



The REYKJAVÍK GRAPEVINE

REYKJAVÍK CULTURE NIGHT
FULL SCHEDULE



YOUR FREE COPY > THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO LIFE, TRAVEL & ENTERTAINMENT IN ICELAND

Issue Nº 12 – August 14 – August 27 – 2009

www.grapevine.is

+ COMPLETE CITY LISTINGS – INSIDE!



Everyone Loves Some múm

+ Prostitution In Iceland: **Yes, Prostitution In Iceland**

Riceboy Sleeps: **Jónsi And Alex Like It Raw**

The EU VS Iceland's Fishing Industry: **What Will Change?**

Declaring Independence With Greenland: **Life In Nuuk**

+ **Complete Reykjavík Listings** > Lots Of Cool Events

Opinions!

Reviews!

Comix!

Everyone's favourite experimental electro/pop/whatever outfit, múm, are about to release their sixth LP, Sing Along To Songs You Don't Know. Founding members Örvar and Gunni tell the Grapevine about the band, about the album, and how the January revolution broke their hearts. **PG. 16.**

Haukur's 12th Editorial!

An Expat Writes



For some reason, I don't have a lot to say this time around. No witty comments or clever analyses to espouse. If there ever were any. However, I did recently receive an interesting letter from a friend of the Grapevine's. I dug what it said, so I asked Friend if I could print it. Friend said it was alright, as long as long as I didn't give out her name. So I translated it for you all to read. Here it is:

"Dear Haukur and the Grapevine crew,

How are you guys? It seems like I haven't seen you all in ages, even if it's only been a couple of months since I left the country. How are things anyway? I like keeping up with what's happening on your website, and I do read the paper on line. You guys have been doing an OK job since I left. I like a lot of what you print; it makes me feel like I'm back at KB, browsing through a fresh copy over a cold one. Also, the letters are always fun. Good to see Andy Saur is back in action.

Anyway, I was reading over your last editorial (from issue 11) and I felt the urge to share some of my thoughts with you, something you said there really resonated with me and sort of made me reflect on why I left in the first place and my feelings about the whole collapse thing.

I understand why you got bored of covering that, by the way. It's a boring, boring topic. And you do get angry when you think about it. Pissed off, in fact. Anyway, the following passage struck a cord with me especially, when you say that: "...what we have is the result of what the majority of us asked for, what

the majority of us voted for, approved of, condoned and cheered on. Not me, ever, but that's how democracy works. [...] it's not like they weren't being warned, again and again. It's not like our corrupt system wasn't evidently and obviously so – it was. Probably still is."

As I said, it made me think pretty hard about why I chose to leave, and why I'm not sure I'll be returning anytime soon. All of the sudden it dawned on me that I've been feeling out of step with Icelandic society and its values for a long, long time. It's not that I don't like the people or our general way of going about things – I really do. I like the can-do spirit, the go-for-it attitude, the not thinking anything through, necessarily. The crazy scramble to finish a job, staying up for a week working hours on end before stumbling out and getting drunk for another week.

I like how people are kind of rude, how they bump into you and how not every single person you meet tries to make small talk and exchange meaningless banter, feigning a smile and an interest in who you are and what you're doing for two seconds (this is an especially popular activity here in the US). I like the landscape and our schools and our TV shows that aren't reality TV shows.

So it's nothing like that. I like the people, and I am proud of a lot of what we as a nation have stood for over the years. I am by no means a self-hating Iclander (if such a thing even exist, I feel we may be too full of ourselves to ever appreciate the subtle art of self-hate). I just feel hopelessly out of step. And I've

felt that way for a long time. I feel no one out there is speaking on my behalf. I feel my own views and opinions, my values and needs, that they haven't been represented in public life by... by anyone. For as long as I can remember, for all of my 27 years. Nothing. And those who try and speak them or something of the like get laughed off the stage or ignored.

Remember: every single person who opposed privatisation and corporate interest and smelting and didn't necessarily like where we were headed as a society back in the nineties and early 2000s – they were laughed off or ignored. Or considered jealous or crazy. "Do you want to return to the trawler?" They'd say. "Do you think we can live off eating grass and mountain herbs?"

(What's ironic here is that the policies those people supported have brought us closer to working on a trawler, eating mountain herbs, than anyone even thought possible).

I haven't supported any of the governments we've had since I started following politics back in 1993. Not a one.

I mean, fuck. It's like every single decision made by every single ruling party in Iceland has been in direct opposition with my views on the subject. Every time! They built Smáralind. Everyone loves it. I don't love it. I hate it. They tried their best to demolish our social welfare system. They privatized everything to fuck. They make silly highways all over the city that make it impossible to get around on foot or bike. They hunt whale. They build aluminium smelters. They give tax breaks for corporations and banksters. They... they declared war on Iraq! Fucking Iceland fucking declared war on a sovereign nation!

Their favourite singer is Bubbi (or maybe Bono), their favourite food is KFC or McDonalds and their favourite show is Icelandic American Idol.

So yeah, I'm glad I left. It's not that things are much better here in the US – believe me they are NOT. USA also loves Bono and McDonalds and American Idol, and they also declared war on Iraq. But at least there are many, many people living. This makes room for diversity of opinion, it enables someone like myself to identify with a group of people numbering in the hundreds of thousands. I feel part of something, and I feel free to form my own opinions and identity. I feel they are respected, even by those that do not agree. This is important to me.

I don't know what any of this means, or why I decided to write and share this with you. I guess I just felt like voicing my opinion for once. And I do miss a lot of things about home (including you guys).

See you soon,"



Cover Photo:
Hörður Sveinsson
hordursveinsson.com

Printed by Landsprent ehf. in 25,000 copies.

THE REYKJAVÍK GRAPEVINE
Hafnarstræti 15, 101 Reykjavík
www.grapevine.is
grapevine@grapevine.is
Published by Fróken ehf.

EDITORIAL:
+354 540 3600 / editor@grapevine.is
ADVERTISING:
+354 540 3605 / ads@grapevine.is
PUBLISHER:
+354 540 3601 / publisher@grapevine.is

PUBLISHER:
Hilmar Steinn Grétarsson
hilmar@grapevine.is

EDITOR:
Haukur S Magnússon
haukur@grapevine.is

JOURNALIST:
Catharine Fulton / catharine@grapevine.is

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS:
Sigurður K Kristinnsson
sigurdur@grapevine.is
Florian Zühlke / florian@grapevine.is
Sindri Eldon
Marc Vincenz / mysticmarc@gmail.com
Ian Watson
Eiríkur Örn Norðdahl
Dr. Gunni
Hildur Knútsdóttir
Hugleikur Dagsson
Lóa Hjálmtýsdóttir
Ragnar Jón Hrólfsson
Quentin Bates
Bergrún Anna Hallsteinsdóttir
Joe Shooman

FOOD EDITOR:
Sari Peltonen

EDITORIAL INTERNS:
Rebecca Louder / rlouder@grapevine.is

ON-LINE NEWS EDITOR
Paul Nikolov
paulnikolov@grapevine.is

ART DIRECTOR:
Hörður Kristbjörnsson
hoddi@grapevine.is
DESIGN:
Björn Lárus Arnórsson
PHOTOGRAPHER:
Julia Staples / juliastaples.com

MARKETING DIRECTOR:
Jón Trausti Sigurðarson
jontrausti@grapevine.is
SALES DIRECTOR:
Aðalsteinn Jörundsson
adalsteinn@grapevine.is
Guðmundur Rúnar Svansson
grs@grapevine.is
DISTRIBUTION:
Sæmundur Þór Helgason
distribution@grapevine.is
PROOFREADER:
Jim Rice

PRESS RELEASES:
listings@grapevine.is
SUBMISSIONS INQUIRIES:
editor@grapevine.is
SUBSCRIPTION INQUIRIES:
+354 540 3605 / subscribe@grapevine.is
GENERAL INQUIRIES: grapevine@grapevine.is

FOUNDERS:
Hilmar Steinn Grétarsson,
Hörður Kristbjörnsson,
Jón Trausti Sigurðarson,
Oddur Óskar Kjartansson,
Valur Gunnarsson

The Reykjavík Grapevine is published 18 times a year by Fróken Ltd. Monthly from November through April, and fortnightly from May til October. Nothing in this magazine may be reproduced in whole or in part without the written permission of the publishers. The Reykjavík Grapevine is distributed around Reykjavík, Akureyri, Egilsstaðir, Selfoss, Keflavík, Ísafjörður and at key locations along road #1, and all major tourist attractions and tourist information centres in the country.

You may not like it, but at least it's not sponsored. (No articles in the Reykjavík Grapevine are pay-for articles. The opinions expressed are the writers' own, not the advertisers').

gogeyoke presents:
GRAPEVINE GRASSROOTS # 6
SNORRI HELGASON
GNÚSI YONES & THE CRACKERS
CALF METHOD
/@ hemmi_og_valdi/friday
21.08.09./21:00/
FREE CONCERT.COM

The socks are knitted of Icelandic wool, which repels rain to remain feeling dry.



NEVER COLD – AUTHENTIC ICELANDIC ULLARSOKKAR

Choose from our assortment of traditional Icelandic wool products and the largest gift and souvenir selection in Iceland.

Visit our stores:
Geysir Haukadál, Selfoss. Tel: 480 6803
Geysir Hafnarstræti 5, 101 Reykjavík. Tel: 555 2808



GEYSIR

ICE WEAR

... for all conditions



½ zip pullover, fully lined

- Waterproof
- Breathable
- Patches on elnbows
- Two zippered front hand warmer pockets
- Adjustable elastic cord in hem and collar

Size: S-XXL

Prize: **ISK 19,900**

ICEWEAR clothes and products are available at the following stores:

REYKJAVÍK:

Handprjónasambandið,
Laugavegur 64
The Viking, Hafnarstræti 3
The Viking, Laugavegur 1
Islandia, Kringlan

Icefin, Nóatún 17
Ull og Gjafavörur, Hótel Saga
Ísey, Laugavegur 23
Hitt hornið, Laugavegur 100
Álafoss, Mosfellsbær

OTHER LOCATIONS:

Blue Lagoon, Shop
The Viking, Hafnarstræti 104, Akureyri
Sport og útvíst, Á stéttinni, Húsavík
Selið, Mývatn
Mývatnsmarkaður, Mývatn

Gullfosskaffi, Gullfoss
Geysir Shop, Haukadal
Byggðasafnið, Skógar
Víkwool, Vík í Mýrdal

Drífa ehf, Suðurhraun 12 C, 210 Garðabær, Sími 555 7400, Fax. 555 7401, icewear@icewear.is, www.icewear.is



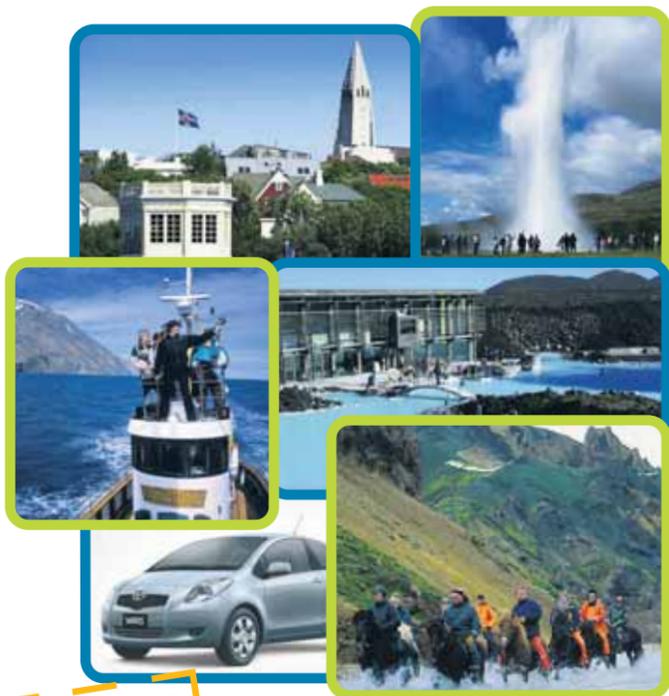
THE OFFICIAL TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

All you need

for a great holiday

Iceland's Largest Booking Service

City Centre Booking Service // Bus Tours and Activities
Hotels and Guesthouses // Car Rentals // Horse Riding
Whale Watching // Internet and Phone Centre



FREE BOOKING SERVICE

Simply the most comprehensive booking service in the City. We specialize in customizing travel packages to suit your interests and needs.

We can arrange your accommodation, transfers, tours, flights and car rental, based on your requirements.

ITA ICELAND TRAVEL ASSISTANCE

VAT Cash Refund – Money Exchange

Reykjavik WELCOME CARD

See more and save more when visiting Reykjavik.

Free admissions, discounts off tours and city buses, shopping, restaurants and services for 24, 48 or 72 hours. Great value for money.

The Welcome Card can be purchased at:
City Hostel | Hilton Hotel | Loftleidir Hotel
Saga Hotel | Hlemmur Bus Station
BSI-Bus Station | The National History Museum
Iceland Travel Market - Bankastræti
Tourist Information Centre - Aðalstræti
www.visitreykjavik.is



THE CENTRE
The Official Tourist Information Centre in Reykjavik

Aðalstræti 2 • 101 Reykjavik • Tel +354 590 1550 • info@visitreykjavik.is • www.visitreykjavik.is

Sour grapes and stuff

Say your piece, voice your opinion, send your letters to letters@grapevine.is

4 Letters

Response to Hanna's Letter

Let me just cut the crap and give it to you straight Hanna. I'm a foreigner, you're a foreigner, and as outsiders to an eerily tiny community, we just have to be real about the situation concerning anyone who is slightly different. Yes, you will be left out. Icelanders don't really have an interest of meeting anyone who is remotely different from them. Also, Icelanders have a limited view of the world, they'll stare at anything out of the ordinary. Dark skinned people, disabled people, etc. In my experience, the older generations have been a little bit more understanding of culture and differences. Icelandic teenagers on the other hand are bratty, spoiled, and have no understanding of a world outside of Iceland or the importance of manners.

I'm married to an Icelander, and I have had the opportunity of meeting some wonderful Icelandic people. I'm grateful for that, but I will agree with the editor when he states that you have entered a land of assholes. And, please note that I said I have met SOME wonderful people. The assholes far outweigh the nice folks. It's almost as if Icelanders view those completely opposite of them as not human. As if these "other people" have no thoughts, feelings, or are unaware of their surroundings. The way Icelanders stare at others reminds me of the Medieval times, where they would showcase a giraffe, or a parrot at court. The xenophobia is unbelievable. Anyone who says Icelanders are openminded, and friendly are clearly joking themselves, or they're tourist who only dealt with people who wanted to take their money.

Now, I don't mean to offend anyone, but it's the reality.

J

Dear J,
wow. Huh?

Yes all Icelandic people are the devil.

No just kidding, but look, you were born and bred here, you have no idea what it's like for someone who isn't European to live in a country like this..

Sorry if I offended..

Hey J,

no, you didn't offend me. Your letter just sounds a little extreme – I have some problems taking it seriously. Jeez, I hope I shouldn't take it seriously. I mean, teenagers are bratty and spoiled the world over. Most teenagers are assholes; it's what being a teenager is all about. In any case, I don't think any nation deserves to be judged on the merit of its teenagers.

Then again, I've never really been stared at here. I look pretty Icelandic, and can get around speaking Icelandic without a discernible accent (except for my Ísafjörður accent). I'd be pleased if some other readers voiced in. Is J right? Is Iceland a land of assholes? Do you get stared at and offended and stuff if you don't look European? Or is J just being overtly sensitive?

I found the article on the 'new breed of Iceland visitor' very ironic. I'm half way through my six weeks in Iceland, and as

Sour grape of the month

A case of POLAR BEER for your thoughts.

We're not gonna lie to you: we really love us some beers. Some folks would call it a problem, but beer never gave us any problems. In fact, over the years, it's solved most of 'em. A frosty glass of cold, frothy, bubblicious, golden-tinted beer has consistently failed to let us down. In the immortal words of Homer J. Simpson: "Mmm... Beer..."

Now, since we're real pleasant and giving folks here at the Grapevine, we thought we'd share some of that wonderful POLAR BEER with you, our readers. Henceforth, until the end of days (or our Polar Beer- sponsorship program, whichever comes first), we will reward one MOST EXCELLENT LETTER with a case of the Polar Beer. You read right. A full case of beer. At your disposal.

Give us your worst: letters@grapevine.is



(light)

MOST AWESOME LETTER:

Subject: Letter of the Week

Despite a major economical crash the tourists keep coming to Iceland i run into them once in awhile holding maps in their hands wondering where in the hell are they going i help them out the best i can sometimes i run into young male tourists wondering where they can get some icelandic pussy and i say you came all the way to iceland to get some pussy? I ask them dont they have any in yr country and quote the great zen master Lafong "he who goes to sleep with sexual problems will wake up with answer in hand. " What the hell is the matter with these guys?...what kind of propagandic pamphlets have they been reading? With all due respect there are some great lookin gals here but i have seen some foxey lookin psycho bitch's wherever i roam on this planet. If yr famous , rich , different hell you can always get laid. I recommend lookin at mount Esja or Gullfoss for ultimate tantric sexual pleasure....eat some rams balls and have a nice day.

Sincerely,

Michael Pollock

www.myspace.com/michaeldeanodinpollock

Dear Michael,

we generally don't take well to pressure such as naming your letter "letter of the week" in hopes of winning that case of polar beer we give away every issue but we decided to make an exception in your case as your letter was in fact a pretty good candidate for most awesome letter and also because we are all firm believers in the teachings of THE SECRET which exclaim that vocally wanting things will usually make the universe grant them to you so we are awarding you MOST AWESOME LETTER for this issue because we do not want to disprove THE SECRET and the awesome philosophies espoused there in we also like your style of punctuation and are considering making it policy as things read better without all those pesky commas and periods and stuff holding you back.

an individual traveler, I have experienced rotten treatment, compared with the treatment given to couples, families, and groups.

At restaurants, I'm seated at the worst table, usually next to the toilets or kitchen. At hostels and guesthouses, I'm given the worst room, again next to the toilets or kitchen, with a view to a garbage dumpster or major highway. On buses, I've been asked to move seats, so that a shiny happy couple can sit together. On tours, I'm expected to pay a 'supplement,' sometimes 30% more than the listed price.

Can someone please explain to me why the Icelandic tourism industry so blatantly discriminates against solo travelers? And why should any single gal/single guy waste their time and money on a country that would treat them so poorly?

Robyn (Canada)

Dear Robyn,

We don't really respond to single readers. We are a family magazine, and we cater to families and couples for the most part. But we can maybe stick your letter in the listings section. Hah.

No, really? It sounds like you've had a rough turn at some places; you should definitely not be made pay a supplement fee. Do you really think your experience merits your complaints, or are you maybe exaggerating for dramatic effect? Boy, Iceland isn't getting a nice turn in this letter section. Did you at least look at any nice waterfalls? Anyway, you should look at the bright side; at least you have a better chance of hooking up with strangers if you're traveling solo, right?

Hey there.

I'm flying all the way from Austin Texas so that I may wander about your sweet island of a country for a while. I may even frolic.

Hressingarskálinn

Hressingarskálinn (Hressö) is a Classical Bistro, located in the heart of the city at Austurstræti 20.

Food is served from 10 until 22 every day. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, after the kitchen closes Hressö heats up with live music. Weekends, DJs keep the party going until morning, with no cover charge.





Enjoy Iceland

with the best* local tour expert



Check out our Day Tours brochures, call us at (+354) 540-1313, visit our sales office in Hafnarstræti 20 or go to www.grayline.is

Rates in Eur and ISK, valid from June 2009

Tour Code	Tour Name	Rack Rate	Special Offer	ISK Rate
AH 10	Greater Area Reykjavik Sightseeing	39 €	30 €	4.500 kr
AH 11	Gullfoss & Geysir Express	69 €	50 €	7.600 kr
AH 12	The Golden Circle Classic	79 €	60 €	9.200 kr
AH 13	Golden Circle Evening Tour	79 €	60 €	9.200 kr
AH 15	Iceland from Below	79 €	60 €	9.200 kr
AH 18	The Blue Lagoon Direct to Keflavik Airport	33 €	20 €	3.400 kr
AH 19	The Reykjanes Peninsula	59 €	45 €	7.000 kr
AH 21	Iceland from Below & Blue Lagoon Direct	100 €	80 €	12.500 kr
AH 22	Reykjanes Peninsula and Gullfoss & Geysir Express	129 €	95 €	15.000 kr
AH 23	City Sightseeing and Gullfoss & Geysir Express	99 €	70 €	11.000 kr
AH 24	The Blue Lagoon and Gullfoss & Geysir Express	99 €	70 €	11.000 kr
AH 25	City Sightseeing & Blue Lagoon Direct	69 €	40 €	6.500 kr
AH 27	The Viking Horse Riding Tour and Gullfoss & Geysir Express	119 €	85 €	13.500 kr
AH 28	The Blue Lagoon Direct from Keflavik Airport	33 €	20 €	3.400 kr
AH 29	The Blue Lagoon Direct	33 €	20 €	3.400 kr
AH 30	Thorsmörk and South Coast	129 €	90 €	14.200 kr
AH 31	The Viking Horse Riding Tour & Blue Lagoon Direct	89 €	60 €	9.500 kr
AH 32	Landmannalaugar by bus	139 €	95 €	15.300 kr
AH 35	South Coast & Jökulsárlón	189 €	140 €	22.400 kr
AH 38	Snæfellsnes National Park	149 €	105 €	17.000 kr
AH 39	Cruise at Breiðafjörður Bay	189 €	140 €	22.400 kr
AH 70	DPV Scooter Diving	260 €	220 €	35.000 kr
AH 71	Magnificent Fissure Diving	230 €	210 €	33.000 kr
AH 72	Magnificent Fissure Snorkelling	140 €	120 €	19.400 kr
AH 74	Whale Watching and Gullfoss & Geysir Express	118 €	100 €	15.500 kr
AH 75	Whale Watching	49 €	45 €	7.500 kr
AH 78	Whale Watching & The Blue Lagoon to Keflavik Airport	82 €	65 €	10.300 kr
AH 79	Whale Watching & The Blue Lagoon Direct	82 €	65 €	10.300 kr
AH 88	ATV Blue Lagoon Direct to Keflavik Airport	125 €	85 €	13.500 kr
AH 89	ATV Blue Lagoon Direct	125 €	85 €	13.500 kr
AH 140	Golden Circle Super Jeep Tour	249 €	220 €	35.000 kr
AH 142	4X4 Iceland Adventure	149 €	130 €	21.000 kr

Tour departures for all day tours are from the new office at Lækjartorg

New Day Tours 2009

Tour Code	Tour Name	Rack Rate	Special Offer	ISK Rate
AH 61	The Saga Trail	80 €	75 €	12.000 kr
AH 62	The Highland Road - Glaciers, waterfalls and hot springs	95 €	90 €	14.400 kr
AH 63	The Silver Circle	140 €	125 €	20.000 kr
AH 64	The Highland Route & Golden Circle Evening Tour	130 €	115 €	18.400 kr
AH 65	The Platinum Circle - Three in one	175 €	160 €	25.600 kr

Tours guided in German 2009

Tour Code	Tour Name	Rack Rate	Special Offer	ISK Rate
AH 217	Besuch eines isländischen Bauernhofs / Visit to an Icelandic farm	79 €	60 €	9.200 kr
AH 35	Südküste und Jökulsárlón Gletscher Lagune / South Coast and Jökulsárlón	189 €	140 €	22.400 kr
AH 10	Stadtrundfahrt / Greater Area Reykjavik Sightseeing	39 €	30 €	4.500 kr
AH 225	Stadtrundfahrt und Blaue Lagune / City Sightseeing and The Blue Lagoon Direct	69 €	40 €	6.500 kr
AH 61	Die Saga Route / The Saga Trail	80 €	75 €	12.000 kr
AH 62	Die Hochland Route - Gletscher, Wasserfälle und heiße Quellen / The Highland Road - Glaciers, waterfalls and hot springs	95 €	90 €	14.400 kr
AH 63	Der Silberne Kreis / The Silver Circle	140 €	125 €	20.000 kr
AH 75	Walbeobachtung / Whale Watching	49 €	45 €	7.500 kr
AH 234	Perlen der Südküste / South Coast & Waterfalls	129 €	90 €	14.200 kr
AH 212	Der Goldene Kreis / The Golden Circle Classic	79 €	60 €	9.200 kr
AH 30	Südküste und Thorsmörk / Thorsmörk and The South Coast	129 €	90 €	14.200 kr



Icelandexcursions

GRAY LINE ICELAND



*According to the Dear Visitor study done by Tourism Research and Consulting in the summer of 2008 and winter 2008/2009, Iceland Excursions had a significant lead compared to competitors in satisfaction and quality.

European Champions



Moomin Book Three: The Complete Tove Jansson Comic Strip

Tove Jansson
D&Q 2008

The only negative thing to say about this book and these series of Tove Jansson's comic strips is that they make you jealous. Jealous of the fact that they are so clever and beautiful and classic and to imitate them would be pathetic and to match them would be very hard and to top them would be impossible. As far as whimsical goes, the Moomins are the European Champions.

There are probably very few people that won't fall for the Moomins, the only ones that come to mind are shiny

spray-tanned beefcake people with tribal tattoos... who are also adorable like the Moomins and should definitely never physically attack girls. Especially not comic-reviewing girls.

A complete stranger: Do you think there are any shiny orange beefcakes with tribal tattoos that would actually read this review?

Comic reviewing nerd girl: When I think about it. No, not really.

ACS: So why mention it?

CRNG: Well, to explain how fabulous this book is and to emphasize that most people would like it.

ACS: Oh, I see. Sorry. Go on.

There isn't much more to say really. Except maybe, if you decide to buy one (which you won't because if you'll get one you will also get the other three), make sure to get one for your friend. It will make them happy and it has been said that making others happy is supposed to make you feel good about yourself. Something like that. 🍷

LÓA HJÁLMTÝSDÓTTIR

Two Collections Of Comics By Fletcher



I Shall Destroy All The Civilized Planets You Shall Die by Your Own Evil Creation!

Fletcher Hanks, Sr.

Recently rediscovered and dubbed "the Ed Wood of comics", the late Fletcher Hanks was a cartoonist from the golden age of comic books (late 1930s - late 40s). His comics weren't exactly a hit at the time, but have gained a cult following in this century due to their unintentional surrealism and before-their-time artwork.

The Ed Wood comparison isn't quite justifiable. Hanks' work was awkward and kind of crappy, but the same can be said about many golden age comics. Just read early Superman, it's super silly. Hanks was more like Henry Darger

or Daniel Johnston. He had a brilliant imagination and was most probably just a tiny bit insane. As seen in his characters.

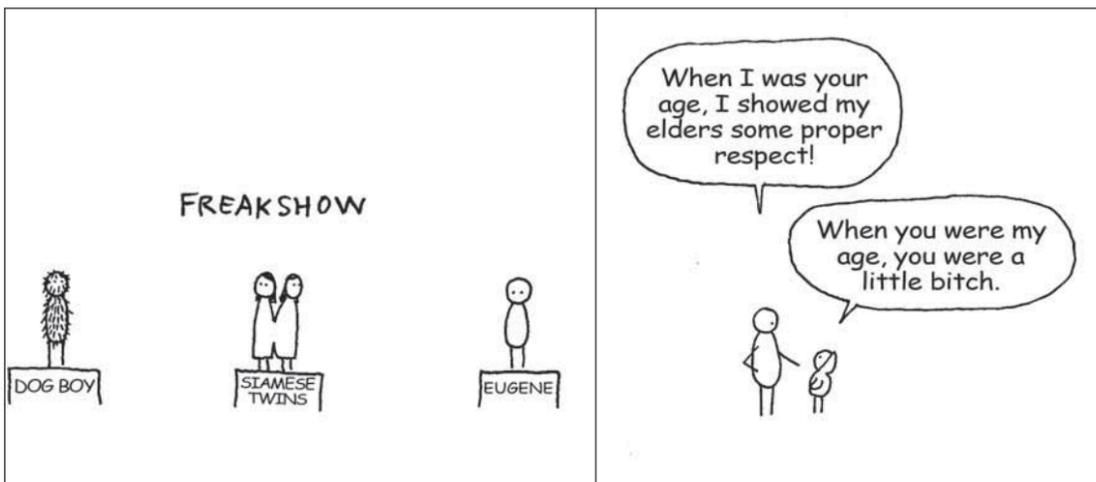
There's something wonderfully creepy about Fantomah, mystery woman of the jungle, (one of the first superheroines, predating Wonder Woman) a see-through-skirt wearing witch whose face turns into a skull when scaring evil poachers. Or Big Red McLane*, a somewhat homoerotic lumberjack with a neck thicker than his head. And of course Tiger Hart of Crossbone Castle, on the planet Saturn, that tells the story of Tiger Hart, a medieval knight who battles a band of robbers. On the planet Saturn. But it's the creature design that really wins you over. It might be the sexiest since Hieronymus Bosch. If the saurian riding Leopard Women of Venus don't make you either hard or wet, you're either impotent or frigid.

One more thing: Fletcher Hanks was supposedly an alcoholic and an abusive father and spouse. But hey, Beethoven and Peter Sellers were assholes too. Let's not dwell on their shortcomings. Not when they produce pure beauty like this.

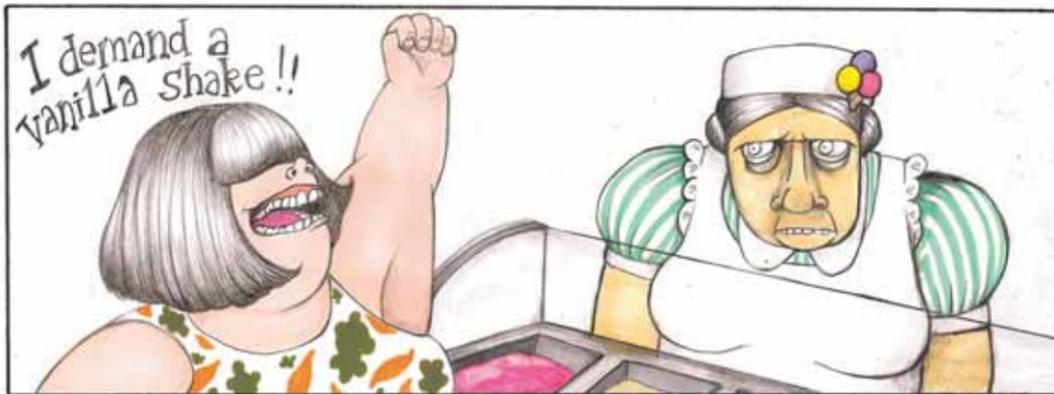
*an ideal name for your penis, if you're the type that names his penis. 🍷

HUGLEIKUR DAGSSON

— by Hugleikur Dagsson



— by Lóa Hjálmtýsdóttir



— by Bent



— by Elo Vázquez and Óttar Norðfjörð



SIXT

rent a car

Tel +354 577 60 50
www.sixt.is

THE WONDERS OF REYKJANES

Blue Diamond Circle RE-06

RE-06

Online discount code:
GV06809

SPECIAL INTERNET OFFER*



WE'LL TAKE YOU THERE!

DAY TOURS TO ALL THE MOST EXCITING PLACES IN ICELAND

☀️ All Year

RE-06 - 09:00

TUE THU FRI

09-16



Price **9900** ISK

~~Price 12500 ISK~~

Book now on www.re.is

Book now by calling 580 5400



RE-92 - 08:00

Landmannalaugar & Saga Valley

☀️ Summer 08-20

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT



This unique part of the highlands is one of Iceland's most awe inspiring, a real pearl, dotted with hot and cold springs all around. Enjoy Iceland's tranquil silence, peace and scenery in these spectacular and breathtaking surroundings.

Price **17000** ISK

Book now on www.re.is



RE-24 - 12:30

Gullfoss - Geysir Direct

☀️ All Year

12:30-18

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT



In one afternoon you spend your time encountering across-section of Iceland's natural wonders and geological phenomena: the historical Þingvellir national park, Geysir geothermal area and the amazing Gullfoss waterfall.

Price **8600** ISK

Book now on www.re.is



☀️ All Year

Relax at the Blue Lagoon

For our very flexible schedule please refer to our brochures.

There is no better way to start or end your Iceland adventure than by bathing in the famous Blue Lagoon. You can either board the bus at BSÍ Bus Terminal in Reykjavík or at Keflavík Airport.

Return bus fare **2800** ISK

Return bus fare and admission **5900** ISK

Book now on www.re.is



RE-05 - 13:00

Reykjavík Grand Excursion

☀️ All Year

13-15:30

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT



Get to know the capital with an expert by your side. We take you around Reykjavík with a guide and show you the highlights of the city. The tour ends at the National museum of Iceland where you can see Icelandic culture at its best.

Price **4900** ISK

Book now on www.re.is



RE-81 - 09:00

Take a Walk on the Ice Side

☀️ All Year

09-19

SUN MON WED FRI SAT



Want to see and feel something completely different? Why not take a walk on a glacier and experience a surface that you have never been able to walk on before! Take a tour with us and try something new - a once in a lifetime experience for most.

Price **17900** ISK

Book now on www.re.is



RE-17 - 08:00

The Wonders of Snæfellsjökull

☀️ Summer

08-19:30

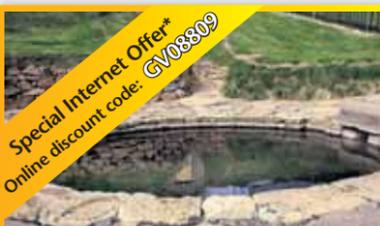
SUN MON WED FRI



A tour for nature lovers: lush valleys, lava fields with soft moss, abundant birdlife, diverse flora, craters and salmon rivers. Snæfellsjökull glacier is where "The Journey to the Centre of the Earth" begins - a world famous story by Jules Verne.

Price **17300** ISK

Book now on www.re.is



RE-08 - 09:00

Saga Circle

☀️ All Year

09-18

SAT



This tour is perfect for all Saga enthusiasts. On this tour we take you around the area where one of the Icelandic Sagas took place - along with enjoying spectacular landscape. Come and follow in the footsteps of the Vikings with us.

Price **14000** ISK

~~Price 17500 ISK~~

Book now on www.re.is



RE-34 - 17:00

Gullfoss - Geysir Direct

☀️ Summer

17-22:30

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT



Don't miss out the unique experience to visit three of Iceland's most famous and magical places - in an evening tranquility. Gullfoss waterfall, spouting springs at Geysir and Þingvellir national park will leave serene and lasting memories.

Price **7000** ISK

~~Price 8400 ISK~~

Book now on www.re.is

* In order to activate the special internet offers you need to enter the online discount codes when booking on www.re.is. Special internet offers on this page can be booked through 31 August 2009.

flybus flybus+



Reykjavik Excursions
KYNNISFERÐIR

BSÍ Bus Terminal / 101 Reykjavík / 580 5400 / main@re.is / www.re.is

Faceless Bureaucracy Or Benevolent Uncle?

By joining the EU, Iceland would lose much of its decision making powers over its own resources, notably the fisheries. Let's face it: there aren't any exceptions here.



The 1957 Treaty of Rome, the rock on which the EU is built, states that there should be a common policy for fisheries. That's fundamental, so don't kid yourselves that there are any exceptions to the rule. In the 1990s when Norway was jockeying for position on EU membership, there were no meaningful concessions from Europe on fisheries, not even to one of the wealthiest countries in the world with its waters rich in oil as well as fish. Iceland can't realistically expect any kind of permanent exemption—for no other reason than that every other member state with an interest in fisheries would immediately attempt to block this on the grounds that they don't get special treatment, so why should a newcomer?

The concept of the European Union's Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) is that there should be a single umbrella policy on fisheries as there is on agriculture. In essence, Brussels is the benevolent uncle who keeps a friendly eye on how a member state manages its fisheries on European lines. If only it were that simple.

What happens in Greece or Portugal isn't the same as what goes on in Holland or Denmark. The primary premise that there should be a level playing field across the Union just isn't the case. Over a decade and more of writing about commercial fisheries, I have yet to hear a positive opinion about

1. Fishermen regard the Common Fisheries Policy unreservedly as a disaster. This Danish fisherman's boat demonstrates just how he feels about Europe and the CFP.

the CFP.

Good ol' TACs are in the CFP

There's actually plenty in the CFP that Iceland would find familiar, such as the concept of everything being managed using the blunt instrument of Total Allowable Catches (TACs). Quotas, quota trading, discards, high-grading and misreporting are all things that Icelanders would find familiar about fisheries in Europe, along with the same triangle of distrust with fishermen, scientists and administrators at each corner—and a widening gulf between them.

Across Europe, fisheries have been struggling badly for years and the CFP is then pilloried as the source of all the fishing industry's problems. But to be fair, fishermen in Europe face many of the same problems as those outside the Union, although the CFP is undoubtedly part of the mix.

There is mighty little that's positive about it. Fishermen regard the CFP as a disaster on legs. The official line from Brussels has been—of course—that everything is just fine, but the noises from the centre of things recently indicate that even Brussels privately views its own CFP as a failure.

