

INSIDE VOICES, OUTSIDE LIGHT: PERSPECTIVES ON WEST NORDIC ART

A group exhibition featuring 21 contemporary artists from the Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, and Norway opens April 18 at Scandinavia House.

New York, NY—The **American-Scandinavian Foundation** is pleased to announce ***Inside Voices, Outside Light: Perspectives on West Nordic Art***, opening **April 18, 2026** at **Scandinavia House: The Nordic Center in America**. A group exhibition featuring 21 contemporary artists from the Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland and Norway, *Inside Voices, Outside Light* highlights the unique perspective of these North Atlantic territories, who share cultural and historical ties while each possessing distinct identities and communities. With works ranging across photography, paintings, textiles, film, and sculpture, including three site-specific installations, the exhibition also showcases the diversity and complexity of the region.

Participating artists include **Morten Andenæs** (NO), **The Arctic Creatures** (IC), **Per Barclay** (NO), **Ask Bjørlo** (NO), **Jóhan Martin Christiansen** (FO), **Helgi Þorgils Friðjónsson** (IC), **Inuk Silis Høegh** (GL), **Hansina Iversen** (FO), **Rannva Kunoy** (FO), **Nils Erichsen Martin** (NO), **Trine Lise Nedreaas** (NO), **Camille Norment** (NO), **Lisbeth Karline Poulsen** (GL), **Ragna Róbertsdóttir** (IC), **Agnieszka Sosnowska** (IC), **Inuuteq Storch** (GL), **Silja Strøm** (FO), **Steina and Woody Vasulka** (IC), and **Jens Dam Ziska** (FO).



Inuk Silis Høegh, *The Green Land*, 2021

A special **Opening Day Celebration** on April 18 will feature a Curator Walkthrough (1 PM), a screening of *The Green Land*, directed by Inuk Silis Høegh (2 PM), and a Book Launch and Artist Panel with **Kinna Poulsen**, **Hansina Iversen**, **Jóhan Martin Christiansen**, and **Emily Stoddart** (3 PM). On view through **June 20, 2026**, ongoing related programming will include Gallery Tours and more.

Connected through geography and culture including Norse history, reliance on marine resources, and shared Arctic/maritime focus, the West Nordic countries form a distinct sub-region within the larger Nordic area. While Greenland, Iceland, and the Faroe Islands all share colonial ties with Denmark, each country has its own culture and identity, with locations closer to neighbors in the west: Canada, the U.S., the UK and Ireland. Each region also presents a unique perspective.

Borrowing from the title of a collection of poetry by Icelandic poet, translator and film director Sigurður Pálsson, *Inside Voices, Outside Light* brings together a diverse spectrum of work ranging from the haunting, almost surreal, and authentic images in **Inuk Silis Høegh's** four-part film *The Green Land*, to the high energy and humor of the artist collective **The Arctic Creatures**, to the intricate and delicate textile tapestries of **Ask Bjørlo**. With current geopolitical conditions renewing interest in the area, some works also confront misconceptions. **Lisbeth Karline Poulsen** depicts resistance and strength in reaction to the current annexation threats, while **Trine Lise Nedreaas** explores our shared experience of a temporal existence in a relentless eternity. The exhibition also features site-specific work by **Camille Norment**, **Hansina Iversen** and **Jóhan Martin Christiansen**.

Organized by ASF, *Inside Voices, Outside Light* is the second in a series of three exhibitions celebrating the 25th Anniversary of Scandinavia House — which has welcomed over 3 million visitors since opening its doors in October 2000 — and continues a year-long series of anniversary events. The exhibition has been curated by Emily Stoddart, Manager of Exhibitions at Scandinavia House, with the support of three curator consultants: **Karin Hellandsjø** (Norway), **Kinna Poulsen** (Faroe Islands), and **Pari Stave** (Iceland). Major support has been provided by the Monika and Charles Heimbald Fund for Exhibitions and Programs. Additional support has been provided by the Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation, Nordic Culture Fund, the Office for Contemporary Art Norway, and The Royal Norwegian Consulate in New York. Support has also been provided by the following ASF Funds: The Bonnier Family Fund for Contemporary Art, The F. Donald Kenney Fund for Visual Arts, and The Kronquist Mesaros Memorial Endowment Fund.

