



# Nordic News

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[www.canadiannordicsociety.com](http://www.canadiannordicsociety.com)

## **CNS 2013 Dates to Remember**

### **Speakers' Events**

**Wednesday February 27, 2013**

### **IMPORTANT**

**The location for this Speakers' Event has  
changed; see below for details**

### **Luncheon Dates**

**Monday March 4, 2013**

**Monday April 8, 2013**

**Monday May 6, 2013**

**Monday June 3, 2013**



## CNS LUNCHEONS

The next luncheon will be held on Monday, March 4, 2013 at the Army Officers' Mess, 149 Somerset Street W., (off Elgin St.), Ottawa.

The luncheon dates for the remainder of 2013 will be: April 8, May 6 and June 3.  
No reservations are required for these dates this year.

Thanks to Capt. Kathleen Tipton (CNS Councillor) for booking these luncheons for us. The renovations at the Army Officers' Mess should be completed by the date of the March Luncheon; however, it would be prudent to watch for a last minute email with a change of plans. Contact Len Nylund at 613-829-8602 if you don't have email and are planning to attend.

Lennart Nylund, Vice President

## OTHER NORDIC EVENTS OR ITEMS OF INTEREST

### Museum of Civilization

Exploring the Arctic through the eyes of Diamond Jenness

A lecture by biographer Dr. Barnett Richling

Explore the Arctic through the eyes of Diamond Jenness by attending a lecture by biographer Barnett Richling. Dr. Richling will share stories and photographs from his new book on one of Canada's foremost anthropologists by weaving a tale that journeys from New Guinea to the Arctic and beyond. *In Twilight and in Dawn: A Biography of Diamond Jenness* describes the fascinating career of a man who set aside hopes of building a career in the South Pacific to join the 1913–1918 Canadian Arctic Expedition.

Date and time: Sunday, February 10, from 2 to 3 pm

Location: Museum of Civilization Cascades Salon



Diamond Jenness trading with Copper Inuit who had travelled to Bernard Harbour to meet the expedition.  
Frits Johansen, September 1914  
© CMC, 42233

Members' tip: For further reading, do not miss the Museum's Mercury Series publication on one of the great sagas of Arctic exploration led by the ethnologist and explorer Vilhjalmur Stefansson and the zoologist Dr. Rudolph M. Anderson.

## Baltic–Nordic Film Festival

The Baltic and Nordic Embassies in collaboration with the Canadian Film Institute and in partnership with Winterlude present Bright Nights – The Baltic-Nordic Film Festival, running from February 8 through Friday March 1, 2013.



The schedule of films is:

Friday	February 8	7:00 pm	Opening Gala/Presidency <b>Sweden:</b> Simon and the Oaks
Friday	February 15	7:00 pm	<b>Finland:</b> Soundbreaker
Friday	February 15	9:00 pm	<b>Denmark:</b> Inuk
Friday	February 22	7:00 pm	Estonia: Mushrooming
Friday	February 22	9:00 pm.	<b>Iceland:</b> Mamma Gógó
Thursday	February 28	7:00 pm	Latvia: Monsieur Taurins
Thursday	February 28	9:00 pm	Lithuania: T.B.D.
Friday	March 1	7:00 pm	<b>Norway:</b> King Curling

Location: Auditorium, Library and Archives Canada, 395 Wellington St. Ottawa.

All films are Ottawa premieres! Featuring some of the world's most exciting contemporary cinema, from fiction to documentary to animation, the Bright Nights: Baltic–Nordic Festival has something for everyone.

Tickets: \$12 (general admission) \$8 (seniors, students)

For more information check the embassy websites or the Canadian Film Institute at <http://www.cfi-icf.ca/>

## National Arts Centre

There are two events by the NAC featuring Finnish musicians, one on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of February, and the other on February 24<sup>th</sup> featuring John Storgårds and Pekka Kuusisto.

### FINNISH LANDSCAPES

Thursday - Friday February 21-22, 2013 in NAC Southam Hall, 8:00 pm.  
53 Elgin St. Ottawa, Ontario (at Confederation Square)

John Storgårds, conductor  
Pekka Kuusisto, violin  
NAC orchestra

Program:  
Sibelius — Rakastava (The Lover)  
Magnus Lindberg — Violin Concerto  
Arvo Pärt — Fratres  
Sibelius — Symphony No. 3

The wintry and majestic landscapes of Finland continue to be a muse for classical composers. Finnish conductor John Storgårds makes his first appearance with the NAC Orchestra leading this program of works depicting the national character and gorgeous landscapes of his proud homeland. Fellow Finn and International Sibelius Competition winner Pekka Kuusisto also makes his debut with the Canadian premiere of Magnus Lindberg's showy Violin Concerto. Finally, Sibelius's good-natured Symphony No. 3 brings a triumphal conclusion to this all-Finnish program.