Innocence and ignorance in Brussels

The CFP has been with us since the early 1980s and in the intervening years we have seen cod, hake, sole and a handful of other stocks supposedly teetering on the brink of extinction. It begs the question of where all that cash, manpower and effort have gone if the results aren't better than that. The reality is that the fisheries is a marginal industry in European terms. DG Fish, which administers fisheries, is a small

department in a bloated bureaucracy of Byzantine complexity, stiff with back-door deals and horse-trading, based in an ivory tower far removed from the practicalities of the industry it purports to administer.

After all these years, I should be used to it, but I still shudder when presented with some of the innocence and ignorance that stems from Brussels.

Earlier this year, EU Fisheries Commissioner Joe Borg announced that more cutbacks are needed as 80% of stocks are overexploited. On the other hand, a year ago, an EU policy document (COM(2008) 331) stated that: "the state of some 57% of stocks is unknown."

Did I miss something here? Was a stack of European cash injected into marine research over the last year? Did Brussels suddenly come up with definitive figures so that the 80% claim can be considered credible?

The heavy-handed, one-size-fits-all measures handed down by Brussels are alarming, especially taking into account that these people are dealing with the livelihoods and businesses of predominantly hard-working, honest individuals and their families across Europe.

What has also become apparent is that DG Fish is increasingly overshadowed by the more powerful DG Environment. There is even speculation that DG Fish could be swallowed by its bigger brother with its very different and far from fisherman-friendly agenda.

Turning a supertanker

The sheer size of the bureaucracy and the entrenched attitudes mean that altering the course of policy is akin to trying to turn a supertanker. We have had cod, hake and sole in particular on the list of threatened fish stocks for years. Cod in particular has been used as the rationale for some dramatic cuts in fishing effort and fishing fleet size, even though fishermen have been reporting for some years that cod are increasingly abundant. This year, finally, there's a cod quota increase. Hake is up and sole looks to have increased as well.

All well and good, and we can argue endlessly over whether cutting fishing effort has achieved this or if these are natural cycles that would have occurred anyway. But the damage has been done; jobs have gone, communities have been devastated and businesses have disappeared. I can predict that within a year or three, the fleet that's left will not be able to catch its quotas on

some species, but will still be subject to ludicrous outdated restrictions on both quotas and days-at-sea.

So what's in it for Iceland?

Much of what you've gotten used to already is a TAC based system, in which discards and incorrect reporting are an inevitable by-product.

On the other hand, ownership of fishing companies would become open to anyone and there would undoubtedly be foreign investors with healthy chequebooks doing the rounds. I say "would be," but I know for a fact that they've already been spying out the land. Who knows? Deals may already have been struck. Sooner or later a proportion of Iceland's seafood industry would be in foreign hands.

Quota hopping, the use of different flags and brass-plate companies, would become a reality. This is certainly not new to some Icelandic operators who already run vessels under foreign flags, primarily to obtain quotas or fishing rights in particular areas, but there would be the prospect of Iceland being on the receiving end of this process instead.

As an EU member, Iceland would no longer be in charge of its own resources and would be overridden by Brussels. The Icelandic Ministry of Fisheries and the Marine Research Institute could be in full agreement that a 200,000 tonne cod quota is what's justified, but if Brussels says it should be half that amount, that's what it would be—and no arguments.

Some would argue that it's too high a price to pay to have a country's primary industry under the ultimate control of what can be seen as a faceless, distant bureaucracy that can also be seen as neither sympathetic nor competent.

On the positive side, while the 2002 CFP review largely rubber-stamped a further ten years of pain, another review is now in progress for 2012. We can't expect miracles, but hopefully someone will see the light and a little common sense can be used to bring the CFP into line with reality—as it would be too much to hope that it could simply be scrapped and control handed back to member states. But for Iceland, the contents of that 2012 review should be a vital factor in the larger debate. ☘

Quentin Bates worked as a fisherman on a variety of Icelandic and British fishing vessels before turning to journalism 15 years ago. He currently writes mostly technical material for Fishing News International.

✍ QUENTIN BATES

Art | And then some...

The New Rafskinna Is Out!

The good people behind Rafskinna have been hard at work over the past year aggregating stuff for the third issue of everyone's favourite DVD magazine. Bearing the theme 'Reflections,' Rafskinna MK 3 hit stores last month and one can tell at a glance that all the hard work has paid off, as the gold encrusted ten-inch sleeve that houses it is brimming with curious content. We called up Sigurður Magnús Finnsson from the Rafskinna team and got him to tell us a little bit about the latest edition, where it comes from, what it means and what's in it.

"Rafskinna," says Finnsson when asked to elaborate, "is a DVD magazine that contains short films, documentaries, music videos, interviews, performance art, and the like, as well as some printed materials. The latest issue also contains an audio CD – Rafsprengi – that we made in cooperation with radio show Hlaupanótan. It features four Icelandic musicians of the younger generation, Hildur Guðnadóttir and Kippi Kanínus, for instance, recreating compositions by four older masters, among them Atli Heimir Sveinsson and Jórunn Viðar.

"We aim at presenting a broad spectrum of work and ideas; Icelandic, foreign, large, small, every possible aspect of the visual arts, while maintaining a red thread by keeping focus on things that are grassroots oriented. And of course we have a running theme for each issue. Aside from the DVD, we try and fit extras in with each issue, there's always some bonus materials. This time around there's the Rafsprengi CD, as well as a poster by Hrafnhildur Arnardóttir (Shoplifter), who is this issue's featured artist."

-Tell us about issue three's featured content.

"Well, to name a few things, we take Emiliana Torrini on a ride around Kópavogur, get Dálek to recycle old Icelandic pancake recipes, there's two video pieces by the aforementioned Hrafnhildur Arnardóttir, videos of Ólöf Arnalds and Retro Stefson. We got Nico Muhly to compose a piece for us, it's performed by Helgi Hrafn Jónsson on the construction site of the forthcoming music hall."

-You guys seem really ambitious. Has everything been working out financially? Making a magazine like this can't be cheap.

"It's rough. We work hard at selling them, just so we can afford to make the next one. It's a struggle, like a lot of these things are in this country. But we are distributing abroad now, this issue is being sold in stores in Europe and the US."

Any more cool things coming from you guys?

"Yes, lots of stuff. More on that later."

Expect a full review of Rafskinna three in a forthcoming issue of the Grapevine. Get it at cool bookstores and other stores that are cool.

☘ -HAUKUR S MAGNÚSSON

Dance with Us!

Hemmi & Valdi

We are here:
Klaappastigur
Laugarvegur

Laugavegi 21 - 101 Reykjavík - 551 6464

STAY WITH US!

REYKJAVIK Backpackers

GREAT VALUE ACCOMMODATION IN THE HEART OF REYKJAVIK!

+354 578 3700

WWW.REYKJAVIKBACKPACKERS.COM



Fire is needed by the newcomer
Whose knees are frozen numb;
Meat and clean linen a man needs
Who has fared across the fells.*

The Icelandic Sheep,
Keeping the people alive since 874 AD.

*From the Hávamál, 1300 AD



blaidur@gmail.com / photo: AJS

HISTORICAL REYKJAVÍK



Reykjavík
City Museum



Árbær Museum is an open-air museum, established in 1957. The aim of the museum is to give an idea of Icelandic architecture and the lifestyle of the past.

The exhibition Reykjavík 871±2 is based on the archaeological excavation of the ruin of one of the first houses in Iceland and findings from other excavations in the Reykjavík city centre.

Árbær Museum and The Settlement Exhibition Reykjavík 871±2 are parts of Reykjavík City Museum. Both are open daily in June, July and August from 10am to 17pm. Detailed information at our website at www.reykjavikmuseum.is



Reykjavík
871±2

Landnámssýningin
The Settlement
Exhibition

Interview | Theatre

Exploring the Grey Area

A conversation with Pulitzer Prize winner Paula Vogel



American playwright Paula Vogel was in Reykjavik recently attending a performance of her Pulitzer Prize winning play "How I Learned to Drive," which showed at Borgarleikhús throughout May. The award winning play touches on themes of incest and paedophilia as it tells the story of one girl's relationship with an uncle who molests her at the age of eleven during a driving lesson and continues to do so throughout her teen years. Vogel's other works spotlight such topics as AIDS, domestic violence, gender inequality, pornography and homosexuality. They're comedies. Early (for a Saturday) on May 23rd Vogel and I, both a little worse for wear after a Friday night out in Reykjavik - the playwright's first and only - sat in the comfortably minimal lobby of the Plaza Hotel to discuss why the adjunct professor and chair of the Yale School of Drama chooses such heavy topics, what topics scare her and the struggle of making it as a female playwright.

Why such heavy topics?

[I write about] things that bother me. I know people say that they're heavy topics and then I think people are surprised that they're laughing. It's not anything I intend. I think it's just my family and the way we told stories. There's always a lot of comedy; funerals in my family are always very fun - fun and funny. We tell stories, we laugh. And it's the way I approach theatre. I think it's really a desire to examine a story or a journey together collectively. I don't know if I would be a novelist or a poet or a journalist. I think I crave company. I'm in it for the company.

But what drives you to write rather casually about these things - paedophilia, incest, AIDS - that are widely taboo and not spoken of casually in society?

They're not talked about casually. In fact, they're not talked about. When I started writing there were very few women writers, particularly in theatre. Now there are many women writers so I feel in great company. But when I was in my 20's there weren't stories told from women's points of view that I could see on the stage.

Let's take the topics of paedophilia and incest [in "How I Learned to Drive"]; I didn't even think about the story. I knew it was a story there but I was thinking as a young woman when I read Lolita, asking 'how would a woman write about this?' 'How would I feel about Humbert Humbert?' 'Would it be different if a woman wrote it?' and 'Would it be different in a play?'

Now, obviously, Nabokov is a genius and there's complexity to that novel that no theatre and no play can do, but again I rely on being in good company. What I did notice as I started to read about the topic, as I continued to think about Nabokov, is that I would walk into Times Square in New York and I would be bombarded by Ralph Lauren and Calvin Klein ads of basically young boys and girls in underwear. And I would think, 'are we noticing how we're sexualizing the bodies of children and adolescents in our culture?' So not even saying 'incest' or looking at something that happens in one family, but let's look at what is in the presence of everyone, in the company of all, in the way we sell merchandise. I'm not talking about rape. I'm talking about the grey area. Not the black, not the white. The grey area.

How do audiences react to you exploring this grey area?

[After a performance] it's a strange feeling of relief and everybody in the audience saying, 'yes, this is happening, this is in our midst. I have experience with this, I have experience and I've wondered about this.' There's a sense for me of an uplift, or feeling lighter. I feel burdened when things aren't talked about, when they aren't looked at directly. And this isn't to say that I don't think the work is political; I think all theatre is political. I think when we gather together it is a political and spiritual act and that's why I hope I get to spend the rest of my life in theatre.

While some are uplifted, some must be feeling otherwise. Do you ever encounter negative feedback?

When you write something you have to be responsible for the response. I would never not do my work somewhere but I would want to be there so that if people were angry they could look me in the eyes and tell me what they think.

Have people done this?

Yes, of course. Not as much with this play, although there have been people who say, 'I am not ready to see this.' There are people who will write to me or talk to me and say, 'I heard about your play and I really can't come see it, I hope you understand.' People I know. And I say, 'I'm really glad that you're not seeing it. I think that's great and I wouldn't want to hurt you in any way.'

In an earlier play [The Baltimore Waltz], which I wrote about my brother's death from AIDS, I really wanted to talk about it. At the time that he died in 1988 there was a great taboo and shame about dying from AIDS and I thought my brother met death with absolute courage and humour and was a model and I refused to be ashamed. No women were talking about their relationships to HIV. I wrote a play about a character named Anna, who is a sister and who has this mysterious disease. A lot of people were furious that a woman, at that time, would write with a sense of humour about this - the humour that comes from my experience with my brother, as well as the grief. I had a lot of people come up to me and say, 'how dare you as a woman write about HIV?'

When I was younger I used to think it would be marvellous to be hissed and booed at, at least that meant you're provoking and getting under the skin... I'm not so sure anymore! I still prefer that to indifference, but I don't go out of my way to provoke. I'm scared when I write. I'm scared when plays are produced. I'm scared when things upset me, but I think we should run toward things we're scared of.

Is there any topic that scares you to the point of not wanting to approach it?

There have been things that I have put aside because I didn't think I had the skills to do it. I wrote a play about domestic violence [Hot 'n' Throbbing] that took me a while to write, it was very hard to write. I was scared. I literally had to write it by staying up all night I couldn't sleep while I was writing it. I'm proud of it but it still scares me, it makes me shake. But, if I'm really so scared I can't do something it probably means I don't know how to do it yet.

CATHARINE FULTON
JULIA STAPLES

Opinion | Sigurður Kjartan Kristinnsson

Why I Don't Give a Fuck



The Icesave quarrel, prosecuting the Icelandic racketeers, returning or receiving the IMF loan, joining the EU or any other of these immensely important issues that are discussed here on a daily basis post-crisis (and the only issues generally discussed for that matter): I don't give a fuck.

You could easily say I'm one of the lucky few here in Iceland. What do I mean by that? Well, I'm part of the generation that got away. No mortgage, no car loan or any other ludicrous financial commitment loitering above my head, increasing the number of my already many grey hairs by the day. No sir. Didn't lose my job, don't have to declare bankruptcy or file for unemployment benefits either. Not that I wouldn't have gone down that road. Don't get me wrong; I ain't claiming any superior foreseeing wisdom—I probably would have danced along with the rest. Then there is my lack of patriotism. It plays a role in my not-giving-a-fuck attitude. People talk about re-establishing the Icelandic legacy, shit like that, and although it's a valid thing to fight for it doesn't feel like it's my fight. I don't look at being an Icelander as any sort of privilege—I look at it as a fact. I don't plan spending all of my life on this forsaken rock. And although it has provided me with decent education, some common sense and a lot of other good odds and ends, I'm pretty sure I could've obtained these things in many other places. Not everywhere though; I'm godawfully thankful for coming from a place where luxuries most people never experience are taken for granted and I don't mean to come off as an ungrateful asshole at all, but nevertheless: I don't get a hard-on when Icelandic independence heroes are quoted and I don't brag about per-capita records. That being said, it should be abundantly clear that I don't really have great interest in spending my earnings to-be paying down some daft debts my government is obtaining as we speak.

Some wise men have talked about the biggest threat Iceland faces is a drain of young Icelanders, and speaking as one, I can affirm: it's true. There are quite a few of us that aren't really the flag-waving fighter types. So what to do? For my part, it's to try my best to scrape some money together for a one-way-ticket far, far away and take it from there. Maybe we'll see each other in fifteen years or so, who knows? But for now: See ya suckers, good riddance. ☹

The " Dill " dining room is open
Mon - Tuesday 11:30 - 17:00
Wednesday - Saturday 11:30 - 22:00
Sunday 12:00 - 17:00
Special events/occasions - open until 22:00 hours (check website for details)
Tel: +354 522 7022
dillrestaurant.is

Norræna húsið/ The Nordic House
Sturlugata 5
101 Reykjavík
Tel: +354 551 7030
www.nordice.is

NORDIC HOUSE - KNOWLEDGE AND DESIGN



You are in Control

**The digital revolution shakes the creative industries
What is to be gained, lost and learned?**

Find out in Reykjavik 23 -24 September 2009

You Are In Control gathers some of the finest international creative media and marketing minds to discuss new business models and new ways of thinking in the creative industries.

Speakers include:

Paul Bennett - IDEO

Paul Bennett is Managing Partner, Europe and Chief Creative Officer of IDEO, a world leader in human-centred and design-led innovation. IDEO is on Fast Company's Top 10 list of the world's most innovative companies. Clients include Procter & Gamble, Nokia, Intel, Oxfam, Nestlé, Numico and Vodafone.

Alicen Catron Schneider - NBC/Universal

Alicen co-leads the NBC Universal Television music department heading up the creative division. She currently music supervises "Heroes", "Royal Pains", "Trauma", "Caprica" and "Warehouse 13".

Gerfried Stocker - Ars Electronica

Gerfried is Artistic Director of Ars Electronica and a media artist. He has done numerous installations and performance projects at the nexus of interaction, robotics and telecommunications.

Elísabet Grétarsdóttir - CCP

Elísabet is responsible for the global strategy and tactical implementation for EVE Online marketing across the CCP headquarters in Iceland and the CCP North America offices.

...and many more.

In addition a sound-related film market where producers meet potential international distributors and buyers.



**Special "early bird" offer on registrations
valid until 1 September only € 100.
Further info on registrations and packages
at www.icelandmusic.is/conference09**

Til 1. september miðum við gengi evrunnar við 120 ISK

The Oldest Profession

Criminalising the purchase of women in Iceland



May 6, 2009. 12:28 pm.

It's humiliating, being solicited for sex. The range of emotions felt is broad; each and every one verging on crushing the psyche and effectively scrambling any attempt at rationalising what happened—angry, embarrassed, insulted, humiliated, disgusted, objectified, belittled, broken, nauseous.

In large cities, cities where people are comfortable in their anonymity, faceless bodies ducking and weaving among similarly featureless beings, girls are out on the streets. The goods are on display, the purpose is known; it's all so commonplace. In a city like Reykjavík, a city in which you see the same faces everywhere and 'know' everybody, though not really, the sex trade is out of sight unless confronted with it abruptly on a sunny Wednesday afternoon on Vatnsstigur observing the reestablishment of a free shop with a sizeable group of other interested bystanders.

That is how I became painfully aware of the underground sex-trade in this city. A man in his mid-twenties, dark Southern European features and a thick, unsightly unibrow, wearing too-tight high-waisted jeans and a skin-hugging white t-shirt, asked me to be his girlfriend. For ten minutes. Wallet in hand.

Strip Clubs

Prostitution doesn't happen out in the open here. "It is underground and can

hardly become more underground," explains Kristín Ástgeirsdóttir, director of the Centre for Gender Equality in Akureyri. "It has been very difficult in Iceland to prove that prostitution goes on even though the police know that it goes on and the women working in shelters. We know it's going on but it has been very difficult to prove."

In an International Abolitionist Federation (IAF) report on prostitution in the Nordic countries published in 2001, Guðrún Jónsdóttir, Manager of Stígamót, the Icelandic counselling and information centre for survivors of sexual violence, wrote about the role that strip clubs played in Iceland's hidden sex trade. She wrote: "The public in Iceland believes that the clubs 'only' offer striptease, which is absolutely incorrect. What actually happens at the clubs is that the customers buy privacy with the women, which is much closer to prostitution than striptease is. The women's income comes from the lap dance, and they must compete with one another for the customers. They therefore have to offer something special or 'extra' to get some salary. This 'extra' is often traditional prostitution."

And whom, exactly, were the women working in Iceland's strip clubs? Jónsdóttir explained: "In Iceland with only 270,000 [circa 2001] inhabitants it would be impossible to run such places with Icelandic women. Customers would risk buying their neighbour's daughters, and to be caught by their

families. Therefore the international trafficking in women that stay for a short period of time is essential to secure the anonymity of Icelandic men."

Trafficking

"There are pimps or traffickers that are here and abroad and they come from agencies in their home countries or a third country and then they're trafficked to Iceland," says Friða Rós Valdimarsdóttir, a specialist in the field of human trafficking who has written Iceland's first comprehensive report on the topic, published this month by the Icelandic Red Cross. "We've had cases of women who work in hotels; they're just here for prostitution. They come for a short time, as travellers or tourists, so they're never really illegal in the country."

"It's highly organised, that kind of prostitution, it's highly organised. There's also been a case in the news of women who have moved here as wives of Icelandic citizens and then they sold them as prostitutes."

For the report Valdimarsdóttir conducted interviews with 19 specialists on the topic of trafficking in Iceland and abroad, from police officers and government officials to NGO employees. Among other findings, Valdimarsdóttir found that the majority of women being trafficked to Iceland for the sex-trade originated in Eastern Europe, though others come here from South-East Asia, Africa and South America as well.

While there is no quick fix to a

problem that is so underground that it is all but invisible—though it does exist—Valdimarsdóttir notes that, aside from legislation and stricter monitoring of the situation, education is a key defence. "It is related to supply and demand. If the buyers know what they're buying and are aware of the situation of the person they're buying, it's less likely they will buy a person. If we stop the buying even a little bit then we stop the trafficking, or trafficking at least decreases if the buyers are aware of it."

Ástgeirsdóttir would agree with the importance of education in putting a stop to such horrors as human sex trafficking. She emphasises that "we need to do more about educating the public," specifically men. "He's the one who can choose; usually the prostitute has no choice."

Be like a Swede, not like a pimp

Prostitution had always been illegal in Iceland. In fact, it was unheard of on any organised level until the mid-90's when strip clubs began to pop up, mostly around Reykjavík, providing locations for money to be exchanged for sex in a controlled environment.

Then, in 2007, Alþingi passed a law making the selling and buying of sex legal. However, it remained illegal for a third party (a pimp, for example) to profit from the sale of another person. Coincidentally, at the same time strip shows were banned unless the club received special permission from the local police and a regulating body, such as the health department or safety authorities. Private dances, behind closed doors, were banned regardless of extraneous permissions granted.

The reasoning behind this legislation was to lessen the fear of women in the sex trade from coming forward—the law prior to 2007 stated that women engaging in prostitution would be imprisoned for up to two years—and to combat trafficking, as the illegality of stripping and private dances would make Iceland less appealing for foreign women looking to work in the industry here.

This didn't stop the trafficking problem and may have even made it worse.

April 21, 2009, parliament passed a law making it illegal to solicit sex, punishable by a fine or a year in prison (two years if the victim is under 18). This is not to say that women offering sex for money are engaging in illegal actions, but those who purchase their services and any third party benefiting from them are acting illegally and subject to appropriate punishment.

The criminalization of the buying (and benefiting from) sex and the decriminalization of selling sex

is largely regarded as the Swedish approach to prostitution legislation, as the Scandinavian country was the first to implement the common-sense approach in 1999, and has since seen a vast improvement in the sex-trade situation in the country. Since passing said legislation street prostitution in Stockholm has decreased by two thirds and the trafficking of women and children for the purpose of sex into the country has all but disappeared, with only 200 to 400 people entering Sweden for such purposes annually in comparison to the 15,000 to 17,000 people entering Finland annually for the same purpose.

Another key component of the Swedish approach is the increase in public services available for women looking to escape the sex trade and education for men on the plight of women engaged in sex trafficking. This third prong of the Swedish approach is what Iceland has been lacking according to Valdimarsdóttir. "The government has not been focusing on it, or acknowledged the problem. They haven't done anything like other European countries, which have support for victims. You have to have a special support; you have to be very strict with security for the women trying to get out."

The future of the sex-trade in Iceland

Due to the underground, hidden nature of the sex trade and trafficking in Iceland it will be difficult to monitor the success rate of the adoption of the Swedish approach on the island. According to Valdimarsdóttir "we don't have the visual so we don't know about the effects of legislation. I'm not sure if that will have the same affect in Iceland [as it has had in Sweden]."

Still, she is optimistic that the country is on the right track. "Here they have been doing so little compared to other countries but it's starting to move forward slightly with the new action plan, so at least they've chosen their way."

While she has no definite plans to conduct another study following up on the situation of human trafficking and prostitution in Iceland after this legislation has been in effect for an adequate period of time in order to see a change, Valdimarsdóttir does not rule it out. "I think it's a very current issue and I think it's very important to take this problem seriously. Research and reports are a tool to help people who are in special conditions, conditions that are not acceptable, and we have to take that very seriously on a global scale." 🇮🇸

✍️ CATHARINE FULTON
📷 JULIA STAPLES

WHAT? Welcome to Iceland
Here's how to find
WHO? People Businesses Maps Direction WHERE?

Quick guide to the information you need while enjoying your stay

www.ja.is

já - the answer

Ertu með viðskiptahugmynd?

Námskeið fyrir útlendinga sem eru með viðskiptahugmynd eða reka fyrirtæki á Íslandi

Á námskeiðinu er farið í fjármál, markaðsmál, lög og reglur um atvinnurekstur á Íslandi, góða þjónustu, starfsmannamál, gerð viðskiptaáætlunar og kynningu viðskiptahugmynda.

Nemendur læra að nýta styrkleika sína til að stofna og reka fyrirtæki á Íslandi. Nemendur fá persónulega aðstoð, upplýsingar og ráð um atvinnurekstur á Íslandi.

Kennt er á íslensku. Nemendur þurfa að skilja íslenskt talað mál. Verkefnum má skila bæði á ensku og íslensku.

Námskeiðið byrjar 4. september og lýkur 20. nóvember. Kennt er á föstudögum klukkan 13:00 – 17:00 á Nýsköpunarmiðstöð Íslands í Keldnaholti, Reykjavík. Ekki fleiri en 12 nemendur verða á námskeiðinu.

Umsóknarfrestur er til 28. ágúst

Námskeiðið er styrkt af Þróunarsjóði innflytjendamála og er samstarfsverkefni Nýsköpunarmiðstöðvar Íslands, Vinnuálastofnunar og Alþjóðahúss.

Nánari upplýsingar:

K. Brynja Sigurðardóttir á Nýsköpunarmiðstöð Íslands, brynjasig@nmi.is, sími 522 9000.

Árni Steinar Stefánsson hjá Vinnuálastofnun, arni.stefansson@vmst.is, sími 554 7600.



Félagsmálaráðuneyti
Þróunarsjóður innflytjendamála



Do you have a business idea?

A course for foreigners who have business ideas or run a company in Iceland

Topics: Finance, marketing, laws and regulations for business in Iceland, service quality, personnel, business planning and presenting a business idea.

Participants will learn to use their knowledge and potential to start and run a business in Iceland. Participants will get tutorials, personal guidance, advice and information regarding their business or business idea.

Lessons are in Icelandic. Participants need to understand spoken Icelandic.

Participants can turn in projects in English or Icelandic.

The course starts 4th of September and finishes 20th of November. Lessons are every Friday at 13:00 – 17:00. Location: Innovation Center Iceland (Nýsköpunarmiðstöð Íslands), Keldnaholt, 112 Reykjavík. Participation is limited to 12 individuals

Application deadline 28th of August.

The course is supported by the Ministry of Social Affairs - Immigration development fund.

It is organized by Innovation Center Iceland and the Directorate of Labour in cooperation with The Intercultural Centre.

Further information:

K. Brynja Sigurðardóttir Innovation Center Iceland, brynjasig@nmi.is, tel: 522 9000

Árni Steinar Stefánsson, Directorate of Labour, Borgartún 7b, arni.stefansson@vmst.is, tel: 554 7600



Nýsköpunarmiðstöð
Íslands



EXPECT HANG OVERS...



NASA

THE BIGGEST CLUB IN
DOWNTOWN REYKJAVIK.
LIVE MUSIC EVERY WEEKEND.
WWW.NASA.IS

The Sicilian Connection



"What's the difference between Iceland and Ireland?"

"One letter and about six months."

So ran the joke at the beginning of the year. It's been over seven months now and Ireland, though stricken, is nowhere near a disaster of Icelandic proportions.

Upon closer examination, several differences between Ireland and Iceland come to light. They were colonised by wankers, we by Danes. They were conservative farmers who opened up their economy in the 1990s and became the Celtic Tiger; we were conservative fishermen who opened up ours and became the canary in the coalmine. Having thus established the vital differences between Iceland and Ireland, we move on to the question of what the differences are between Iceland and that other "I" country in Europe, Italy.

The "I" Countries

On the face of it, there aren't many. Both countries are world leaders in public debt. People in both countries have a habit of speaking at great length about subjects of which they know very little. And in both countries, connections are the only way to get anything done, from getting opera tickets (well, in Iceland the opera house is a work in progress) to building permits to elected office.

The Icelanders' love of corruption is what sets them apart from other Nordic Countries. In Sweden and Norway, corruption is illegal or at the very least frowned upon, while in Iceland it is generally seen as a virtue. A person who is elected into office and does not use his or her powers to help their friends and family is no friend to anyone. Conversely, a man who helps his friends is someone you can trust. What happens to those not counted as friends is less important.

The Icelandic Godfathers

How come Icelandic political culture so much resembles a rather bland episode of the Sorpanos? Why is it that our leaders tend to resemble the Berlusconi rather than the Stoltenbergs? As with everything else, we have to go back to the Vikings to find the answer.

In the centuries surrounding the year 1000, the Vikings were everywhere. From Manhattan (perhaps) to what was later to become Moscow, Vikings ruled the world. For some reason, Vikings and later their Norman descendants preferred to settle on rather small islands such as Iceland, The Faeroes, the Orkneys and, yes, Sicily. The Vikings formed clan based societies where you helped your friends and killed the relatives of your enemies. One tends to think of Viking raids as somewhat in-your-face, but the Vikings were actually quite Machiavellian in their politics. Hávamál is full of advice on how to screw your opponents by outwitting rather than attacking them. When Iceland became Christian, it was actually still okay to worship the old gods as long as no one found out about it, another example of a distinction made between what you said and what you did.

Sound familiar? In the 19th and 20th Centuries, the Nordic core countries of Denmark, Sweden and Norway embraced enlightenment ideals of fairness, openness and a just society. Icelanders decided to stick with the older system of the elite screwing the general public with shady backroom deals. Perhaps the old clan system still survives on the periphery, in Iceland and in Sicily. If the Italian mafia is descendent from the Normans, then Iceland's elite are their northern cousins. They liked to call themselves Vikings, but mobsters seem to be just as apt. ☹

Now & Then



I was last in Iceland on August 24, 2008. At the time the price of the US dollar had just risen to what seemed a whopping 80 ISK, and I remember deciding it exceptionally prudent to postpone the exchange of my Icelandic savings for as long as my college expenditures would allow.

In fact, I prognosticated quick recovery for the króna. Having taken a single microeconomics class in high school, being a financial sage as it were, I was confident that once the ISK had recuperated from its mild sick spell I would simply be able to retrieve my funds at a more suitable price.

I felt like an asshole, obviously, when six weeks later the New York Times homepage informed me that Iceland's financial system had collapsed.

80 ISK doesn't look so bad to me now that I'm considering buying ONE FUCKING DOLLAR at 128 ISK, but as they say, that train has sailed; hindsight is 20/20; every path has its puddle; half a loaf is better than none.

It wasn't long after the financial shit-storm began that I started receiving offers of sympathy and concern from an inordinate number of people around me in the States. These were people who, upon hearing some version of the news story, were suddenly eager to discuss with me the 'situation' in the motherland. The truth, however, was that being in the seemingly fortunate position of not owning or owing anything on the icy isle, the effects of the downturn on me personally were minimal at best.

In an effort to devise competent responses to the incessant questioning, I in turn began quizzing my Icelandic compatriots for facts and anecdotes. I read the Icelandic news sources and watched the television news online for hours a day. I scoured the international press for any mentions of "COLLAPSE" and "MELTDOWN" and "TURMOIL". Yet despite my best efforts, the only conclusive detail I seemed to be able to lift from any of it, or anyone, was the vague but unspoken impression that things were more or less royally fucked.

When it comes to quantifying what has changed in Reykjavík, or in Iceland generally, since I was last home, the conclusion thus remains somewhat obscure.

If it wasn't for the slightly elevated prices on foreign goods, the newly imposed limits on money transfers abroad, and the mild malaise that may or may not be settling over the general public for the time being, I wouldn't know Iceland today from Iceland eleven months ago.

That this country is endowed with tenacity for self-perpetuation has never seemed as abundantly clear to me as at the very moment that I write this. The women at the table next to me are standing up to leave and as they do they smack their gum against their teeth in a self-congratulatory manner. Their smugness warms me as they move to put on their jackets with a sudden whirl of the stuffy and languid café air. I am in love with how they push out now against the door, submerging, fresh again, into the cool, late night air, as though they have just discovered the meaning behind the whole fucking universe and that the answer is in fact very amusing and ironic and haven't we humans been acting so very daft and absurd these past couple of millennia?

Of course these women have not discovered the answer to life, the universe and everything. They are simply brimming with the distinct but delicate self-satisfaction that till now I privately considered a plague on the Icelandic character but that for the first time strikes me as not entirely hostile, central perhaps to the survival of it all.

I finish my own cup of coffee, and though it now costs as much as a cup in America in that bad way that forebodes trouble upon departure, it seems that Iceland, that Reykjavík is exactly the same as it's always been. It feels as if ever has, delightfully, terrifyingly, like home. ☹

Taxi Man Goes GayPride

It's the ass end of a totally gayriffic weekend and I have learned a few facts and lessons.

- 1) Never fuck with a man's sequins.
- 2) Guys give the best BJs.
- 3) I look really fierce in pink.
- 4) Drag queen make-up and ridiculous amounts of rain make for a bad mix.

The line outside Barbara has been going strong since last Wednesday, but at six AM Sunday morning the queers start trickling out the door. I ferry home a guy so limp wristed he can't shake hands properly and a couple of short haired gals with that grip like an iron vise.

A chick trio from Akureyri beg me to join the party I drive them to. "Later," I lie. Sure I'd love to go, but 'em bitches are louder'n a sonic boom and I fear for my well being.

A pair of drunkoholics stumble out of ever-so-upscale speakeasy Mónakó. One of 'em, the one with the less leathery face, tries to get in the front seat with a full glass of Cuba Libre (or perhaps just Coke, though I doubt that very much). "Hold your horses there mister," I advise. "What?" the man inquires. "You're not getting in here with that." "Oh, sorry. I'll go inside and pour it into a plastic mug." How very astute of him I think to myself, of course it's not the notion of a plastered lowlife spilling alcohol in my cab that worries me, but I shudder at the thought that this respectable establishment should be robbed of a glass.

Once inside the wino reparté begins. "You're an alcoholic," stumbling Cuba Libre guy opines to his mate the raging drunkard. "No I'm not. I'm merely wine inclined," is his straight faced response. "Alcoholics drink 'cuz they have to. I drink because I want to." I'm glad we got that cleared up. I thought he drank for the sagging facial effect or to fuel his witty banter.

Then the party chicks call again. My ears start ringing.

A jolly racist KR fan fresh off the plane from an awesome defeat in Basel keeps urging me to mow down stray black people in the street. Even when there ain't any in sight (which is pretty much always) he goes off on some hate-rant. Odd that, seeing as how KR fly a black and white flag. For penance I charge him double. He don't even notice.

Out of the torrential downpour flooding the Laugavegur high street emerges the forlorn figure of a long lost love. Her head stooped trudging a drenched march of desolation, the vision of gloom ravaging her tender face tugs heavily at my heartstrings. Behind her a few paces stalks a stubble cheeked Latino that I convince myself is up to no good, due to the blinking neon sign on his forehead advertising "Rapist" to all and sundry.

I'm tempted to get out and give him a wholesome thrashing just on pure principle, were it not that my ex would take nothing from me even if it saved her a trip down a dark alley and a rape kit administration at the E.R. Still, the rain is far too heavy for even the most enthusiastic practitioner of non-consensual sex to arouse his raping spirit. And probably it's just the lingering remains of the urge to shield painting the devil's silhouette on a blank wall. Wish I'd been so thoughtful and considerate back when it counted for something.

And the party chicks call again so I drive them downtown while they polish a box of wine chugging it straight from the tap. Classy is the word. ☹ -"TRAVIS BICKLE"



A source of health

Thermal pools and baths in Reykjavik are a source of health, relaxation and pureness. 94% of foreign guests that visited thermal pools and baths in Reykjavik said it had a positive effect on their health and well-being.

Welcome to Reykjavik's Thermal Pools



Say Goodbye To Summer With Style At Jacobsen

13/08
CoxButter:
A Hip Hop Feast

14/08
Breakbeat Allnighter
Ewok
Leópold
TZMP (Live)
Breakbeat Regular Dj's

15/08
Thule Release Party

21/08
Danni Deluxxe

22/08
Jón Jónsson presents:
Kompakt (DE)

28/08
TATATAT

29/08
Már & Nielsen

Jacobsen
Austurstræti. 9



Optimistic, Hopeless, Content

múm on music, culture, values, protests and the dying afterparty



Relentlessly experimental electro/pop/whatever outfit múm are arguably one of Iceland's most successful musical exports to date. Since forming in 1997, the band has released five successful, highly influential LPs and toured the world extensively, consistently adding to their cache of friends and fans each time around.

Throughout the band's life, its members have also diligently represented certain values that – while certainly not prevalent in Icelandic society as a whole – are held in high regard within some of their generation's artistic and creative niches. Although never loudly political, they have, along with their peers in bands such as Sigur Rós (and, in fact, most other notable Icelandic outfits), continually rejected the market values, greed and unfettered capitalism that many believe lead Iceland to the brink of whatever it's on the brink of right now.

Labelling them as great thinkers or spokespeople of their generation would be unfair, but to a casual observer of Icelandic music it seems evident that they are rather influential in their MOs and values, and that they partly embody the hearty and hard-working DIY spirit that the local scene celebrates and is in turn celebrated for.

In any case, they will release their sixth long player this month, the decidedly brilliant *Sing Along To Songs You Don't Know*. This provided Grapevine with a good opportunity to catch up with founding members Gunnar Örn Tynes and Örvar Þóreyjarsón Smáráson, learn about them and their new album as well as their thoughts on some of what's been going on in Iceland lately. So we met for coffee and conversation.

A FRIGHTENING HEAP OF EVENTS

-Who are you? What are you doing here today? Describe the chain of events that lead to our meeting here over coffee.

Örvar Þóreyjarsón Smáráson: A very long chain. Gunnar [Gunnar Tynes] and I met at my 19th birthday, where he showed up uninvited. That was where the chain started.

