

Nordic Literature and Canonization

DINO 2020 Conference



University of Southern Denmark
October 28-30, 2020
www.sdu.dk/dino2020

DINO 2020 Conference

Nordic Literature and Canonization

University of Southern Denmark 28-30 October 2020

We are pleased to announce that the network **Diversity in Nordic Literature** (DINO) will be hosting its 7th conference at the Department for the Study of Culture at the University of Southern Denmark in Odense, October 28-30, 2020.

With this year's conference theme, we focus on the Nordic literary canon traditions and debates with the aim to explore how and with what effects the literary and cultural canonization processes are staged and framed on political levels, in educational contexts and in Nordic everyday lives.

While canons are frequently presented as relatively homogenous (re-)presentations of the core values and collective identity in specific societies (nations), the debates about canon constructions point to significant examples of how inclusions of some groups always depend on exclusions of others.

Call for papers

Call for papers is now open. See and download the call [here](#).

Deadline for abstracts is 26 June 2020. Please send your abstract to akbom@sdu.dk

Keynote Speakers

Anne Marie Mai, professor at University of Southern Denmark

Jeanette Ehlers, performance artist

Jacob Stougaard-Nielsen, senior lecturer, University College London

Program and registration

See sdu.dk/dino2020 for information about the programme and to register.

Registration ends 14 August 2020.

Organizers

The conference is organized by the DINO steering committee and by associate professor Anne Klara Bom akbom@sdu.dk and assistant professor Torsten Bøgh Thomsen tbt@sdu.dk, both affiliated with [The Hans Christian Andersen Centre](#), Department for the Study of Culture, SDU. For practical matters, please contact the project coordinator at the centre, Anne Høgedal anhoe@sdu.dk.

The conference has received funding from The Nordic Culture Fund and Nordic Culture Point.

Keynote Speakers



*Anne Marie Mai
Professor, University of
Southern Denmark*

A never-ending quarrel - the Nordic Canon

Do we have a Nordic Canon? Only a few Nordic literary histories have been published. The latest and largest one is *Nordic Women's Literature*, published in 1993-1998 and 2017, ed. by Elisabeth Møller Jensen et al. and by Anne-Marie Mai.

The six volumes of Nordic Women's literature were attempts to challenge and change the national canons of the Nordic countries that for centuries had excluded female authors. The idea was to document the richness of women's literature and the diversity of the representation of gender in the literature of the Nordic countries. It was obvious to the researchers involved in the project that the Nordic approach would reveal the exclusion of women's literature in the traditional national contexts and make new comparative studies possible and transcend the limits of the traditional national literary history. Another source that might lead to an understanding of a Nordic canon is the literary Prize of the Nordic Council. For decades the prize was dominated by very established male authors, writing books on topics from the national histories of the Nordic countries. The Nordic Prize was challenged 1979 by a group of women who nominated Märta Tikkanen for a Nordic Women's literature Prize. Is the concept of Nordic literature still relevant to literary studies and is the quarrel on a Nordic canon still going on? The lecture will discuss these questions.



*Jeannette Ehlers
Performance Artist*

Counter Narratives

I will present a selection of my artistic practice which is characterized by a poetic approach to art and to specific themes centered around the heritage after and the break with the colonial world view and its Eurocentric gaze that affects our society. It is my intention to contribute with an alternative way of writing history through works of art that illustrate and critically relate to the dark sides of modernity and its brutal history from different perspectives.



*Jakob Stougaard-Nielsen
Senior Lecturer, University
College London*

Nordic noir: the criminal periphery of world literature

Before Stieg Larsson and Nordic noir there was very little interest in crime fiction in translation in the English-speaking world. Arguably, the publishing and television success of Nordic noir has been influential in challenging an established canon of crime fiction and promoting a wider interest in translated literature in the UK. However, in the process of internationalisation, a canon of Scandinavian crime fiction has itself been moulded following deep-set and changing cultural imagologies of what constitutes the "Nordic". This lecture will explore how and at what cost a Nordic "criminal periphery" has been shaped into a successful regional brand abroad.

Programme

Wednesday, October 28

Venue: *The Hans Christian Andersen Centre, Odense Convent of Noble Maidens, Albanigade 6, 5000 Odense C*

17.00 - 19.00 Informal registration and welcoming reception

Thursday, October 29

Venue: *University of Southern Denmark, Campusvej 55, 5230 Odense M*

8.45 - 9.30	Registration and coffee
9.30 - 10.00	Opening words by associate professor Anne Klara Bom and assistant professor Torsten Bøgh Thomsen, SDU
10.00 - 11.00	Keynote Anne-Marie Mai, professor at SDU: <i>"A never-ending quarrel – the Nordic Canon"</i>
11.00 - 11.20	Coffee break
11.20 - 12.50	Paper sessions
12.50 - 14.00	Lunch
14.00 - 15.00	Keynote Jeannette Ehlers, performance artist: <i>"Counter Narratives"</i>
15.00 - 15.20	Coffee break
15.20 - 16.50	Paper sessions
19.00	Conference dinner

Friday, October 30

Venue: *University of Southern Denmark, Campusvej 55, 5230 Odense M*

10.00 - 10.30	Coffee
10.30 - 12.00	Paper sessions
12.00 - 13.00	Lunch
13.00 - 14.00	Keynote Jakob Stougaard-Nielsen, senior lecturer at University College London: <i>"Nordic Noir: the criminal periphery of world literature"</i>
14.00 - 14.30	Debate and closing words by associate professor Anne Klara Bom, SDU
14.45-15.45	DINO steering committee meeting