



# **INTERNATIONAL FORUM**

**OSLO, NORWAY**

**April**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
**04/2017**

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**Number 420**



# INTERNATIONAL FORUM

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## Forum Diary

| DATE   | EVENT                                      | TIME  | PAGE |
|--------|--|-------|------|
| May 4  | Architecture Walk in Ullevål Hageby        | 12:15 | 11   |
| May 8  | Monthly Meeting                            | 18:45 | 6    |
| May 9  | Fransiskushjelpen and St Hallvard's Church | 10:45 | 8    |
| May 29 | Visit to the EU Delegation                 | 14:20 | 7    |

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## From the President



Dear members,

When you read this *Newsletter*, Easter will be over, but the International Forum will still have many interesting events that you can look forward to.

Because of Easter, we had no monthly meeting this month. I therefore hope that you all are looking forward to the May meeting! The subject is something that should interest all of us, whether we have children or not, grandchildren or children of friends or families. Marit Bakkevig, a renowned public prosecutor, will talk to us about some of the dangers facing children who navigate the Internet. Sexual abuse over the internet has become a problem that did not exist when we were young. It is important for all of us to understand what children can be exposed to online, and how the Norwegian Prosecution Authority handles the problem.

In March, I attended the meeting in two of the Group Activities: the Golf Group and the Cooking Group. Unfortunately, I do not play golf – only tennis – but just to be at the Indoor Golf Centre at Snarøya and watch people practicing is fascinating. If any of you ever wish to try golf, just go there, have a coffee, watch the players, and try to hit a ball or two! Anne-Sofie Trosdahl-Oraug will be there to help you.

The cooking group took place at the Indonesian residence. It was a fantastic experience! Having lived one and a half year in Southeast Asia, I was reminded of that wonderful, delicious Indonesian food. *Thank you!* to Woro Yuwono for inviting me!

Please note that the Annual General Meeting will take place on June 12.

Let me end with some lyrics by Rolf Løvland:

*We sail out in the morning as the winter turns to spring  
Undestined and unknowing of what tomorrow brings  
Towards the blue horizon leaving all we have behind  
Our yearning hearts will guide us to find  
The dream we carry with us and hopes that we hold  
As we rise from the ash into gold  
We reach for the impossible - As unreal it may seem...  
Still, we sail across the ocean and follow the dream!*

So, have a wonderful spring: follow your dreams and leave your problems behind!

Siri S. Frigaard

## COMING EVENTS MONTHLY MEETING



### **National Prosecutor Marit Bakkevig: Sexual Abuse over the Internet**

Ms Bakkevig is a public prosecutor for the Oslo branch of the National Authority for Prosecution of Organised and other Serious Crime. The Public Prosecuting Authority is organised in 12 districts and includes the National Criminal Investigation Service (Kripos) and the Police Security Service (PST).

Most cases of felony are prosecuted by the Prosecuting Authority in the Police, but the cases that concern the most serious crimes are decided by the The Regional Public Prosecution Offices (PPO) or the Director of Public Prosecutions DPP and prosecuted by the PPO.

The National Authority for Prosecution of Organised and Other Serious Crime handles cases of serious organised crime, war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity. The National Authority for the Investigation and Prosecution of Economic and Environmental Crime deals with cases of serious economic crime and crimes against the environment.

Ms Bakkevig will talk about sexual abuse over the Internet, a phenomenon that has become a growing concern over the last few years, often involving very young victims.

DATE/TIME: Monday, **May 8** at **18:45** for (19:00)

*For more information, please contact the IF Office.*

## INVITATION FROM H.E. HELEN CAMPBELL The European Union's Ambassador to Norway



The Ambassador of the European Union, H.E. Helen Campbell, has kindly invited our members to visit the Delegation of the European Union in Oslo on May 29 at 14:30.

Ambassador Campbell has served in her post in Norway since October 2013 and has played an active role in building and widening the relations between the EU and Norway, relations through which the EEA Agreement directly or indirectly is influencing the everyday life of most of the inhabitants of Norway.

The Ambassador is now preparing to leave Oslo at the end of her term. At this time, she would be happy to share with us experiences from her work in this country and her thoughts about the European Union, present and future.

After her talk, there will be a short Q & A session, followed by coffee, tea and light refreshments.

DATE/TIME: **May 29 at 14:30.** We kindly ask that you arrive **by 14:20** and are **seated by 14:25.**

*For more information, please contact the IF Office.*

### SPECIAL EVENTS

#### **Visit to Fransiskushjelpen in Oslo and to St. Hallvard's Church and Monastery**

On May 9, the Special Events Committee will take us to Enerhaugen at Tøyen. It is here that Fransiskushjelpen in Oslo has its office next door to St. Hallvard's Catholic Church and Monastery.