Gunnar Tynes: A frightening heap of events has lead to this very moment.

-For the uninitiated, what have you been doing since the two of you formed múm twelve years ago?

ÖPS: We've mainly been making music. We've been hyperactive at that. We started playing together in a band called Andhéri and there discovered that the two of us had a lot of drive to make a lot of music, to work hard and create together. We eventually got

pulled into working together, as the rest of Andhéri kind of dropped out.

GT: We were kind of like the extreme trainspotters or aircraft model enthusiasts, in that we wanted to devote all our energy to making music. To us, it was more than a hobby. Lots of people around us wanted music as a diversion, when they weren't tending to their real lives. There really wasn't anything else we wanted to do. We were too obsessive.

-Andhéri was a great indie rock band, although extremely different from your initial output as múm. Did you discover that you shared aesthetics or an interest in specific genres before forming múm?

ÖPS: I think we sensed immediately that we were both open to all of the possibilities present in music. We realized instantly that we weren't interested in confining ourselves to making indie rock. We were fine with sounding like Slint, but there are just so many possibilities out there; there's no reason to confine yourself to a specific sound.

GT: I think what united us more than anything was our drive rather than any shared aesthetic or taste. The most important thing about creative cooperation is bringing different ideas to the table, mediating and then uniting them.

PLAYING EXPLORER...

-The process of creating electronic music has changed a lot since your first releases, when the process was a lot more complicated. Was making those first múm albums a learning process for you?

ÖPS: Definitely. The main difference is that the technology has changed and advanced; it's harder for us to play explorer now as everything is much more accessible. Starting múm, or at least making those first albums, would probably be harder for us in this environment. Or at least the music would have sounded a lot different.

GT: Still, that's something we continue doing. We keep searching for new grounds to explore and map out, this is partly why we moved away from making purely electronic music, we were feeling too confident on that terrain.

ÖPS: And then we've perhaps taken part in shaping the landscape of today, the methods that are now prevalent. We've been working in the field for over a decade and helped develop some things. Like Ableton Live, which is

now the main program for making electronic music. We made friends with the creators of that program before it came out. That was in Berlin ten years ago, when they were a bunch of geeks like us. We've been in touch with them since and had a say in the development of the software. It's odd to think that Live is nearing its ten-year anniversary. That software has definitely had a big impact on the way music is made and performed on stage.

-As a music enthusiast, I get the impression that múm has contributed somewhat to the sounds and methods of modern music, at least in certain corners of it. I know it's an odd question, but do you feel... influential? Do you hear yourselves in the works of others?

ÖPS: I oftentimes feel like we've influenced some good things with some people...

GT: I think you can't necessarily hear it, if it's even the case. I mean, most of the music that influences me doesn't necessarily affect the way my songs will sound... I think that if we've had any influence, it's mostly in our open attitudes and willingness to experiment.

ÖPS: At least people now seem more open to using different instruments and mixing up styles. Being open and honest.

GT: If we have indeed had any influence, we hope that's it.

FISCAL CONCERNS

-You've been making a living off being musicians for a while now; this is uncommon for Icelandic artists...

ÖPS: Yes, this has been our day job for around eight years. We... we just basically do all we can – a lot of hard work – to make some sort of living off this.

GT: We've had to work hard, making a living off this is only possible by being diligent. You can do anything you love for a job so long as you're diligent enough, if you put enough work into it.

ÖPS: It's sort of a risk, though. You need to accept the fact that you have no job security at all, you never know if you can make ends meet two months from now. And be content. Like a lot of people are.

-Speaking of fiscal matters, in the immediate aftermath of our ECONOMIC COLLAPSE, a lot of people went after artists and musicians for not being critical enough in the years leading up to it, the so-called "Goodyears." That they were sorta off in their own worlds, not paying attention to corruption and social affairs. I felt the criticism was unwarranted... for instance, you have always seemed to publicly champion different values than those that lead the people of Iceland astray, swimming against the mainstream that was dancing around golden calves...

ÖPS: Well, I think it's safe to say that we were mocked and viewed with a suspicion by mainstream society during the boom years, for not partaking in the feast and representing different values than those in vogue at the time. And then when everything went to hell, us and other artists were singled out again. That was kind of unsettling, there are probably few social groups that participated less in all the boom bullshit than artists and musicians.



And there are in fact few social groups better equipped to deal with the aftermath of the economic collapse than musicians; there's never any job security, there's no grants... it's a profession that has come to expect, and live on, nothing.

-The criticism seemed unfair. Musicians like yourselves and Sigur Rós, for instance, always seemed to endorse modest and egalitarian views, speaking up against materialism and greed, even if you weren't beating the message into folk's heads...

ÖPS: People tend to forget that politics are just as much about presenting different views and ideas for the future, different possibilities and portraying different worlds. Underlining the fact that the world we currently inhabit isn't the only one to be had. I feel this is something we've tried to do. We've always had our opinions and given them out freely, without necessarily spelling them out in our lyrics or album covers.

"THE HANGOVER HAS BEGUN..."

-Still, as a band you've been fairly politically active, playing benefits and supporting various causes. And you were active in the January protests....

ÖPS: Those rewarding times. You felt as if there were these amazing things happening, everyone had a tension in their heart. Since then people

have come down, like they will from any sort of high. The hangover has begun...

-Are you disappointed with the results?

ÖPS: Well, who isn't? I can't imagine that anyone that protested in January is happy with the way things have developed since.

-Explain how. When you read about Iceland's situation in the international press, the story usually goes that in the aftermath of the collapse, the people of Iceland successfully drove the government away from power by protesting and have since then been rebuilding society.

ÖPS: Most of the protestors were hoping for something much more. There was a great demand for a new republic, the foundations of a new system, a massive restructuring and clean-up. A new way of running things. Those ideas have all been swept under the rug, even Borgarahreyfingin [The Citizen's Movement – a grassroots political party that sprang from protests. They ran in last April's parliamentary elections and won four seats] is on its way to becoming part of the same old rotten system. Right now it seems everyone is thinking of ways to get back to what we were doing pre-collapse.

GT: The situation now could be likened to a messy afterparty, the house has

The REYKJAVÍK GRAPEVINE **iNFO**



Music, Art, Films and Events Listings + Eating, Drinking and Shopping + Map

YOUR ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO LIFE, TRAVEL AND
ENTERTAINMENT IN ICELAND.

Issue 12 2009

www.grapevine.is

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF THE REYKJAVÍK JAZZ FESTIVAL!



Viking hotel
Viking restaurants
Viking live entertainment
Viking Souvenirs

For booking and further information:
 Tel.: (+354) 565-1213
 vikings@vikingvillage.is - www.vikingvillage.is
 Strandgata 55 Hafnarfjörður

VIKING
 village
 Fjörúkraín

*by the sea
 and a delicious lobster
 at Fjörubordid in Stokkseyri*

At the seashore the giant lobster makes appointments with mermaids and landlubbers. He waves his large claws, attracting those desiring to be in the company of starfish and lumpfish.

Fjörubordid
 and the sea said ok...

← Only 45 minutes drive from Reykjavík

Eyrarbraut 3 · 825 Stokkseyri · Iceland · tel. +354-483 1550
 fax. +354-483 1545 · info@fjorubordid.is · www.fjorubordid.is

Live Music

FRIDAY 14 AUGUST
 » Grapevine Concert

SATURDAY 15 AUGUST
 » Bloodseud, Celestine, Clipcomanders, Discord and Universal Tragedy

WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST
 » Young Poets' Festival

THURSDAY 20 AUGUST
 » Young Poets' Festival

FRIDAY 21 AUGUST
 » How Knew

SATURDAY 22 AUGUST
 » Cultural Night in Reykjavík
 » Accordionist's Society in Iceland at 15:00-18:30
 » Megas, Súkkat and Fræbbblamir at 21:00

Grand Rokk
 Reykjavík

Grand Rokk » Smiðjustígur 6 » 101 Reykjavík

MUSIC

CONCERTS & NIGHTLIFE

PRESCRIBING WITH LOVE MUSIC FOR YOUR LIVE EXPERIENCE

How to use the listings
 Venues are listed alphabetically by day.
 For complete listings and detailed information on venues visit www.grapevine.is

14 FRI

- B5**
 22:00 DJ Simon GorillaFunk.
- Bar 11**
 22:00 DJs Matti, Óli Dóri and Biggi Maus.
- Celtic Cross**
 01:00 Live Music.
- Cultura**
 22:00 House DJs.
- Dubliner**
 22:30 Live Music.
- English Pub**
 22:00 Live Music.
- Grand Rokk**
 22:00 gogoyoko presents: Grapevine Grand Rock #8: Seabear, Pascal Pinon & Moses Hightower. Admission 1000ISK.
- Hressó**
 22:00 Eypór & Andri and DJ Fannar.
- Jacobsen**
 22:00 Breakbeat Allnighter with Ewok, Leópol, TZMP (Live) and Breakbeat Regular DJ
- Kaffibarinn**
 23:45 DJ KGB
- Prikið**
 22:00 DJ Árni Kacoon & In-House band.
- Reykjavík Jazz Festival**
 16:15 Open house at Efstaleiti 1. Beint Live Jazz on RÚV 1.
 20:00 Iðnó. Olivier Manoury and Jón Páll Bjarnason & Agnar Már Magnússon.
 22:00 Rósenberg. Bjarni Sveinbjörnsson Quartet and Asgeir Asgeirsson Quartet.
- Sódoma**
 22:00 Harmageddon. Sverrir Stormsker, Geir Ólafs, Toggi og Our Lives, Haffi Haff, Sing For Me Sandra and Cosmic Call. Entrance 1000ISK.

15 SAT

- B5**
 22:00 DJ Jay Oh!.
- Bar 11**
 22:00 DJs Matti, Óli Dóri and Biggi Maus.
- Celtic Cross**
 01:00 Live Music.
- Cultura**
 22:00 House DJs.
- Dubliner**
 22:30 Live Music.
- English Pub**
 22:00 Live Music.
- Hressó**
 22:00 DJ Napóleon and DJ Fannar.
- Jacobsen**
 22:00 Thule Release Party with DJ Thor & Exos.
- Kaffibarinn**
 23:45 Gísli Galdur.
- NASA**
 00:00 90's Night with Curver and DJ Kiki-Ow (UK). Entrance 1500ISK.
- Prikið**
 22:00 Danni Deluxxe
- Reykjavík Jazz Festival**
 22:00 Rósenberg. Absolute Nonsense, saxophonist Ingimar Andersen and a pack of fresh young jazz-meats, with Asgeir Asgeirsson's Quintet.
- Sódoma**
 22:00 Dalton.

16 SUN

- Dubliner**
 22:30 Live Music.
- Hallgrímskirkja**
 17:00 Susan Landale, one of the world's leading concert organists, at the Great Klais organ of Hallgrímskirkja. Entrance 1500ISK.
- Prikið**
 11:00 Hangover Cinema, screening Pootie Tang. Free popcorn.
- Reykjavík Jazz Festival**
 12:00 Dill Restaurant. Live Jazz at Noon.
 20:00 Norræna Hús. K Trío and Music Music Music.
 22:00 Rósenberg. Moses Hight-

ower and Asamasada.
 23:00 Kúltúra/Múlinn. Bop 'til you drop.

17 MON

- Dubliner**
 22:30 Live Music.
- Kaffi Hjómáland**
 20:00 Audiobook Night.
- Kaffi Zimsen**
 Best Friends Day. 2 for 1 beer.
- Reykjavík Jazz Festival**
 10:00 - 12:30 FÍH/Gerðuberg. Workshop and live music.
 14:00 - 17:00 Kjarvalsstaðir. Open workshop and master class.
 20:00 Djúpið. Jazz Quiz 1 with jazz DJ.
 22:00 Rósenberg. Live Quintet: "male bonding through improvised music".
- Prikið**
 22:00 Franz & Kristó Live.

18 TUE

- Batteríð**
 21:00 Batteríðblúswith Lame Dudes. Entrance 1000ISK.
- Dubliner**
 22:30 Live Music.
- Prikið**
 22:00 I Love You with DJ Óla Q.
- Reykjavík Jazz Festival**
 10:00 - 12:30 FÍH/Gerðuberg. Workshop and live music
 14:00 - 17:00 Kjarvalsstaðir. Open workshop and master class.
 20:00 Djúpið. Icons of jazz.
 21:00 Rósenberg. Andres Thor and Mental Terror.

19 WED

- Dubliner**
 22:30 Live Music.
- Kaffi Hjómáland**
 18:00 Ghetto Yoga.
- Kaffibarinn**
 22:00 Triphop Night.
- Hallgrímskirkja**
 12:00 Lunchtime Concert with singers of the Schola Cantorum Reykjavicensis chamber choir. Entrance 1000ISK.
- Prikið**
 22:00 DJ Gauti.
- Reykjavík Jazz Festival**
 10:00 - 12:30 FÍH/Gerðuberg. Workshop and live music
 14:00 - 17:00 Kjarvalsstaðir. Open workshop and master class.
 19:00 Rósenberg. Workshop result discussion.
 20:00 Iðnó. Þorvaldur Þór Þorvaldsson album launch.
 21:00 Rósenberg. Jazz Workshops concert.
 22:00 Kúltúra/Múlinn. Benjamin Koppel and Eypór Gunnarsson.

20 THU

- B5**
 22:00 DJ Jay Oh!.
- Bar 11**
 22:00 DJ Óli Dóri and live music.

- Cultura**
 22:00 House DJs.
- Dubliner**
 22:30 Live Music.
- English Pub**
 22:00 Live Music.
- Hressó**
 22:00 Böddi & Dabbi.
- Jacobsen**
 22:00 Weirdcore Night.
- Kaffi Hjómáland**
 17:30 Ghetto Yoga.
- Kaffibarinn**
 21:00 DJ Kalli & DJ Árni Kristjánsson.
- Kaffi Zimsen**
 Beer for 490 ISK.
- Prikið**
 22:00 Krúsi and Eineygði Dvergurinn.
- Reykjavík Jazz Festival**
 20:00 Frikirikjan. Carl Möller and Hjómásveit.
 21:00 Rósenberg. Andrés Þór Trío.
 22:00 Kúltúra/Múlinn. Benjamin Koppel and Eypór Gunnarsson.
- Sódoma**
 22:00 Weapons CD release show.

21 FRI

- B5**
 22:00 DJ Funky Fleifur.
- Celtic Cross**
 01:00 Live Music.
- Cultura**
 22:00 House DJs.
- Dubliner**
 22:30 Live Music.
- English Pub**
 22:00 Live music.
- Hressó**
 22:00 Ímynd and DJ Elli.
- Jacobsen**
 22:00 Danni Deluxxe.
- Kaffibarinn**
 23:45 DJ Ívar Pétur.
- Prikið**
 22:00 DJ Addi Intro and in-house band.
- Reykjavík Jazz Festival**
 16:15 Open house at Efstaleiti 1. Beint Live Jazz on RÚV 1.
 21:00 NASA. Guitar Concert of the Year!
 22:00 Rósenberg. Orgel orgía, Asa tríó and Tríó Þóris Baldurssonar.
- Sódoma Reykjavík**
 21:00 Skátar Bid Farewell to Markús, with guests Reykjavík!, Sudden Weather Change and Me, The Slumbering Napoleon. Entrance 1000ISK.

22 SAT

- B5**
 22:00 DJ Simon GorillaFunk.
- Bar 11**
 22:00 Shogun and guests.
- Celtic Cross**
 01:00 Live Music
- Cultura**
 22:00 House DJs.
- Dubliner**
 22:30 Live Music.
- English Pub**
 22:00 Live Music.
- Hressó**
 20:00 Dalton and DJ Elli.

Music & Entertainment | Venue finder

Amsterdam Hafnarstræti 5 D3	Dubliner Hafnarstræti 4 D3	Nýlenduvörverzlun Hemma & Valda Laugavegur 21 F5
Apótek Austurstræti 16 E3	English Pub Austurstræti 12 E3	Næsti Bar Ingólfstræti 1A E5
B5 Bankastræti 5 E4	Glaubar Tryggvagata 20 D3	Óliver Laugavegur 20A F5
Babalú Skólavörðustígur 22 F5	Grand Rokk Smiðjustígur E5	Ólstofan Vegamótastígur F5
Batteri Hafnarstræti 1-3 D3	Highlander Lækjargata 10 F3	Prikið Bankastræti F5
Bar 11 Laugavegur 11 E5	Hressó Austurstræti 20 E4	Q-Bar Ingólfstræti 3 F4
Barbara Laugavegur 22 F6	Hverfisbarinn Hverfisgata 20 E5	Rósenberg Klappastígur 25 F6
Bjarni Fel Austurstræti 20 E4	Jacobsen Austurstræti 9 E3	Sódoma Reykjavík Tryggvagata 22 D3
Boston Laugavegur 28b F6	Kaffi Hjómáland Laugavegur 23 F6	Sólón Bankastræti 7A E4
Café Cultura Hverfisgata 18 E5	Kaffi Zimsen Hafnarstræti 18 E4	Thorvaldsen Austurstræti 8 E3
Café Paris Austurstræti 14 E3	Kaffibarinn Bergstræðastræti 1 F5	Vegamót Vegamótastígur 4 F5
Balthazar Hafnarstræti 1-3 D3	Karamba Laugavegur 22 F6	
Celtic Cross Hverfisgata 26 E5	London/Reykjavík Tryggvagata 22 D3	
Dillon Laugavegur 30 F6	NASA Þorvaldsenstræti 2 E3	

Jacobsen

22:00 Jón Jónsson Presents:
Kompakt (DE), **Pan/Tone** (Live),
Shumi, **Jack Schidt** and **Sexy
Lazer**.

Kaffibarinn

23:45 **Már & Nielsen**.

NASA

23:00 Culture Night event. Entrance
2000ISK.

Prikið

21:00 Culture Night with **Agent
Fresko**, **Dr Spock**, **Hooker Swing**,
Cliff Claven, **DJ Danni Deluxxe**
and more.

Reykjavík Jazz Festival

All day Culture Night events. Jazz
programming.

Sódóma

22:00 **Entombed**, **Sororicide**, **In
Memoriam** and **Gone Postal**.

Tapas Barinn

15:00 **Virtual Motion**.

23 SUN**Dubliner**

22:30 Live Music.

Prikið

11:00 Hangover Cinema screening
Jabberwocky. Free popcorn.

Reykjavík Jazz Festival

12:00 **Dill Restaurant**. Live Jazz at
Noon.

15:00 **Kjarvalsstaðir**. **Kristjana
Stefánsdóttir** and **Ragnheiður
Gröndal** unite the singers on the
Icelandic scene.

20:00 **Iðnó**. **Guðmundur Stein-
grímsson's** 80th Birthday Celebra-
tion.

21:00 **Rósenberg**. **Scott
McLemore**

22:30 **Kúltura/Múlinn**. Charles
Mingus Tribute. Bop 'till you drop.

24 MON**Dubliner**

22:30 Live Music.

Kaffi Hjómalið

20:00 Audiobook Night.

Prikið

22:00 Frískó.

Reykjavík Jazz Festival

20:00 **Djúpið**. Jazz Quiz 2.

21:00 **Rósenberg**. **Samuel J**

Now offering
catering service!

sushibarinn

Laugavegur 2 101 Reykjavík tel: 552 4444

Open:
Mondays-Saturdays 11:30-22:30
Sundays 16:00-22:00

**OMG! Skátar Bid Farewell!**

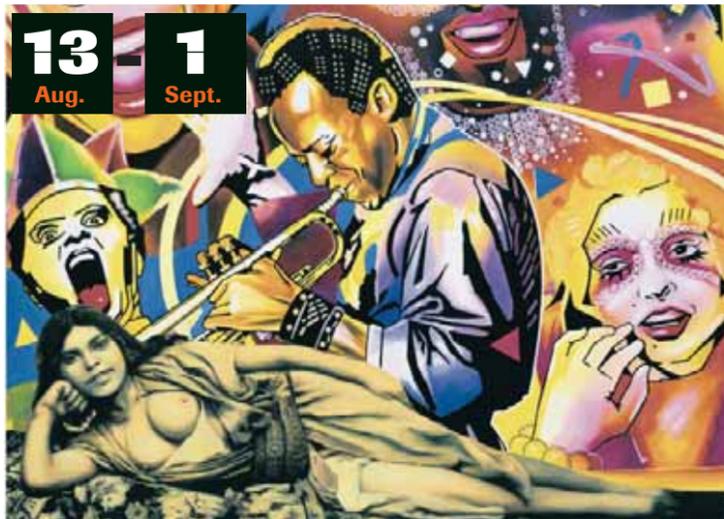
Sódóma Reykjavík ☺ 21PM

1000ISK

So we just got word... the mighty Skátar are breaking up! Goddamn! All swine collapse, economic flu issues aside, this is some of the very worst news we've heard all year. Reykjavík's music scene mainstays, overall-clad overlords Skátar are breaking up. No more Skátar shows for us, no more Skátar songs to sing along, no more glittery golden pants, deranged humour and weirdly hooky skronk. A sad day for Icelandic music.

"It's a very amicable split," Skátar guitarist Benni told Grapevine over the phone. "We'll probably keep on playing together in some form, under a different moniker. But our singer Markús decided it was time for other pursuits and we decided that it was an appropriate time to put Skátar on indefinite hiatus. We'll probably be like Dinosaur Jr - we'll get together for more shows and albums in eighteen years or so."

THERE IS ONE LAST CHANCE TO SEE SKÁTAR PERFORM, and you seriously need to be there. Catch their farewell show at Sódóma Reykjavík on Friday August 21, where the band will play for the last time, to celebrate the good times and the great music they made together. Supporting bands Reykjavík!, Sudden Weather Change and Me, The Slumbering Napoleon will warm up the send-off and show their love for their fellow brother-in-band. Bring your handkerchiefs! **HSM**

**Reykjavík Jazz Festival**

All over Reykjavík

1000ISK

All you jazz enthusiasts are in for a treat in the latter half of August as the 20th annual Reykjavík Jazz Festival takes over the city, ambushing us with a flurry of symbol brushes, freeform sax solos and rich, brooding vocals. World-class acts from Iceland and its Nordic neighbours, as well as Austria, France and the United States, will be performing more than fifty concerts from August 13th through to the 1st of September at venues throughout the city. The festival also features an outdoor concert on Ingólfstorg and a series of jazz workshops that include masterclass discussions with the likes of guitarist Hilmar Jensson and drummer Jim Black of the jazz ensemble AlasNoAxis.

Another interesting feature of this year's festival agenda is Organ Orgy!, a performance in which the ASA trio tackles the classics of Jimi Hendrix and Thelonius Monk. The trio consists of Andrés Þór on guitar, Agnar Már Magnússon playing a Hammond organ and Scott McLemore keeping time on the drums.

The Reykjavík Jazz Festival is also offering up a special Culture Night calendar on August 22nd. Culture Night, Reykjavík Jazz Festival style, presents jazz band The Animals, a jazz DJ set at Hafnarhús, a guided jazz-walk through the Reykjavík Gallery and a literature and jazz symposium at Iðnó.

A Jazzpass that grants holders entrance to all the events of the Reykjavík Jazz Festival can be bought online at midi.is for only 8000 ISK and more information about the festival, including the complete program can be found at reykjavikjazz.is. **CF**

The Vinebar

LOOK AT THE VINE-SIDE OF ICELAND

VÍNBARINN KIRKJUTORG 4 (CENTER OF REYKJAVÍK) OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY



KIMI records

SUMMER FUN TOUR
ALBUMS AVAILABLE IN
Eymundsson



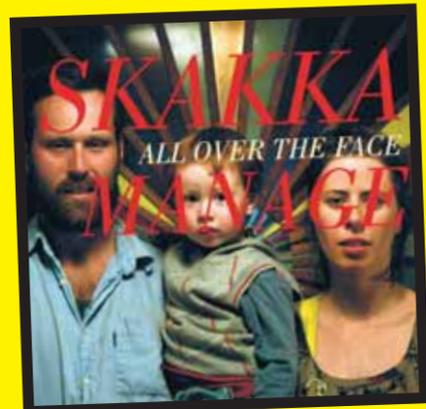
FM BELFAST | *How To Make Friends*

★★★★★ / Fréttablaðið



REYKJAVÍK! | *The Blood*

★★★★★ / Morgunblaðið



SKAKKAMANAGE | *All Over The Face*

★★★★★ / Morgunblaðið



SUDDEN WEATHER CHANGE | *S!HITNOCD?*

★★★★★ / Fréttablaðið

www. **KIMI** records .net



Sixt
rent a car

Tel +354 577 60 50
www.sixt.is



VÍKING VÍKING

LIVE MUSIC
every weekend

Græni
naturinn

AKUREYRI

MUSIC AUGUST

– continued –

Samuelsson's Big Band.

25 TUE

Dubliner

22:30 Live Music.

Prikið

22:00 Q Night with Óli Hjörtur.

Reykjavík Jazz Festival

20:00 **Djúpið**. Bad Taste Record shop presents the new Icons of Jazz DVD series.

21:00 **Rósenberg, OC/DC**.

22:30 **Kúltúra/Múlinn**. The Reykjavík Little Band.

26 WED

Dubliner

22:30 Live Music.

Hallgrímskirkja

12:00 **Lunchtime Concert** with singers of the **Schola Cantorum Reykjavicensis** chamber choir. Entrance 1000ISK.

Kaffi Hjómálinn

18:00 Ghetto Yoga.

Prikið

22:00 **Addi Beatmaster 2000**

Reykjavík Jazz Festival

20:00 **Norræna Hús. Tre Til Tango** and **Fortuna/Weeke duo**.

21:00 **Rósenberg, Einar Scheving Band**.

22:30 **Kúltúra/Múlinn**. The Reykjavík Little Band.

27 THU

B5

22:00 **Þrjár Raddir** Live

Bar 11

22:00 **DJ Óli Dóri** and live music.

Cultura

22:00 House DJs.

Dubliner

22:30 Live Music.

English Pub

22:00 Live Music.

Hressó

22:00 **Jogvan & Vignir**.

Jacobsen

22:00 **Sexy Lazer Und Friends**.

Casbah Opening.

Kaffibarinn

22:00 **DJ B Ruff**.

Prikið

22:00 **Krúsi**.

Reykjavík Jazz Festival

20:00 **Kjarvalsstaðir. Olivier Manoury, Ife Tolentino** and **Óskar Guðjónsson**.

21:00 **Rósenberg, Fortuna/Weeke duo** and **Narodna Muzika**.

22:30 **Kúltúra/Múlinn**. The Reykjavík Little Band.

OUTSIDE REYKJAVÍK

Borgarnes

The Icelandic Settlement Centre

August 20 **Beatle story concert**

Bandið Bakvið Eyrað

Ingólfur Margeirsson

9pm – 01am

Admission TBA

Ísafjörður

Kaffi Edinborg

August 23 **Woodpidgeon**

9pm – 11pm

Free Admission

Akureyri

Græni Hatturinn

August 14 **Megas & Senubjófarnir**

9pm – 01 am

Admission 2000 ISK

August 15 **Baggallútur**

9pm – 01 am

Admission 2000 ISK

August 20 **Nesi, Sjana og Hinar Kellingarnar**.

9pm

Admission TBA

August 21 **Nesi, Sjana og Hinar Kellingarnar**.

9pm

Admission TBA

Húsavík

Gamli Baukur

August 14 **S.O.S & Ína**

11pm

Admission 1.000 ISK

(includes a beer for those who come before 0.30 am)



Entombed, Sororicide, In Memoriam & Gone Postal

Sódóma Reykjavík, All ages ☺ 16PM, 18+ ☺ 22PM

2.500ISK

Start doing your neck stretches now: this night of death metal madness is primed for destruction-by-headbanging. Swedish pioneers Entombed are bringing their melodious shredding to Iceland for the first time and it's set to be an epic event not to be missed. Local legends Sororicide and newcomers In Memoriam and Gone Postal will round out the bill of the double-feature show. The early show is welcome to all ages, and the later one for legal folks only – if the place is still intact. Expect shit to get royally ripped up in there. –RL



Weapons Album Release Show

Sódóma Reykjavík

500ISK, or 1500ISK with CD

After highly successful shows at the last two Iceland Airwaves festivals and a period of absence from the country by their guitarist, the first album from these Reykjavík hooligans comes not a moment too soon. They will release their record "A Ditch In Time" with all the pomp and circumstance they can muster to firmly cement themselves in the city's musical landscape. Taking cues from the likes of The Strokes, their fun, upbeat rhythms and throwback punk riffs shouldn't keep a foot still on the dance floor or a frown on anyone's face. RL



Premiere of a documentary about Hjálmar and their journey to Jamaica

Austurbæjarbíó ☺ 21PM

In the summer of 2009, all-white Icelandic reggae group Hjálmar journeyed deep into the heartlands of Jamaica to record their latest album. The expedition was documented by filmmakers Bjarni Gríms and Frosti Jón Rúnólfsson in an effort to show the roots of reggae music and the curious escapades of the Icelandic band. The movie is set to be premiered at Austurbæjarbíó on Friday the 21st of August. Hjálmar have already demonstrated that white men can play reggae alright will now show how the people of Jamaica took to their music and how the journey affected them as a band. The album, recorded at studios Ruff Tuff and Harry J. in Kingston, has been named "IV" and will be played for the first time for a live audience on the 21st. All those interested in reggae and the adventures to be had on the sunny island of Jamaica should check out Austurbæjarbíó at 21:00. RJH



Cute Comes to Grand Rökk

Grand Rökk ☺ 22PM

1.000ISK

Local watering hole, Grand Rökk, mellows out Friday August 14th for the eighth instalment of Grapevine Grand Rökk, presented by gogoyoko. The night will keep you krútt kids happily swaying to the musical stylings of up and coming sweethearts Pascal Pinon, über laid back jazz trio Moses Hightower and possibly the cutest band around – with an equally adorable moniker – Seabear.

The dreamy melodies will begin filling the space with rainbows and happiness at 22:00, cover is a miniscule 1000 ISK and the drinks are wet, delicious and oh so thirst quenching. So hike up your candy-coloured tights, don your oversized 80's-esque fashion glasses and bathe yourself in the sounds of cute. CF

Art | Venue finder

101 Gallery

Hverfisgata 18A | **F6**

Thu–Sat 14–17 and by appointment

www.101hotel.is

is/101hotel/101gallery/

Artótek

Tryggvagata 15 | **D5**

Mon 10–21, Tue–Thu 10–19, Fri 11–19, Sat and Sun 13–17

www.sim.is/Index/Islenka/Artotek

ASÍ Art Museum

Freyugata 41 | **G10**

Tue–Sun 13–17

Árbæjarsafn

Kistuhylur 4

The Culture House

Hverfisgata 15 | **F6**

Open daily 11–17

www.thjodmenning.is

Dwarf Gallery

Grundarstígur 21 | **H8**

Opening Hours: Fri and Sat 18–20

www.this.is/birta

The Einar Jónsson Museum

Eiriksgata | **G9**

Tue–Sun 14–17

www.skulptur.is

Fótógrafi

Skólavörðustígur 4a | **F7**

www.fotografi.is

Gallery 100°

Bæjarháls 1

www.or.is/Forsida/Gallery100/

Open weekdays from 08:30–16:00

Gallery Auga fyrir Auga

Hverfisgata 35 | **G7**

Gallery StartArt

Laugavegur 12B | **G7**

Tue–Sat 1–17

www.startart.is

Gallery Ágúst

Baldursgata 12 | **F9**

Wed–Sat 12–17

www.galleriagust.is

Gallery Fold

Rauðarástígur 14–16 | **J9**

Mon–Fri 10–18 / Sat 11–16 / Sun 14–16

www.myndlist.is

Gallery Kling & Bang

Hverfisgata 42 | **G7**

Thurs–Sun from 14–18

this.is/klingogbang/

Gallery Turpentine

Ingólfstræti 5 | **F7**

Tue–Fri 12–18 / Sat 11–16

www.turpentine.is

Gerðuberg Cultural Centre

Gerðuberg 3–5

Mon–Thu 11–17 / Wed 11–21 / Thu–Fri 11–17 / Sat–Sun 13–16

www.gerduberg.is

Hitt Húsið

– **Gallery Tukt**

Pósthússtræti 3–5 | **E6**

www.hittusid.is

i8 Gallery

Klapparstígur 33 | **G7**

Tue–Fri 11–17 / Sat 13–17 and by appointment. www.i8.is

Living Art Museum

Vatnsstígur 3 – **G7**

Wed, Fri–Sun 13–17 / Thu 13–22. www.nylo.is

Lost Horse Gallery

Skólástræti 1 | **F6**

Weekends from 13–19 and by appointment on weekdays.

Hafnarborg

Strandgötu 34, Hafnarfjörður

The National Gallery of Iceland

Frikirkjuvegur 7 | **E8**

Tue–Sun 11–17

www listasafn.is

The National Museum

Suðurgata 41 | **C9**

Open daily 10–17

natmus.is/

The Nordic House

Sturlugata 5 | **C11**

Tue–Sun 12–17

www.nordice.is/

The Numismatic Museum

Einholt 4 | **K9**

Open Mon–Fri 13:30–15:30.

Reykjavík 871+/-2

Aðalstræti 17 | **D6**

Open daily 10–17

Reykjavík Art Gallery

Skúlagata 28 | **H6**

Tuesday through Sunday 14–18

Reykjavík Art Museum

Open daily 10–16

www listasafnreykjavikur.is

Ásmundur Sveinsson Sculpture Museum

Sigtún

Hafnarhús

Tryggvagata 17 | **E5**

Kjarvalsstaðir

Flókagata | **K11**

Reykjavík City Theatre

Listabraut 3

Reykjavík Maritime Museum

Grandagarður 8 | **C3**

Reykjavík Museum of Photography

Tryggvagata 16 | **D5**

Weekdays 12–19 / Sat–Sun 13–17

www.ljosmyndasafnreykjavikur.is

Sigurjón Ólafsson Museum

Laugarnestangi 70



ÞJÓDMINJASAFN ÍSLANDS
National Museum of Iceland

The country's largest museum of cultural history featuring a permanent exhibition on Iceland's extraordinary history from settlement to present day.

National Museum of Iceland

OPENING HOURS:

Summer
(May 1st – September 15th)
Daily 10–17

Winter
(September 16th – April 30th)
Daily except Mondays 11–17



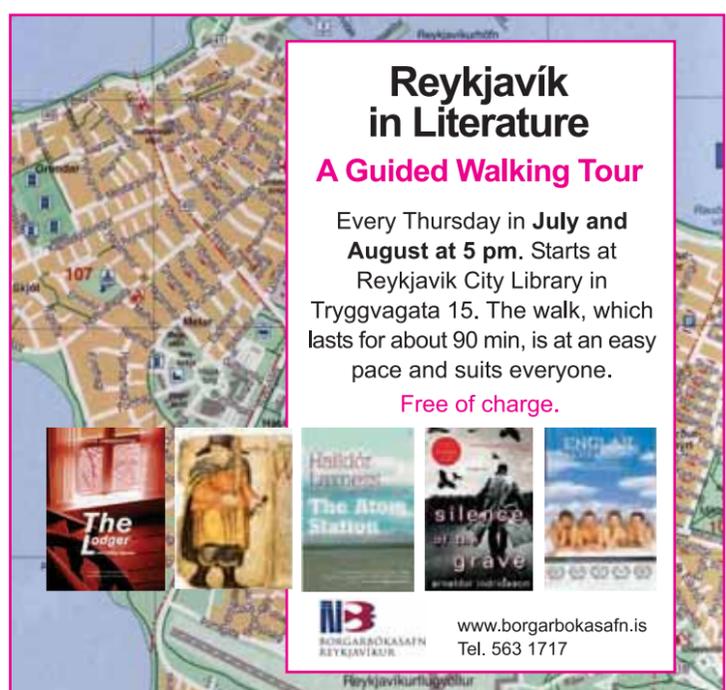
Suðurgata 41 · 101 Reykjavík · Tel. +354 530-2200 · www.natmus.is

Numismatic Museum



The Central Bank and National Museum of Iceland jointly operate a numismatic collection that consists of Icelandic notes and coins, foreign money from earlier times, especially if mentioned in Icelandic sources, and more recent currency from Iceland's main trading partner countries. A selection from the numismatic collection is on display in showcases on the ground floor of the Central Bank's main building.

Situated in the Central Bank's main building in Kalkofnsvegur 1, Reykjavík. Open Mon.–Fri. 13:30–15:30. Free admittance.

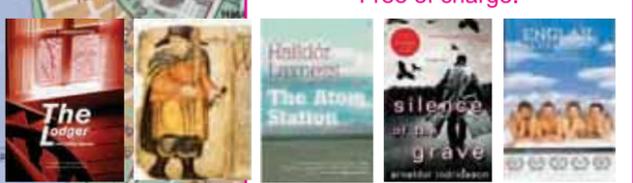


Reykjavík in Literature

A Guided Walking Tour

Every Thursday in July and August at 5 pm. Starts at Reykjavík City Library in Tryggvagata 15. The walk, which lasts for about 90 min, is at an easy pace and suits everyone.