There will be pre- and post-concert chats. See (<http://nac-cna.ca/en/orchestra/event/2380> )

### MUSIC FOR A SUNDAY AFTERNOON



Sunday February 24 at the National Gallery of Canada  
(Not at the NAC itself)

380 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario at 2:00 pm.

Featuring Pekka Kuusisto, violin, with musicians from the  
NAC Orchestra

Program:

Rinda Nikola – Finnish Folk Songs  
Sibelius – Suite in A major (Trio)  
Magnus Linberg – Clarinet Quintet  
Esa Pekka Salonen — Lachen verlernt  
Sibelius — String Trio in G minor

For more information visit <http://nac-cna.ca/en/orchestra/event/2415>

Information from the NAC website. Thanks to Tuulikki for the pointer.

## **BOWS FOR BUTTERFLIES**

Raija Hilska of the Finnish community is chairing the Bows for Butterflies Benefit fundraiser for youth mental health programs at the Royal Ottawa Hospital. The Honourable Senator Vernon White hosts the program including a silent auction, mental health information fair with local community service groups, and a full classical concert by the accomplished University of Ottawa Symphony Orchestra under the baton of conductor David Currie.

Orchestra program includes:

John Gordon Armstrong: Kaleidoscope for Orchestra, “Harsh, violent”  
Jean Sibelius: Symphony No. 2 in D Major, Op. 43

1. Allegretto
2. Tempo andante, ma rubato
3. Vivacissimo
4. Finale: Allegro moderato.

The event will take place on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at St. Brigid’s Centre for the Arts, 310 Patrick Street, Ottawa.

For more information visit the web site [www.bowsforbutterflies.ca](http://www.bowsforbutterflies.ca)

## **Swedish Language Newspapers**

Doreen Riedel passed on a note about some Swedish language newspapers, The Scandinavian Press, a quarterly publication with news from all the Nordic Countries, and the Swedish Press, published monthly. For information visit [www.NordicWay.com](http://www.NordicWay.com) .

## EDITOR'S SECTION

### Finnish and Swedish role in the definition of the “metre”

In 1687 Isaac Newton in his treatise Principia predicted that the spinning earth would be flattened by a factor of 1/300 – the diameter through the equator would be greater than the diameter through the poles<sup>1</sup>.

There were competing ideas, including one that the diameter through the poles would be the greater. The French Academy of Sciences proposed expeditions to Lapland and Peru to measure the lengths of arcs along meridians to determine the differences between measurements.



The expedition to Lapland went to Torne Valley<sup>2</sup> and was led by Pierre Louis Maupertuis. As Swedish representative, Professor Anders Celsius joined the team. The expedition arrived in Tornio on June 19, 1736 and headed back to France on June 10, 1737. They measured a meridian arc of approximately one degree's length – about 111 km. The south end of the arc was at the spire of the church of Tornio, the north end was at the hill of Kittisvaara. By measuring the length of the arc, Maupertuis' team was able to prove that the Earth is, indeed, flattened at the poles as Sir Isaac Newton had predicted.

Subsequently additional measurements were made along a meridian through Paris, resulting in the establishment of the metre defined as 1/10000000 the distance between the equator and the north pole.

Finland was part of Sweden at that time, but the Torne area is now a subregion of Finland.

Thanks to Wikipedia for this information and the picture of the church in Tornio.

### The Women of Venus

Last month I wrote that the International Astronomical Union had decided that features on the planet Venus were to be named after women, goddesses and so on.

Here is a list of the famous and significant women of Canada and the Nordic Countries with a feature on Venus named after them:

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<sup>1</sup> Isaac Newton: Principia Book III Proposition XIX Problem III

<sup>2</sup> At the head of the Gulf of Bothnia at the border with Sweden.