Fransiskushjelpen is a non-profitable charitable organisation which assists the seriously ill and dying who want to remain at home. It also has an outreach programme for homeless people in Oslo.

When the organisation was started in 1956 by Brita Collett Paus, it was based on voluntary work. Today, Fransiskushjelpen has both paid staff and voluntary workers, depending on the type of assistance needed. They work according to the teaching of Francis of Assisi, but neither the employees nor those who receive help have to be religious or the adherents of any religion. One of the head nurses, Karen Riddervold, will tell us all about their work in Oslo.

After the visit to the Fransiskushjelpen, we shall meet a representative from St. Hallvard's Church and Monastery.



This church – not far from the ruins of the medieval St. Hallvard's Cathedral – is the largest Roman Catholic parish in Norway today. The Church and Monastery was designed by the architects Lund & Slaatto. The compound has three sections: the monastery, the parish section, and the church, around a central circular church room. It has three floors and is built of brick and concrete – both outside and inside, where it emerges with its raw surface.

The church attracted much attention in academic circles when it was completed in 1966. It earned several architectural awards. From the outside, the building is square, stern and introspective. The heart of building, however, where the church is located, is circular and connects with the square monastery building. The ceiling of the church room 'hangs down' and is at its lowest where a church ceiling is traditionally the highest. St. Hallvard's Church is the Catholic parish church for people in eastern Oslo and was run by the Franciscans until September 1, 2008.

DATE/TIME: **May 9 at 10:45** (for 11:00)

PLACE: St. Hallvard's Church and Monastery, Enerhauggata 4, 0651 Oslo

*For more information, please contact the IF Office.*

## **THE ART COMMITTEE**

### **Architecture walk in Ullevål Hageby**

The Art Committee invites you to a spring architectural walk at Ullevål Hageby. Built between 1915 and 1922 as the city's first garden city, Ullevål Hageby was planned as a new urban development north west of Oslo alongside the new tram line to connect the centre with the University campus of Blindern and the University Hospital. With its typical English inspired architecture and beautiful gardens, Ullevål Hageby is one of the hidden treasures of Oslo!





The tour will start at John Colletts Plass and end at Damplassen where it will be possible to buy lunch or refreshments. The tour will be guided by IF and Art Committee member Chloé Turlotte.

DATE/TIME: Thursday, **May 4 at 12:15** (for 12.30)

*For more information, please contact the IF Office.*

## ACTIVITIES

### Cooking Group

A big *Thank you!* to Woro and her chef and all the helping hands for a fantastic Indonesian cooking morning. The chef demonstrated three very good and flavourful dishes for us. Some of us even tried making spring rolls (*lumpia*).



The next cooking morning, after Easter, is going to be at my home.

TIME: Thursday, **April 27** at 12:00.

Liss Laan

*For more information, please contact the IF Office.*

## **Indoor Golf**

The Indoor Golf Group has resumed activities. We usually start with a cup of coffee. We have a special price for balls, and private lessons can be arranged. All levels of golfers are welcome – also beginners– so, please do come along!

**TIME:** Thursdays at 10:30

**PLACE:** Fornebu Indoor Golf Centre, Snarøyveien 69, 1367 Snarøya  
(the old aircraft hangar)

**CONTACT:** **Anne-Sofie Trosdahl-Oraug:**

*For more information, please contact the IF Office.*

## **Monthly Wednesday Bridge**

The next monthly bridge will be held on Wednesday, May 10, at 10:30 at the home of Bodil Evensen. Inger Støtvig.

*For more information, please contact the IF Office.*

## **\*\*\* New Book Club \*\*\***

We have now a new Book Club, as the International Book Club cannot take in more participants for at present. If you are interested in participating in this New Book Club, which also will focus on worldwide literature in English, please contact Signe Lise Howell. *For more information, please contact the IF Office.*

Anita Solheim



## Forum Singers

May 31, 2017, at 19:00

**Vestre Aker Menighetshus**

Ullevålsveien 117



Wenche Foss



Vera Lynn



Ella Fitzgerald

This year we will be paying tribute to three talented ladies, all born in 1917: Wenche Foss, Ella Fitzgerald and Vera Lynn, who represented their countries with grace and dignity. Vera Lynn is still with us and celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with a concert at the London Palladium in March this year. Our programme will include some of the songs made famous by these ladies.

We will sing a variety of songs, and our conductor, Eva Landro, who sings in Det Norske Solistkor, and her pianist, Margrete Moen Birkedal, will treat us to some solos. As usual, a delicious buffet – with wine – will be served after the concert.

Price: NOK 200,-/Children (under 15) NOK 50,-.