Free of charge.



www.borgarbokasafn.is
Tel. 563 1717

ART

GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

COCKTAIL PLEASURES AND VISUAL STIMULATION

How to use the listings
Venues are listed alphabetically by day.
For complete listings and detailed
information on venues visit
www.grapevine.is

OPENING

AUGUST

14 ☺ 5pm
Listasafn Mosfellsbæjar (Mosfellsbær)
Spjóld
Artist Kristín Jónsdóttir exhibits her works.

16 ☺ 4pm
Kjarvalsstaðir
The Reykjavík Jazz Festival
presents **Ode To Jazz!** An exhibition featuring jazz in Icelandic art. Live music. Exhibit will run through length of the festival.

ONGOING

ASÍ Art Museum
Current exhibitions:
June 27 - Aug. 23
Summer Exhibition - Works from the collection
Chosen paintings from Jón Stefánsson, Jóhannes Sveinsson Kjarval, and Svavar Guðnason.

The Culture House
Permanent exhibitions:
Medieval Manuscripts
March 28 - Jan 10 2010
ICELAND::FILM
This exhibition traces for the first time the development of Icelandic filmmaking from its origins around 1904 to the year 2008.

The Library Room.
Current exhibitions:
August 12 - ongoing
National Archives of Iceland - 90 years in the museum building.
Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Culture House.

Sheepskin, Saffian and Shirting
It shows the tools and equipment used in book binding.
Exhibition Series:
Paintings by Hulda Viljálmsdóttir.

The Einar Jónsson Museum
Permanent exhibition: **The work of sculptor Einar Jónsson.**

Gallery Agust SHARP
Artist Andrea Maack introduces her third perfume, Sharp, in an exhibition that explores aspects of the fashion industry while still connecting to the art world.

Gerðarsafn Art Museum (Kópavogur)
June 27 - Aug 31

The Kópavogur Art Museum Summer Exhibition

Gerðuberg Cultural Centre
Boginn Gallery: The Land in Colour
Popular artist Guðrður Jóhannesson

exhibition of landscape paintings.
Gljúfrasteinn Laxness Museum
Gljúfrasteinn was the home and workplace of Halldór Laxness (winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1955) and his family for more than half a century. It has now been opened to the public as a museum, unchanged from when Laxness lived there.

Hafnarborg Centre of Culture and Fine Art (Hafnafjörður)
Current exhibitions:
June 24 - Aug. 16

Collectors Collections
An exhibition celebrating the 100th anniversary of Dr. Sverrir Magnússon, founder of Hafnarborg. On this occasion selected art works from the original collection at the Centre will be displayed along side the art of other leading collectors.

Kling & Bang Gallery
Object d'Art
Artist Kolbeinn Hugi Höskuldsson exhibits his works.

Living Art Museum
Throughout July - Exhibitions from Runo Lagomarsino, Yiva Westerlund and Olivia Plender.

National Gallery of Iceland
Hidden Treasure: Treasures In Public Possession?
Works from the three Icelandic state-owned banks' collections, along with some works from the National Gallery.

The National Museum
Permanent exhibition:
The Making of a Nation
Heritage and History in Iceland is intended to provide insight into the history of the Icelandic nation from the Settlement to the present day.
Jan 31 - Nov 30.

Encounters.
Archaeological excavations at many locations around Iceland have been funded by Kristnihátíðarsjóður (the Millennium Fund). Finds from some of these excavations are on display in an exhibition suitable for the whole family.

The Nordic House
Current exhibitions:
July 25 - August 30
The Ocean.
Features exhibitions from photographers Bjarne Riesto, Helga Cl Theilgaard and Kaare Espolin Johnson.

The Numismatic Museum
Permanent exhibition:
The Central Bank of Iceland and the National Museum of Iceland jointly operate a numismatic collection consisting of Icelandic notes and coins.

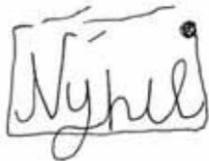
Ráðhús Reykjavíkur
Dulin Himintungl
Kim Linnet exhibits her 360° panorama photos of Iceland.

Reykjavík 871 +/- 2
Permanent exhibition:
The Settlement Exhibition

Reykjavík Art Museum Asmundarsafn
May 2 - April 30 2010
Rhyme - Works by Ásmundur Sveinsson and contemporary artists

This exhibition showcases contemporary artists that tackle similar issues as Ásmundur did in his time, but in the context of a new age.

Reykjavík Art Museum Hafnarhús
May 28 - August 23.



Nýhil International Poetry Festival

Tryggvagata 11
Friday August 21st & Saturday August 22nd

For the fifth year running Reykjavík will play host to the Nýhil International Poetry Festival. The festival presents two poetry parties on the 21st and 22nd of August featuring the written word of acclaimed contemporary poets from around the world, such as Angela Rawlings from Canada; Dmitry Golyenko from Russia; Danes Palle Sigsgaard and Morten Søndergaard; and Indian poet Vivek Narayanan, among others. Eleven Icelandic poets will also be performing their work for all you poetry lovers in the house at Tryggvagata 11.

The event organizers peg the event as one not to miss for anybody even remotely interested in literature, the arts, critical thought and sex. So if any of those things strike your fancy make sure to check out <http://nyhil.blogspot.com> (in Icelandic) for more information. And all y'all who are not familiar with the rich and wonderful Icelandic language, the festival program will print translated material for your reading pleasure. **CF**



NO! I AM STILL ON YOUR SIDE
Photographs by Eva Funk and Malte Jantzen
Exhibition opening on 15/08/09 at 7pm
15/08/09 - 12/09/09 at Gallerí Tukt
Posthússtræti 3-5, 101 Reykjavík

No! I Am Still On Your Side

Gallerí Tukt, Posthússtræti 3-5.

When: Aug. 15 - Sept. 12.

They say they won't solve anything and they won't make the world a better place, but they'll keep on trying. Malte Jantzen, a German boy, and Eva Funk, an Austrian girl, have put together this collection of twenty four black-and-white analog photographs taken over the course of the summer while living and working in Reykjavík. Featuring both live and still subjects, the images range from soft to bold, touching to amusing. The world certainly isn't any the worse for it, and they get an A for effort. **RL**



Life isn't just a game

— it's also a bed of roses...

16. May - 29. August 2009

LJÓSMYNDASAFN REYKJAVÍKUR
Reykjavík Museum of Photography

Tryggvagata 15, 6th floor · 101 Reykjavík ·
Tel: 411 6390 · www.photomuseum.is
Opening hours 12 -19 Mondays - Fridays
13-17 Weekends · **ADMISSION FREE**



2009

THE INTERNATIONAL ORGAN SUMMER HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA

June 28 - August 16 · Sundays at 5 PM



19. July
Andreas Sieling
Germany



26. July
Douglas Cleveland
USA



2. August
Eyþór Ingi Jónsson
Iceland



9. August
Roger Sayer
UK



16. August
Susan Landale
France



Schola Cantorum Chamber Choir

LUNCHTIME CONCERTS ON WEDNESDAYS IN HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA AT 12 NOON
July: 15, 22, 29 August: 5, 12, 19, 26



LUNCHTIME CONCERTS ON THURSDAYS IN REYKJAVÍK CATHEDRAL AT 12:15 NOON

July: 16, 23, 30 August: 6



Kraum of the crop

Designers unite in **Kraum**, the first store in Iceland dedicated entirely to **Icelandic design**, displaying over **120 selected designers**. Kraum has breathed new life into Reykjavík's oldest house dating back from mid **17th century**.

Aðalstræti 10
101 Reykjavík
Tel: +354 517 7797
www.kraum.is

Opening hours:
Mon-Wed 09:00-18:00
Thu 09:00-22:00
Fri 09:00-18:00
Weekends 12:00-17:00



ITALIAN CUISINE
IN REYKJAVÍK

PISA

RISTORANTE
GUESTHOUSE

LÆKJARGATA 6 B TEL. 5787200
www.pisa.is pisa@pisa.is

Glaetan

Bookcafé / Bókakaffi

Laugavegi 19 • Tel: 511-1180

www.glaetan.is

Good price

Books

Cd's, and Gift's
Wrap



Cappuchino Panini
Caffé latte Swiss Mocca
Chocolatte Espresso
Bread



...TASTE THE
DIFFERENCE

CONCERT

Lúðrasveitin Svanur
and others

22.8.09 from 4pm
LYSTIN Garden

FREE ADMISSION

LYSTIN

RESTAURANT

LAUGAVEGUR 73

WWW.LYSTIN.IS

TEL.: 567 5978

MAP

Places We Like

1 Kaffi Hljómalind

Laugavegi 23

The only true activist-friendly, community servicing co-op in town, Kaffi Hljómalind lends a breath of fresh air and a welcome alternative to Reykjavík's beer-stained, decadent cafés. Offering up a fare of vegetarian-to vegan friendly courses, some pretty good coffee and an awesome selection of tea. As well as a free, anarchist library. What else do you need? SKK

2 Á Næstu Grösum

Laugavegi 20b

Á Næstu Grösum is an all vegetarian restaurant right in the city centre that features a friendly atmosphere and fair prices. There is always at least one vegan soup on offer and the daily special portions are big and always satisfying. There is even some organic wine on offer. HSM

3 Babalú

Skólavörðustíg 22

Located on the second-floor of a quirky little building on Skólavörðustígur, Babalú is an inviting, quaint and cosy café serving up a selection of tea, coffee and hot chocolate along with delicious baked goods and light meals. Food and drink aside, Babalú boasts colourfully decorated and super-comfortable surroundings and a genuinely friendly and likeable staff. CF

4 Ban Thai

Laugarvegur 130

Even though the service at Ban Thai may get a little flaky, the food is always to die for and the place also offers a very pleasant dining atmosphere that puts you right in a comfortable Thai sorta mood. It's really Reykjavík's only "fancy" Thai restaurant. Ban Thai has remained a true Reykjavík treasure for the longest time, and is truly one that should be celebrated. HSM

5 Kaffitár

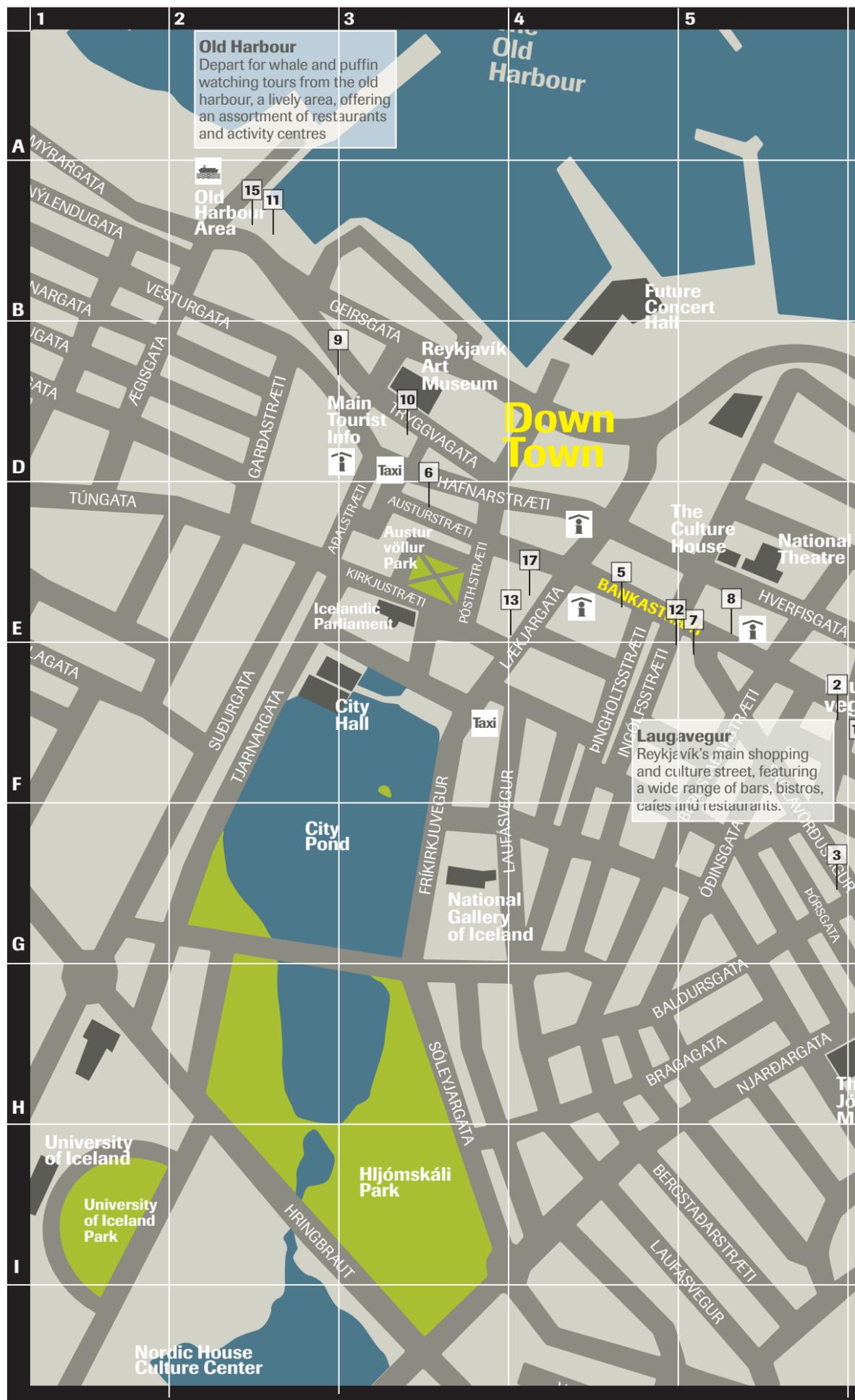
Bankastræti 8

Kaffitár on Bankastræti is a comfortable little café with a great selection of coffee, tea and baked goods on offer. Since Kaffitár is also a big-name Icelandic roasterie the caffeinated beverages on the menu are quality. The wi-fi makes this a nice place to sit and chill with your laptop as well. CF

6 Jacobsen

Austurstræti 9

A fairly new venue in town, Jacobsen is owned by some nouveau riche Swedes, and has been providing a non-stop party over the last few months. Besides its importing foreign big-shot DJs and other niceties, it is probably most appreciated for its loooong hours; it doesn't matter if you stop partying at 2AM or way-too-much AM, Jacobsen is always forking out shots and cocktails. SKK



7 Deli

Bankastræti 14

Getting a good slice of pizza on the go can be an utter ordeal. If you're not careful, you'll frequently wind up paying good money for a cardboard wafer that has been sitting in a heater box for a week. Not at Deli, however. Their slices are consistently awesome and fresh, the topping selection is intriguing and tasteful and, best of all, they're really cheap. HSM

8 Kisan

Laugavegur 7

This store is incredibly cool. It's stocked with really unique and quirky clothes, outerwear, accessories and handbags, plus they have an adorable section of kids clothes, kitschy vintage toys and books and even interior design items. Wicked place; definitely worth a visit. CF

9 Café Haiti

Tryggvagötu 16

The first time I entered this exotic little joint, meaning to buy myself a take-away espresso, I ended up with two kilos of fresh and roasted coffee beans due to some language complications and way too much politeness. Since then I have enjoyed probably way-too-many wonderful cups of Haitian coffee, but they're always as nice, so the two kilos were definitely worth it. SKK



Live Music Every Night • Live Soccer
Icelandic Beer on Draif and Bottles
And our Infamous Wheel Of Fortune

POLAR BEER

POLAR BEER

POLAR BEER

THE ENGLISH PUB

at Austurstræti 12



Photo: Ragnar Th.

AUGUST 22 REYKJAVÍK CULTURE NIGHT 2009 FULL SCHEDULE

IN YOUR
POCKET



WHAT IS REYKJAVÍK CULTURE NIGHT?

An annual event in the city since 1996, Reykjavik Culture Night has become an essential part of cultural life in Iceland, with thousands of people strolling the streets of the city on this exciting and eventful night. Culture Night offers the chance to enjoy a variety of activities ranging from guided tours, traditional shows and exhibitions to more unusual happenings. A number of cultural institutes such as galleries, ateliers, shops, cafes, churches, restaurants and bars in downtown of Reykjavik stay open until late.

In short: if you find yourself in Reykjavik during culture night, soak yourself in it, you're guaranteed one of the best times to be had in Iceland, as it offers a great chance for experiencing arts, culture and other activities in a uniquely Icelandic way.

 Landsbankinn

 Orkuveita
Reykjavíkur



REYKJAVÍK CULTURE NIGHT 2009 – AUGUST 22

10:00 - 10:00

THREADS

Co-exhibition of four glass artists. They are Dagný Prastardóttir from Ísafjörður, Helle Viftrup Kristensen from Børkop, Denmark, Ólöf Sigríður Davíðsdóttir in Brákarey and Susanne Aaes from Ikast, Denmark.

HJÁ ÖFEGI - SKÓLAVÖRÐUSTÍGUR 5

10:00 - 16:00

NORDISK PANORAMA 2009

Nordisk Panorama 2009 is a Nordic short and documentary film festival that will take place in Reykjavík September 25–30. The festival's organisers will introduce the festival at Culture Night and invite those interested to watch the best shorts of years past. Free popcorn and movie treats on offer. www.nordiskpanorama.com.

LÆKJARTORG

10:00 - 17:00

ELDING WHALE WATCHING CENTRE

Learn about ocean life in all its forms. Crafts for the kids and coffee for all. Elding Whale Watching **REYKJAVÍK HARBOUR**

10:00 - 18:00

CULTURAL NIGHT AT JCI

JCI host an open house. JCI operations presented scavenger hunts and fun. **JCI - HELLUSDUND**

TREASURE HUNT AT THE OLD HARBOUR

Participate in a fun scavenger hunt at Reykjavík's Old Harbour. The fun commences at the Elding Whale Watching Centre, where you'll receive an entry form and instructions for the game. Prizes will be drawn three times over the day at the centre, at 11:30, 15:30 and 18:00. Excellent prizes on offer.

ELDING WHALE WATCHING CENTRE - REYKJAVÍK HARBOUR

WHERE DO YOU COME FROM?

The ORG Genealogical Centre is an ocean of knowledge on people, history and much more. Reveals connections to people in the US, Brazil and the wide world. One of the world's biggest genealogical databases.

SKELJANES - AT THE END OF BUS ROUTE 12

10:00 - 23:00

THE JAM WAGON ROLLS AROUND THE CITY

The Jam Wagon will be jam-packed with jam that the jam-mothers passionately sell from a '68 Emmaljunga. They run the art patron society Sultan Eldmóður, which hosts monthly invitation nights at Næsti bar where they display their works and sell their product, fiery chilli jam that increases blood flow to the brain and sexual prowess. Eldmóður encourages folks to create art and have fun.

NÆSTI BAR - INGÓLFSSTRÆI 1A

MINI-DISPLAYS FROM AMATEUR PAINTERS

Around 25 amateur painters host displays around the city.

Locations:

- » Hafsúlan, Elding
- » Sjóhatturinn, store
- » Lundavespur, by Ægisgarður
- » Fish and Chips, Tryggvagata
- » Kaffi Reykjavík, Vesturgata
- » Art Form, Skólavörðustígur
- » Minja, Skólavörðustígur
- » Verbúðir nr. 17 and 23, Grandagarður

ELDING WHALE WATCHING- REYKJAVÍK HARBOUR

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ICELAND – A HOUSE WITH HISTORY AND SOUL

The square at the National Museum of Iceland will host an exhibit where the building's history is told in pictures and words.

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ICELAND - SUÐURGATA 41

WALKING POETRY

The poem is walked, read and the words joined in a poetic unison. The poetry reader may stumble upon words here and there and is free to arrange them after his or her own liking.

TJARNARBIÓ - TJARNARGATA

10:30 - 23:00

CHILDREN IN THE CITY- PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

'Children in the City – sharing recess with the students of Austurbæjarskóli in 2008-9' is the title of an exhibit outside of Laugavegur 4-6 that shows pictures of children in one of the city's schools. Photos: Gunnar Salvarsson

LAUGAVEGUR 4-6 - LAUGAVEGUR 4-6

11:00 - 12:00

MAKING OF A NATION: GUIDED TOUR IN ENGLISH

The National Museum's permanent exhibition is intended to provide insight into the history of the Icelandic nation from the Settlement to the present day. The aim is to cast light on Icelanders' past by placing the cultural heritage preserved by the National Museum in a historical context, guided by

the question: What makes a nation?

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ICELAND - SUÐURGATA 41

11:00 - 13:00

EVERYONE IS A KID AT THE OMBUDSMAN FOR CHILDREN'S OFFICE

An exhibition of the works of schoolchildren and kindergarteners that partook in the Ombudsman's project, 'How it is to be a child in Iceland.' About 1,000 answers were received, part of which are on display. Surprise events throughout the day. **THE OMBUDSMAN FOR CHILDREN'S OFFICE - LAUGAVEGUR 13**

11:00 - 15:00

THE MYSTERIES OF LITLAHLÍÐ

Reykjavík Energy's coldwater tank in Litlahlíð is an unusual building that is generally closed to the public. The house will be on display on Culture Night, and will host a number of music and art exhibitions.

WATERTANK - LITLA HLÍÐ

11:00 - 19:00

HLJÓMALIND BECOMES FJALLKONAN

Kristin Dalhstedt was the first woman in Iceland to run a restaurant—Fjallkonan on Laugavegur 23—in the beginning of the 20th century. Kristin was an exceptional woman, and the café often offered an outstanding atmosphere. Kristin's memory will be honoured by revoking Fjallkonan for the day. Icelandic food and live music.

HLJÓMALIND - LAUGAVEGUR 23

11:00 - 23:00

COME AND SEE THE TOWN'S HOUSES

Photographs of the houses in town by professional photographers working on behalf of Veraldarvinir. The photos will be displayed on walls by the alley on Hverfisgata 88a.

VERALDARVINIR - HVERFISGATA 88

BECOME A VERALDARVINUR

Open house at the headquarters of Veraldarvinir. Veraldarvinir is an Icelandic volunteer organisation that will host 900 international volunteers this year, to work on nature, culture and art based projects all over the country.

Veraldarvinir host an open house in their offices, where various events will take place, such as a photography exhibit, African drums and DJ performances.

VERALDARVINIR - HVERFISGATA 88

POETRYLAUGHTERKNITTING – LUKA'S WORLD OF KNITTING

An installation in the window, with knitting sculptures, laughter and poetry reading by the Luka Art & Design Duo, comprised of sisters Gunnhildur and Brynhildur Þórardóttir.

www.lukaartdesign.is

LAUGAVEGUR 12B - LAUGAVEGUR 12B

LIGHTS IN TOWN

Art exhibition by Elin G. Jóhannsdóttir at Nostrum design.

NOSTRUM DESIGN - SKÓLAVÖRÐUSTÍGUR 1A

11:30 - 12:00

EVERYONE IS A KID AT THE OMBUDSMAN FOR CHILDREN'S OFFICE

A duo of young singers, Ásta Margrét Helgadóttir and Eva Sóley Stefánsdóttir, will perform one song each in the lobby of the Children's Ombudsman. Remember to check out the exhibit on the second floor.

THE OMBUDSMAN FOR CHILDREN'S OFFICE - LAUGAVEGUR 13

12:00 - 12:30

EVERYONE IS A KID AT THE OMBUDSMAN FOR CHILDREN'S OFFICE

Father and son duo Gulli and Haukur perform at the lobby. The son plays guitar beautifully and the father supports him with a bass.

THE OMBUDSMAN FOR CHILDREN'S OFFICE - LAUGAVEGUR 13

FORMAL OPENING OF THE CULTURE NIGHT PROGRAMME

Mayor of Reykjavík, Hanna Birna Kristjánsdóttir, formally opens the Culture night programme.

HLJÓMSKÁLINN - HLJÓMSKÁLAGARÐURINN

12:00 - 13:00

THE ANIMALS OF THE NORDIC HOUSE

The Animals of the Nordic House Sax player Óskar Guðjónsson performs Thorbjörn Egner along with Matthias Hemstock and Eðvarð Lárusson.

NORDIC HOUSE - SÆMUNDARGATA

12:00 - 13:30

A WALKING TOUR OF DOWNTOWN

A walk through downtown Reykjavík with guide Guðrún Þorkelssdóttir, who will tell of history and life in the past in a vivid manner.

HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA - SKÓLAVÖRÐUHOLT

12:00 - 18:00

THE CENTRE OF ORAL HISTORY

Tales of the settling and development of the Timber house square will sound out of windows and doors at Grettisgata. Take a seat and listen to some history as told by locals (most likely in Icelandic). Text versions hang outside the buildings, and the inhabitants of Grettisgata provide waffles. The Centre of Oral History will also host a studio in the yard house of Grettisgata 35b where guests can record their own stories of the houses in town, human life and the experience of living in a house with a history.

GRETTISGATA 35 B - GRETTISGATA 35 B

12:00 - 21:00

ARTIST STEFÁN AT CAFÉ LOKI

Artist Stefán Björnsson displays reliefs – 'The Mountains aren't going anywhere.' The works are made of plywood, hardwood and acrylic paints. Stefán lives in Dalvík and is a studied carpenter. His works are a sight to behold!

CAFÉ LOKI - LOKASTÍG 28

12:30 - 13:00

EVERYONE IS A KID AT THE OMBUDSMAN FOR CHILDREN'S OFFICE

Friends Guðný Gígja and Bjartey maintain their youth by playing lovely Icelandic music. They both play guitar and sing like angels in the Ombudsman's lobby.

THE OMBUDSMAN FOR CHILDREN'S OFFICE - LAUGAVEGUR 13

13:00 - 14:00

THE HOUSES IN HISTORY AND THE HISTORY IN THE TOWN'S HOUSES

The city contains houses, the houses contain stories, the stories contain the city, the city... is. Birna's cultural escort offers a guided walk.

SKÓLAVÖRÐUHOLT BY HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA CHURCH

13:00 - 16:00

THE HOUSES IN TOWN

Culture Night's theme of the year is 'The houses in town.' This is meant to draw attention to the beauty and diversity of the houses in town and the culture that's connected to them. For that occasion, a number of houses that are usually closed to the public will be open. Among them the Government Offices of Iceland, Höfðatorg, Höfði, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Agriculture and Menntaskólinn í Reykjavík.

STJÓRNARRÁÐIÐ - VIÐ LÆKJARTORG

13:00 - 18:00

A CHINESE HOME

Unnur Guðjónsdóttir will welcome guests every hour at her 'Chinese home.' She will display various objects as well as telling of different customs and traditions that take place in Chinese homes. Unnur will also show guests Thai Chi. Chinese tea and crackers served. Everyone is welcome.

NJÁLSGATA 33 A - NJÁLSGATA 33 A

13:00 - 19:00

THE ASÍ ART MUSEUM

An exhibit of the works of three Icelandic master painters: Jón Stefánsson, Jóhannes S. Kjarval and Svavar Guðnason.

THE ASÍ ART MUSEUM - FREYJUGATA 41

13:00 - 20:00

MULTI-ENTERTAINMENT FROM COLLEGE STUDENTS

Multi-entertainment from the colleges – an entertainment programme that aims to present young artists from all over with the opportunity of presenting their art to an audience at optimal circumstances. The varied programme will feature music, fashion shows, dance shows and more.

THE OUTDOOR CHESS TABLE BY LÆKJARGATA

13:00 - 22:00

GRAFFITI

Throughout the day, British graffiti artists Jiroe and Odisy from the respected crew Heavy Artillery paint a mural in the Prikíð alley along with Maggi Noem. DJs provide atmosphere as they work.

PRIKIÐ - BANKASTRÆTI

A DATE WITH THE PAST

Do you want a Polaroid photo of you and your friends wearing stylish attire from times past? The annual and ever popular Reykjavík Photography Museum photoshoot provides opportunity for passers-by, in cooperation with the City Theatre and Friða Frænka.

THE REYKJAVÍK PHOTOGRAPHY MUSEUM - GRÓFARHÚS, TRYGGVAGATA 15

14:00 - 14:30

THE VODAFONE STREET ART CREW

The Vodafone street art crew displays great talent

by the statue on Arnarhöll. The show consists of circus artists, parkour performers and actors, and should provide great entertainment for all. You do not want to miss this.

ARNARHÖLL - ARNARHÖLL

ENCOURAGEMENT SQUARE

Do you know that beautiful plants can grow in the rockiest of terrains? Ideas are like plants. If you place your idea in the square of encouragement for a 15-minute conversation with a goal-coach, what will happen? Goal-coaches operate in accordance to the Icelandic goal-coach code of ethics.

THE REPUBLIC GARDEN - HVERFISGATA

OLYMPIC FENCING

Fencing enthusiasts from the FH fencing division and the Reykjavík Fencing Club will display Olympic fencing. Attendees will be given the chance to fence our national team.

ELDING WHALE WATCHING - REYKJAVÍK HARBOUR

THE PUPPET MOBILE

The puppet play 'What does the crocodile eat for breakfast?' will be shown in the Palace Garden. A great show where many colourful puppets of all shapes and sizes perform.

THE PALACE GARDEN, FRÍKIRKJUVEGUR

THE OPENING OF JOY SQUARE AT ÖÐINSTORG

Programme opening headed by Hilmar Örn Hilmarsson, head of Ásatrúarfélagið. Rhymesayer Steindór Andersen performs, Páll from Húsafell plays his stone harp. Ragnheiður Gröndal's trio performs sweet music.

ÖÐINSTORG

14:00 - 15:00

KASPER, JESPER AND JÓNATAN STEAL YOUR ATTENTION

The robbers Kasper, Jesper and Jónatan from the play Kardimommubæirinn don't know what's going on when tens of thousands of people come to town at Culture Night. It is a great opportunity to steal the attention. Watch out for the lion!

NATIONAL THEATRE - HVERFISGATA 19

CHILD LABOUR OR TRAINING FOR LIFE?

A guided tour in English: Child Labour or Training for Life? Photographs of young children at work, on land or at sea, during the period 1930-50. From the Collection of Photographs and Prints.

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ICELAND - SUÐURGATA 41

14:00 - 16:00

WAFFLES AND COFFEE

Landsbankinn offers delicious barley waffles and coffee. Everyone is welcome.

LANDSBANKINN - AUSTURSTRÆTI

EXHIBIT FROM SCULPTOR ÞORBJÖRG PÁLSDÓTTIR

Sculptor Þorbjörg Pálsdóttir, who crafted The Dance by Perlan, will display some of her works in the garden. Also on offer are waffles, coffee and live music.

INGÓLFSSTRÆTI 21 A - INGÓLFSSTRÆTI 21 A

HARLEY DAVIDSON ICELAND'S CHARITY DAYS

Members of Harley Davidson (HOG) chapter Iceland bike around with passengers for a fee of 500 ISK. All proceeds go to Umhyggja, an association that supports terminally ill children.

KIRKJSTRÆTI - KIRKJSTRÆTI

HUGS, COURTESY OF HLUTVERKASETUR

Hlutverkasetur brings you hugs. The hugs were well received last year. Everyone is welcome to join or just enjoy being around mentally generous folks. Hugs have never been as important. They cheer you up and don't make anyone bankrupt.

HLJÓMALIND - LAUGAVEGUR 23

THE HOUSES IN TOWN PERSONIFIED

Individuals that frequent Hlutverkasetur have personified the houses in downtown. Do they have personality, soul, experience, memories, and emotions or do they come with a special atmosphere? Come and see the photo exhibit, where the houses have been given life and the imagination has gotten wings.

HLJÓMALIND - LAUGAVEGUR 23

CHILDREN PAINT

Children are welcomed to our gallery, where they can paint their own works of art. They will receive acrylic paints and papers. The theme of the day is 'Joyful day in Reykjavík'. Their works will be displayed at the gallery, and can be picked up later that evening.

GALLERY - LAUGAVEGUR 67

WAFFLES AND COFFEE

Residents of the neighbourhood Þingholt invite you for freshly baked waffles and aromatic coffee. Everyone is welcome!

SKÓLAVÖRÐUSTÍGUR 25

ARTS WORKSHOP FOR THE KIDS

Join the art workshop for kids at the Icelandic National Museum on Culture Night. Kids can draw, colour, make crafts and allow their imagination to run amok.

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ICELAND - SUÐURGATA 41

BOOKBINDING WORKSHOP

Guests can have fun with written-off books and magazines. The library provides books, magazines, glue, yarn, staples and other ingredients, but the participants provide creative energy. Open workshop for children and adults where each works

REYKJAVÍK CULTURE NIGHT 2009 – AUGUST 22

to their best abilities. The workshop will go on all day and into the night.

CITY LIBRARY - TRYGGVAGATA

WAFFLES AND THE HUMAN RIGHTS STRUGGLE

Waffles, coffee, hot chocolate, music and human rights struggle! Amnesty International in Iceland invites everyone to visit their offices, receive refreshments and sign postcards to governments all over the world, pressuring them into honouring human rights. Employees tell about the organisations operations. Come and learn!

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL - ÞINGHOLTSSTRÆTI 27

WAFFLES AND COFFEE

Pingholt residents invite you for freshly baked waffles and aromatic coffee. Everyone is welcome!

BALDURSGATA 1, FRAKKASTÍGUR 17, ÖÐINSGATA 8B, ÞINGHOLTSSTRÆTI 7, FREYJUGATA 28, LAUFÁSVEGUR 10

14:00 - 17:00

THE NUMISMATIC MUSEUM

A display of Icelandic coins and bills as well as foreign monies from centuries past that connect to Icelandic history. Also featuring educational multimedia materials about the operations of the Central Bank.

THE CENTRAL BANK OF ICELAND - KALKOFNSVEGUR

H2 – THE CREATIVE SUMMER GROUPS OF HITT HÚSIÐ

H2 – The Creative Summer Groups of Hitt Húsið will entertain passers-by with their talent.

HITT HÚSIÐ - PÓSTHÚSSTRÆTI

14:00 - 18:00

LANDSBANKINN AT CULTURE NIGHT

Cultural programme at Landsbankinn. Art tour with Aðalsteinn Ingólfsson, live music, coffee and waffles.

LANDSBANKINN - AUSTURSTRÆTI

THE TOWER AT HÖFÐATORG ON DISPLAY

The public is invited to view the 19th floor of the tower at Höfðatorg. From the top floor, you can observe a great view to all directions.

THE TOWER AT HÖFÐATORG - BORGARTÚN

ART AND VIEW

Garðar Jökulsson exhibits art on the 19th floor. He draws inspiration from Iceland’s landscape and nature. Garðar was born in 1935 and soon became interested in art, especially landscape painting.

<http://gardarjokulsson.blogg.is/>

THE TOWER AT HÖFÐATORG - BORGARTÚN

OPEN HOUSE AT THE ICELANDIC INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

The IIDA handles developmental cooperation on behalf of the Icelandic government and operates in four African nations: Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia and Uganda.

THE ICELANDIC INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY - ÞVERHOLT 14

FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS AT JOY SQUARE BY ÖÐINSTORG

Students of floral arrangements from the Icelandic Agricultural college guide the public in making floral decorations and bouquets that can be hung on the houses in town. Flower farmers provide flowers for the decorations. Those who participate pay a modest fee that goes to the charity collection ‘Á rás fyrir Grensás’.

ÖÐINSTORG

14:00 - 22:00

LITERATURE AND JAZZ

Tómas R. Einarsson and Kristín Svava Tómasdóttir. Ragnheiður Gröndal and Aðalsteinn Ásberg. Eðvarð Lárusson and Sigurbjörg Þrastardóttir. Sunna Gunnlaugsdóttir and Óskar Árni Óskarsson. Elva Ósk Ólafsdóttir, actress, directs.

ÍDNÓ - VONARSTRÆTI 3

14:00 - 23:00

ÁRBORG – THE VISITING MUNICIPALITY OF CULTURAL NIGHT 2009

Árborg will provide a diverse programme that, among other things, contains cows and music. The Mayor of Reykjavík opens the programme.

REYKJAVÍK CITY HALL - TJARNARGATA

14:30 - 15:00

MEDITATION AT LJÓSHEIMAR

Have you always wanted to try meditation but never dared? Did you meditate back in the day? Now is your chance! Ljósheimar offer an open house during Culture Night and offer guided 15-minute meditation sessions. We steady the mind and look inwards, and fill with energy.

LJÓSHEIMAR - BORGARTÚN 3

14:30 - 16:30

GARDEN CONCERT

Concert in the garden featuring various performers, among them Helgi Valur, Retro Stefson and FM Belfast. Waffles, coffee and Þorbjörg Pálsdóttir’s sculpture exhibit at the same place.

INGÓLFSSSTRÆTI 21 A

14:30 - 18:00

SING TOGETHER AT THE REYKJAVÍK ACADEMY OF SINGING AND VOCAL ARTS

A feast of song under bare skies. Group singing of those present, eight choirs perform their own programmes. Songbooks available on site, enjoy singing the old songs that everyone loves. Hot chocolate, coffee and kleinur at good prices. Conducted and presented by Garðar Cortes.

www.songskolinn.is

THE REYKJAVÍK ACADEMY OF SINGING AND VOCAL ARTS - SNORRABRAUT

14:30 - 22:00

JOY SQUARE AT ÖÐINSTORG

Family gathering at Öðinstorg to support the charity drive ‘Á rás fyrir Grensás.’ The square will be turfed over and decorated with flowers and benches.

Lots of events at the square, music, children’s craft workshop, etc.

