian languages or promote Scandinavian events and programs, and to contribute funds to Scandinavian events and to the purchase of Scandinavian books, magazines, and informational materials.

We invite everyone to come to our wonderful events—whether to learn something new, or just to enjoy yourself in the company of other Scandinavian enthusiasts. And please, let u

increased focus on students graduating as quickly as they can, which leads some to take only the required courses. Still, many Finnish students study overseas for at least one academic year, and most study multiple languages.

Pilvi also noted that Oregon provides a very amenable climate for her favorite outdoor activities. The landscape, too, is familiar, with the exception that Finland does not have high mountains.

The climate is another matter, however. "Even though I was warned about the rainy season," she lamented, "the amount of rain has been quite overwhelming. What I miss is the cold and snow."

Pilvi also enjoys riding her bicycle in Eugene, which she describes as "bike-friendly," and she has been able to visit Portland periodically "to breathe some urban air."

"I am actually a city girl," she added.

For Pilvi, the most challenging things about studying overseas are also the most enjoyable: studying and working in a foreign language, learning the local customs, and meeting the expectations of her work as both a student and an instructor.

ATTENTION: Friends updating membership lists

The Board of the Friends of Scandinavian Studies would like to update our membership files and mailing lists. For your convenience, we have made these changes:

Membership Expiration Dates on Address Labels

The expiration date of your Friends membership now appears on your address label (on page 4). If your last renewal was more than a year ago, your membership is expired (and your label will say so). Please take a moment to fill in and return the renewal form with your membership dues. (Note: *Renewals in the past four months may not*

- **If your label says "None," you are a lifetime member. You need not renew, but please feel free to continue your much appreciated support of the Friends!**
- **If your label says "No membership," please join us as a Friends member!**

Credit Card Dues Payment Option

For your convenience, we have added the option of paying your membership dues with a major credit card. Please fill in the full renewal information (name, address, etc.) and the credit card info box, and check the dues level that you prefer.

Mailing List Option

If you are unable to pay membership fees but would like to remain on our mailing list (and/or our email list), please call Roger Adkins at (541) 346-0518, send him email at radkins@oregon.uoregon.edu, or write to him at the address on the front cover.

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FRIENDS OF SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

For You: Membership Renewal

Have you renewed your Friends membership recently?
Please continue your support of Scandinavian Studies at the
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Friends? Purchase a membership in your friend's name, and
we'll send them a notification and a copy of this newsletter.
Simply fill out your own information at left and the informa-
tion about your friend below.

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