

Nordic Spirit Symposium
Scandinavian American Cultural
and Historical Foundation
California Lutheran University
60 West Olsen Road #2600
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360-2710

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NORDIC SPIRIT

PRESENTS

AFTER THE VIKINGS — BEFORE THE REFORMATION:
SCANDINAVIA IN TRANSITION

FEBRUARY 10 & 11, 2012

SCANDINAVIAN AMERICAN CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

Photo Credit: Tracey Sands

A unique lecture/performance program presented by the Scandinavian American Cultural and Historical Foundation and California Lutheran University made possible through a generous grant from the Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation with additional support from the Norway House Foundation, the Royal Norwegian Consulate General in San Francisco and the Consulate General of Finland in Los Angeles

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LUTHERAN
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NORDIC SPIRIT

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AFTER THE VIKINGS – BEFORE THE REFORMATION: SCANDINAVIA IN TRANSITION

It was a time of great change. A time when medieval Scandinavia went from being on the margins of “civilization” to embracing Christian European values and culture. A time when the religious and secular realms of life were inseparable. This symposium offers a sampling of life and culture in the Nordic region after the Viking Age, with illustrated presentations by authorities from the U.S. and Europe. The program will open with a talk about the road to Christianity during and following the Viking Age. The public is invited to share the time-honored spirit of a symposium, blending music, dining and the free exchange of ideas to enhance the pleasure of learning.

Friday, February 10, 2012

Scandinavian Center

26 Faculty Road, Thousand Oaks

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Gala reception. Reservations requested.

Preus-Brandt Forum

California Lutheran University

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Registration

7:00 – 10:00 p.m. Program

THE NORDIC COUNTRIES AND THEIR ROADS TO CHRISTIANITY 800-1300 AD

Haki Antonsson, Ph.D., Lecturer in Medieval Scandinavian Studies, University College London, United Kingdom

This lecture will present a broad comparative overview of how the different Nordic countries developed from pagan Viking principalities to Christian kingdoms. The lecture includes examples of what the medieval Scandinavians thought about the conversion of their ancestors.

SCANDINAVIAN MEDIEVAL DRESS: CONTINUITY AND CHANGE

Michelle Nordtorp-Madsen, Ph.D., Chief Curator and Clinical Faculty, Department of Art History, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota

This presentation will trace the form and context of Scandinavian dress from the Migration Age to the High Medieval using images of some of the few extant European garments and accessories, including articles from bog graves, the cemetery at Birka, and Herjolfsnæs church yard in Greenland. How garment types, materials, and processes both held on to tradition and sought the fashion changes occurring elsewhere will be explored.

Saturday, Feb. 11, 2012

Preus-Brandt Forum

California Lutheran University

8:15 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. – 5:15 p.m. Program, Breaks and Lunch

VIKING TEMPLES TO VIKING CHURCHES: A MAJESTIC AND ELEGANT CONTRIBUTION TO WORLD ARCHITECTURE

Ernst F. Tonsing, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Department of Religion, California Lutheran University

The evolution of the construction of Christian stave churches in Scandinavia, from enclosures created by driving large posts into the ground to soaring structures with pagoda-like roofs and bells that rang up and down the fjords to call the faithful to worship, will be discussed. The speaker will illustrate this majestic and unique contribution to world church architecture with photographs taken on a recent trip to Scandinavia.

THE LATE MEDIEVAL CHURCH INTERIOR: THE ROOM AND ITS HOLY IMAGES

Lena Liepe, Ph.D., Department of Philosophy, Classics, History of Art and Ideas, University of Oslo, Norway

The design and layout of the typical church interior and the form and location of its imagery will be reviewed in the context of the ritual, liturgical and devotional performances enacted by the clergy and experienced by the lay members of the congregation.

Saturday continued

SAINTS AND LATE MEDIEVAL NORDIC POLITICS

Tracey Sands, Ph.D., Faculty of Theology, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Saints were a central aspect of medieval Nordic—Roman Catholic—religion. Because the Middle Ages knew no division between the religious and secular realms of life, the representation and veneration of saints at times had a role to play on the political scene. The speaker will discuss examples of how saints were represented—or called upon—in support of various political causes and positions during the contentious period of the Kalmar Union, when a single monarch ruled the kingdoms of Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

MEDIEVAL STATUES IN ACTION

Thomas A. DuBois, Ph.D., Department of Scandinavian Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Medieval religious statues can look serene and static but in fact, they were remarkably mobile as they were imported and relocated, presented, altered, appealed to, updated and replaced over the course of centuries. The rich trove of surviving medieval statuary in the Nordic region as reflections of religious ideals, artistic careers, and international commerce in the five centuries prior to the Reformation will be surveyed in this illustrated presentation.

CHARMING SCANDINAVIA: WORD POWER, MAGIC AND TRADITION IN THE NORDIC WORLD

Stephen Mitchell, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Scandinavian and Folklore, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Word magic—*besvärjelser*, *trollformler*, *ålög* and so on—was long an important tool in the survival kit of those who lived in early northern Europe. In his comments the speaker will discuss who used it, how they did it, and what it means.

Saturday Evening

Scandinavian Center

26 Faculty Road, Thousand Oaks

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Social Hour

Lundring Events Center

California Lutheran University

7:00 p.m. Dinner and Entertainment

Serenading with Bassoon, Accordion and Piano through Finnish Music!

Terhi Miikki-Broersma, Lyndon, Washington

M.Mus., Sibelius Academy, Helsinki, Finland

Finlandia Foundation National Performer of the Year, 2009

The organizers reserve the right to make any changes that may be necessary.

*Reservation deadline for Saturday Lunch and Dinner: January 27, 2012
Lunch and dinner seating is limited. Other campus dining is available.*

Early registration deadline: January 19, 2012

*For information contact C. Allan Carlson, (805) 778-0162 or email
seeallan@hotmail.com.*

Reservation deadline for Saturday Lunch and Dinner: January 27, 2012

	General Admission	Quantity	SACHF Members	Quantity	Students CLU Faculty/Staff	Quantity	Total
Friday & Saturday Program	\$55 (\$50 by Jan. 19)		\$40 (\$35 by Jan. 19)		Free registration		\$
Friday Program Only	\$20 (\$15 by Jan. 19)		\$15		Free registration		\$
Friday Gala Reception	\$10		\$10		\$10		\$
Saturday Program Only	\$40 (\$35 by Jan. 19)		\$30 (\$25 by Jan. 19)		Free registration		\$
Saturday Luncheon (limited seating; tax & service included)	\$12		\$12		\$12		\$
Saturday Dinner (limited seating; tax & service included) Indicate choice: ___ Petite Filet Mignon ___ Grilled Salmon ___ Vegetarian	\$30		\$30		\$30		\$
Please enroll me (us) as SACHF members, \$35 per individual, \$50 household							\$
Enclosed is my check payable to SACHF							\$

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