ÖÐINSTORG

15:00 - 15:30

AIKIDO DISPLAY

Aikido display where members of Aikikai Reykjavík perform their art.

AUSTURVÖLLUR

KJARVAL AND THE ANIMALS – FAMILY TOUR

The Northern Hall of Kjarvalsstaðir is dedicated to young guests, but this display emphasises paintings that Kjarval made of animals.

REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM - KJARVALSSTAÐIR - FLÓKAGATA

PSALM FALLS

At the start of the year, the Icelandic National Church’s Music fund ordered seven psalms from Icelandic composers and poets. These psalms will be debuted by Hallgrímskirkja’s Motett Choir, as conducted by Hörður Áskelsson.

HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA CHURCH - SKÓLAVÖRÐUHOLT

LIVING ROOM CONCERT AND URUGUAY ART

Living room concert where singer Sólvieg Unnur Ragnarsdóttir performs Icelandic classics accompanied by pianist Hilmar Örn Agnarsson. Also present is a display of hand-made clay statues by artists from Uruguay

SKÓLAVÖRÐUSTÍGUR 25

THE BOMB GENE AT DECODE GENETICS

The Bomb Gene has since 2003 staged impressive chemistry displays at the DeCode Genetics hall on Culture Night. Impressive chemistry tricks from the masters of the craft.

DECODE GENETICS - STURLUGATA

15:00 - 16:00

JAZZ FESTIVAL WALK

Birna Þórðardóttir leads a jazzy walk around Hafnarhús and the near surroundings. Group meets at Gröfin. Learn Icelandic jazz history. Live music at certain places, as well as information on the music, the instruments and the performers.

REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM- HAFNARHÚS - TRYGGVAGATA 17

LINE DANCING WITH ÓLI GEIR

Dancing instructor Óli Geir and his students display line dancing at Ingólfstorg. Guests are invited to participate.

INGÓLFSTORG SQUARE

15:00 - 16:30

GHETTOBLASTER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Unsweetened street concert in downtown Reykjavík.

- » 15:00 Orang (dub session)
- » 16:30 Gnúsi Yones & the Crackers
- » 18:00 Captain Fufanu
- » 19:30 Axfjörð
- » 21:00 Oculus
- » 22:30 Óli Ofur (DJ set)

Ewok DJs between sets

BY REYKJAVÍK CITY LIBRARY - TRYGGVAGATA

15:00 - 17:00

FLOATING PATH FROM THE HÖFÐATORG TOWER TO HÖFÐI

The Reykjavík division of the Hjálparsveit skáta rescue squad will perform a stunt at Höfðatorg. Members will build a floating path from the top of the tower to Höfði and float it through. They will also lower themselves down the tower with ropes.

THE TOWER AT HÖFÐATORG - BORGARTÚN

THE TOWER CLIMB

A climbing contest will be held at the Höfðatorg tower, in association with the Reykjavík Climbing Club and Klifurhúsið. Participants will compete in speed, two and two at a time.

The wall is a 26 metre high stone wall, from the ground up to the roof of the seventh floor.

THE TOWER AT HÖFÐATORG - BORGARTÚN

THE INDIAN EMBASSY

To celebrate Culture Night along with Icelanders, the Indian Embassy offers the public a chance to view its offices.

SKÚLAGATA 14

15:00 - 22:00

JAZZ AND ART

Artist Pétur Gautur’s workshop at the corner of Snorrabraut and Njálsgata celebrates a ten-year anniversary at Culture Night. The studio will be open to the public, new paintings by Pétur Gautur on display.

PÉTUR GAUTUR - NJÁLSGATA

MOTHERS 2009

Opening of photography exhibit Mothers 2009.

A cooperative effort of women from four cities, including Reykjavík, spearheaded by Wilberforce Women. The goal is to bring women from different backgrounds together using photography.

BORGARBÓKASAFNID - TRYGGVAGATA

15:30 - 16:00

JAZZ AT KJARVALSSTAÐIR

Vibraphone player Reynir Sigurðsson’s trio plays familiar music in a jazzy way. Trumpet player Snorri Sigurðarson plays in the spirit of Chet Baker. Who knows if the singer Chet is involved too. Brazilian singer Jussanam Dejah also performs.

REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM - KJARVALSSTAÐIR - FLÓKAGATA

PSALM FALLS

The Langholtskirkja Graduale choir won the gold medal at the international choir summit in the Czech Republic this spring. Now they perform for your pleasure, conducted by Stefán Jónsson.

HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA CHURCH - SKÓLAVÖRÐUHOLT

SAILOR SINDRI AT SKÓLAVÖRÐUSTÍGUR

Sailors Sindri and Sami entertain outside Ófeigur’s jewellery workshop. They are Ketill Larsen and Árni Ísleifs.

ÓFEIGUR’S WORKSHOP - SKÓLAVÖRÐUSTÍG

THE TR & TSDK GUITAR SQUAD PERFORMS FLAMENCO MUSIC

The TR & TSDK Guitar squad performs flamenco music as conducted by Þorvaldur Már Guðmundsson. The squad counts 17 students of music, 13 guitar players, two percussionists, a bass player and a trumpet player.

REYKJAVÍK CITY LIBRARY - TRYGGVAGATA

16:00 - 16:30

FAMILY GUIDANCE- THE EXHIBITS AT KJARVALSSTAÐIR

Exhibits Kjarval and the animals, Kjarval – Key works and From Unuhús to Eight street looked at from the family’s perspective.

REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM - KJARVALSSTAÐIR - FLÓKAGATA

OLYMPIC FENCING

Fencing enthusiasts from the FH fencing division and the Reykjavík Fencing Club will display Olympic fencing. Attendees will be given the chance to fence our national team.

VERBÚÐ 17 - GRANDAGARÐUR

PSALM FALLS

Psalm 2009 – everyone sings along.

New and older psalms taught and sung. The Askirkja choir, conducted by Magnús Ragnarsson, will lead.

HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA CHURCH - SKÓLAVÖRÐUHOLT

ERRÓ – HUMAN DESCRIPTIONS - GUIDED TOUR

The exhibit Erró – Human descriptions emphasises the sort of storytelling portraits Erró has evolved over the years. The works depict various known individuals in the fields of politics, science, literature and arts and reflect their ideas and images.

REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM - HAFNARHÚS - TRYGGVAGATA 17

16:00 - 17:00

BRASS BAND SVANUR

Brass band Svanur plays a concert in the alley. The programme contains well-known party songs by artists such as Abba, Stevie Wonder, Henri Mancini etc. Guests can sit down and enjoy refreshments during the concert. Conducted by Matthias V. Baldursson.

LYSTIN - LAUGAVEGUR 73

THE ANIMALS OF THE NORDIC HOUSE

Sax player Óskar Guðjónsson performs Thorbjörn Egner along with Matthias Hemstock and Eðvarð Lárusson.

THE NORDIC HOUSE - SÆMUNDARGATA

JAZZ AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM

The Ragnar Árna trio plays sweet and mellow bossa nova music by messrs Jobim, Gilberto and Getz. The trio is comprised of Ragnar Árni Ágústsson (saxophone), Gabriel Markan (guitar) and Gunnar Gunnsteinsson (bass).

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ICELAND - SUBURGATA 41

LET’S TALK LOCAL - REYKJAVÍK

Let’s talk local is a fun and vibrant play in English where you learn all you need to know about the birth of Reykjavík from the time of the Vikings until present day. This is a one-hour comic show with two actors who will give you a great insight into the historical background of Reykjavík.

KAFFI REYKJAVÍK - VESTURGATA 2

16:00 - 18:00

THE ART OF GRAFFITI

Two young Icelandic men will display their arts in the back yard. Orri and his friends are great artists and you can already view graffiti by Orri at the backyard.

VERALDARVINIR - HVERFISGATA 88

KRAMHÚSIÐ

‘Open floor’ at Kramhúsið. Dance exhibitions, featuring everything from Argentinean tango to street dancing. Guests are invited to join in. The lower hall will sport mystic ambiance and modern dance will be at the forefront. A guitar troupe shows up to play light flamenco music.

KRAMHÚSIÐ - SKÓLAVÖRÐUSTÍGUR

THE TANGO ADVENTURE CLUB

Between the houses in town, steaming Argentinean tango will be danced at Brietartorg square. Dancers from the Tango Adventure Club dance.

Guests are invited to partake and learn about this tantalising dance that passionate dancers dance up to four times a week.

www.tangoadventure.com

BRIETARTORG SQUARE - ÞINGHOLTSSTRÆTI 9

16:00 - 19:00

GRJÓTAPORP – FAMILY FESTIVAL

Trumpets from the rooftops of the Grjótaporp neighbourhood. Brass players from the east, west, north and south slowly play their ways into the garden of Vinaminni, in the heart of Grjótaporp. Featuring a tent, a BBQ, a house-scavenger hunt, a house-cake and surprise events.

GRJÓTAPORP - MJÓSTRÆTI

MUSIC AT THE JOY SQUARE BY ÖÐINSTORG

Three times between 16:00 and 19:00, musicians from the Icelandic Symphony Orchestra perform at the square. Sigrún Eðvaldsdóttir and Kristján Matthiasson play the violin, and Helga Þórarinsdóttir plays the viola.

ÖÐINSTORG SQUARE

16:00 - 20:00

THE VADIM FYODOROV TRIO

Russian accordion player Vadim Fyodorov’s trio performs songs from the band’s new album, Papillions Noirs. The band performs acoustic French musett and jazz music. Gunnar Hilmarsson and Leifur Gunnarsson play alongside Fyodorov.

HRESSÓ - AUSTURSTRÆTI 20

16:30 - 17:00

PSALM FALLS

Lára Bryndis Eggertsdóttir plays the Klais organ.

HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA CHURCH - SKÓLAVÖRÐUHOLT

16:30 - 17:30

AN INSIGHT INTO THE ARCHITECTURE OF KJARVALSSTAÐIR

The Reykjavík Art Museum offers an insight into architecture. Guja Dögg Hauksdóttir from the architecture department will guide the museum’s facilities. Expect an insight into the houses’ histories and their appearances viewed in context with their different standing in the city environment.

REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM - KJARVALSSTAÐIR - FLÓKAGATA

JAZZ FESTIVAL WALK

Birna Þórðardóttir leads a jazzy walk around Hafnarhús and the near surroundings. Live music at certain places, as well as information on the music, the instruments and the performers. Jim Black, Siggí Flosa, Jóel Pálsson, Kristjana Stefánsdóttir and others performs.

REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM - HAFNARHÚS - TRYGGVAGATA 17

16:30 - 18:00

A HOUSE WITH A SOUL – HOUSES FOR THE SOUL

Prayer and calm moments at the Baháí centre.

Guests offered the opportunity to experience different prayer and calm moments—spiritual nutrition for the soul.

THE BAHÁÍ CENTRE - ÖLDUGATA

16:30 - 22:00

ADOPT A POTATO!

Welcome to the studio at Vesturgata 12 to adopt a potato. The potatoes are sold in boxes that contain instructions for sprouting, growing and cooking. You may also write your potato’s journey and travels. In the future, proceeds from the sales will go towards buying seed potatoes in cooperation with aid agencies and teaching those in need how to grow their own potatoes.

VESTURGATA 12

17:00 - 17:30

THE VODAFONE STREET ART TEAM

The Vodafone street art crew displays great talent by the statue on Arnarhóll. The show consists of circus artists, parkour performers and actors, and should provide great entertainment for all. You do not want to miss this

ARNARHÓLL

PSALM FALLS

Psalm 2009 – Everyone sings along.

REYKJAVÍK CULTURE NIGHT 2009 – AUGUST 22

New and older psalms taught and sung. Girls from the Litróf art workshop will lead guests in song, conducted by Ragnhildur Ásgeirsdóttir.
HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA CHURCH - SKÓLAVÖRÐUHOLT

THE BOMB GENE AT DECODE GENETICS

The Bomb Gene has since 2003 staged impressive chemistry displays at the DeCode Genetics hall on Culture Night. Impressive chemistry tricks from the masters of the craft.

DECODE GENETICS - STURLUGATA

WHAT LIES BEHIND THE HORIZON?

Kirsuberjatréd, the oldest, warmest and most colourful store in town, invites you to witness the performance 'What lies behind the horizon?', performed by young musicians that performed at the ArtFart festival. Kirsuberjatréd will host an open house until 22:00.

KIRSUBERJATRÉÐ - VESTURGATA

17:00 - 18:00

HOUSEMOUSE

Guidance and art workshop for children. Hosted by Sigríður Melrós Ólafsdóttir.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ICELAND- FRÍKIRKJUVEGUR 7

THE MISSING TARZAN FISHBALLS – FAMILY GAME

Twelve marked Tarzan fishballs will be hidden in the Grandi area, and a map will be provided at Sjárvarbarinn restaurant, starting at 17:00. The one who finds the most fishballs receives a prize: Dinner for the whole family at Sjárvarbarinn's buffet.

SJÁVARBARINN - GRANDAGARÐUR 9

ARCHITECT TOUR OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ICELAND

Architect Pétur Ármannsson will teach guests about the architecture and history of the National Museum building.

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ICELAND - SUÐURGATA 41

LITERATURE AND JAZZ

Tómas R. Einarsson and Kristín Svava Tómasdóttir. Ragnheiður Gröndal and Aðalsteinn Ásberg. Eóvarð Lárusson and Sigurbjörg Prastardóttir. Sunna Gunnlaugsdóttir and Óskar Árni Óskarsson. Actress Elva Ósk Ólafsdóttir directs.

IDNÓ - VONARSTRÆTI 3

17:00 - 18:30

POEMS AND ARIAS

Alt Þóra Passauer's solo singing recital, accompanied by Gerrit Schuil. The programme features poems and arias. The poems are by composers such as Brahms, Sigvaldi Kaldalóns, Árni Thorsteinsson and Sigfús Einarsson. The arias are from G. Bizet's Carmen, Tchaikovsky's Queen of Spades and Ponchielli's La Gioconda.

NESKIRKJA CHURCH - HAGATORG SQUARE

17:00 - 20:00

BEHIND THE SCENES – THE HOLIEST OF HOLIES UNCOVERED

Tours of the storage rooms and back alleys of the museum. They contain some of Iceland's most valuable cultural artefacts.

Guided tours every 30 minutes as of 17:00.

REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM - KJARVALSSTAÐIR - FLÓKAGATA

17:00 - 21:00

FAST FOOD PERFORMANCE ART: DÚSAN

A performance where Karl Tryggvason takes the old Icelandic tradition of feeding children through a 'dúsa' and transforms it into an Icelandic-style fast food product. Customers pick their rag and filling. Why chew, when you can get chewed?

ÓÐINSTORG SQUARE

17:00 - 23:00

A FLOATING HELIUM INSTALLATION

Óskar Ericsson creates an entire world with helium.

REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM - HAFNARHÚS - TRYGGVAGATA 17

17:30 - 18:00

PSALM FALLS

Guðný Einarsdóttir, organ, Lára Bryndís Eggertsdóttir, organ, og Eva Pyri Hilmarsdóttir, piano, perform Eric Satie's Messe de Pauvres.

HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA CHURCH - SKÓLAVÖRÐUHOLT

ON YOUR OWN

Dancer Lilja Rúriksdóttir, one of Iceland's brightest hopes in the field of dance, performs the dance and musical piece 'On your own' by Irma Gunnarsdóttir. Percussionist Jón Borgar Loftsson and Einar Bragi Bragason perform Einar's original music. Lilja was recently accepted to the esteemed Juilliard college in New York.

REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM - HAFNARHÚS - TRYGGVAGATA 17

17:30 - 19:00

OUTDOOR JAZZ CONCERT

Programme in cooperation with the Reykjavík Jazz festival. Vibraphone player Reynir Sigurðsson's trio performs familiar tunes in a jazzy style. Snorri

Sigurðarson performs in the spirit of Chet Baker, Jussanam Dejah and her band also play.

REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM - KJARVALSSTAÐIR - FLÓKAGATA

18:00 - 18:30

THE REYKJAVÍK PAINTINGS OF ÁSGRÍMUR JÓNSSON

Opening of the exhibit on the National Gallery's website.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ICELAND - FRÍKIRKJUVEGUR 7

OLYMPIC FENCING

Fencing enthusiasts from the FH fencing division and the Reykjavík Fencing Club will display Olympic fencing. Attendees will be given the chance to fence our national team.

ELDING WHALE WATCHING - REYKJAVÍK HARBOUR

PSALM FALLS

Psalm 2009 – Everyone sings along. New and older psalms taught and sung. Jónas Þórir and the Lágafells church choir lead the way.

HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA CHURCH - SKÓLAVÖRÐUHOLT

A HOUSE AND MORE- THE NATIONAL MUSEUM'S HOUSE COLLECTION

Anna Lisa Rúnarsdóttir, anthropologist, will present the House collection's operations and the houses that the National Museum oversees in Iceland. The House collection preserves around fifty old houses and gives an insight into the housing of Icelanders in years past, and the evolution of house building in Iceland.

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ICELAND - SUÐURGATA 41

POSSIBILITIES - THE GUÐMUNDA KRISTINSDÓTTIR ART PRIZE - GUIDED TOUR IN ENGLISH

Artists in this exhibition have won recognition from the Guðmunda Kristinsdóttir Fund for the Arts, an annual grant to recognise women who have demonstrated excellence in their field. Ólöf Nordal, Finna Birna Steinsson, Katrín Sigurðardóttir, Gabriela Friðriksdóttir, Sara Björnsdóttir, Þóra Þórisdóttir, Guðrún Vera Hjartardóttir, Hekla Dögg Jónsdóttir, Hulda Stefánsdóttir and Margrét Blöndal.

REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM - HAFNARHÚS - TRYGGVAGATA 17

18:00 - 19:00

LET'S DRUM TOGETHER!

Antonio from Spain along with his African friends has been playing the drums at Afro-dance courses in Kramhúsið. They will show up at Hverfisgata 88 and play like true professionals. Everyone is invited to drum along.

VERALDARVINIR - HVERFISGATA 88

MARC DUCRET

One of the Reykjavík Jazz Festival's guests, the French guitarist Marc Ducret, plays and talks about his music.

ALLIANCE FRANCAISE - TRYGGVAGÖTU 8

18:00 - 23:00

POP MASS AT INGÓLFSTORG SQUARE

19:30 til 19:45 – Pascal Pinon.
19:50 til 20:10 - Sigríður Thorlacius & Heiðurspilltar
20:15 til 20:30 - Fallegir Menn
20:35 til 21:00 - Baggalútur
21:05 til 21:30 - Hjálmar
21:40 til 22:05 - Hjaltalín
22:10 til 22:45 - Megas og Senubjófarnir

INGÓLFSTORG SQUARE

CONCERT AT HLJÓMSKÁLAGARÐUR PARK

19:30-19:55 – Lights on the highway
20:00-20:40 – Pursaflokkur
20:50-21:25 – Paparnir
21:35-22:05 – Ingo og Veðurguðirnir
22:10-22:45 – Pall Óskar

HLJÓMSKÁLAGARÐUR PARK

CONCERT AT SKÓLAVÖRÐUSTÍGUR

A steaming music programme at Skólavörðustígur

SKÓLAVÖRÐUSTÍGUR

18:30 - 19:00

PSALM FALLS

Jónas Þórir plays the Klais organ.

HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA CHURCH- SKÓLAVÖRÐUHOLT

GUIDED FAMILY TOUR - POSSIBILITIES

Guided tour for the whole family on the show 'Possibilities,' where ten female artists display varied and different works of art.

REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM - HAFNARHÚS - TRYGGVAGATA 17

18:30 - 19:30

A NATION IS BORN –GUIDANCE ON THE MUSEUM'S MAIN EXHIBITION

Artefacts at the National Museum's main exhibit are placed in a historical context. The show is envisioned to be a journey through time; starting on the first settlers' boat that sailed over the open seas, progressing through history, to newer times.

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ICELAND - SUÐURGATA 41

HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA THEN AND NOW – THE HOUSES ON THE HILL CONVERSE

The houses on Skólavörðuholt hill converse via an art exhibit where pictures of Hallgrímskirkja—from its early construction to modern times— will be

projected on the wall of Café Loki. The café's owners have shot photos of the church over the years, in all sorts of weather and light.

CAFÉ LOKI - LOKASTÍG 28

19:00 - 19:30

PSALM FALLS

Psalm 2009 – Everyone sings along
New and older psalms taught and sung. Church guests sing alongside Schola Cantorum, conducted by Hörður Áskelsson and Tómas Guðni Eggertsson.

HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA CHURCH - SKÓLAVÖRÐUHOLT

19:00 - 20:00

ORGAN JAZZ AT FRÍKIRKJAN CHURCH

Carl Möller and Þórir Baldursson explore how the romantic Leipzig organ does alongside a Hammond. Choir sings as well.

FRÍKIRKJAN CHURCH- FRÍKIRKJUVEGUR

AN INSIGHT INTO THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM
The Reykjavík Art Museum offers an insight into architecture. Guja Dögg Hauksdóttir from the architecture department will guide the museum's facilities. Expect an insight into the houses' histories and their appearances viewed in context with their different standing in the city environment.

REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM- HAFNARHÚS - TRYGGVAGATA 17

FRENCH JAZZ GUITAR GENIUS MARC DUCRET

Marc Ducret, one of France's best jazz guitarists, improvises songs. Ducret has received several awards and been selected 'best guitarist' over the years.

www.marcducret.com

ALLIANCE FRANCAISE - TRYGGVAGATA 8

19:30 - 20:00

PSALM FALLS

Tómas Guðni Eggertsson plays the Klais organ at Hallgrímskirkja.

HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA CHURCH - SKÓLAVÖRÐUHOLT

FRIENDS OF LÁRA DUET AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM

Duet Friends of Lára consists of Einar Aðalsteinsson and Halldór Armand Ásgeirsson. These young men really appreciate legendary Icelandic author Þórbergur Þórðarson and have written pop songs to his poems that they intend to perform.

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ICELAND - SUÐURGATA 41

MUSICAL ACT AT JOY SQUARE BY ÓÐINSTORG

A few musicians contribute to the 'Á rás fyrir Grensás' charity and entertain at Óðinstorg. The Reynir Sigurðsson trio performs songs by Sigfús Halldórsson, Unnur Lárusdóttir and Jón Gunnar Unnarson play music and Lay Low performs. Also performing are KK and Þorleifur Guðjónsson, Óskar Guðjónsson with Matthias Hemstock and Ife Tolentino and the band Mammút.

ÓÐINSTORG SQUARE

20:00 - 20:30

FROM UNUHÚS TO EIGHTH STREET – GUIDED TOUR

At the middle of the last century, Louisa Matthiasdóttir and Nina Tryggvadóttir studied under Hans Hoffman, who ran an art school at W Eighth St., New York, but before they went there they were regulars at Unuhús alongside other poets and artists. The exhibit focuses on Nina and Louisa's work, but also features works by Hoffman and other known students of his.

REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM - KJARVALSSTAÐIR - FLÓKAGATA

PSALM FALLS

Psalm 2009 – everyone sings along. New and older psalms taught and sung. Hammond hymnody. Þórir Baldursson plays the Hammond, Gunnar Gunnarsson the Klais and Sigurður Flosason blows the saxophone.

HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA CHURCH - SKÓLAVÖRÐUHOLT

GUIDED FAMILY TOUR – HUMAN DESCRIPTIONS AND MONSTERS

The shows Erró – Human Descriptions and Erró – Monsters viewed from the perspective of the family.

REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM - HAFNARHÚS - TRYGGVAGATA 17

20:00 - 21:00

ROOFTOP CONCERT

Veraldarvinir and Rubin host a Hiphop and R&B concert on the garage rooftop in the garden. Rubin is a 28-year old artist from 101 Reykjavík. He has been playing African drums since he was ten years old and has been singing and composing since the age of 13. He is a member of an African band that plays drums at Kramhúsið.

VERALDARVINIR - HVERFISGATA 88

HAMMONDHYMNODY

Gunnar Gunnarsson and Þórir Baldursson play together the church's Klais organ and the best items of the Hammond world. Sax player Sigurður Flosason blows his way through the sweet sounds.

HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA - SKÓLAVÖRÐUHOLT

GUIDED TOUR OF THE ARCHAEOLOGY EXHIBIT

'REUNION.' The exhibit 'Reunion' displays a variety of archaeological objects discovered on Icelandic church and convent grounds in the years 2001-

2005.

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ICELAND - SUÐURGATA 41

SHADY HOUSES – A LITERARY WALK

Skuggahverfi ('The Shadow neighbourhood') is home to many houses that appear in Icelandic literature. The Reykjavík City Library offers a walk that takes you by many of them. Walk commences at the City Library.

REYKJAVÍK CITY LIBRARY - TRYGGVAGATA

20:00 - 22:00

JAZZ AND ART

Péturs Gautur's studio hosts Kristjana Stefáns' trio. They will jazz us into the night, and hopefully play some blues standards too.

PÉTUR GAUTUR - NJÁLSGATA

20:00 - 23:00

DALTON CONCERT

Pop band Dalton plays an outdoor concert at Hressó's yard.

HRESSÓ - AUSTURSTRÆTI 20

20:30 - 21:00

PSALM FALLS

Hallgrímskirkja organist Björn Steinar Sólbergsson plays the Klais organ.

HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA CHURCH - SKÓLAVÖRÐUHOLT

ON YOUR OWN

Dancer Lilja Rúriksdóttir, one of Iceland's brightest hopes in the field of dance, performs the dance and musical piece 'On your own' by Irma Gunnarsdóttir. Percussionist Jón Borgar Loftsson and Einar Bragi Bragason perform Einar's original music. Lilja was recently accepted to the esteemed Juilliard college in New York.

LISTASAFN REYKJAVÍKUR - HAFNARHÚS - TRYGGVAGATA 17

21:00 - 21:30

THE REYKJAVÍK PAINTINGS OF ÁSGRÍMUR JÓNSSON

Screen display of Ásgrímur's Reykjavík work. Sigríður Melrós lectures on Ásgrímur's art.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ICELAND - FRÍKIRKJUVEGUR 7

PSALM FALLS

Psalm 2009 – everyone sings along. New and old psalms taught and sung under the guidance of Hörður Áskelsson and Hallgrímskirkja's Mótettukór

HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA CHURCH - SKÓLAVÖRÐUHOLT

JIM BLACK AND ELIAS STEMESEDER

Master drummer Jim Black presents the young

Austrian star Elias Stemeseder.

IDNÓ - VONARSTRÆTI 3

21:00 - 23:00

PECHAKUCHANIGHT REYKJAVÍK #3 Surprise others! Pecha Kucha is Japanese and translates as 'light chatter.' People present what they are interested in presenting (hobbies, jobs, attitudes or thoughts) by showing slides and talking or playing music. Each slide takes 20 seconds. 20 slides in all.

REYKJAVÍK ART MUSEUM - HAFNARHÚS - TRYGGVAGATA 17

21:30 - 22:00

OPERA DUET AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ICELAND

Singers Kristín Ragnhildur Sigurðardóttir and Hólmfríður Jóhannesdóttir perform opera duets from the most famous children's opera of all time, Hansel and Gretel by Engelbert Humperdinck. An extraordinary musical event, not to be missed.

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ICELAND - SUÐURGATA 41

22:00 - 23:00

THE HAMMONDS COME DOWN AFTER THE CHURCH

GIGS After visiting Frikkirkjan and Hallgrímskirkja churches, the Hammond organs will be let loose at Rósenberg. Asa Trio, Þórir Baldursson and guests.

CAFÉ ROSENBERG - LÆKJARGATA 2

22:30 - 23:00

THE ICELANDIC CIRCUS

The circus performs various tricks. Fire-eaters, juggling, etc.

LOT BETWEEN ARNARHÖLL AND KOLAPORTIÐ

23:00 - 23:30

FIREWORKS DISPLAY

The Hjálparsveit skáta rescue squad brings a fireworks display sponsored by Reykjavík Energy. Fireworks launched at the building site of the National Concert and Conference centre. The audience gathers at the freshly paved lot between Kolaportið and Arnarhöll.

THE MUSIC AND CONFERENCE CENTRE





10 Sódóma Reykjavík

Tryggvagötu 22

Newly opened Sódóma on Tryggvagötu is already a hit with party crowds and gig-goers alike. An extensive venue, filled with reasonably priced beverages and reasonably good looking people. Some of Iceland's finest musical ventures have played in recent months, and their schedule looks promising too. Also, make sure to visit their men's room for a glance at the "Pissour of Absolution". JB

11 Sægreifinn

Verbúð 8, Geirsgata

Down by the Reykjavik harbour, Sægreifinn fish shop and restaurant is truly a unique establishment. The menu features various fish dishes (including most of the "crazy Icelandic food" you'll want to tell your friends you had) and a rich portion of the best lobster soup we've ever tasted. Good food and welcoming service make this place a must-try. HSM

12 Prikið

Bankastræti 12

Prikið is one of those places that shape-shifts. It's a warm café with photographs of their senior frequenters on weekday mornings, a hung-over hangout on weekend afternoons, and during nights it's filled to the brim with what remains of Iceland's hip hop scene. Go there in daytime for the cheap burgers; enter at night for some OTT hip-hop debauchery, old skool and the latest bangers alike. SKK

13 Kornioð

Lækjargötu 4

How about filling your face with cakes at the delightful Kornioð. They taste so good, you would gladly push your own mother over for even the slightest of sniffs. Not a sweet tooth? Well, try their delectable sandwiches then, I recommend the egg and bacon ciabatta! At only 590ISK plus all the Pitu Sósa you could dream of, what more could you ask for on your lunch break? JB

14 Karamba

Laugavegi 22

New hotspot in town Karamba is a colourful and eclectic bar on Laugavegur with a comfortable atmosphere, typically great music and a chill crowd. This is a good place to relax or to do some serious drinking or to relax. Plus, their decors are done strictly by Grapevine-friendly artists, such as Lóa (who does our comics), Huggleikur Dagsson (who illustrates the monster column) and Bobby Breiðholt (who's done a lot of nice illustrations for us); they are truly a sight to behold. CF

15 Sushimiðjan

Geirsgötu 3

This is a seriously great place to grab a quick and quality sushi lunch. Pre-prepared boxes of maki and nigiri are reasonable priced and really well made, amply filled with deliciously fresh ingredients. The indoor seating area is limited to some stools and outward-facing wall-mounted tabletops but there are a couple of tables and chairs set up outside the front door for those wanting to watch the ships and tourists in the harbour while they eat. CF

16 Barbara

Laugavegi 22

At Laugavegur 22, above Karamba, Barbara serves up a lively atmosphere for Reykjavik's gay community and anybody else who just wants to dance and have a good time. The first level is made for dancing and is often packed with sweaty bodies, while the second level of the bar offers a place to sit, drink and chat and another in which to smoke. CF

17 OSUSHI

Lækjargötu 2a

Great place to satisfy your craving for raw fish and vinegar rice. The selection on 'the train' is wide and varied and the atmosphere is relaxed. Also, the colour-coded plates make it easy to keep tabs on your budget while scarfing down your maki and nigiri. CF

18 Segurmo

Laugavegur 28b

This place was something we all needed, a cheap and scrumptious bistro, right inside one of our favourite bars: Boston. The cuisine really is Icelandic, because of their cornerstones: the meat soup and the fish stew, but the rest varies between weeks, so their menu could even pass as international. So, if you don't like the current meat dish, you might in a week. SKK

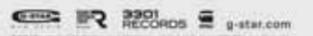


Ask for a Tax Free form & save up to 15%



REYKJAVIK STORE, LAUGAVEGUR 86-84, S. 011-2007

operated by v&v



www.farmersmarket.is



Galleri 21
Skólavörðustíg 21



ICELANDIC Fish, Lamb & Chicken
in original **PAKISTANI & INDIAN** curries,
TANDOORI dishes, **TANDOORI** Nan breads
Kebabs, Samosas, Vegetarian specialities,
LUNCH BUFFET (11:30--15:30) & DINNER OFFERS



PAKISTANI-INDIAN KEBAB & CURRY CUISINE
AUSTURSTRÆTI 4, Tel. 551 0292 www.shalimar.is



Elding
adventure at sea

Whale Watching and Puffin Island

Take part in an adventure at sea with an unforgettable trip into the world of whales and sea birds. Conveniently located in Reykjavík's Old Harbour, a three hour tour can bring you up close to the whales in their natural habitat.

Free entry to the Whale Watching Centre for our passengers.

Viðey Island

Nature, History and Art

Viðey Island is a unique site that combines history, culture and nature, and is only a few minutes from the city by boat.

Ferry scheduled with 9 daily departures.

Viðeyjarstofa Café is open from 11:30 to 17:00

Make sure it's Elding!

Elding Reykjavík Whale Watching
Tel: (+354) 555 3565
Online booking: www.elding.is

ART GALLERIES

— continued —

Possibilities

Works by 10 Guðmunda Kristinsdóttir Art Prize winners.

May 28 - August 29 2010

Erró- Portrett-

A dedication to Erró.

Reykjavík Art Museum Kjarvalsstaðir

May 15- August 30

The House of Una And West 8th Street

The life of Icelandic artists Louisa Matthíasdóttir and Nína Tryggvadóttir and their connection with artists from Iceland and New York.

May 09- August 30

Kjarval and Animals

An exhibition focusing on Kjarval's depictions of animals.

May 15- August 30

Icelandic design, furniture, architecture and product design.

Reykjavík Maritime Museum

Current Exhibitions:
Living Museum by the Sea; Arterial for Country and City; From Poverty to Abundance; The Shark - Light and Life Energy; Hidden Craftsman.

The Reykjavík Museum of Photography

Current Exhibitions:

May 16 - Aug 30

Life is not just a game- it's a bed of roses...

Show curated by Guðmundur Oddur Magnússon and Guðfinna Mjöll Magnúsdóttir.

July 2 - Aug. 25

Natural Beauty

Photographer Stéfan Steinn displays his photographs of nature in its simplest forms.

Ásmundur Sveinsson Sculpture Museum

Permanent Exhibition:

The Shape of Line.

A new retrospective of works by Ásmundur Sveinsson. The exhibition focuses on abstract works from 1945 onwards.

May 01- April 30 2010

RHYTHM- Ásmundur and Our Age

This exhibition showcases contemporary artists that tackle similar issues as Ásmundur did in his time, but in a context of a new age.

Akureyri

Akureyri Art Museum

July 11 - August 23

The Great Depression Painters. Exhibitions of works by Snorri Arinbjarnar, Gunnlaugur Scheving, Þorvaldur Skúlason and Jón Engilberts.

Café Karólína

August 1 - September 4

Icelandic Geography. An exhibition of works by Þórgunnur Oddsdóttir.

Kunstraum Wohnraum

July 5 - Sept 20

Exhibition by Guðrún Vera Hjartardóttir

Seyðisfjörður

Skaffell

June 21 - August 31

Exhibition by Kristján Steingrímur Jónson

Grapevine events August

14 Grand Rokk

10 pm

gogoyoko presents: Grapevine Grand Rock

Seabear

Pascal Pinon

Moses Hightower

1000ISK Admission

21 Hemmi og Valdi

9 pm

gogoyoko presents: Grapevine Grassroots #6

Snorri Helgason

Gnúsi Yones & The Crackers

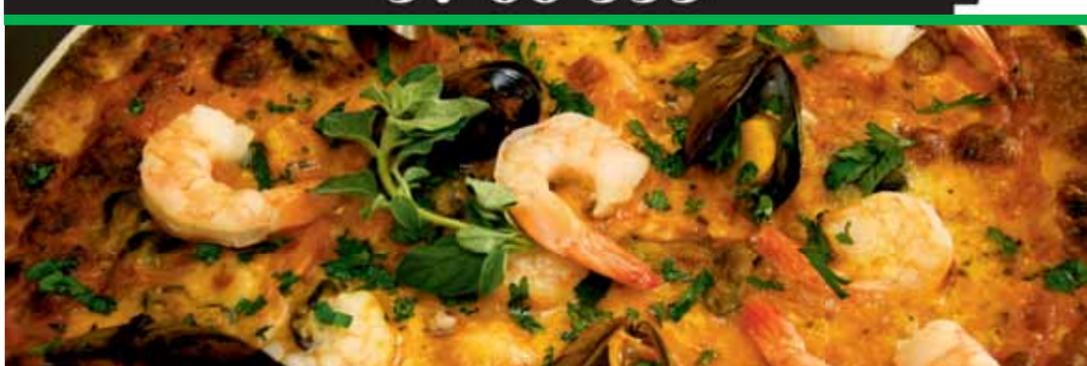
Calf Method

FREE CONCERT

Lækjargötu 8, 101 Reykjavík

PIZZUVERKSMÍÐJAN

57 88 555 www.pizzuverksmidjan.com



TRY OUR SEAFOOD GOURMET PIZZA

opening hours: Mon - Thu 11:30 - 22:00, Fri -Sat 11:30 - 06:00, Sun 17:00 - 22:00

BEZT Í HEIMI* LOBSTER SOUP

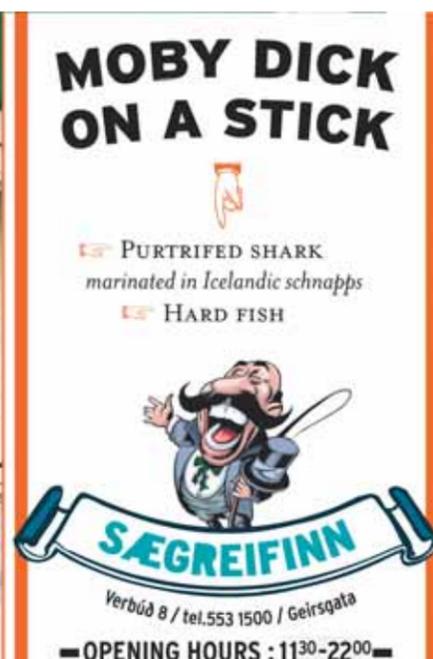
1100.- kr



MOBY DICK ON A STICK

PURTRIFED SHARK
marinated in Icelandic schnapps

HARD FISH



SÆGREIFINN

Verbúð 8 / tel.553 1500 / Geirsgata

— OPENING HOURS : 11:30-22:00 —

OUTSIDE REYKJAVÍK

Hafnarfjörður

Hafnarborg

June 24 - August 16

Exhibition "Collectors' Collection" works by various artists.