Rosemary Hauge

## *R E P O R T S*

### **MONTHLY MEETING**

#### **Report March Monthly Meeting**

At the March Monthly Meeting, Mr. Per Ritzler from the Norwegian Public Roads Administration spoke about the National Tourist Routes in Norway. There are many beautiful panoramic roads in Norway, and eighteen of them were selected by the Administration for a special project because of their particularly picturesque scenery and tourist-friendly infrastructure. The routes cover more than 1,850 kilometres along the West Coast, in Northern Norway, and in the mountainous areas of Southern Norway.

‘There are scenic roads elsewhere in the world. However, what makes these roads unique is the use of spectacular architecture and art. No one else has ever done quite the same thing,’ says Per Ritzler.

The project included the construction of service buildings and cafes, rest stops, parking spaces, viewpoints and the clearing of vegetation. Sometimes building paths and viewpoints in the mountains was extremely challenging, and for some sites *Sherpas* from Nepal were hired to help carry the heavy materials. Several of the best Norwegian architects and designers have contributed to the projects. A few foreigners have been involved as well, among them French-American artist Louise Bourgeois, who works with large-scale sculpture and installations, and Swiss architect Peter Zumthor.



Rondane



Allmannajuvet close to Sauda – Public toilets

The project started in 1994 and will be finish around 2022/2023, at a cost of approximately NOK 3.5 billion. In comparison, the Oslo Opera cost around NOK 4 billion.

Mr. Ritzler spoke very enthusiastically about the different roads, showed beautiful pictures, and told us about the different installations, artwork, and not the least – the spectacular public toilets in the service buildings. Most had a splendid view from the bathroom, and people could be tempted to use longer time than usual to finish their business.

The audience were given many great suggestions for the coming holidays. Leaflets will be distributed at the May Monthly Meeting. For more information, see: [www.nasjonaleturistveger.no](http://www.nasjonaleturistveger.no)

Laila Hægh and Lillian Akcora

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

### **Norway Designs, not just a shop!**

In the morning of a bright spring day in March, twenty-two design hunters met at the Norway Designs shop and office in the centre of Oslo. Some of us had already been there, but only on the first floor, without knowing what treasures were under our feet. We were warmly greeted by the keeper of this treasure, the shop manager, Mr. Trond Kinn. Together with him, we found ourselves back in the 50's.

The Norway Designs shop was established by Per Tannum in 1957 with a vision of creating a centre for the best quality design furniture, textiles and handicrafts produced in Norway. His career started with his own small furniture store in 1933, when he was 21 years old. In 1966, thirty-three years later, he was awarded the Royal Order of Saint Olav, First Class, for promoting Norwegian handicraft at home and abroad.

In order to move forward his Norwegian production, he opened Tannum Møbler in Stortingsgata, 28 in 1938. Per Tannum took the initiative to establish the first Norwegian credit card company – Bokkredit Kjøpekort AS – for his customers in 1942. Credit was especially important in the difficult times after World War II. Mr Tannum worked to increase the export of Norwegian interior products and arranged the trade exhibition ‘Norway Designs for Living’ in Chicago in 1951. His Majesty King Olav V personally opened the exhibition. This exhibition and those following until 1953 gave rise to Norway Designs, a company that strives to sell products with high quality, good functionality and modern design. That was Per Tannum's basic idea, which has been continued by the third generation of the Tannum family.

The swinging 60's marked a strong breakthrough for Nordic design. Some designs have become a symbol of the whole era, such as Unikko – a printed fabric with a poppy pattern in bold pink, red and black on white, created by the Finnish designer Maija Isola in 1964 for the textile and clothing company Marimekko. Her simple stylized design was typical of the 60's, but the astounding audacity of this pattern with the huge, brightly coloured flowers surprised many people. However, the design was not adopted right away.



Armi Ratia – the founder, owner and creative leader of Marimekko – loved bright colours but had decided that the company should *not* produce fabrics with floral patterns. She believed that the natural beauty of flowers would deteriorate if they were printed on fabric. Nevertheless, Maija Isola resolutely trusted her own intuition and created a floral pattern. Armi Ratia liked it and immediately put this fabric into production. She hired a friend to sew simple shift dresses of the material.

At the first fashion show the crowd went wild buying the clothes almost straight off the models' backs. In 1957, the company was invited to show their products at the upscale Rinascente store in Milan, at the invitation of the fashion show manager Giorgio Armani. Thereafter, Jackie Kennedy bought seven dresses and was pictured on the cover of *Sports Illustrated* in a red sleeveless dress. She wore the shift dresses throughout the United States presidential campaign. Unikko fabric became the bestseller of all times.