### Canadian

Frances Brooke, novelist (1724-1789)  
Emily Carr, artist (1871-1945)  
Allie Vibert-Douglas, astronomer (1894-1988)

### Danish

Karen Blixen, author (1885-1962)  
Inga Lehmann, geophysicist (1888-1993)

### Finnish:

Maria Jotuni, writer (1880-1943)

### Norwegian:

Kristine Bonnevie, biologist (1872-1948)  
Kirsten Flagstad, opera singer (1895-1962)  
Sonja Henie, skater (1912-1969)  
Sigrid Undset, author (1882-1949)

### Swedish:

Karen Boye, poet (1900-1941)  
Selma Lagerlöf, novelist (1858-1940)  
Jenny Lind, singer (1820-1887)  
Christine Nilsson, opera singer (1843-1921)  
Frederika Bremer, writer, reformer, feminist (1801-1865)  
Greta Gustafsson (Garbo), Swedish-born American actress (1905-1990)  
Astrid Lindgren, author (1907-2002)  
Hedwig Nordenflycht, poet (1718-1763)  
Nelly Sachs, German-born Swedish playwright, poet (1891-1970)

In case you think Venus is all peaches and cream, some features:

Agrona Linea is named after the Welsh goddess of slaughter, destroyer of life  
Asomama Corona - Quechua potato goddess  
Baba Jaga Chasma - Slavic forest witch.  
Boszorkany Dorsa - Hungarian witch, flies over the sky.  
Chimon mana Tessera - Hopi (SW USA) goddess of insane.  
Lauma Dorsa - Latvian witch, flies in the sky.  
Loo Wit Mons - Multnomah and Klikitat (NW Coast) volcano goddess, embodied in Mt. St. Helens.  
Mamapacha Fluctus - Inca earthquake goddess.  
Ndara Tholus - Toraji (Sulawesi Isl., Indonesia) underworld and earthquake goddess.  
Zheztynak Fossae - Kazakh evil deity, "copper claw" maiden.



If you are interested in some background on how features on solar system bodies are named, you might enjoy the article by Rosaly Lopes entitled “Naming Planets, Moons and Craters” in the November 2012 issue of the magazine Sky and Telescope.

Peter Macnaughton

## **NORDIC RESOURCES**

Just a reminder that there is a list of Nordic Resources located on our website

<http://www.canadiannordicsociety.com/resources.html>

including the Nordic Embassies, the Ottawa based social organizations, and links to newspapers and museums in Nordic Countries. The list is on the Nordic Resources tab on the general web site, or use the link above.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

The CNS membership year is from September 1 to August 31 which means that it is once again necessary to renew your membership for the 2012-2013 year. Our membership dues remain the same as they have been for a number of years: \$20.00 for an individual membership; \$30.00 for a family membership; \$15.00 for a student membership. Please fill in the form, enclose a cheque and mail it to our mail box indicated in our letterhead.

It is the membership dues that enable us to have our Speakers’ series which has been one of the distinguishing aspects of the Canadian Nordic Society program since we were established in 1963. While we work in close co-operation with the five Nordic embassies situated in Ottawa, CNS does not receive any financial support from any embassy or other organization.

We depend on our membership to enable us to continue carrying out a program of activities that promote a better understanding of the societies and cultures of the Nordic countries.



## Canadian Nordic Society

If you are already a member, please pass this on to a friend!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (work): \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax : \_\_\_\_\_

To reduce costs, the newsletter will be sent electronically to those with email addresses unless otherwise advised.

**Family Membership - \$30, Individual Membership - \$20. Student Membership - \$15.**

As a Member you:

- will receive the Society's Newsletter
- are invited to participate in all CNS events
- are encouraged to become actively involved in the life of the Society
- receive discounts on tickets to CNS events

### Canadian Nordic Society Board Members – 2012-2013

Lennard Sillanpää - President	613-837-1641	cell: 613-298-4799	<a href="mailto:lennard.sillanpaa@sympatico.ca">lennard.sillanpaa@sympatico.ca</a>
Lennart Nylund - Vice President	613-829-8602		<a href="mailto:lnylund@sympatico.ca">lnylund@sympatico.ca</a>
Simon Snow - Treasurer	613-866-7669		<a href="mailto:ottawalainen@rogers.com">ottawalainen@rogers.com</a>
- Secretary		Position Vacant	
Martti Lahtinen - Councillor	819-827-0899		<a href="mailto:mLahtinen_13@hotmail.com">mLahtinen_13@hotmail.com</a>
Kathleen Tipton - Councillor	819-923-3311		<a href="mailto:kdtipton5@yahoo.ca">kdtipton5@yahoo.ca</a>
Sheila Hellström – Councillor	613-731-0063		<a href="mailto:shellstrom@sympatico.ca">shellstrom@sympatico.ca</a>
Bruce Miller – Councillor	613-745-1151		<a href="mailto:nordic@brmiller.ca">nordic@brmiller.ca</a>
Lars Öhman - Honorary President			

Peter Macnaughton - Newsletter Editor, (not a board member) 613-224-8527 [peter.macnaughton@sympatico.ca](mailto:peter.macnaughton@sympatico.ca)

If you have any questions about your membership, please contact one of the Board Members. Membership dues can be given to any Board member or you can mail your payment to:

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