Borgarnes

The Icelandic Settlement Centre

Permanent exhibitions:

The Settlement of Iceland; The Saga of Egill Skalla-Grímsson.

Current theatre productions:

Brák - a monologue by Brynhildur Guðjónsdóttir

Mr. Skallagrímsson - a monologue by Benedikt Erlingsson

Storms and Wars - a monologue by Einar Kárason

Stykkishólmur

Library of Water

Permanent Exhibition:

Roni Horn installation. The artist has replaced stacks of books with glass columns containing water gathered from Iceland's glaciers and glacial rivers.

Hjalteyri

The Factory

August 1 - August 22

KVÖRN an exhibition of works by: Aðalheiður S. Eysteinsdóttir, Arnar Ómarsson, Arna Valsdóttir, A.P.E., Clémentine Roy, Gústav Geir Bollason, Hlynur Hallsson, Jón Laxdal, Jóna Hlíf Halldórsdóttir, Knut Eckstein, Lene Zachariassen, Véronique Legros, Þórarinn Blöndal.

HÓTEL KEILIR

Best located downtown hotel in Keflavik

5 min from the airport

Special summer offers

contact us now
tel: +354-4209800
www.airporthotel.is

SIXT
rent a car

Tel +354 577 60 50
www.sixt.is



Menningarnótt // Culture Night

All over Reykjavík

Saturday, August 22nd

Arguably the biggest festival of the party-packed Icelandic summer calendar, Menningarnótt or Culture Night, is taking over the city on Saturday August 22nd with an endless list of things to see and do and participate in running throughout the day.

This is one day of the year on which galleries roll out their best exhibits and stay open late, museums offer extended visitation hours and art, music and dance happenings are everywhere! This is a big deal of an event and all the art venues, stores, restaurants and bars treat it as such and put on their party dresses to serve up a good time for locals and tourists, young and old. The theme of Menningarnótt 2009 is "The Houses in the Town" and will shine a spotlight on the variety of lovely homes in Reykjavík.

Some of the highlights of Menningarnótt 2009 include the opening ceremony with Reykjavík's mayor, HannaBirna Krisjánisdóttir at Hljómskálinn; the transformation of Kaffi Hljómanlind into Fjallkonan, the first woman-run restaurant in Reykjavík; British graffiti artists Jiroe and Odisy doing what they do in the alley adjacent to Prikíð with Maggi Noem and a crew of DJ's setting the scene; and, of course, a Jam Wagon, because jam just tastes better when served from a '68 Emmaljunga pram.

Now that some semblance of night has returned to the late-hours, Menningarnótt will be capped off with a stunning fireworks display to put all others in Europe to shame, the grandeur of which is rivalled only by the fireworks frenzy that ringing in the new year in Reykjavík is famous for. The fireworks display also marks the point at which the kiddies are carted off to their cosy beds so the rest of us can get down to the serious business of post-Meningarnótt partying. There will also be waffles.

For all the details take a gander at menningarnott.is or the complete Menningarnótt program in the very publication you are enjoying right now. How convenient!



Inga María

Mokka.

August 10 – September 10

Simple and other-worldly, Inga María's creatures of disproportionate limbs and disconcerting glares are on display for the next month. Skirting the line between delight and horror, her animals recall the illustrations of early 20th Century children's fantasy novels. As a freelance artist, she has worked with different mediums, such as coal, clay and copying machines, and has contributed illustrations to the Reykjavík Grapevine. In this exhibit, wildlife photography acted as the catalyst to create these wonderfully curious and fascinatingly grotesque beasts. **RL**

Outside Reykjavik | Venue finder

Keflavík
Suðsuðvestur
www.sudsudvestur.is
Hafnargata 22
230 Reykjanesbær
421-2225

Hafnarfjörður
Hafnarborg
www.hafnarborg.is
Strandgata 34
220 Hafnarfjörður
585-5790

Borgarnes
The Icelandic Settlement Centre
www.landnam.is
Brákarbraut 13-15
310 Borgarnes
437-1600

Stykkishólmur
Vatnasafnið / Library of Water

Akureyri
Akureyri Art Museum
www listasafn.akureyri.is
Kaupvangsstræti 12
600 Akureyri
461 2610

Populus Tremula
poptrem.blogspot.com/
Kaupvangsstræti 12
600 Akureyri

Kunstraum Wohnraum
Ásabyggð 2
600 Akureyri

Mývatn
Mývatnsstofa

Egilsstaðir
Sláturhúsið

Seyðisfjörður
Skaffell
www.skaffell.is
Austurvegur 42
710 Seyðisfjörður
472-1632

Hveragerði
LÁ Art
www listasafnarnesinga.is
Austurmörk 21
210 Hveragerði
483-1727

Just an hours drive
from Reykjavík...

Two award winning exhibitions:

THE SETTLEMENT OF ICELAND
and
EGILS SAGA

Open daily from 10 am to 7 pm

RESTAURANT
Open from 10 am to 9 pm



THE
SETTLEMENT
CENTRE

IN BORGARNES

Tel: +354 437 1600
www.landnamssetur.is



Listasafn Reykjavíkur
Reykjavik Art Museum



Kjarvalsstaðir
From Unuhús
to West 8th Street
15 May – 30 August 2009

Louisa Matthíasdóttir.

Kjarvalsstaðir
Flókagata, open daily 10–17

Free guided tours in English
every Thursday at 11 a.m.

Hafnarhús
Erró – Portraits
28 May 2009 – 13 August 2010

Hafnarhús
Tryggvagata, open daily 10–17
Thursdays 10–22

Erró.



Ásmundarsafn
Rhyme
1 May 2009 – 30 April 2010

Ásmundur Sveinsson.
Eirún Sigurðardóttir.

**The Ásmundur Sveinsson
Sculpture Museum**
Sigtún, open daily 10–16

Free admission

www.artmuseum.is

artmuseum@reykjavik.is



T +354 590 1200



F +354 590 1201



Available
at most respectable
souvenir stores.

VARMA
The Warmth of Iceland

WWW.GLOFI.IS

THAI RESTAURANT

OPENING HOURS
Daily from 11:30 - 20:30 | Weekends from 11:30 - 20:30

PRICE AROUND 1.100 - 1.400 ISK
BIG PORTION
www.nudluhusid.is

OVER 50 COURSES

LAUGAVEGI 59

2 FYRIR 1
AF MATSEÐLI
MÁNUDAGA-FIMMTUDAGA

sushimiðjan
RESTAURANT
BAR & TAKE AWAY
OPIÐ TIL 22:00

TAKE AWAY

PICK YOUR FAVORITE PLATE

250 kr., 350 kr., 200 kr., 275 kr., 375 kr., 300 kr., 400 kr.

THE SUSHI TRAIN
Lækjargötu 2a. / Borgartúni 29. tel. 561 0562

GEYSIR
BISTRO BAR

Fresh Icelandic specialities
Wide variety of international dishes

Aðalstræti 2 / 101 Reykjavík / Tel: 5174300 / geysirbistrobar.is

Grillhúsið Tryggvagata
Est. 1991

Friendly family restaurant in the City Center

A menu where everyone has a great variety to choose from

Tryggvagata 20 / Tel: 562-3456 / grillhusid.is

Basil & Lime
Ristorante | Bar

Italian cuisine / Fresh home made pasta

Klapparstíg 38
101 Reykjavík
555 3696
www.basil.is

REVIEWS



Raw In Reykjavik

The latest hot food trend on Icelandic tables is only served cold.

WHAT?
Raw food is a diet consisting of foods that have not been heated over 46 degrees Celsius (115 degrees Fahrenheit). The most popular version is based on fruits, vegetables, sprouts, nuts, seeds, grains and weeds, while others also make room for animal products. Common preparation methods include fermenting, soaking, blending, juicing and dehydrating. Emphasis is also placed upon local and organic produce.

WHY?
Why not? Proclaimed benefits of the diet include improved health (especially digestion, skin and certain chronic diseases), increased energy, weight loss and detoxification.

Eating more fruit and veg is a sure route to healthy living and buying local, organic and unprocessed foods shouldn't hurt either, but the scientific basis for the raw diet stutters on other points. The raw diet is built on the idea that beneficial enzymes are killed if food is cooked, but according to mainstream science the gastric acid in our very own bellies kills the poor things anyway and cooking often improves digestibility. Some vegetables have even been shown to suit us better cooked and some are downright poisonous when eaten raw.

WHO?
The diet has also picked up a touch of sheer insanity, with movement leaders who aspire to breatharianism (living off thin air) and over-enthusiastic advocates who share dramatic true stories and shocking photos.

On the other hand, going back to more natural foods and taking care of our environment and ourselves are megatrends—by 2040 raw foodists may be just as common as vegans and vegetarians are now.

With 75% of food consumed raw earning one the right to be called 'raw foodist', there are a few dozen

Icelanders just shy of the label reaching up to around 50% rawness. Pure, 100% raw eaters are a rare breed on our rock.

WHEN? WHERE?
It is a sunny August afternoon in the kitchen garden of the Nordic house in Reykjavik:

"Yes please, but perhaps not too hot, please," answers Alex Somers politely to my less than smooth offer of a nicely steaming cup of tea.

Along with his boyfriend Jón Þór 'Jónsi' Birgisson (of Sigur Rós), Alex recently released the album "Riceboy Sleeps", mixed on a solar-powered laptop at a raw food commune in Hawaii.

Somers claims to have eaten almost nothing that has gone above 47 degrees Celsius in the last 36 months. Is he insane?

"I am eating raw food because I love it. It makes me feel good," says the courteous musician.

After going vegetarian 6 years ago and vegan shortly after, Somers started to experiment with raw food, gradually incorporating more and more raw ingredients in the diet.

"It went so gradually. Whenever I ate raw food I would feel really good and when I ate cooked food I wouldn't, so you gradually just stop wanting the cooked food."

Somers went completely raw in 2007.

"That's when I really noticed the big change. Two weeks into eating only raw, I started feeling amazing. When I'd wake up, instead of feeling druggy for half an hour, you feel really good right away and there are no energy crashes during the day. My skin improved, my taste buds and senses got stronger. I felt stronger and more balanced. Basically everything got better," he explains, looking so fresh that I can almost feel the dark circles around my eyes growing blacker as we speak.

Such miracle stories are ten a penny in the raw food community, but

Alex is quick to distance himself from the nut jobs I found online:

"I am weary of the raw food movement, just because it is full of weirdoes. It is probably the same with vegetarians in the 1970s - weird hippies that were insane and really extreme. Maybe in a couple of decades there will be more normal people eating raw food."

The raw food diet questions the traditional ideas of and relation that we have to food. Alex has gone from the typical kid on the all-American obesity diet to an enthusiastic food nerd. Food now inspires him, a source of joy that brings him closer to nature:

"I think it is amazing! Sometimes I get a little bit too excited and I have to calm down."

But when it comes to what nature has to offer, Iceland is surely no Garden of Eden.

"Eating raw food in Iceland is as easy as anywhere else," Alex claims, "If you believe in it, you can do it."

The biggest challenge in the diet is often not what to eat, but how to eat and let eat, he explains:

"It's not really the social norm, like if you are walking around and have avocados in your pocket – and I always have stuff like that" he smiles and explains his troubles at dinner parties. "I don't want to be rude and say no thank you to people all the time".

Alex and Jónsi recently published their recipe book, originally made as a present for friends and family. They hope to inspire people to experiment and, as the foreword of the book says, to "have fun making treats for everyone you meet." The cookbook is not the only gift that the family has recently received thanks to the diet:

"We gave our oven to Jónsi's sister, we don't need it anymore" Alex laughs.

The Good Heart Cookbook
www.jonsiandalex.com
✂ - SARI PELTONEN

Food & Drink | Venue finder

3 Frakkar Baldursgata 14 F9	D6/E6 Bæjarins Beztu Tryggvagata E6	Grái Kötturinn Hverfisgata 16A G7	Jómfrúin Lækjargata 4 E6	Pisa Lækjargötu 6b E6	Sushibarinn Laugavegur 2 F7
Aktu Taktu Skúlagata 15 K8	Brons Pósthússtræti 9 E6	Grillhúsið Tryggvagata 20 E5/ E6	Kaffi Hjómáland Laugavegur 21 G7	Pizza King Hafnarstræti 18 E6	Svarta Kaffi Laugavegur 54 H8
Alibaba Veltusund 3b E3	Café Cultura Hverfisgata 18 G6	Habibi Hafnarstræti 20 D5	Kaffitár Bankastræti 8 F6	Pizza Pronto Vallarstræti 4 D6	Sægreifinn Verbuð 8, Geirsgata D5
American Style Tryggvagata 26 E5	Café Loki Lokastígur 28 G9	Hamborgarabúlla Tómasar ("Bullán") Geirsgata 1 D5	Kaffivagninn Grandagarður 10 D1	Pizzaverksmiðjan Lækjargötu 8 E6	Tapas Vesturgata 3B D5
Argentína Steak-house Barónstígur I8	Café Paris Austurstræti 14 E6	Híolla Bátar Ingólfstorg D6	Kebabbúsið Austurstræti 2 E6	Prikið Bankastræti 12 F6	Thorvaldsen Austurstræti 8 E6
Austurlanda-hraðlestin Hverfisgata 64A H7	Café Roma Rauðarárstígur 8 J9	Hornið Hafnarstræti 15 E6	Kofi Tómasar Frænda Laugavegur 2 F7	Ráðhúskaffi D7 Tjarnargata 11	Tíu Dropar Laugavegur 27 G7
Á Næstu Grösom Laugavegur 20B G7	Domo Þinghóltsstræti 5 F7	Hótel Holt Bergstaðarstræti 37 F7	Krua Thai Tryggvagata 14 D5	Santa Maria Laugavegur 22A, F7	Tívoli Laugavegur 3 F7
B5 Bankastræti 5 F6	Einar Ben Veltusundi E6	Humarhúsið Ammatmanstígur 1 E7	La Primavera Austurstræti 9 E6	Segafredo Lækjargötu E6	Vegamót Vegamótastígur 4 G7
Bakkus Tryggvagata 22 D3	Eldsmiðjan Bragagata 38A G9	Hressó Austurstræti 20 E6	Lystin Laugavegur 73 H7	Serrano Hringbraut 12 I3	Við Tjörnina Templarasund 3 E7
Basil & Lime Klapparstíg 38 G7	Fiskmarkaðurinn Aðalstræti 12 D6	Icelandic Fish & Chips Tryggvagata 8 E5	Mokka Skólavörðustígur 3A F7	Shalimar Austurstræti 4 E6	Vítabar Bergþórugata 21 H9
Babalú Skólavörðustígur 22A G8	Geysir Bar/Bistro Aðalstræti 2 D6	Indian Mango Frakkastígur 12 G6	Nonnabiti Hafnarstræti 9 E6	Sjávarkjallarinn Aðalstræti 2 D6	
Balthazar Hafnarstræti 1-3	Garðurinn Klapparstígur 37 G7		O Sushi Lækjargata 2A E6	Sólón Bankastræti 7a F6	
	Glætan book café Laugavegur 19 F5				



Íslenski barinn

Lækjargata 2a

What we think: Better than it looks

Flavour: Icelandic

Ambiance: relaxed bistro with Icelandic soundtrack

Service: very good



Opened earlier this year, Íslenski Barinn (The Icelandic bar) is a mid-range restaurant serving Icelandic food, bistro style.

With a purposely cheesy brand, cosy décor and a roofed terrace, it caters for 20-something beer drinkers (stocking all Icelandic beers) and tourists.

The menu combines Icelandic ingredients with ambition, plus the usual plokkfiskur and meat soup, all for a fair price.

My date started off with a lamb carpaccio plate that he did not order. The mistake was quickly and politely rectified, and he got to bite into his mixed game plate (1480 ISK) of puffin, goose and hangikjöt (tar smoked lamb—not game, in fact) with strawberries, raspberries and blueberries. He began his liquid courses with a bottle of Jökull from Snaefellsnes. I started off with a bottle of El Grillo, a beer brewed in Seydisfjörður, named for a famous shipwreck off the Eastcoast of Iceland. All three were good.

For the main, I had reindeer burger with jellied red onions, and blue cheese (1760 ISK). It was large, fluffy and slightly sloppy, which caused trouble for a small-mouthed eater. The blue cheese sadly covered any extra

flavour that the reindeer meat may have brought. The fries were crunchy, fresh and delicious, well above average and authentically served with cocktail sauce (Iceland's contribution to burger culture, a mixture of ketchup and mayonnaise that kills the sharpness of ketchup and the freshness of mayonnaise). Thankfully, ketchup is also available.

My date chose a slow-cooked shank of lamb (2620 ISK) with mashed potatoes and gravy. The shank was of an impressive size, and whilst the flavours were nothing spectacular the dish did provide a hearty portion of meat and potatoes. The slow-cooked label led to disappointment though, promising a melt in the mouth experience which the course did not offer.

For dessert, I tried Hjónabandsæla (wedding bliss) rhubarb cake (590 ISK), thus named for being an easy cake to make that it will ensure a happy marriage even if the wife's strengths do not lie in the kitchen. The Íslenski barinn version came without crunch or the traditional cross-pattern, but a softer doughy touch and a heap of cream—needless to say, it was good.

My date finished off the meal with a bottle of Móri, a red ale. Of the three beers, we found by consensus Jökull to be the best one, with the Móri offering a welcome alternative to the lighter lagers most common in this country.

Íslenski barinn's trashy branding deceives. If you make it through the hideous facade, the place offers an easygoing, moderately priced meal in a surprisingly cosy environment. If the food had been kept a little simpler, without the fancy names or wasted ingredients, our expectations would not have been dashed by what was in truth some good honest grub.

✎ - SARI PELTONEN

COFFEE

1 Kaffismidja Íslands

Kárastigur 1
Kaffismidja Íslands, run by coffee judging superstar Sonja Björk Grant and barista champion Imma Sigurdardóttir, serves and roasts the best coffee in town.

2 Kaffivagninn

Grandagardi 10
An old fishermen's hangout by the piers. Ideally combined with an early morning walk by the old Reykjavik harbour, they open at 7 am daily. Here, the coffee is as black as it gets—for cappuccinos go elsewhere...

3 Te og Kaffi

Laugavegur 27
For example to Te og Kaffi, a café chain and roastery. If you get lucky, your latte art is poured by Pálmar Þór Hlöðversson, the Icelandic Barista Champion 2008 and 2009.

CAKE

1 Sufistinn

Íða bookstore, Laekjargata.
Home-made monster cakes—think meringue, chocolate and immense sugar rushes. Star of the moment is the all-Icelandic granola cake.

2 Sandholt

Laugavegur 36
Passion cheese cake to die for, plus a good assortment of buns, rolls, chocolate and ice cream to drool over. Sandholt is a good bet for stocking up ahead of a picnic in the park.

BEER

1 Karamba

Laugavegur 22
Relatively new hotspot in town Karamba is a colourful and eclectic bar on with an über comfortable atmosphere, typically great music and a chill crowd. This is a good place to relax or to do some serious drinking or to relax. Plus, their decors are done strictly by Grapevine-friendly artists, such as Lóa (who does our comics), Hugleikur Dagsson (who also does our comics) and Bobby Breiðholt (who's done a lot of nice illustrations for us); they are truly a sight to behold.

2 Kaffi Zimsen

Hafnarstræti 18
This is a great place for beer. They have specials on the stuff pretty much every night of the week – two for one on Mondays! – and they're the only joint in town offering those self-serve 3 litre beer towers if you're drinking in a group or really thirsty or a fan of buying your beer in bulk. Plus, if you like to sit while drinking your beer, Zimsen has lots of chairs and roomy booths for your lounging pleasure.

For full restaurant and food listings and venue finder visit www.grapevine.is for detailed information.

All the best adventures take place under a bridge...



The restaurant **Fish Company** is the newest addition to the culinary flora in down town Reykjavik.

Savour the wide variety of Icelandic fish and meat plates, inspired by various food cultures from **around the world**.

Table reservations : +354 552 5300

info@fishcompany.is - fishcompany.is
Under the bridge at Grófartorg - Vesturgata 2a
101 Reykjavik - Iceland



VEGETARIAN CUISINE

Skólavörðustígur 8 b, tel. 552 2028
Open from 11:30 am–21:00 pm
www.graennkostur.is



Nordic House, Sturlugata 5, 101 Reykjavik, Tel. 6185071/8939693, www.dillrestaurant.is



We exceed high expectations



Open for bistro style lunch every day from 11.30–14.00 and dinner wednesday to saturday from 19.00–22.00



Small Charming seafood restaurant who offers the best in food and wine.



Sjómennastadaur, Timplarsaund 3, Sími 551 0606
vi@tjornina.is / vi.tjornina.is



gogoyoko world exclusive, starting 17.08.09

Sing Along To Songs You Don't Like

by **múm** www.gogoyoko.com/mumexclusive



Erkítýpur streitarar & frik

by **PS&CO**



Horn of Plenty

by **Grizzly Bear**



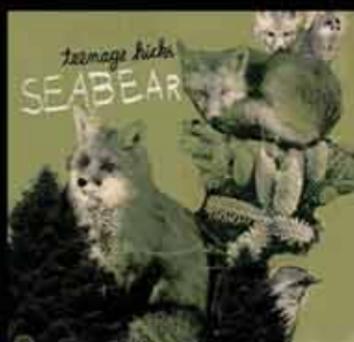
Truth Serum

by **Steed Lord**



Mugiboogie

by **Mugison**



Teenage Kicks / Piano Hands

by **Seabear**



Douglas Dakota

by **Botnleðja**



Taxi Taxi!

by **Taxi Taxi!**



Parades

by **Efterklang**



Lightbulb Universe

by **Agent Fresco**



Rangsælis um Ísland

by **Megas og Senupjófarnir**



Amanita Muscaria

by **Lights on the Highway**



The Go-Go Darkness

by **The Go-Go Darkness**



been thrashed and no one has the energy or will to start cleaning up. The party people had these big ideas at one time, but now everyone is just making calls, trying to score more booze.

ÖPS: Right now, the only issues that are being discussed are the IMF loan and the Icesave agreement. How to score the next fix, to increase our currency reserves. During those days in January, I don't think anyone imagined that these were the only things our society would be emphasising.

-How should things have progressed differently in your opinion?

ÖPS: All that energy that was floating around at that time should have been steered into more constructive pathways. It should have been used to write a new constitution and to re-envision what sort of society we want to build for the long run. A re-imagining of what it is to be Iceland. The only demand that was taken seriously was that for an election, and that kind of corked it.

GT: The problem is how late it all happened. That revolution should have happened two years earlier. One of the problems was that when it finally happened, we were in such a ridiculous situation that the biggest demand was just for it to stop. Right away. There wasn't a lot of room to try and envision what should replace it.

-You guys aren't very optimistic, I take it?

ÖPS: I am optimistic about life and for humanity and all of us, but not particularly when it comes to public affairs in Iceland, cleaning up the corruption etc.

AND THE MUSIC?

-Moving on to merrier subjects, we do have a lot to be thankful for in Iceland, not the least the awesome music scene we enjoy and all the good people that contribute to it...

ÖPS: Exactly, that should be celebrated. It's great how many good people there are making music and trying their best to entertain and surprise themselves and their friends.

GT: And the furthest thing from anyone's mind is making money or making a living. I mean, getting paid to play is excellent, everyone should get paid. But you rarely do in the Icelandic music scene, and no one seems to mind. Folks are doing it for the joy.

-A lot of international publications actually contact the Grapevine to talk about Iceland's music scene, almost on a daily basis. All of them are surprised and impressed at the proficiency and output of the Icelandic music scene; they want to know why and how. We



múm

Sing Along (Radio Edit)

mumtheband

Download the free track of the issue SING ALONG (RADIO EDIT) at www.grapevine.is

We love the new múm record so much we decided to stick 'em on the cover of our magazine. And that's not all. The generous young men and women of múm agreed to bestow upon you readers a free sneak-preview track off their upcoming release, Sing Along To Songs You Don't Know. It's a radio edit of the first single, Sing Along, it's an awfully pleasant track that gives good idea of what to expect from their sixth LP. It's also fun to... sing along to.

Sing Along To Songs You Don't Know will be pre-released at www.gogoyoko.com, this coming Monday (August 17) where it will remain an exclusive until August 24, when it's unleashed on Europe.

sometimes tell them it's because no one gets paid, that people are in it for different reasons...

ÖPS: I think that's definitely a contributing factor to the atmosphere. People seem to have different motives than earning a paycheck.

GT: I agree. I believe musicians and artists contribute greatly and positively to Iceland's image abroad, and the country's appeal to tourists and travellers. They should get a tax discount.

ÖPS: A tax discount, hahaha.

GT: Why not? Almost no one in these fields is making a decent living, and the amount of positive publicity a lot of them raise for Iceland is invaluable. That contributes directly to the country's wealth. Whenever we tour, we are interviewed numerous times and we always have to answer a million questions about the country. I'd like to see any ambassador or tourism spokesperson field as many questions about visiting Iceland as we do.

ÖPS: But the feeling that we're some kind of tourism officers whenever we tour abroad is still really depressing. Working for the tourism propaganda department.... it feels weird. I try and slip in things about whaling or the aluminium smelting plants, just to clear my conscience.

-Still, you may have a point about the tourism. This spring, we reported on an American Express poll that named Iceland one of the world's ten hottest travel destinations, especially citing the local music scene as one of the main reasons why. To quote the poll: "Iceland is the locale for those in search of a vibrant music scene with popular indie bands, punk rock, electronic music and Icelandic folk music acts."

GT: Yeah. I guess this means we should pour more money into aluminium smelting plants. Go talk to Rio Tinto. Talk to aluminium-assed party soilers. Lick their behinds. That's the only thing they think of...

MUSIC PALACE CONFERENCE CENTRE

-You've been active in the local music scene since 1995 at least. How do you feel it's evolved?

GT: It's great. Just great. There's so much renewal going on all the time, it's encouraging and heart-warming to watch these new kids with their new bands and ideas and fun things come forth every year.

ÖTS: A lot of people have been expecting it to falter or fade away for the longest time, since the nineties. That a dry spell was in order. But it keeps getting better. We have a very healthy scene here.

GT: It's sad, though, how little the community or powers that be do to encourage and nurture it. Reykjavík is full of empty buildings at the moment, yet acquiring a practice space is as hard as always. There seems to be no

ambition to help these kids. We've been playing in bands for over ten years and getting access to rehearsal spaces has never ever been easy, for instance. The only time was when Björgólfur [Guðmundsson, recently bankrupt bankster] lent a building he wasn't using for Klink & Bank. It's difficult to understand why the city or state don't do anything to encourage or support young musicians, maybe by sponsoring a rehearsal space.

It's actually sort of ridiculous to think that this great treasure of musicians and artists has been growing in Iceland over the last 30 years and there's no respect... nothing. Not a nod from the powers that be. Instead they build a ludicrous 'Music Palace.'

ÖPS: Actually, it's a conference centre....

AND THAT NEW ALBUM

-Speaking of music, you guys are in the process of releasing a new album, Sing Along To Songs You Don't Know, that's pretty awesome by all accounts...

ÖPS: Yes, it will launch on the 17th, through gogoyoko. It will be available exclusively through that store for the first week, before it's formally released in Europe. We are excited about this gogoyoko thing and thus decided to pre-launch it there. It is a cool initiative, they for instance give you the option to easily donate some of the proceeds of album sales to a charity of your choice. We'll be donating ten percent of the retail price to Refugees United, a remarkable charity organisation that aims at reuniting refugee families and loved ones that have been separated. Learn about it at www.refunite.org.

-You two have made up the core of múm since its inception, but can you tell us something about the current line up?

GT: We think of anyone who's ever played with us as part of the family, even if they're doing something else at the moment. But the current line-up is comprised of Örvar and I along with Sigurlaug Gísladóttir, my girlfriend [Mr. Silla and Mongoose, The Gimmicks], guitar virtuoso Róbert Reynisson [Mark Noseby, Benni Hemm Hemm, Borko, etc], percussionist Samuli Kosminen [Edea, Kimmo Pohjonen Kluster], Hildur Guðnadóttir [Lost in Hildurness, Stórsveit Nix Noltes, Rúnk] and trumpet player Eiríkur Orri Ólafsson [Benni Hemm Hemm, Kira Kira, Stórsveit Nix Noltes]. That's the core of the outfit right now, but others also contributed to the new album. Folks such as Högni Egilsson [of Hjaltalín], who did some arranging for us.

These are all wonderful, brilliant people. Geniuses. Writing and performing music with them is a true pleasure.

-What's the album about then?

GT: We can't answer that. It's abstract. No, that's a hard question. 🍷

HAUKUR S. MAGNÚSSON
HÖRÐUR SVEINSSON

The Galtarviti Lighthouse Project

Says Gunnar: We were looking for a place to make some music, somewhere out in the country. We've tried to seek out new and different locations when we record, as it breathes fresh air into us and makes room for new ideas. I heard from my brother that his friend just bought a lighthouse in the Westfjords, so we got in touch with him and soon enough we're hauling boatloads of stuff to this abandoned lighthouse on the corner of nowhere.

What we worked on there would up on the Finally We Are No One LP. The place has been close to our hearts ever since; we've gone there to work on subsequent releases and I often go there myself to work. I think everyone who ventures there forges a connection with the place and comes to understand it, in a way you fall in love, it takes a place in your heart.

Anyway, Óli Ísfrjörð, the lighthouse keeper, always had the idea that this would be a place for creative people—musicians, writers, artists—to work on their projects; he has no ambitions to turning it into a tourist destination but would be happy to see more art come to life there. But it hasn't been happening too much, maybe it's the remote location or maybe not enough people have heard of it, so we decided to embark upon this project.

Basically Óli had the idea of making a compilation album to support Galtarviti and publicise it, to get a bunch of the artists that have been working there to contribute songs and sell it. The proceeds would go to improving the facilities, working on the roof or painting the house or whatnot. This seemed like a good idea, but I countered it with my own; that we would bring a bunch of instruments to the lighthouse, set up recording gear and make our very own record there on the spot. Basically to welcome everyone to come there, play their stuff and partake in a creative adventure with us.

We did this in the summer of 2008 and came home with a lot of material, probably well over thirty tracks. We decided to keep working on the project; instead of mixing and releasing an album immediately we would upload the tracks to a web-site and give those interested a chance to fiddle with it—to mix or remix, sing over it, play the accordion or write some lyrics. A sort of communal creation, if you will. We are going to let it ferment for the next few months and then release an album with the results.

We encourage everyone to partake in working the materials. This is a great cause, as well as a fun way to create some nice music. And next summer, we're going to go back and record some more, do it all over again. But for now, you can and should access the tracks and contribute by logging on to www.galtarviti.illivill.com. It should be a grand old time for anyone who's interested, at least I love messing about with tracks, remixing and dithering about, that whole Lego puzzle thing you do. 🍷

100% Merino wool

JANUS woolen underwear is made from the finest Merino wool which is soft and comfortable. It keeps your body dry and warm and does not itch.



JANUS **Janusbúðin**

Laugavegur 23, 101 Reykjavík & Hafnarstræti 99-101, 600 Akureyri
 s. 552-7499, fax. 562-7499 s. 461-3006, fax. 461-3007
 www.janusbudin.is

SEA ANGLING
Express

Tree Hour Tour – Two times a Day!
 From May 1st to September 30
 (10:00 am and 18:00 pm)





PRICES FOR 2009:
 Adults ISK 10.000,-
 Children under 12 years ISK 5.000,-

A Brand New Boat,
 Specially Designed For
 Deep Sea Angling in Iceland

Special Tours | Tel. 354-892-0099 | www.seaanglingexpress.is | info@seaanglingexpress.is

ALI BABA



New Item on the Menu

Delicious and healthy Shawerma roll for only 750ISK




Healthy Fast Food

Shish Kebab, Falafel, Arais Mahia, Kebab, Baklava, Humus

ALI BABA Veltusund 3b, v. Ingólfstorg

'ISEY
 Laugavegur 23
 Tel: 5526970



Dr. Gunní just happens to be an extremely respected pioneer of Icelandic punk rock. His new album, *Inniheldur*, is all kinds of awesome. Get it at 12 Tónar.

The History of Icelandic Rock music: Part 8

Icelandic Hippie Prog Metal



It is the beginning of 1971 and yet another line-up for the premium hippie band Trúbrot is born. Trúbrot 3.0 has organist Karl Sighvatsson and drummer Gunnar Jökull back on board. The latest recruit, pianist Magnús Kjartansson, is still a member, and the old stalwarts from Hljómar—Rúnar Júlíusson and Gunnar Þórðarson—round off this five-piece powerhouse version of Hljómar.

The idea of pop music as an artform had been in the air for some time, but few Icelandic bands had considered the matter seriously. Until now. For months the nagging argument for Trúbrot had been: should we be entertainers playing cover songs for drunk people or should we try to do something more progressive? Early in 1971 that question was answered and the band had its most ambitious idea yet: to make a progressive concept album. This was a successful move, as the resulting album *Lifun* would be considered one of the best albums in Iceland for years to come (still number 2 in the extensive 2009 poll—right behind Sigur Rós' *Ágætis byrjun!*).

Rehearsals for the album started in a garage on Laugavegur in January of 1971. To seal the artistic plan, every member brought a pail of paint with their choice of colour. All five colours were mixed in a bucket and the garage walls painted with the result. The band locked itself up in the garage and no women were allowed inside. Early on, it was clear that the album would deal with "the course of an unnamed person, from the cradle to the grave, and the influence of the environment on that person," as the band announced proudly when the project was premiered live that March. The album was recorded in London some months later and came out in the summer of 1971.

Lifun fulfilled all of Icelandic pop musicians' most ambitious dreams. The reviews were good and the album sold well. The album has thirteen interconnected tracks, and came in a hexagonal cover. The music is prog-metal of sorts, equally influenced by Led Zeppelin and Emerson, Lake and Palmer. But what can you do after such artistic success, especially when you live in a place as small and unpopulated as Iceland? That fall, Trúbrot was back to playing (MOR super light-weight hit) "Chirpy chirpy cheep cheep" for drunk kids.

Back then, just as now, the only way out of the grind was international success. The band was optimistic and for a while it looked as the Fantasy label (home of Creedence Clearwater Revival) would sign Trúbrot. Nothing came of this. Dis-

appointed, Karl Sighvatsson left yet again, but the band soldiered on, making the fourth and final record in 1972, *Mandala*. Although it is fine in parts, *Mandala* is quite drab as a whole. Not content with the album and with no idea what to do next, the band fizzled out early in 1973.

The main rival for Trúbrot's hippie crown was Náttúra (Nature). Formed in 1969 in the same cauldron that begat Trúbrot by singer Jónas R. Jónsson of Flowers, the band's line up changed often and would total eleven members in all. For the first year the band played mostly cover songs, music from The Who's Tommy and Jethro Tull, for instance, but later original songs would become prevalent. As the hair grew longer and the smoke thicker, the music stretched in length and depth. Drunk kids were not always so receptive to a 20 minute drum solo, though.

The band had at least twice written music for their purported debut—in 1970 and 1971—but twice the material was abandoned. In 1971 they were signed on to perform at the Icelandic staging of the musical Hair. The band then suffered a tremendous blow when all their instruments were destroyed in a fire when the legendary club Glaumbær burned down in December 1971. Glaumbær was situated where the National Gallery of Iceland is today and was the definitive place for the young crowd during the late sixties and early seventies.

The only Náttúra album, *Magic Key*, came out in 1972 with Shady Owens handling vocal duties and Karl Sighvatsson playing the Hammond and singing a bit. The band released the album themselves (like Trúbrot did with *Mandala* also in 1972). Náttúra's album has never been released officially on CD but many bootlegs exist and is a sought after item. Along with *Lifun* and *Óðmenn's* double album, it represents the best of the Icelandic hippie years. In 1973, Náttúra performed the music for Jesus Christ Superstar. The band then quit when the show stopped. Progressive hippie music just wasn't the thing anymore. Now it was time for the content free and silly seventies!

Go to icelandprog.blogspot.com to listen to all the records mentioned here, as well as other fine albums from the same period: Svanfríður's *What's hidden there* (hard rock from 1972), Mánar's hippie rock debut from 1971 and Icecross legendary heavy metal gloom LP from 1973, along with later period prog and folk music. ♪ - DR. GUNNÍ

By Dr. Gunní, based on his 2000 book *Eru ekki allir í stuði?* (Rock in Iceland). A revisited update of the book is forthcoming in 2010.