In the 1960's, exciting things happened with Nordic Design. The architect Arne Jacobsen was one of Denmark's most influential modern designers and a pioneer of minimalist Danish style. His creations included furniture, lighting, textiles and silverware. But he is best known for his elegant yet functional chair designs. The extraordinary thinking of the architect and designer is reflected in many of the objects created by Arne Jacobsen. In the 1960s, he turned to geometric forms: circles, triangles, cylinders and cubes.



For Stelton, he created the famous Cylinda Line collection, including coasters, cocktail shakers, coffee and teapots and sugar bowls. It took three years to develop the full series which was finally launched in 1967. The

line consists of crisp, minimalistic, stainless cylinders, complemented by elegant detail in the long spouts and sculpted handles.

Apparently, in the beginning, the sales of the Cylinda Line were so low that the owner of Stelton had to send his wife to the shops in Copenhagen to buy the sets. The always considerate Arne Jacobsen offered to use a martini mixer from the set for making soups. 'We drink more soup than alcohol,' he claimed. Nevertheless, the Cylinda Line later won many international design awards.

Grete Prytz Kittelsen is regarded as 'the queen' of Scandinavian design. She came from a long line of Norwegian jewellers and was said to be born with design in her blood. In 1960, she transformed the Norwegian kitchen tables from dull grey to something pleurably elegant and colourful, when she introduced the Stripes Collection by Cathrineholm. The steel bowls are hand-painted in original colours. The bowls are burned at high temperature for lasting durability. Her designs are inspired by American art, characterized by clear, plain colours and simple shapes.



Cathrineholm of Norway has continued its original vivid colour scale, just like the one launched in the 1960's. The organic and timeless forms of Grete Prytz Kittelsen continue to match modern products. Her functional and comfortable design can always find a worthy place in the kitchen and adorn any table. The three jewels of Nordic design – Unikko, the Cylinda Line and the Stripes



Collection – shown to us by Trond Kinn are still produced and continue to sell successfully today.

This year, Norway Designs commemorates its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a supplier of Norwegian and Nordic design. This spring, Norway Designs in cooperation with Blomqvist Online Auction will celebrate the anniversary – first with an exhibition from May 4 to June 1. Subsequently, they will auction off a number of interesting design objects from the Per Tannum PLUS collection. A second exhibition will be held in October 2017 at Norway Designs (NÅ Vol. 4) as a result of a long collaboration between designers and manufacturers. The collaboration has provided a fertile ground for new products and collections that we can buy at Norway Designs.

Just as it did 60 years ago, the shop represents jewellery, glass products, ceramics, clothing and textiles that reflect the pure aesthetics of the North.

However, something new has appeared at the shop: a stationery and office supplies department was opened quite recently. This successful project attracts Norwegian designers, who supply the shop with different kinds of handmade paper, wrapping paper, tools and other accessories that can be used for paper art. For example, Stefan Paper AS offers products with frugal and holistic patterns. Today, this design is in high demand.

Wedding invitations and greeting cards made by the sender are not only in fashion, but also very moving. How delightful it is for an addressee to receive a hand-made invitation, hold it in his or her hand, feel its importance, and smile warmly. If you buy stationery at the shop, as a bonus, you will be offered to make your own objects using the on-site machines and get professional help from the friendly staff – absolutely free of charge. After a brief introduction to textured paper and parchment, we got the opportunity to see the process of creating a post-card using a press machine.

At the end of our tour, Trond Kinn presented us with lovely gifts. Our hunt was successfully over. Each of us received a lovely gift: a Georg Jensen cake server. *Many thanks!* to the Special Events Committee for organizing a visit to this amazing place!

Irina Ilnitskaya

## **ART COMMITTEE**

### **The Great Graphic Boom**

On Thursday, March 16, twenty members of the International Forum attended a guided tour of an exhibition at the National Gallery on American graphic art from the 1960s to the 1990s. The exhibition is a collaboration between the National Museum and the Staatsgalerie in Stuttgart, which holds Europe's largest collection of graphic art.



Works by twenty-five well known artists are on display at the exhibition and we were fortunate to see some that have become famous, for instance, Andy Warhol's Campbell's soup cans and his fascinating portrayals of Elizabeth Taylor and Jaqueline Kennedy, amongst others.

Our guide pointed out to us a print donated to the National Museum's collection by Jasper Johns in honour of Queen Sonja, who is also active in graphic arts and printmaking. We were also told that Jasper Johns was very inspired by Edward Munch.

Thanks are due to the Art Committee for this excellent opportunity to see art works by some of the leading pop and graphic artists of the post-war period; artists who wanted to bring the real world into the arts. Thanks also to our guide, curator Lin Stafne-Pfisterer.

Kathleen Monsen

**Issued by the Board of the International Forum**

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