



A Thor's hammer

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Friends of Scandinavian Studies

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12.2, Winter 2003

FRIENDS OF SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

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

Calendar of Scandinavian Events

Playing through March 1 • Lord Leebrick Theatre Company (540 Charnelton)

Theater: "Nora," Ingmar Bergman's adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's "A Doll's House." Shows at 8:00 pm on all Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. Matinee show at 2:00 pm on Sunday, Feb. 23. Ticket prices vary; discounts for groups of five or more. Box Office: 465-1506.

Saturday, February 22 • 2:15 pm • 100 Willamette Hall (1371 E. 13th Ave.)

Presentation: Visiting Fulbright Professor of Scandinavian Studies and Comparative Literature Louise Wallenberg, Cinema Studies, Stockholm University, "(New) Queer Cinema: A Look at Form, Content and Variety." Part of the 2003 UO Queer Film Festival, Dr. Wallenberg's presentation looks at the "new" queer cinema of the past decade in historical context. Dr. Wallenberg will also be part of a panel discussion ("Redefining Queer Cinema") at 3:30 pm, immediately following her presentation, in the same location. For more info, see: <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~qff>.

Wednesday, February 26 • 3:30 pm • Place TBA (call 346-4051)

Work-in-Progress Talk: UO Assistant Professor of Scandinavian Studies Michael Stern, "Incipit Tragoedia: Axel Borg's Untergang." Dr. Stern discusses the Strindberg character and his *Untergang* (ruin, destruction).

Thursday, February 27 • 5:00 pm • Knight Library Browsing Room, UO

Lecture: Stefanie von Schnurbein, Chair of the Institute of Northern European Studies, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany, "Competing for Subjectivity: Gender, Nation, and Religion in Meir Aron Goldschmidt's *En Jøde* and Mathilde Fiebiger's *Clara Raphael*." Dr. von Schnurbein discusses the two Danish writers' works in relation to issues of subjectivity.

(Feb. 27) 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. First session **February 27** will include a waltz workshop and a Danish mixer. Co-ordinated by Linda Gunn. Sponsored by the Friends of Scandinavian Studies, with the gracious accommodation of the members of the Sons of Norway Lodge. (Also: Mar. 27, Apr. 24, May 29)

Friday, March 7 • 7:00 pm • Episcopal Church of the Resurrection (3925 Hilyard)

Lecture: UO Assistant Professor of Scandinavian Studies Michael Stern, "I Am a Window, I Am a Door: Swedenborg and Strindberg on Science and Religion." Dr. Stern will compare the experience of the mystical for Swedenborg and Strindberg, with an eye to their understanding about the possibility of knowing certainty. Free and open to all. Doors open at 6:30 pm.

Wednesday, May 28 • 3:30 pm • Place TBA (see spring newsletter)

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." Lecture presents Dr. Wallenberg's latest work on various formulations of masculinity in Swedish film.

Scandinavian Film Series Continues...

All films will be shown on the second Tuesday of the month, at 6:00 pm (unless otherwise noted), 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.

March 11: "The Drifting Clouds" (Finland, 1996), dir. by Aki Kaurismaki, 96 mins., Finnish/subtitles. Recently celebrated filmmaker's earlier work.

April 8 (NOTE: Starting time 5:30 pm): "Kristin Lavransdatter" (Norway, 1995), dir. by Liv Ullman, 179 mins., Norwegian/subtitles. Based on the bestselling novel.

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.



From the President's Desk

2003: New beginnings mingle with old traditions

Already, two days after Winter Solstice, the sun was shining brightly, the air was warm, and nature was alive in Eugene. This is all so different from most of Scandinavia at this time of year, where one still has to wait for months before nature awakens and the first rustic little flower, Tussilago, dares brave the weather. As scores of immigrants before me, I add this happy ease in nature to a long list of things to love in the new country.

There remains, however, a wealth of things and thoughts we treasure in Scandinavia that we feel are important

to share. The Scandinavian Studies Program is vital in enriching young and old here in Oregon with the breadth and depth of knowledge in the languages, literatures, and cultures of Scandinavia.

In 2003 we will be able to enjoy the best of both worlds. We will be treated to stimulating lectures by professors and visiting scholars, we will enjoy each other's company in discussions afterwards as well as at other times, and we will be able to build bridges between cultures and grow as individuals.

May the New Year be one of many blessings and of growth for us all.

Swedish Fulbright Exchanges in Film, Computer Technology

To: Last year, Zary Segall, Professor of Computer and Information Science at the UO, became the first professor from any Oregon university to be named a prestigious Fulbright Distinguished Chair.

During the current academic year, Dr. Segall holds the Fulbright-Stockholm Information Technology Chair in Wireless E-Commerce, a research and teaching post in Sweden. He is teaching graduate courses on wearable computer technology at the Stockholm School of Economics and the Royal Institute of Technology in Kista.

Dr. Segall is also conducting research with Ericsson, Telia, IBM Sweden, and Brainheart Capital—all Swedish companies that funded the grant.

FROM: This winter, Fulbright Visiting Professor Louise Wallenberg joined the faculty of the UO's programs in Scandinavian studies and comparative literature, where she will be a visiting professor and scholar through the end of the spring term.