1. Náttúra in 1972, the line up that did *Magic Key*: Sigurður Árnason bass, Björgvin Gíslason guitar, Shady Owens vocals, Ólafur Garðarsson drums, Karl Sighvatsson organ + vocals)
2. *Lifun* 3. *Magic Key*

Music | Review



Árstíðir

Árstíðir (2009)

arstidir

Peace, love and brown rice.

Árstíðir bring a bit of a free loving, hair-flowing feel with their debut, living up to their reputation as modern-day Simon and Garfunkels. While the actual sound of the music fulfils my expectation of what that should sound like, all elegant acoustic melodies and tender ambience, their lyrics—particularly the English ones—let them down. Lacking in power and sincerity, Árstíðir sometimes give the feeling they are trying way too hard for S&G 2009, without really realising that they go most of the way there with their music. Moving away from comparisons, as a standalone piece of music the album is enjoyable purely for the songs—if you ignore the lyrics—and is a nice return to the sound of an era that's been ignored by mainstream music as of late.

-BERGRÚN ANNA HALLSTEINSDÓTTIR



Cosmic Call

Cold Hands (2009)

cosmiccallmusic

Cold of hand, but warm of heart, Cosmic Call just want your love.

Cold Hands, the track, introduces matters and sounds like *Cosmic Call* have collectively eaten a bunch of U2 and Kings Of Leon albums and recorded their subsequent vomiting session. That alone pretty much guarantees it's gonna be their signature tune and a huge hit. It's obvious that the Akranes quintet are adept indie-epic songwriters with more than a hint of Angels & Airwaves about them—It's OK, for one, could easily be from i-Empire. The Cure's influence is prominent on the Love Cats-y workout *Lightbulbs* and the *Cosmics* delve into their Police catalogue for inspiration to the verses of *Hangin'* On before going all shoegaze on our asses. Owls, meanwhile, displays a terser side to the band, a downbeat focus that reaches its zenith on the all-too-short Rhodes-jacked, bluesy Richard Ashcroft-ism of *Fallin'*—the lone violin plaintive in counterpoint to Sigurmon's defeated vocal which is less cosmic than contemplative.

-JOE SHOOMAN

A picture of His Holiness The Dalai Lama

IN MY OPINION THE VERY BEST VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT IN THE WORLD

Benjamin Dove

OK, His Holiness The Dalai Lama did not eat at our restaurant when he visited Reykjavik. But he sure should have. Join the many famous people who like, Bill and Hillary Clinton, Obama, Paul McCartney, Nelson Mandela, David Lynch Madonna, etc. And become one of our happy regular customers.

Where the famous people eat, you are very safe!



Laugavegur 20b & KRINGLAN Shopping Centre, Reykjavik
Tel: (+354) 552 8410 * www.anaestugrosum.is



Taste the best of Iceland...



Icelandic Gourmet Fiest

Starts with a shot of the infamous Icelandic spirit Brennivín

Smoked puffin with blueberry "brennivín" sauce

Icelandic sea-trout with peppers-salsa

Lobster tails baked in garlic

Pan-fried monkfish with lobster sauce

Grilled Icelandic lamb Samfaina

Minke Whale with cranberry-sauce

Chocolate cake with berry compoté and whipped cream



Our kitchen is open
to **23:30** on weekdays
and **01:00** on weekends



RESTAURANT- BAR
Vesturgata 3B | 101 Reykjavík
Tel: 551 2344 | www.tapas.is

Jón Jónsson

PROUDLY PRESENTS:

OKOMPAKT

ON REYKJAVÍK CULT NIGHT

Jacobsen

LAU. 22. AUGUST KL 22.00 - ?

PAN / TONE LIVE [KOMPAKT]

SHUMI [KOMPAKT]

MARGEIR / JACK SCHIDT [GLUTEUS MAXIMUS]

SEXY LAZER [HUMAN WOMAN]



PRE-SALE AT MIÐI:IS

BACARDI.

PRE-SALE PRICE 1500 KR

You'll Have (Had) A Gay Ol' Time!

A run-down of Reykjavík Gay Pride 2009



"I'm the first openly gay, fully licensed ship captain in Iceland!" Einar Örn Einarsson announced over the ship's loud PA system while welcoming everybody aboard. The Elding Queer Cruise burst into a chorus of cheers and a roaring wave of applause.

The overwhelming feeling of camaraderie and mass-esteem that filled the ship at that very moment was one that punctuated the entire weekend, as same-sex couples engaged freely in PDAs, drag-aficionados were out in large numbers and the city was awash with rainbow colours. With an estimated 80,000 people partaking of the 11th annual festivities, Reykjavík's Gay Pride 2009 was a force to be reckoned with.

For all y'all not around to take in the weekend first-hand, and for the rest of you who just can't get enough, here are some highlights of the weekend:

ALL HANDS ON DICK DECK: QUEER CRUISE, FRIDAY @ 21:30

While the official Pride program pegs the Queer Cruise as the first of its kind in cooperation with Reykjavík Gay Pride, Elding is no wallflower in the world of gay cruises.

"We did our first Gay cruise in 2002 and it was a whale watching tour," explained Queer Cruise captain Einar Örn Einarsson. "It was great, we had 50 or 60 gay men—mainly leather men!—and we had the gay flag flying. Other boats around us asked us 'What nation is this? Do you have a group from some Pacific island, or what?'"

The gay flag was flying on the second level of Elding's ship Friday evening for the hour-long cruise that took gay and lesbian partiers around

Viðey Island, stopping briefly to ogle the puffins on Akurey Island. Beyoncé's Single Ladies was the unofficial theme song of the cruise (and of the entire Pride weekend, as other events would confirm) and the cruisers danced along, drank and cheered as a wet-suited man wake-boarded behind a Sea-Doo in the chilly waters of the north Atlantic.

THESE 15-CM PLATFORM STILETTOS WERE MADE FOR WALKING: GAY PRIDE PARADE, SATURDAY @ 14:00

The belle of the Pride ball, the Pride Parade, made its way down Laugavegur in style Saturday. Onlookers lined the streets numbering in the tens of thousands, applauding the rainbow-flag-adorned motorcycles that lead the way and keeping the positive energy going for the flatbeds-turned-dance floors carrying outlandishly dressed dancers.

There was a bit of confusion, however, as the parade seemed to have ended prematurely, prompting the crowds to take to the streets following what they thought was the final float toward the concert at Arnarhóll. This actuated parade organisers to take to the streets themselves, directing bystanders to clear the way for the remainder of the procession.

Then came the queens. Goddamn. As that Beyoncé anthem blared from a boombox behind them three queens in asymmetrical leotards, nylons, stilettos high enough to induce sympathy pains in anybody with a nervous system and smeared with enough fake-tan to keep Paris Hilton bronzed for a year, shook what their respective mothers gave them. Their choreography could put Sasha

Fierce herself to shame—props to Miss B if she could work it the length of Laugavegur with half the stamina of these three. Hell, I'd put a ring on it.

WHO LIKES SHORT SHORTS? ARNARHÓLL CONCERT, SATURDAY AT 15:30

The concert was alright. Crowd watching was more entertaining than the performances at this point, at least for foreigners not familiar with the Icelandic tunes pumping from the loud speakers into the waiting ears of the masses covering every available space on the hill.

Highlight: Haffi Haff's mind-bogglingly short shorts. They beg the question: at that length is the title "shorts" really appropriate or should one refer to such a garment as "denim panties"?

Lowlight: Four American men who, when asked whether they had been enjoying Pride thus far, commenced a diatribe along the lines of "we're not here for Pride, we were out of town salmon fishing and if y'all want to continue to receive our American dollars to save your failed economy you had better work out a way to stop this queer stuff from messing up local traffic. It was a pain in the ass driving back into town today." Charming.

GOT ME TIGHTER IN MY DEREON JEANS: SATURDAY, SÓDÓMA @ 21:00 & NASA @ 23:00

It was a packed-house at Sódóma, where The Creamgirls performed ahead of schedule. It's a shame that the place cleared out rather quickly following the band and a dwindling crowd took in the energetic performance of Robotron, a rock duet from Berlin. The front-man/

keyboardist was bouncing around that stage and the surrounding area, singing (screaming?) out lyrics like 'do you want a banana?' as if he were a cartoon character of himself.

Páll Óskar at NASA. Awesome. The club was at capacity as the man himself — donning a puffy sequin-adorned blouse tucked in to metallic stretch pants — gave the crowd what it wanted. ABBA medley? Yes please! Single Ladies (Put a Ring on It)? But of course! The gay-Reykjavík spokesman kept the energy up and made bodies sweat, provoking roaring cheers when he stepped from behind his disco-dance floor inspired podium to shower his adoring crowd with colourful confetti.

THE DAY OF REST: SUNDAY, ALL DAY

Leave it to Reykjavík to live up to its party moniker and serve up a world-class Pride to put all others to shame. As a trio of Pride-tourists from California and Ohio said: "You have more events leading up to Pride than even San Francisco; we don't have the Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday thing. It's amazing!"

For some Pride continued throughout Sunday, with the T-Dance at BARBARA and the Rainbow Church service at Háteigskirkja, but for others Sunday was a day of rest and recuperation from a whirlwind weekend of non-stop LGBT craziness. Those who went the distance should give themselves a hearty pat on the back and the rest should strap on their stilettos and begin stamina training for Pride 2010. ☺

✉ CATHARINE FULTON
📧 CATHARINE FULTON

The excitement of Pride is contagious; everybody meandering their way through the crowds on Laugavegur, Lækjatorg and Arnarhóll with a smile on their face and spring in their step. The following are some of the good folks that were out and about and enjoying Reykjavík Pride 2009.



Names: Daniella & Michaela
Country: Germany

"We weren't planning on being here for Pride, it's just a happy coincidence," said Daniella. Commenting on what their favourite part of the festivities had been so far Michaela said: "I like that so many people attend. So much diversity. The children participating was great."



Names: Mark & Klaus
Countries: Denmark & Germany

"I came here for Pride but I lived here previously so I'm here visiting friends as well," explained Mark, with Klaus adding that he was visiting friends and enjoying Pride simultaneously. As for what they had enjoyed most so far, Mark spoke for the pair, saying, "I liked the drag show the best, it was great!"



Names: Andre & Daniel
Country: Iceland

"The parade was alright, maybe they were short of money this year. I wasn't here last year but the year before was much better," explained Andre, who elaborated that their favourite part of the parade were the two floats from Thailand. "They just looked happy and in a good mood and dancing; it was nice."



Name: Magnús
Country: Iceland

Magnús walked in the parade for the sixth time this year and planned on checking out the Creamgirls and Robotron concert at Sódóma Saturday night. "I like everything about the weekend," he said. "This mood that everyone has is great. Everyone is happy, there's no prejudice or anything like that."



Names: Thomas & Herald
Countries: Denmark & Germany

"The parade was much fun," said Herald, who had walked in the parade with the gay association of the university. "I very much enjoyed having good weather, which is expected, of course, because it's GAY pride, so the sun must come out!" As for their plans for the evening, Thomas said, "there's something everywhere—8pm at Sódóma, 11pm at NASA—there's something everywhere so I really have no idea what I'm going to do." To which Herald added: "You don't have to be gay to be queer and I'm definitely going to be queer tonight!"



Name: Óli
Country: Iceland

"I love it! It's amazing! I've gone to all the events that gay pride was offering. I was also in the parade, I had a truck." Aside from taking part in the parade, Óli was planning on hitting up NASA for the Páll Óskar DJ set and then to party the night away BARBARA's ongoing Pride party.

IN ICELAND IT IS POSSIBLE TO WEAR T-SHIRTS OUTSIDE IN THE SUMMER

laugavegur 30 - www.dogma.is



New super duper
Moods of Norway store has opened
in the Kringlan shopping mall



moods of norway
LAUGAVEGI 51 & KRINGLUNNI • 551 4337



THE LOBSTER HOUSE HUMARHÚSIÐ

The Lobster house takes pride in giving you the best,
with top-class cuisine and highly praised service.

Our menu consists of a variety of meat and fish dishes,
and lobster is our speciality.



HUMARHÚSIÐ
Amtmannsstíg 1 / 101 Reykjavík / Tel: +354 561 3303
www.humarhusid@humarhusid.is



ALDAR
AFMÆLI
2009
CENTENNIAL
100 ÁRS
JUBILÆUM

ÍSLAND :: KVIKMYNDIR ICELAND :: FILM

BERLÍN – KAUPMANNAHÖFN – REYKJAVÍK
BERLIN – COPENHAGEN – REYKJAVÍK

Sýning í Þjóðmenningarhúsinu sem veitir yfirsýn yfir íslenska kvikmyndagerð frá
1904 til 2008. Um 100 íslenskar kvikmyndir af öllu tagi til sýnis í fullri lengd.

Exhibition in the Culture House providing an overview of Icelandic
filmmaking. About 100 films can be viewed in full length.

FOREX



Money Exchange
MoneyGram
Travelers Cheques
Tax Free Refund

www.forex.is

Bankastræti 2, 101 Reykjavík, 551-7755
Smáratorg 3, 201 Kópavogur, 551-7757



The Culture House - Þjóðmenningarhúsið
National Centre for Cultural Heritage

Hverfisgata 15, 101 Reykjavík
Tel.: +354 545 1400, www.thjodmenning.is

Opnið daglega
kl. 11.00 – 17.00

Open daily between
11 am and 5 pm.





Flight provided by Air Iceland.
Book flights at www.airiceland.is

Politics, Culture and Driving in Circles

A shallow glimpse at life in Nuuk



vision but they didn't have the education to back it up. Now there's a lot of young people, educated people, and that's a good thing."

HOME IS WHERE 1% OF THE POPULATION IS

Upon arriving in Nuuk, the housing is likely to be the first thing that leaps out at you. Idealized visions of colourful fishing cottages along the shore are immediately replaced with the reality of monstrous and expansive blocks of apartments, decaying façades and rusted balconies, dominating the city. Those quaint Crayola-colour wooden homes do exist, making for a picturesque walk around the old harbour, but direct your gaze away from the sea and the real Nuuk hits you with great force.

One of the apartments, Blok P, houses more than 1% of Greenland's population. Now, Greenland happens to be the most sparsely populated nation per square kilometre in the world, but that statistic is still impressive. The long rectangular building appears to be somewhat of an optical illusion if viewed from one of its ends, as it seems to cover an impossibly long expanse of land in the centre of Nuuk, consecutive columns of rusted, laundry-strewn balconies disappearing into the horizon. It's depressingly im-

"People are very private here. You need a local to gain their trust," Piitaaraq explained in an attempt to quell my disappointment upon being shunned by a dozen individual locals I had attempted to speak with. "You need a man – I'm the man."

Nuuk is an enigmatic place. There's a cultural dichotomy in play that is natural and common place for those Greenlanders and Danes who live there but seems so isolating and exclusionary for visitors not familiar with that reality. Requiring a native to gain the trust of those with whom I wished to speak meant that I look

- 1) too Danish or
- 2) too foreign

for Greenlanders to want to speak with me. Just as I look too Danish to visit a lengthy list of bars I was given, scrawled in pen under the header: "don't go!"

THE POLITICS OF CULTURE

There's a push and pull in Nuuk between the Greenlanders and the Danes, with the former trying to secure their independence from the latter in any way they can. Even the once Danish street names have recently been changed to Greenlandic ones, something that some Greenlandic locals find confusing, according to Piitaaraq, a 29-year-old Nuuk local and employee of Nuuk Tourism who played host to the Grapevine during our time in Greenland's capital. "The old politicians

are getting on in age and are thinking 'I want people to remember my name,'" he said. "But I think it's rushed."

At the time of our visit in the first week of June, Greenland was undergoing an election to put in place the government that would be the first national party to have control over judicial affairs, policing, and natural resources before June 21st (the cut-off date decided upon by the Danish government). This historic event seemed to affect everything we experienced while in Nuuk. The streets were decorated with signs of the change, with election posters covering every electric pole, lamppost and bus shelter early in the week, and spread over the concrete and strewn through the ditches post-

election.

The elections and the debate over Greenland's ability to adopt responsibilities that had previously been tended to by the Danish ruling parties was on everybody's minds, and everybody had an opinion on the matter. Most of those who would speak their minds, through the trusted local Piitaaraq, seemed sceptical, having endured years of political scandal – misappropriation of funds and sex scandals, specifically – but others were optimistic that the young and educated politicians of the victorious Inuit Ataqatigiit party would be capable of fostering real and positive change for the nation. As Theresa, director of Nuuk Tourism stated, "a lot of politicians had a



AIR ICELAND

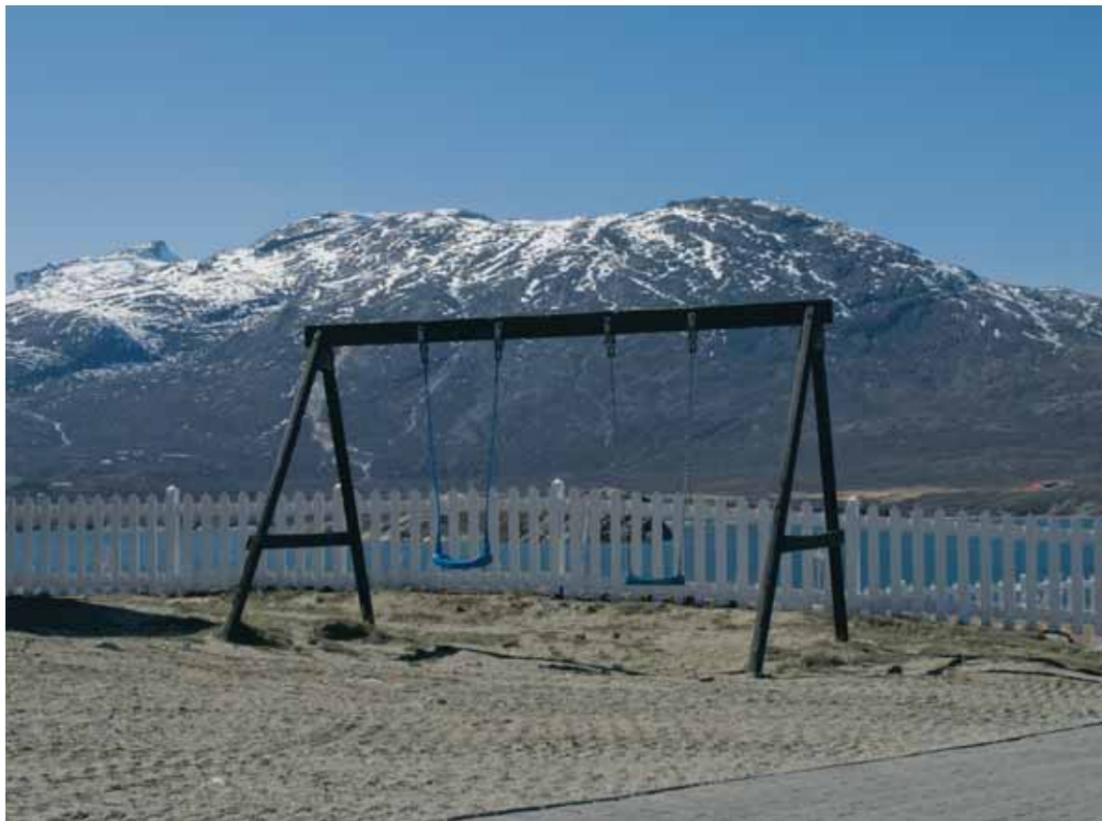
Fly and discover Action-packed day tours 2009

Air Iceland is your West Nordic airline, a customer-driven service company responsible for scheduled domestic flights and flights from Iceland to the Faroe Islands and Greenland.

Air Iceland offers a variety of day tour packages, in Iceland and to Greenland, which include flight, bus transfer and guidance. All these magical locations are but a short, comfortable flight from Reykjavik.

Come fly with Air Iceland





caught wind of the cod boom and the big money that could be made from commercial fishing in Greenland's waters, they ceased support to the Greenlandic villages surrounding the capital, thereby forcing their inhabitants to relocate to the city and take up employment in the newly constructed fishing factories, taking residence in the apartments. Whole villages were moved into these blocks, leaving behind their village lifestyles and Greenlandic tradition of sharing a family home with multiple generations so that grandparents could pass along their knowledge to younger generations; something that apartment life no longer facilitated.

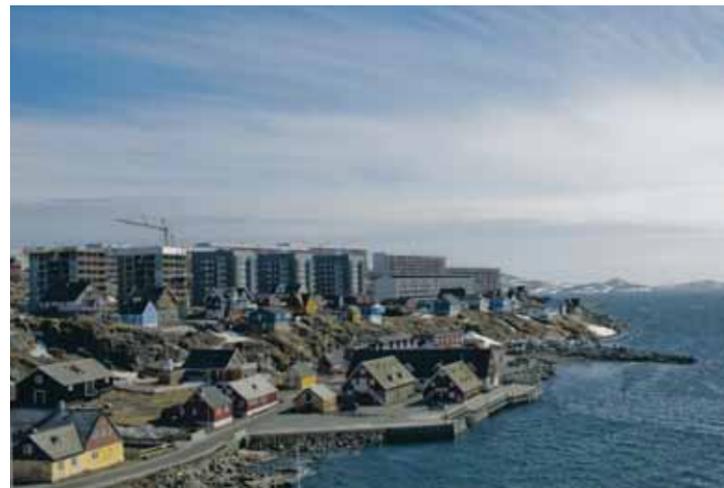
These blocks are unsightly, bringing to mind images of Soviet times, all concrete, gloom and decay, but since they are the most dominant style of housing in the city centre a mix of people inhabit them. Theresa, a woman of Faroese descent who is married to a Greenlandic man, told us of when she first moved to Nuuk and was invited to a girlfriend's home. When she heard that her girl-

friend, a nurse by trade, lived in one of the apartment blocks she was sceptical about the visit. "When I arrived in the building, the hallways were dirty and covered in graffiti, but the apartment was so nice! Many different kinds of people live in those buildings, because it's more affordable," clarified Theresa.

IT'S NOT ALL POLITICAL

The residents of Nuuk are shockingly physically active, to the point of instilling shame in onlookers, such as myself, who huff and puff their way up an incline while impossibly fit locals jog past barely breaking a sweat. While gearing up to hike up a mountain not far outside the city centre, we passed several people jogging along the side of the highway (something they apparently do all year, regardless of plummeting temperatures) and, while descending from the bus to the base of the mount, witnessed some aerobically inclined Greenlanders running down the mountain.

Physical fitness was one common activity that all the young people I spoke



with touted as one of the leisure pursuits they engage in most often with their friends. Marie, a local artist, listed running, hiking and going to the gym as three of the main activities that she and her friends get together for. "There are a lot of health nuts here, but then, there are also a lot of really unhealthy drunks to even it out," she joked.

Others share Marie's affinity for cardiovascular outings. Ruddle Motzfeldt, 21, goes to the gym with her friends to lift weights and play sports. Piitaaraq, our trusted Nuuk guide, is the epitome of physical activity, playing handball in the world championships and coaching two handball teams.

Making a stop beside a massive gravel field, Piitaaraq explained how excited all of Nuuk gets every August when the football qualifiers take place in that field. Though devoid of an actual football pitch or stadium seating, people come out in hoards to sit on the sloping rock face adjacent to the field and watch players from all over Greenland compete for a spot in the championship game. The rest of the year Nuuk is engaged in a bitter rivalry between Liverpool and Manchester United fans, marking their turf with flags and posters in their windows.

Social life in Nuuk also revolves around the handful of clubs and bars, with the most popular without a doubt being Manhattan. This bar is massive and the music is loud. Manhattan is the only place in town where the young people can get their dance on and is said to be packed on the weekends, though nobody goes out until one a.m. and the

bar closes at three. No matter if you only get two hours in at the club, because the after party is where it's at, with many revellers continuing to get their drink on while driving around the city in search of a house to spend the wee hours of the morning.

Nicolas, a former bouncer at Manhattan, says that he rarely even makes it out to the bar these days since he and his friends opt to pile into his car and drive around in circles. "It's so damn easy to take the car everywhere I go so when I go to the nightclub I don't drink," explains Nicolas, ever the responsible student.

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HAVE IN STORE?

"Nuuk is pouring over with new possibilities every day, like a developing country," Theresa espoused optimistically while taking in the city during a drive to her quaint blue home perched high above the city. She's right. There's no saying where Nuuk will be in a year or two, or five, or ten.

This is a place unlike any other I have visited. A place where tradition clashes with politics and where intensely different cultures are trying to find balance amongst themselves. Life in Nuuk is in transition, both political and cultural. It is undergoing a shift and it will be interesting to see how this northernmost of national capitals develops and grows in coming years as it continues to gain increased independence from Denmark.

✍ CATHARINE FULTON
📷 JULIA STAPLES

pressive, if ever such a descriptor could be sensibly used.

The block apartments throughout Nuuk, like many things in the capital, serve as a reminder of Danish rule. In the 1950s, when the Danish government

www.airiceland.is



8 hour Day Tour
Nature's Hot Spot

→ Vestmannaeyjar



12 hour Day Tour
Lake Mývatn

→ Mývatn



10 hour Day Tour
In the Footsteps of the Fishermen

→ Eskifjörður



12 hour Day Tour
Birds and Blue Waters

→ Ísafjörður



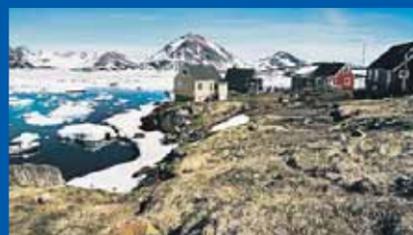
12 hour Day Tour
Highlights of the North

→ Mývatn



2 or 5 hour Evening Tour
Beyond the Arctic Circle

→ Grímsey



2 night Hotel Package
A Different World

→ Greenland – Kulusuk – Ammassalik



8 hour Day Tour
Remarkable Greenland

→ Greenland – Kulusuk



Contact Air Iceland or
travel agent for reservation.

HORNIÐ

Restaurant - Pizzeria

Hornið opened in 1979 was the first restaurant of its kind in Iceland, a restaurant with a true Italian atmosphere. Hornið is known for good food made out of fresh raw materials, good pizzas baked in front of the guests, good coffee and comfortable service.

Lunch offers every day.

Open every day from 11.00 to 23.30

For reservations call 551-3340

Restaurant Hornið - Hafnarstræti 15, 101 Reykjavík - t. 551 3340 - www.hornið.is

nitjanda.

Experience great cuisine accompanied by a **breathtaking view**

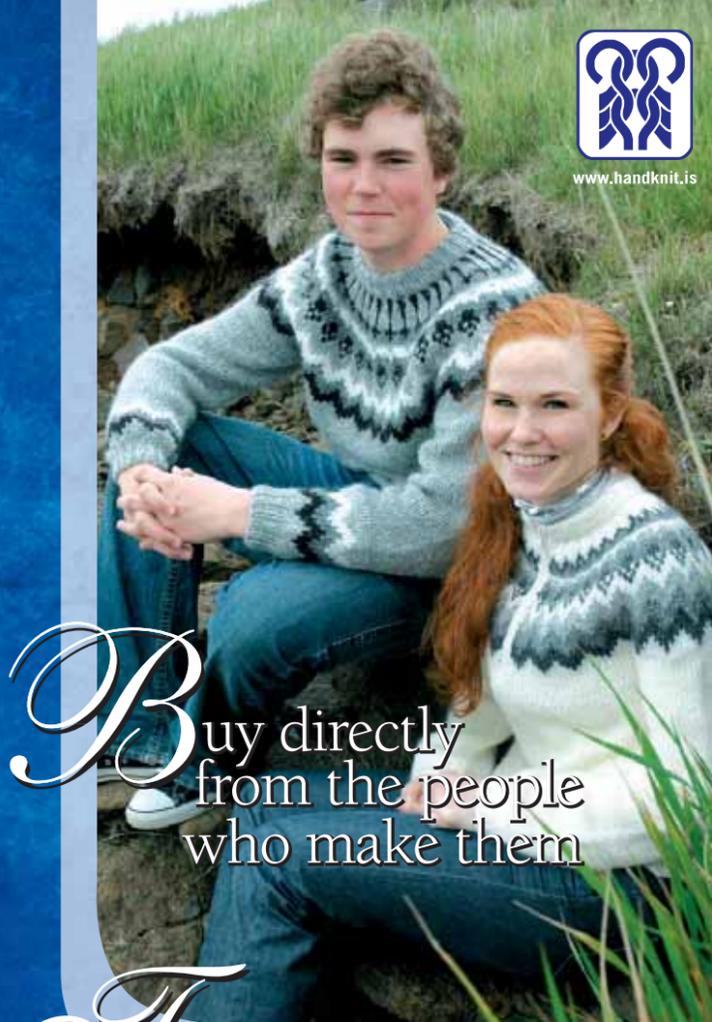
...in the tallest building in Iceland



Enjoy weekend brunch or delicious buffet for a quality price

Open everyday from 11 AM - 2 PM

Smáratorgi 3 next to Smaralind mall | 201 Kópavogi | Tel. 575 7500 | veisluturninn@veisluturninn.is | www.veisluturninn.is



www.handknit.is

Buy directly from the people who make them

The Handknitting Association of Iceland



• Skólavörðustígur 19 tel.: 552 1890

• Radisson SAS, Hótel SAGA tel.: 562 4788

• Laugavegur 64 tel.: 562 1890



Snæfellsnes: Rocks.

Lots and lots of mysteriously shaped rocks



Reykjavík Excursions

www.re.is

354-580-5400

Are there hidden folk among the rocks? Legend has it that one day, long ago, God was on his way to pay a visit to Adam and Eve. While trying her hardest to make the children presentable for the likes of God, Eve decided to hide those of her children who she had not yet had time to bathe and pass off a handful of squeaky clean kids as the only fruit of her and Adam's collective loins. God, ever the stickler for details, noted that there were a few kids missing from the line-up and called Eve's bluff. Eve kept her poker face on. So God proclaimed, [and I'm paraphrasing here] "that which is hidden from me shall too be hidden from you," and henceforth made the hidden children of Adam and Eve visible only to those possessing the gift of 'second sight.'

This isn't the next instalment of Transcendental Iceland you're reading. No, this is my account of a 12-hour daytrip titled The Wonders of Snæfellsjökull offered by the good people at Reykjavík Excursions.

IN THE BEGINNING...

A 7:30 pick-up meant a 6:30 wake-up; significantly earlier hours than this (or any) journalist is accustomed to keeping. However, the prospect of exploring the beautiful Snæfellsnes peninsula and Snæfellsjökull kept the energy up long enough to plant myself on the mini bus that would be my chariot for the day. Then I napped.

THE HIDDEN GLACIER

Hours later, the bus pulled over on the outskirts of Arnarstapi to attempt

a first glimpse of Snæfellsjökull, a mystical glacier connected to stories of otherworldly happenings, Jules Verne and UFO sightings. "The people are a little different around the glacier," said our superstitious and impressively informative tour-guide Hörður. "You see things around there, but it's best not to know what it is so you can sleep at night."

Unfortunately, the clouds were hanging low over the mountains so seeing the glacier and any mystical beings lurking thereon was not in the cards.

ROCKS

This peninsula sure has a lot of rocks and Hörður sure seems to be a fan of them. While the existence of elves and hidden folk among the craterous lava fields is up for debate —Hörður believes, as do a large number of Icelanders, he says—there are a lot of strange shapes in the rocks that allude to something magical afoot. Men, massive seals, elf cathedrals, faces. All in the rock. How did such shapes come to be? Is that shape of a man a frozen ogre? Are there elves up in that cathedral right now?

The examination of rocks dominated the trip from early on, just as the rock dominates the landscape. An hour-long stop in Arnarstapi included a walk along the breathtaking rocky coastline, gazing upon the rock formations carved by the sea and appreciating the rock statue of Bárður Snæfellsás, a shaman who was captivated by the energy of the glacier. A stop in Djúpálónssandur was punctuated by a walk on a black-rock beach surrounded by still more rocks, jagged shapes twisting upward, piercing the blue sky. It was here, in

this deserted fishing village, that we tourists tried our strength with the lifting stones—four rocks weighing 154, 100, 54 and 23 kilograms respectively—that prospective fisherman would have to lift onto a waist-high platform to prove they had what it took to be oarsmen on the fishing boats. Turns out I'm a weakling.

MAKING FRIENDS WITH ROCKS

Toward the end of the trip, after a stop in Bjarnarhöfn for putrefied shark tasting and a lesson in preparing them for consumption, we got to meet one of Hörður's friends, who he'd been speaking of for hours. The anticipation was killing me as Hörður directed the bus driver to pull over not far from Bjarnarhöfn, and off he went running into the lava field, disappearing down into crevasses and resurfacing some metres beyond until he came to a stop beside 'his friend.' It was a rock. A strange rock, shaped eerily like a man in profile.

While Hörður was returning to the bus I spotted a 'friend' of my own; a large face in a rock-formation not two metres off the roadside, peering up at me in the bus. I named him Rock Biter.

THE FINAL VERDICT

The Snæfellsnes Peninsula is truly a mystical and beautiful part of the country and this tour exploring the wonders thereof is perfectly suited for tourists keen on covering a large expanse of land in relatively minimal time, with little to no physical effort.

✎

✎ CATHARINE FULTON
✎ JULIA STAPLES

ELEGANT SURROUNDINGS
SUPERB CUISINE
MODERN COMFORT



Gallery
Restaurant

PRESERVING QUALITY
IS OUR BUSINESS

Open daily for lunch and dinners
Special offer on Monday
and Tuesday - 3 course dinner
for only 4200 ISK.

Reservation: tel. 552 5700,
e-mail: gallery@holt.is



Bergstaðastræti 37 s. 552 5700
holt@holt.is www.holt.is



All The Pretty Little Horsies

Getting stirred-up with Icelandic equine



Laxnes Horse Farm
www.laxnes.is
354-566-6179

I can't say that I ever intended to, of all things, go horseback riding here in Iceland. I tried riding a horse once when I was eight. I screamed a lot. I might have been sick. I didn't like it. So when I was asked if I wanted to ride a horse this week, my gut kicked me in the larynx before I remembered the rule I made for my trip—don't decline any opportunity this country throws at you.

Just a hop, skip and a bus ride away (the good people of Laxnes pick you up from wherever you may be), I found myself at a gorgeous old farm in the Mossfellsdalur valley. The horses we would soon be riding were placidly standing in their pen, welcoming petting hands and cooing voices. First step was to go pick a helmet that fit right and drop any extra luggage. The horse trainers then assigned us a horse according to experience and comfort level. I was handed a sandy blonde 16-year old named Gossi, before promptly stepping in some manure. All of the horses had names, although the staff had no pretensions that the horses knew their own names nor could they understand human language.

We were taught how to start and steer our horses, yet getting the hang of it was not so obvious. Suddenly a trainer took off ahead of us and all the horses followed in a pack without our say. The first twenty or so minutes of the ride were taken at a gentle walk gait. The Icelandic horse has five gaits, (two more than most



breeds of horses), walk, trot, gallop, tölt and skeið (pace). We would only experience walk and trot, but the change was sudden and rapid. When the trainer at the back riled up the horses to trot, the 8-year old in me emerged for a moment.

We trotted our way down to a bucolic valley where a waterfall ran through and the horses could stop and graze for a while. It was also a chance to stretch our legs and enjoy the beautiful countryside before the ride back to the farm. One of the trainers told me that the horses behave very differently depending on the weather, so we were lucky to have such a nice sunny day and that I was lucky to have a nice horse, even though I thought he was being a bit stubborn with me.

On the ride back, I took her word for it. I somehow settled right into the correct posture—heels pressed down, back straight, shoulders loose, hands low—and learned how to kick Gossi in the stomach to get



him to go. We suddenly trusted each other and it was exhilarating. All the horses began to race each other, nearly running rider into rider, for a screaming good time. Now that it was comfortable and fun, the ride back ended all too quickly, and I had to hug Gossi goodbye.

But boy, was he ever gassy! 🐾

✍ REBECCA LOUDER
📷 JULIA STAPLES



Prehistoric cooking method finally mastered at Argentina's steakhouse!

