



# **INTERNATIONAL FORUM**

**OSLO, NORWAY**

**May**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
**05/2017**

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**Number 421**



# INTERNATIONAL FORUM

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## Forum Diary

DATE	EVENT	TIME	PAGE
May 29	Visit to the EU Delegation	14:20	4
June 12	Annual General Meeting	17:45	3, 7-9
September 19	Aas Gaard and Raasjøen Hunting Lodge		5

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## COMING EVENTS

### 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

**NB. Please note the date!**

### Day Trip to Aas Gaard Manor and Raasjøen Hunting Lodge in Hakadal, September 19, 2017



The Manor



The Hunting Lodge

The Special Events annual bus trip will take place in September. Our destination this time is the countryside and forests of Hakadal in the hills of Romerike just north of Oslo, where we will visit the two Fearnley estates: the stately and historical Aas Gaard (the manor), and the ‘fairy-tale’ hunting lodge in the forest, Raasjøen jaktslott. The present owner, Thomas N. Fearnley, will be our host. He will guide us round his lovely property and share its history with us.

More details about this exciting trip, **and** the signing up instructions, will appear in the August *Newsletter*. Please note the date: **Tuesday, September 19**, and be prepared to sign up!

Special Events Committee

## ACTIVITIES

### Cooking Group

I presented three dishes to my guests: soup, Greek moussaka and cheese cake. These dishes were, apparently, very much enjoyed!



The next cooking session, the last of this season, is going to take place at Inger Støtvig's.

DATE/TIME: Friday, **June 9** at 12:30 (**Note the time**) Liss R. Laan

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



## Forum Singers

May 31, 2017, at 19:00

### Vestre Aker Menighetshus

NOK 200,-/Children (under 15) NOK 50,-

Ullevålsveien 117

This year we will be paying tribute to three talented ladies, all born in 1917: Wenche Foss, Ella Fitzgerald and Vera Lynn, who all represented their countries with grace and dignity. Our programme will include some songs that these ladies made famous. As usual, a delicious buffet – with wine – will be served after the concert.



Wenche Foss

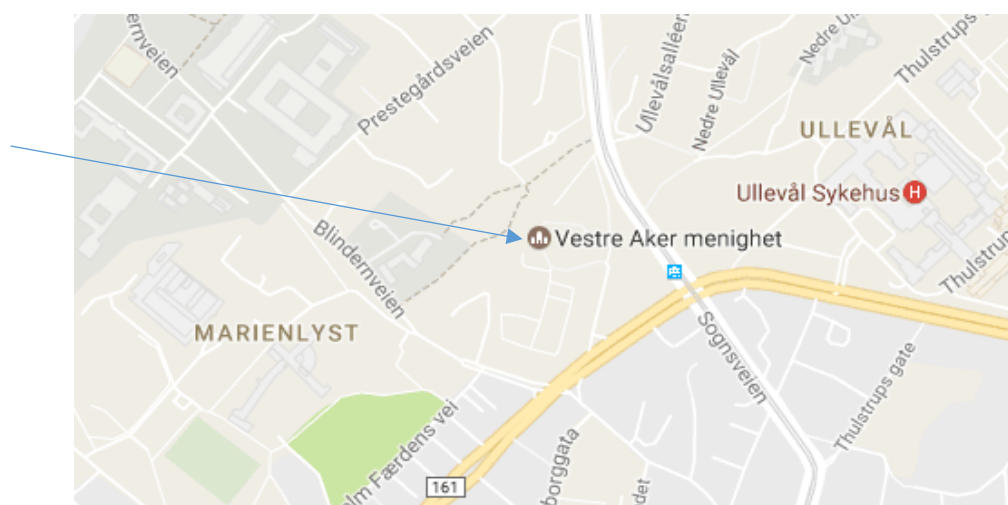


Vera Lynn



Ella Fitzgerald

**NB!** Vestre Aker Menighetshus is accessed from Kirkeveien (the parish hall is located in the grounds of Vestre Aker Kirke, immediately behind the church). See map below. There is plenty of parking space in front of the Menighetshus and in the church grounds.



Public Transport: Trams 17 and 18 and busses 20, 25 and 28

For more information, please see the *April Newsletter*.