OPENING CELEBRATION	Saturday, April 18, 2026, 1–4 PM
WHERE:	Scandinavia House 58 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016
GALLERY HOURS	Tuesday through Saturday, 12–6 PM
& ADMISSION	Wednesdays, 12–7 PM

CURATORS

Karin Hellandsjø (b. 1944), is an art historian with a PhD from the University of Oslo. She worked as curator at the Henie Onstad Art Centre for almost two decades during the 1970s and '80s, before joining the National Museum of Contemporary Art in Oslo as chief curator and head of the museum department from 1988 through 2005. In March 2005 she returned to the Henie Onstad Art Centre as director. She retired in 2011 and is now an independent scholar and art consultant. Hellandsjø has since the start of her career been involved in national and international museum work and collaboration, and has curated many major exhibitions throughout the years. She is also a notable scholar on modern art, a lecturer and an active writer. Hellandsjø is appointed Knight, 1st class, of the Royal Norwegian Order of St. Olav and Officier dans l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres, de la République Française.

Kinna Poulsen (b. 1968) is a Faroese art critic and an Associate Professor of Danish and Visual Arts at Glasir – Tórshavn College, based in the Faroe Islands. She has written art and cultural reviews for over 30 years, and several books focusing on works by individual Faroese artists, including Bárður Oskarsson, Tóroddur Poulsen and Steffan Danielsen. Her latest book, *Í eygnahædd – Um samtíðarlist í Føroyum í 21. Øld / At Eye Level*, covers contemporary art in the Faroe Islands, focusing mainly on contemporary Faroese as well as International artworks exhibited in the country since 2020. Kinna holds an MA in Danish and Art History.

Pari Stave studied art history at New York University's Institute of Fine Arts. A curator for more than 30 years, some of her most recent exhibitions include *Other Hats: Icelandic Printmaking; Hverfing/Shapeshifting* (co-curated with the Academy of the Senses); *Iceland: Artists Respond to Nature; Magnetic North: Artists and the Arctic Circle; Munch/Warhol and the Multiple Image*; and *New Wave Finland; Contemporary Photography from the Helsinki School*. Pari is the former Senior Manager in the Department of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Metropolitan Museum. From 2022–23, she was director of the Skafthell Art Center in Seyðisfjörður. Presently, she is the Chief Curator at the National Gallery of Iceland.

Emily Stoddart is a Canadian artist, curator, and cultural producer based in New York City, with over 18 years of experience in the professional visual arts field. Currently, she is the manager of exhibitions and community programs at Scandinavia House, New York, where she organizes, curates, and produces exhibitions and related visual culture programming, with a focus on the Nordic region. Emily has organized large international exhibitions in partnership with Ateneum, Finnish National Gallery; Munchmuseet, Oslo; The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C.; National Gallery of the Faroe Islands, KODE Bergen Art Museum; as well as various galleries, artist-run spaces, and museums in the Nordic region. Emily has curated and produced exhibitions and public programming in conjunction with the Armory Fair (NY); Future Art Fair (NY), Feature Art Fair (Toronto), Frieze New York, NY Textile Month, as well as with galleries, cultural spaces, and artist-run centers in New York City, Canada, the Nordic and the Baltic regions. Emily holds an MFA from Hunter College, City University of New York, and a BFA from Concordia University, Montréal.

SUPPORT

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THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN FOUNDATION

The American-Scandinavian Foundation (ASF) promotes firsthand exchange of intellectual and creative influence between the United States and the Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. A publicly supported American non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, ASF has an extensive program of fellowships, grants, intern/trainee sponsorship, publishing, and cultural activities. Headquartered in New York City, ASF has members throughout the United States, and alumni and donors worldwide. **For more information:** amscan.org

SCANDINAVIA HOUSE

Scandinavia House was created by the American-Scandinavian Foundation to promote the artistic and intellectual influence of the Nordic countries. As the leading center for Nordic culture in the United States, Scandinavia House offers enriching programs that illustrate and illuminate the culture and life of the Nordic countries. The diverse programs include exhibitions, film series, concerts and other performances, readings, lectures, language courses, and activities for kids and families.

For more information: scandinaviahouse.org | Facebook | Twitter @ScanHouse

For visual materials and press information, please contact: Lori Fredrickson, Director of Communications, Marketing, & Digital at 212-847-9727 or lori@amscan.org.