Dr. Wallenberg is a lecturer in cinema studies at Stockholm University's Swedish Program, which is designed primarily for English-speaking exchange students at Stockholm University. There she teaches courses in English on Scandinavian film and culture.

Dr. Wallenberg's work addresses issues of gender and sexuality in cinematic representation and production, es-

continued, next page

Northern Exposures

Short vignettes of the experiences of UO students in one of the UO's six overseas programs in Scandinavia.

**Caroline O'Leary, UO senior, architecture and political science major
University of Tampere, Finland, October, 2002**

The past couple of weeks have really been an incredible experience. Last weekend came Tampere Day. This meant that all the museums in town had either reduced or free admission. A group of us took advantage of this and spent both Saturday and Sunday around town. On Saturday, we went to the fish market and got as many free samples as we could. I ate this tiny little fish that had been fried whole and still had its eyeballs. It was pretty good, believe it or not.

We then walked up to Pyyinikki Ridge, which is basically a park where you can see both of the lakes that are on either side of Tampere. We trekked five stories up the tower for a breathtaking view of the city! Then we headed back to town and stopped at Alexander's Church—so beautiful! Inside the doors, we stopped dead in our tracks. It was post-Reformation, a basilica plan, dark wooden trusses, the lectern celebrated in color and carvings, an organ and balcony, iconography in prominent places but not everywhere, a procession of chandeliers down the center aisle. We sat for 40 minutes just feeling the space.

Sunday, we hit so many museums, it was ridiculous. The two most important were the Lenin, where we got a little preparation for our upcoming trip to Russia, and the Tampere Art Museum, which was exhibiting the life's work of Tove Jansson. She was truly an amazing artist, her skills so adaptable to her media. Truly inspiring.

Scandinavian Studies People

Faculty

Michael Stern

Now in his second year with the Scandinavian Studies faculty, Dr. Stern recently completed a book manuscript entitled *Nietzsche's Ocean, Strindberg's Open Sea*. He is also currently writing two articles, one on Strindberg and tragedy, and the other on Kierkegaard and fetishism.

In Winter Term 2003, Dr. Stern is teaching third-year Swedish, and in Spring Term 2003, he will teach two additional courses: one on repetition, autobiographies, and other fictions; and the other on the Icelandic sagas.

Graduate Students

Lotte Kaarsholm

Danish instructor Lotte Kaarsholm hails from Copenhagen, Denmark. A visiting graduate student in comparative literature, she is the instructor of the first-year Danish sequence in 2002-03.

Kaarsholm holds a B.A. degree in comparative literature from the University of Copenhagen, where she also studied philosophy. She has also studied in Durban, South Africa, and Lisbon, Portugal. While in school, she studied briefly in a village outside Cambridge, England.

(next column)

Fulbright, from page 2

pecially in the "New Queer Cinema," (films produced since about 1989 that address lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender experiences and are freely critical of homophobia and heterosexual supremacy).

Although the Swedish Fulbright Commission selects the location of the position (the UO is one of several sites for the position, which rotates between them), she notes that she finds the Pacific Northwest very hospitable, "both the climate and the people."

Kaarsholm's main interests center around the ways that literary, cultural, and political texts create senses of place and space. In the fall she was fortunate to enroll in a course called "Senses of Place," which addressed her primary interest. This term, she is studying the literature of travel and exile, outsider histories, and the different ways that various academic disciplines create notions of place.

Next month she will attend "Strangers in a Strange Land," a graduate student conference at the University of Minnesota. She will present a paper on African writer Coetzé and concepts of the border, and she looks forward to meeting and talking with other students who have similar intellectual interests.

In addition to her academic pursuits, Kaarsholm enjoys playing the piano

and listening to a wide variety of music. She has also held jobs in several fields during and between the various stages of her academic career. She has written many articles for the Danish newspaper *Information* (available on-line at <http://arkiv.information.dk>), and she edited



a published anthology titled *Nattelivâ*, a collection of writings and photographs of Danish nightlife produced by the young people who live it. She calls this project her "baby."

Kaarsholm is enjoying the academic culture of the university, where she has received excellent encouragement and

feedback from her colleagues and professors. She also notes that people in Eugene are open and warm toward strangers—qualities that have made her adjustment to life here much less difficult. ■

Museum to feature Viking history, Norse-Scottish artist

From March 5 to May 25, 2003, the Nordic Heritage Museum in Seattle will host a major Viking exhibition from Canada and Scandinavia. The exhibit is titled "Full Circle, First Contact: Vikings and Skrælings in Newfoundland and Labrador."

The exhibit features artifacts unearthed at the site of the Viking settlement in Newfoundland, as well as arti-

facts from museums in and indigenous (Indian) artifacts from the regions of North America that the Vikings explored.

For information, see www.gov.nf.ca/fullcircle/index.htm.

Also on exhibit at that time will be "Ancestral Homes: A Reflection of Norse-Scottish Heritage," paintings and drawings by artist Scott MacLeod. See www.macleod9.com.



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 reflected.*)

- 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 (names, 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?
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