## June Monthly Wednesday Bridge

**Please note the day!**

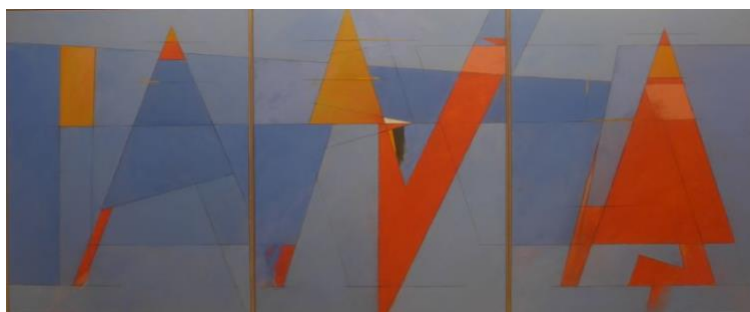
The next Monthly Bridge will take place on **Tuesday, June 13** at 10:30. Our hostess is Eli Kristvik,

You are most welcome! Inger Støtvig

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

## REPORT

### Visit to Henie Onstad Art Centre Irma Salo Jæger retrospective *On a warm day*



Irma Salo Jæger is a Finnish-born (1928) artist who lives in the shadow of her Norwegian contemporaries, Jakob Weidemann, Inger Sitter and Gunnar S. Gundersen. Almost no art history books in Norway include her name, and very few people have heard of her. Is this because she is a foreigner, even though she has lived all her adult life in Norway; or alternatively – has her more classical approach to form and colour been ignored compared to the expressive splashes of her contemporaries?

Either way, this retrospective is way overdue and very welcome. We feared that the turnout from IF might be poor, but nineteen curious members turned up, and our wonderful guide, Karen, gave us a morning to remember!

The clue to Salo Jæger's art is that she is a researcher of colours: the building blocks of nature. She says herself that without colour the world would be all grey, as is the last work in the exhibition.

The exhibition begins with a handful of figurative works, of which the cat was much appreciated by our group, but Salo Jæger moves quickly away from figurative art and into an investigative brown period, using colours that emit the least light. The images become smoother and smoother, and using paper patterns she chooses where to place the interaction of colours. Thin layers are painted on top of each other, resulting in new subtle colour combinations.



Moving into a red, and then green period, in large format, the huge works begin to shine at us. These were first shown at an exhibition that she held at Kunstnernes Hus in 1968. Sculptures of light and movement shone in the bright space, and all the titles made up a poem culminating in a proposal for a world flag. Peace to be found in the harmony of colour.

Salo Jæger found her true style in the 70s. Geometric forms placed in tight composition, mostly red, yellow or blue, create an abstract structure in space that compares to music. Using masking tape and paper cuttings, these large canvases merge architecture and colour into smooth surfaces of harmony that are restful to the eye, despite the bright colour.

Classicism has always been outdone by the baroque, but artists of each epoch return to the classicists to seek out the real foundation of nature. That is Irma Salo Jæger's place in Norwegian art: A warm day of harmony.

Our thanks to Trudy for her role in organising this event!

Jane Steenbuch

## *AROUND OSLO*

### **Hønse-Lovisa's Culture Café**

Tuesday to Sunday from 11:00 to 16:00



Hønse-Lovisa's Culture Café is a place where the old Christiania meets modern Oslo. The Café hosts exhibitions and concerts and is a lovely place along the river Akerselva. When the weather permits, it is possible to enjoy a coffee outside, surrounded by the sound of the rapids and waterfalls.

The Café is named after the main character in a novel by Oskar Braaten, a generous and courageous women who helped the children of the women who

worked in the textile industry in what used to be a very poor and destitute neighbourhood.

There is one exhibition at the moment, called *Animals (Dyr)*, which depicts animals in and around Oslo. This exhibition runs until May 22.

**Karl Ove Knausgaard and Munch**  
‘Towards the Forest’

**May 6 to October 8 at the Munch Museum**



The exhibition *Mot Skogen - Knausgård om Munch* (‘Towards the Forest’), curated by the famous Norwegian writer Karl Ove Knausgård, explores the span of Edvard Munch’s art, creative joyfulness and madness, without using the more iconic of his works of art.

Karl Ove Knausgård has – in his books – demonstrated a particular ability to grasp the essence of art and art’s ability to convey feelings which usually remain unspoken. He does so without respecting the usual chronological order of Munch’s painting or his life crises.

‘I wanted to show some of Munch’s art work that has not been displayed before, in order to illustrate how Munch as an artist never settled in one expressions; one who never managed to remain motionless’, says Knausgård.

The exhibition takes the visitor on a journey from the light and harmonious to the dark and chaotic – and back to a more controllable reality. With his selection of works, Knausgård gives the viewer a new perspective on the power of the painter’s artistic world.

More than 100 paintings and graphic works are on display. The objective is not to give light to each piece, but to build a cohesive impression as one wanders from one room to the next.

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

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