ARGENTINA

Barónsstíg 11a • 101 Reykjavík,
Tel. +354 551 9555 • www.argentina.is

Reykjavík Downtown Hostel

Your dream location in downtown Reykjavík

Enjoy the comforts of your private room or share a room with new friends

Excellent kitchen and common areas, WiFi



We will help to make your plans and experience in Iceland unforgettable

Your friends at the new HI Hostel at Vesturgata 17 look forward to welcome you



Reykjavík Downtown Hostel

Vesturgata 17 | 101 Reykjavík | Tel. 553 8120 | www.hostel.is



THE VIKING
FAMILY BUSINESS FOR 50 YEARS

THE VIKING : INFO

Laugavegur 1 • Reykjavík • 581 1250
Hafnarstræti 3 • Reykjavík • 551 1250
Hafnarstræti 104 • Akureyri • 4615551

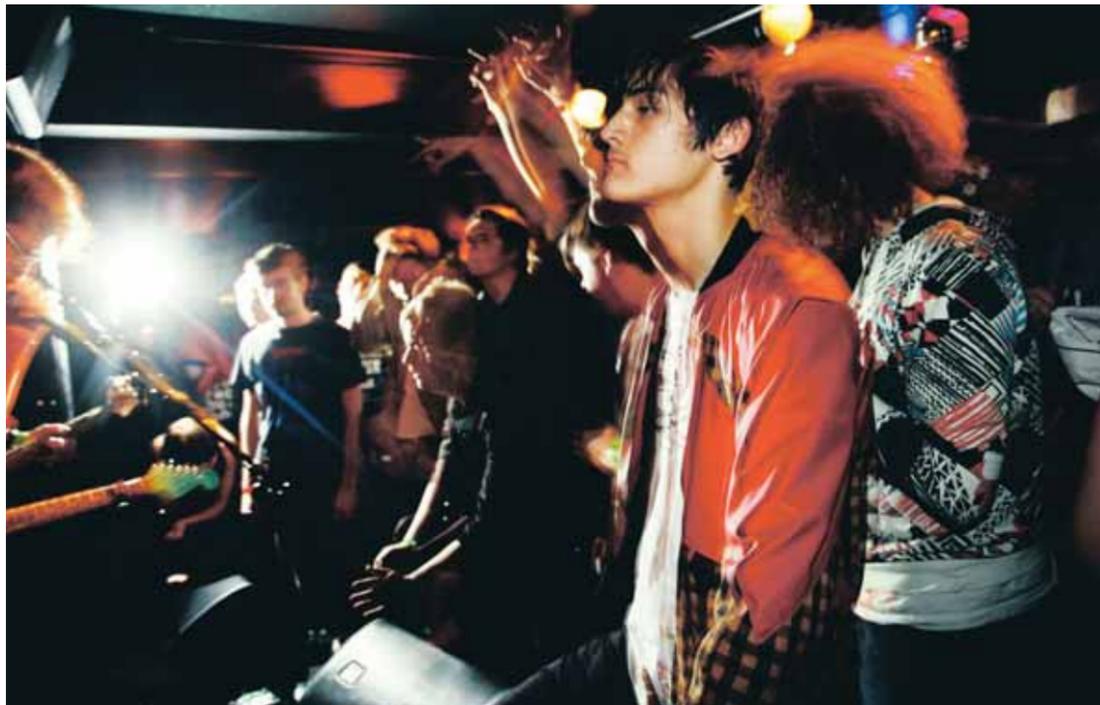
email: theviking@simnet.is



CHECK OUT - WWW.THEVIKING.COM

No Tents Please

The music and madness of Innipúkinn 2009



Innipúkinn Festival 2009

July 31st until August 2nd

Batterið and Sódóma

It started with a conga line, entwining the reasonably sized audience of friends into a daisy chain of drunken merriment and awkward expression for those who reluctantly joined—Batterið had opened its doors to the madness of <3 Svanhvít.

These guys commanded the stage topless, rapping over pre-recorded songs via an iPod and the odd random keyboard interlude. Call it stupid, arrogant or what you will, these lads sure knew how to have a good time, and by the interactivity and reaction of the audience they succeeded threefold.

I popped outside on the streets for a while to get some fresh air and to watch the sitcom around Reykjavík. A shocking tale was told of how people weren't allowed entry to Innipúkinn due to wild age restrictions, even after ticket purchase—the fun police had struck once again. I stared at my 'press pass' and re-entered Batterið for more booze to calm down.

After wandering around, urinating and various trips to the ATM, I got my first 'proper' Sudden Weather Change viewing, finally. After being amazed by SWC's Loji Höskuldsson's uncanny resemblance to Weird Al Yankovic (minus white boy fro), a second wave of amazement struck vigorously. Extremely well constructed songs, catchy hooks and genuine enthusiasm grasped me and my music loving peers in an uncontrollable unity of hatred for Nicholas Cage, whilst bellowing out 'St. Peters Day.'

A short hop, skip and a stumble lead

me to Sódóma, the haze in my retinas steered me to the front of the stage for Sykur. Various electro squawks and 808 drum sounds naturally spurred on party people to create more shapes than an episode of Sesame Street. Aesthetically, Sykur had a likeness to Kraftwerk—slicked back hair, shirt and tie, baby faces. They just added in that annoying pointing motion to the sky and cheeky smirks; if it wasn't for the 'happy juice' it would be incredibly exasperating.

Gratefully Agent Fresco allowed any frustration to be expelled naturally over the next hour or so. They sounded exceptionally tight as always, even when the keyboard fell off its unsecured stand no flaws incurred. It was then time to leave.

Day two I found myself one of the few attending Swords of Chaos and from what I can remember they put on an awesome show. The next couple of hours were spent drinking in the courtyard of Batterið, under a canopy of dramatic' unnerving deep blue fairy lights and listening to fruitful conversation across the horizon as Reykjavík's sun finally set.

As this is Iceland and punctuality is not in the vocabulary, everything was running late. This confusion made me miss AMFJ at Jacobsen as I ran back to Sódóma to catch Seabear, only then to find out that Dikta (nothing against them) was still playing. The only consolation was the fact the bar was empty at this point.

Once Seabear eventually began, the sound in the venue was too dreadful for music so delicate and exquisite. Vocalist Sindri managed to pull the set through, but without hearing the band's complex musical instrumentation and pensive na-

ture, it just sounded frustratingly boring. Never mind, 'Arms' sounded beautiful as ever.

Eager not to 'miss out' on anything, Batterið was the decision made for a 'good time.' The only problem was not factoring in the equation of FM Belfast plus Sódóma closing = a shitload of people in a small venue. Being surrounded by douchebags unaware of personal space made it far from a 'good time.' The early hours were spent once again outside, listening to FM Belfast's rendition of 'Killing In The Name' and trying not to purge.

Exhausted and fragile summed up the final day of Innipúkinn. Pascal Pinon were on the cards for an evening of relaxation and unwinding. Their endearing demeanour and alluring song writing is always a pleasure.

With just enough time to grab some food and a tiny stroll, For a Minor Reflection began. Of course one might say that 'post-rock' is a cliché coming from Iceland, but who cares when you play conscientious and passionate music as well as they did. An intense drum battle broke out right beside me, as the band was joined by a hooded figure with cymbals and toms in tow directly in front of the stage. It was too much fieriness to take. The hangover and deprivation kicked in—home at once.

Thoughts of the weekend:

Who needs a festival in the middle of nowhere, surrounded by hippies and faeces, when you can have a cracking debauched time on your own doorstep? Brilliant. ♪

JONATHAN BAKER ESQ
HÖRÐUR SVEINSSON

PUFFIN Express

One Hour Tour
– Four times a Day!

100% Viewing Success
Especially designed boat for the closest proximity. Guide in every tour.
The birds are only a few meters from you.

Tel. +354 892 0099 www.puffinexpress.is

Are you local?
...you can be for a night!

Hangikjöt, plokfiskur and harðfiskur are as interesting to eat as they are to pronounce. After dinner, stay for the "frábæra" live music and our "fræga" Reykjavík nightlife.

Íslenski Barinn

Reykjavík

www.islenski.com • info@islenski.com
The Icelandic Bar • Austurvöllur • Reykjavík • Tel: 578 2020

Licensing and registration of travel-related services

The Icelandic Tourist Board issues licences to tour operators and travel agents, as well as issuing registration to booking services and information centres.

Tour operators and travel agents are required to use a special logo approved by the Icelandic Tourist Board on all their advertisements and on their Internet website.

Booking services and information centres are entitled to use a Tourist Board logo on all their material. The logos below are recognised by the Icelandic Tourist Board.

List of licenced Tour Operators and Travel Agencies on: visiticeland.com

A HOT NEW RESTAURANT IN REYKJAVÍK

HEALTHY FRESH AND EXOTIC FOOD AND PRICES THAT WILL LEAVE YOU SMILING

WE DON'T USE WHITE FLOUR OR WHITE SUGAR - ONLY HEALTHY STUFF!
ALL MARINADES ARE HOMEMADE STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART AND FREE FROM ADDITIVES, PRESERVATIVES AND MSG.

RESTAURANT / TAKE AWAY

SAFERAN

Álfheimar 74 - Glæsibær tel. 578 7874

REYKJAVEGUR
LAUGARDALUR SWIMMING POOL
LAUGARDALUR CAMPING AREA
PETTING ZOO
GLÆSIBÆR ALFHEIMAR

Five Awesome Bars In Reykjavík

And why you should go!

Do you like drinking? 'Duh,' you say? Good. Whether you are here for a while or just on the classic flying weekend visit, you can't come to Iceland without pounding a few back. Needless to say, there are dozens of good places to drink in this town, but these are a few that offer a high quality experience, or a downright insane one.



KAFFI ZIMZEN HAFNARSTRÆTI 18

Zimzen is best known in this town for the incredibly cheap price of beer. This attracts a very mixed crowd: students, travellers, local drifters, questionably legal youths and obviously shady characters. Needless to say, people get hammered pretty quickly and shit goes down. Former lovers scream at each other from opposite ends of the bar, their friends holding them back from full on fisticuffs, while the staff and other patrons simply watch and enjoy the show. If you are really lucky, you'll get to watch some poor girl vomit in the smoking area, and then order more 2-for-1 beers.



BAR 11 LAUGAVEGUR 11

First time I came to Iceland in 2006, this was THE spot to see a good girl-fight, with real punching and everything! Now it's more of a desperate meat-market that reaches critical mass around closing time when people make a last ditch effort to find someone to bone for the night. Even at an earlier hour, the place is a slobbering hot mess of depravity set to whatever's on the jukebox. Not that there's anything wrong with that! I do suggest leaving if you need to pee, though—the toilets are rough.



KARAMBA LAUGAVEGUR 22

This bar opened up in the remnants of the first place I ever went out to in

Iceland, Barinn. It is now a one-room madhouse of loud jams and sweaty people where you're as likely to get felt up as you are to have your beer knocked out of your hand. Its only shortcoming is that the size of the place can't accommodate the fantastic parties it has become acclaimed for, so there can be chaos at the door and practically no dancing space inside. If that's the case, just climb onto someone's shoulders or dance on the bar. Just try not to break your nose (or anyone else's!) while you're at it.



JACOBSEN AUSTURSTRÆTI 9

This place has a strange effect on people that makes inhibitions seem completely useless and sensible behaviour optional. There is frequent shirtlessness and impromptu make out sessions with random people on the dance floor. It's probably caused by the bass-heavy house music and the dark, hot, glory hole of a basement lined with built in leather beds and lush pillows. The raving, wild parties can go on longer than legally permitted, which is all the better for those who can't call it quits at six in the morning, but like I said, it can be a bit senseless and overpowering. It's very easy to lose yourself in the music and even harder to stop dancing.



AUSTURVÖLLUR

Okay, granted, it's not a bar, but it might as well be! It's lined by bars on three sides and Parliament on the fourth so there is a nice healthy balance of drunkenness and political fury at almost all times. Besides, it's always fun to get shitfaced in the park. You may have to put up with gong-banging protesters, but chances are some vigilante will march over and forcefully make them stop before getting himself thrown in a police car. What's more, there are no paper bag laws in this town (not ones that are enforced, anyway) so you don't have to worry about Five-Oh getting on your case. Have fun and play nice! ☺

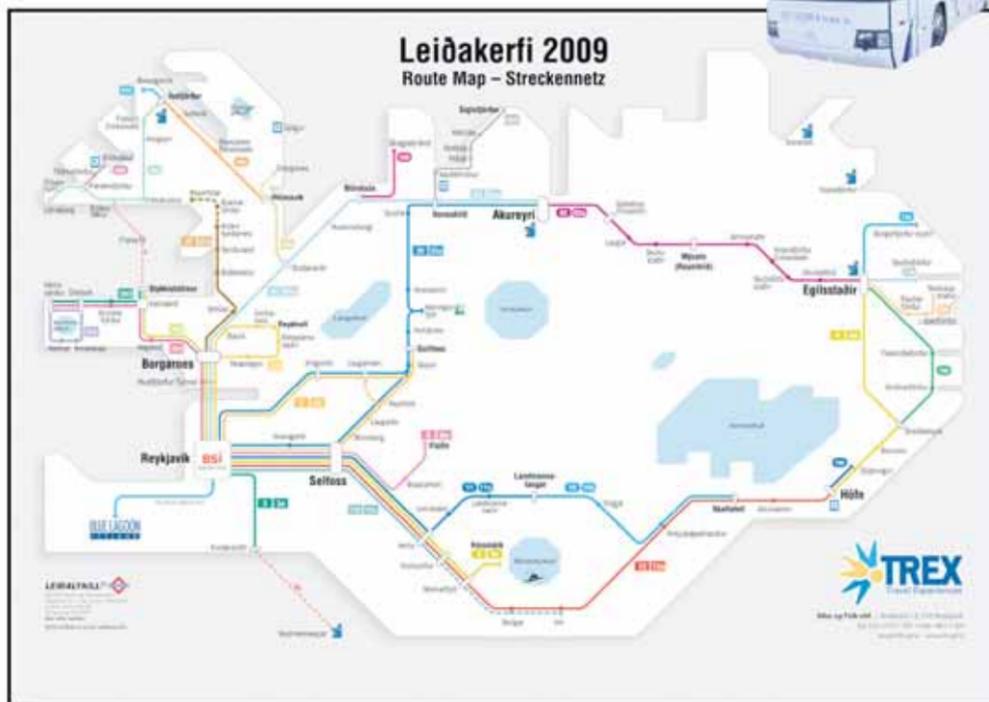
✍ REBECCA LOUDER
📷 REBECCA LOUDER

FREEDOM & FLEXIBILITY WHILE IN ICELAND...



Bílar og fólk ehf.
☎ 551 1166 - www.bogf.is

BUS PASSPORTS



The convenience of the scheduled bus services facilitates an enjoyable and relaxed view of the landscapes while travelling around Iceland.

Woolens factory store,
located in Vik

Genuine woolen goods,
made in Iceland
Also wide selection
of souvenirs



Víkurprjón ehf
Phone: 487-1250
www.vikwool.is

TEN THOUSAND FINGERS

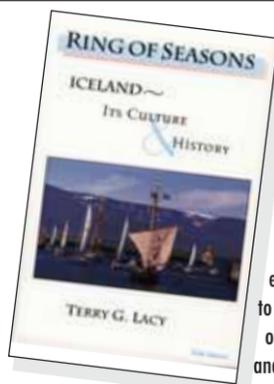


More than ten thousand fingers have played beautiful music on this piano, since it arrived in Eyrarbakki village in 1871. It was brought across the Atlantic on a large merchantman, then hauled into a small fishing boat and rowed ashore, where four strong men carried it into the village in a terrible rainstorm. But you can touch it now in the Húsid museum in Eyrarbakki.



HÚSID Á EYRARBAKKA
The Southcoast Museum

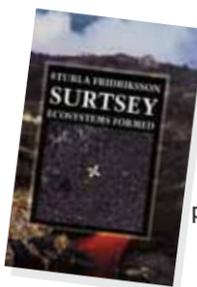
Open May 15th - Sept. 15th: 11 - 18. Other times by arrangement. | www.husid.com



RING OF SEASONS. ICELAND: - IT'S CULTURE AND HISTORY

Terry G. Lacy brings both the perspective of an outsider and the familiar eye of a long-term resident to this delightful exploration of all facets of Iceland, past and present. She conveys her story with a skillful interlacing of history, religion, politics, and culture to paint a vivid picture of the way Icelanders live today.

„This fascinating book is a must for anyone who is interested in Iceland.“ - Dick Ringler



SURTSEY - AN ECOSYSTEM FORMED
Dr. Sturla Fridrikson describes the birth of the island in 1963 and how in itself it became an interesting geological phenomenon and a biological laboratory, where scientists could investigate how organisms disperse across the ocean to remote islands and how plants and animals colonize completely barren areas such as Surtsey. Available in English, French and German
Surtsey was inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 2008.



THE MANUSCRIPTS OF ICELAND
In this collection of articles scholars present the story of Icelandic manuscripts, their medieval origins, the literature they contain and its influence up to the present day. This book is a tribute to the central role that medieval Icelandic literature played in forging national identities in N-Europe.

UNIVERSITY OF ICELAND PRESS
haskolautgafan.hi.is – hu@hi.is – tel. 525 4003



Album Review

Dr. Zühlke
and Mr. Eldon

Two men.
One album.
Lots of dissent.



The country hi-jinks here are pretty enjoyable when things are at their most energetic, and there really isn't a single particularly bad thing about this album... but maybe that's just because there really isn't anything particular about this album at all. In fact, maybe I'll just stop right there. I'm really not sure what else to say. It's kind of nice outside. Maybe I'll take a walk. And get some ice cream. Yeah, ice cream would be great. Should I get sprinkles?
—SINDRI ELDON



Björgvin & Hjartagosarnir

Sígrænir Söngvar (2009)

bohalldorssonband

» Yeah, man, sprinkles. Go for it.

Old-fashioned Eurovision pop «



Maybe the hardest part of being a writer is when you get handed a record with an honestly enthusiastic and anticipating smile—'hey, this is good stuff, you must check it out'—and you do check it out and are totally not into it. I guess it is even harder when the record is the new album of an Icelandic legend like Bo Halldórsson. If you write something bad, maybe you didn't understand it? Or do you suck at having taste? Will people be mad at you for writing this?

So you lie back and think of Iceland. Maybe start with something nice: Sígrænir söngvar is a deep record; its production values are of the highest possible calibre. Bo is a professional; you get that from every note and every thought-out vocal line. Also, he scored help from artists like Sigríður Thorlacius of Hjaltalín, even his son Krummi of Mínus and Esja. So what's there to beef about?

Maybe that this is not Rock 'n' Roll at all, but very old-fashioned and conservative folk-pop. I think of German Schlager, respectable bands that compete in the Eurovision song contest (actually Bo did take part). This is the crucial point for the record: many people will like Sígrænir söngvar, like they like Eurovision. It's just they are way past their fifties. I like my rock to rock, and am not among them.

—FLORIAN ZÜHLKE

Art | Review

A Lost Horse Found In Reykjadam

Or was that Amstervík?



Reykjadam/Amstervík

The Lost Horse Gallery

Vitastígur 9

Reykjavík

Open 2pm–6pm



to contend in the vibrant, chaotic Icelandic art scene whilst trying to maintain their adopted ideas from Amsterdam, which brings with it a more headstrong chronology of conceptual art.

Dutch Consul

The artists had the hard-grafting predicament of being the first exhibitors since the move. Walls needed painting, electrical appliances checking... Still it seemed the group's ambitious plans were not to be stifled, and as they sought to promote the show the Dutch Embassy gave them a generous grant. According to participating artist Hrafnhildur Gissurardóttir, the Dutch Consul is keen on providing funding to make Reykjadam/Amstervík an annual event: "He proposed if we give him half a year's notice, he would try and guarantee money toward the show next year."

Technical Fetishism

The new space is divided into two floors; three of the artists occupy downstairs and two are on the upper deck. Sæmundur Þór Helgason, one of the artists on the second floor, describes his work as "Technical



Fetishism". His peculiar light sensitive sound installation has an even more unconventional power source: potatoes! The piece seems to further extend man's use and fascination with this common vegetable. As I was perplexed by why he choose the beloved potato to power the installation, I asked Sæmundur to elaborate more on how it ran: "By using the acid within the potato, the potatoes start to act as batteries between the positively charged copper (+) and the negatively charged zinc (-), thus powering the artwork." He also remarked that it was like "crisis power plant, since potatoes are symbolic of famine and poverty." This is apparently meant to reflect the current situation in Iceland.

Another interesting piece was that of Hrafnhildur Gissurardóttir, who etched paparazzi photography of Amy Winehouse. The artist's intention behind the work was to deconstruct the icon, not to derogate her. And no, she is not a fan. She simply intends to illustrate the self-destructive tendency Winehouse portrays and pose the question whether it is self-made.

RICHARD P. FOLEY

gogoyoko presents:
**GRAPEVINE
GRASSROOTS #6**
Hemmi og Valdi / Friday August 21 / 21:00 / Free concert

**Snorri Helgason
Gnúsi Yones & The Crackers
Calf Method**

BALKANIKÀ
-KITCHEN-
Welcome to only
Balkan restaurant in Iceland
Here you will find rich variety of
fresh salads, vegetarian dishes and
delicious Balkan grill
Prices from 790 kr. up to 1.690 kr.
Open every day from 11.00-23.00
Vitastigur 10 / 101 Reykjavík / tel.562-8484

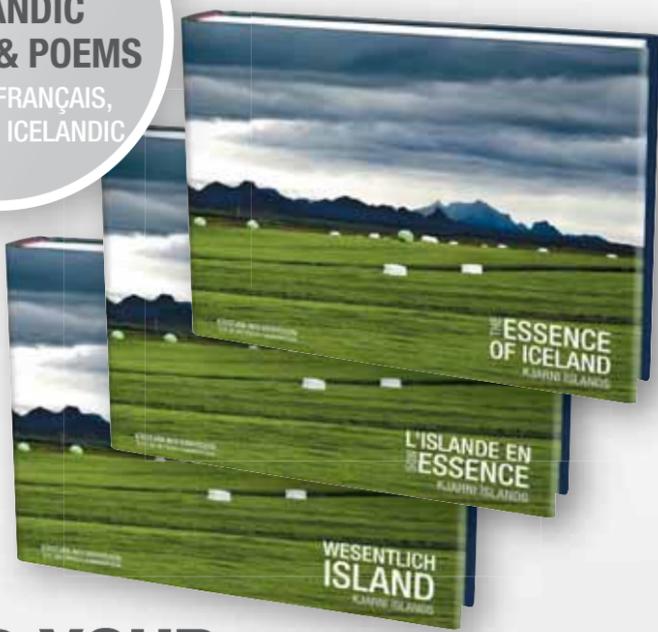
VÍKIN MUSEUM CAFÉ
Traditional Icelandic delicacies!

OPENING HOURS:
Summer (June 1st – September 14th)
Daily from 11am to 5pm
Winter (September 15th – May 31st)
Tuesdays – Sundays from 1pm to 5pm

VÍKIN
MUSEUM BY THE SEA
MARITIME MUSEUM | GRANDAGARÐI 8 | REYKJAVÍK
WWW.SJOMINJASFN.IS

PORT: human

NEW BOOK
ICELANDIC NATURE & POEMS
ENGLISH, FRANÇAIS,
DEUTSCH & ICELANDIC



FIND YOUR ESSENCE IN ICELAND



Salka www.Salka.is

Condé Nast
Traveller
2009
READERS' SPA AWARDS
WINNER
MEDICAL/THERMAL SPA/NATURAL SPA
BLUE LAGOON
ICELAND

BLUE LAGOON
ICELAND



Energy for life
through forces of nature

Blue Lagoon is open daily

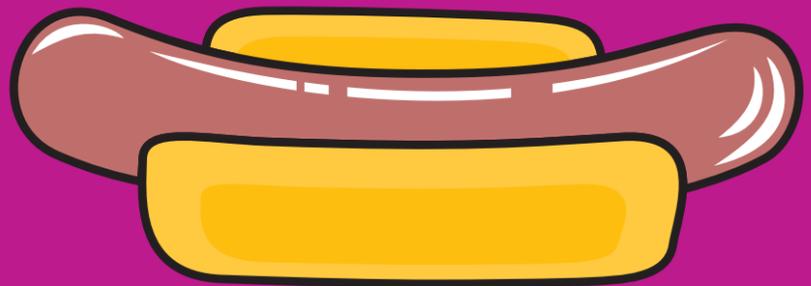
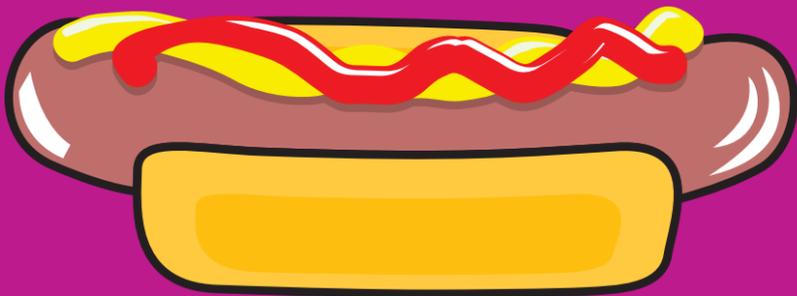
www.bluelagoon.com



VIKINGWORLD
ICELAND

OPEN DAILY FROM 11:00 TO 18:00
**WEAPONS OF MASS
DESTRUCTION**

VIKINGABRAUT 1 - 260 REYKJANESBÆR - VIKINGAHEIMAR.COM - OPEN EVERY DAY FROM 11:00 - 18:00



Different Town?

www.visitakureyri.is

OK. So we know the letters are a tad small here. Not many pictures either. Still. These are book reviews. If you're at all interested in reading books, then you will be familiar with the layout. So quit complaining. And remember to visit the Nýhil poetry festival this month.

Books | Review

100 Crazy Things (Apparently)

50 Crazy Things to Taste in Iceland / 50 Crazy Romantic Things to do in Iceland
Text by Snæfríður Ingadóttir
Photographs by Þorvaldur Örn Kristmundsson
Translation by Kristín Birgisdóttir and Darren Foreman.
Design and layout by Arnar Geir Ómarsson.
Salka, Reykjavík 2009.



50 Crazy Things to Taste in Iceland lists, well, fifty crazy things to taste in Iceland. It is obviously aimed at tourists, and with me being an Icelandic native myself, I didn't expect to find the foods listed here so crazy. And, of course, the book puts forward all the usual suspects, such as putrefied shark, sour ram testicles, brennivín, singed sheep heads, puffin, hangikjöt and rot-cured skate. But the book still managed to surprise me by also listing some of the non-usual suspects that are, on close inspection, just as Icelandic as the mostly-gross-stuff listed above. They simply have less shock-value and are therefore not pushed in the tourists' faces as enthusiastically as the others. Those include scurvy grass, Malt & Appelsín, kokteilsósa, rhubarb, Easter eggs and Icelandic water.

Each item gets a photo or two, and a short explanatory text where the origins and history of the food is briefly noted. There are plenty of fun facts to be found there, such as when Icelanders first started producing Malt (1913), that bread-making is the oldest industry in the country, Iceland holding the world record in lamb consumption and last, but not least, Iceland being home to the biggest banana plantation in Europe! The author also lists practical information about how to find the less common foods (except for the Icelandic bananas because I don't remember ever seeing any in Reykjavík's grocery stores).

Most of the photos are quite nice,

except for a few where I couldn't help but think that the intention was to make the food look as unappealing as possible, such in the case of the sheep heads (which is as might be expected), but I thought they could have done the hangikjöt and skyr more justice. Especially the skyr, as the photo portrays a bearded man eating skyr and he has it all over his face so you can see the hairs sticking out of the blobs of skyr, which, in my opinion, makes it less than appetizing.

I tried very, very hard to come up with foods that I missed from the list, and came up with only two items: salty liquorice and plokkskukur (hashed fish). But the publishers probably saw that coming and left the last pages of the book blank for the reader to fill in their own crazy things to eat in Iceland.

On the whole, the book is a most excellent overview of the crazy (and not so crazy) things to taste in Iceland.

50 Crazy Romantic Things To Do In Iceland

A far cry from Icelandair's notorious 'Dirty Weekend in Reykjavík' ad campaign a few years back and the Bangkok of the North label Iceland has received in the past, this book is sweet and romantic rather than sex-oriented. It is aimed at foreign couples visiting Iceland and lists a number of romantic activities for them to try during their stay, but can just as easily give romantic-starved natives some good ideas for a date or a weekend away from the children. Some of the romantic things mentioned can admittedly be done almost everywhere, like staying together in bed for a whole week, running a marathon with your loved one, or making out at the movies, while others are limited to Iceland, such as diving in the rift between the Eurasian and American continents in Þingvellir, swinging in the Westman Islands and getting married Viking-style.

The book seems thoroughly researched and is very informative. The text makes for a fun read and the photographs are mostly very good, some even spectacular. But I have to say that in some cases the practical information was lacking, as tourists just off the plane are not likely to know where to turn to book a private flight, a diving session or who to contact in order to become a cabin guard in the Icelandic highlands for the summer.

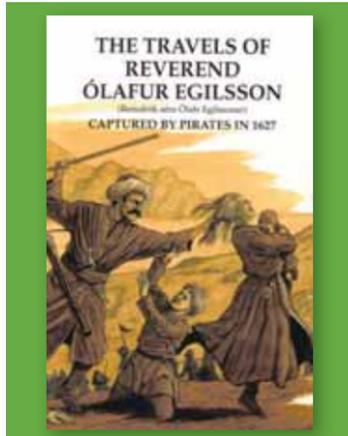
A list like this can obviously never be finite, so the last pages of the book are blanks for you to fill in your own romantic things to do in Iceland.

✂ - HILDUR KNÚTSDÓTTIR

Books | Review

The Travels of Reverend Ólafur Egilsson

Translated by Karl Smári Hreinsson and Adam Nichols



On a summer day in 1627, pirates landed on Heimaey, the largest of the Westmann Islands. They swarmed over the island's farms and houses, killed thirty-four of its residents and forced 242 men, women, and children onto their ships. They sailed with their prisoners to the city of Algiers, where most were sold as slaves.

This "Turkish Raid" (Tyrkjaránið in Icelandic) is an odd and interesting episode in Icelandic history, and now there is an inexpensive book on it in English. The pirates were actually not what we call Turks today, but rather Arabic-speaking North Africans, and there were also Englishmen and other northern Europeans among the ships' crews. Though the largest number of captives came from Heimaey, the pirates also raided farms and villages in southeastern Iceland, around Djúpvogur and Berufjörður, as well as the village of Grindavík.

Ólafur Egilsson, a sixty-year-old pastor on Heimaey, was taken prisoner along with his pregnant wife and children. His wife gave birth on the voyage south. After arriving in Algeria, he watched helplessly as his eleven-year-old son was sold away from the family. Soon after, he was released and allowed to make his way to Denmark, leaving his wife and younger children behind. He was told to ask the king of Denmark, then Christian IV, to pay ransom for the captives' freedom. Unfortunately Christian IV, who had just lost a big battle to Catholic forces in the Thirty Years' War, didn't feel able to contribute to the cause. However, some of the captives were able to return to Iceland ten years later.

The English translation of the report Ólafur wrote when he came home take up eighty pages of this small book. Ólafur tells of the raid, his captivity in Algeria, and his trip home via Italy, France, Holland, and Denmark. Another forty pages translate shorter accounts of the raid by three other captives and a local Icelandic official. A brief foreword gives

context.

Ólafur was an educated and curious man and though the first thing that comes through is his sorrow at losing his family, much of his tale shows a fascination with foreign customs. Ólafur tells you what kind of hats Muslims wear and notes how the pirates didn't drink alcohol. He describes what camels look like, how monks dress, and how Catholic confession works (you still had to pay to be forgiven). He marvels at Dutch windmills. He reminds us how, four hundred years ago, distance was real. If you ran out of cash in a foreign country, you couldn't go to the ATM machine, or even the consulate, for help.

The book is an inexpensive yet nicely produced paperback, including maps and illustrations. It's short, so you can read the whole thing after dinner or on a plane trip. The translation is well done using contemporary language. Overall—thumbs up. I didn't want my two hours back.

Unfortunately and typically, the book is not being sold by anyone outside of Iceland (except perhaps on the used market), so you can't order a new copy from Amazon or other online booksellers and you basically have to buy it here in Iceland. I saw it at Eymundsson for 1.480 kr. Bóksala Stúdenta (www.boksala.is) lists it at 1.332 kr.

✂ - IAN WATSON

Poetry | Eiríkur Norðdahl

Killing Yourself With poetry



'Twas the eve of Nýhils 2nd international poetry festival, late autumn 2006. I was the manager for the second year in a row. For some reason I can't remember we didn't have any microphones. The Norwegian poet, Gunnar Wærness, had misunderstood his flight-information and missed his flight. The Swedish poets Anna Hallberg and Jörgen Cassilewski would be arriving late from Copenhagen—just before going onstage—and they'd be accompanied by their one month old son, Bruno. A storm was ripping through Europe and the Canadian poet Christian Bök was stuck at the international airport in Frankfurt, waiting it out. We were an hour from opening the doors.

Two hours earlier my neighbour in Ísafjörður had rung me up to inform me that when I left the town ten days earlier I'd forgotten to close the big skylight window over my bed. It had now been storming for three days straight in the Westfjords and as my bed filled with melting snow water, it had started to drip down into my neighbour's apartment.

The week prior to this I'd made some rather harsh remarks on the radio about a member of the Liberal Party who'd written a fiercely racist article in the newspaper, titled "Iceland for Icelanders?" As I was standing there, waiting for microphones and foreign poets and a message from my sister who'd gone to check out my wet apartment, the phone rang.

"Hello?" I said, trembling and sweating. "Is this the guy that was on the radio?" a husky voice asked me. I admitted that I was indeed I. The voice on the phone threatened to kill me. I don't remember exactly what he said, but I remember he spoke in a "we"—as in "we will kill you" and not "I will kill you".

My apartment turned out to be wet but not destroyed. The foreign poets all showed up and got on stage on time and I haven't yet been assassinated by some anonymous group of Icelandic racists. But it's probably the closest I've come to having a complete and utter mental breakdown (and I've come pretty close). And still, the two years I arranged the Nýhil International Poetry Festival was some of the best times I've had in my life: Neurotic, beer-marinated madness on a shoestring-budget, to get some of the world's best poets to perform in a country where (almost) nobody had ever heard of them. But as it was all rather nerve-wrecking and I myself, being rather susceptible to such fear and trembling, decided to let other people have a go at helming the madness.

This'll be the first year though, that I don't get to attend. In a week's time (the weekend of 21st to 23rd of August) the festival will once again be realised in Reykjavík. Be on the lookout for a bugger-eyed, sweating lunatic in the crowd. That's the person responsible for the whole kit and kaboodle. Be nice to them. Give 'em a hug and a pat on the back. Thank them for their work. The Nýhil International Poetry Festival is no mean feat nor easy task. ✂



In the heart of Reykjavik city center, Centerhotels offer the perfect setting for your stay in Iceland. The hotels boast modern Scandinavian design, providing guests with a sophisticated and stylish environment.



CENTER
HOTELS

www.centerhotels.com

Tel.: 595 8500 - Fax: 595 8511 - Email: reservations@centerhotels.com



ICELANDIC DESIGN



ANTIFREEZE



HALLA

THIS LADIE'S JACKET IS A COMBINATION OF THE TRADITIONAL SWEATER AND A WARM TECHNICAL GARMENT. IT HAS HIGH THERMAL INSULATION THANKS TO AEROCONTROL® THAT COMBINES WINDPROOF MICROPOROUS MEMBRANE WITH THE WATER-REPELLENCE OF THE TEFLON® TREATMENT TO MAKE IT SUITABLE FOR ANY KIND OF OUTDOOR ACTIVITY. THIS COMBINATION GIVES THE JACKET A COMFORTABLE FIT AND A COMPLETELY NEW LOOK FOR OUTDOOR WEAR.

SIZES: XS - 3XL

PRICE: 27.990 ISK

COLORS: BLACK/CHARCOAL

WWW.CINTAMANI.IS



SPJARABU PIC

CINTAMANI AUSTURHRAUNI 3
210 GARDABÆ, S. 533 3805

CINTAMANI CENTER LAUGAVEGI 11
101 REYKJAVIK, S. 517 8088

PAGE 8:

“The concept of the European Union’s Common Fisheries Policy is that there should be a single umbrella policy on fisheries as there is on agriculture. In essence, Brussels is the benevolent uncle who keeps a friendly eye on how member state manages its fisheries on European lines. If only it were that simple.”

Reporter Quentin Bates talks EU policies and Icelandic fisheries

PAGE 10:

“When you write something you have to be responsible for the response. I would never not do my work somewhere but I would want to be there so that if people were angry they could look me in the eyes and tell me what they think.”

Grapevine interviews Pulitzer Prize winning playwright Paula Vogel

PAGE 14:

“How come Icelandic political culture so much resembles a rather bland episode of the Sorpanos? Why is it that our leaders tend to resemble the Berlusconi rather than the Stoltenbergs? As with everything else, we have to go back to the Vikings to find the answer.”

Valur Gunnarsson ponders a history of mafia rule in Iceland

PAGE 25:

“I can’t say that I ever intended to, of all things, go horseback riding here in Iceland. I tried riding a horse once when I was eight. I screamed a lot. I might have been sick. I didn’t like it. So when I was asked if I wanted to ride a horse this week, my gut kicked me in the larynx before I remembered the rule I made for my trip—don’t decline any opportunity this country throws at you.”

Rebecca Louder leaps at the opportunity to mount a horse

Unique

Explore Iceland



horse riding



blue lagoon



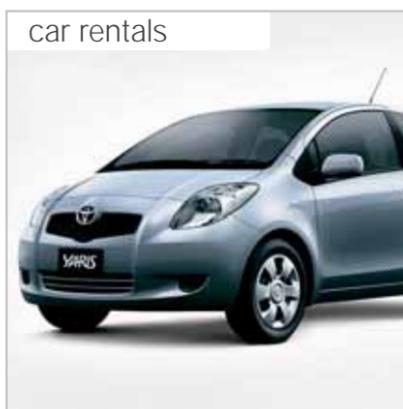
city sightseeing



whale watching



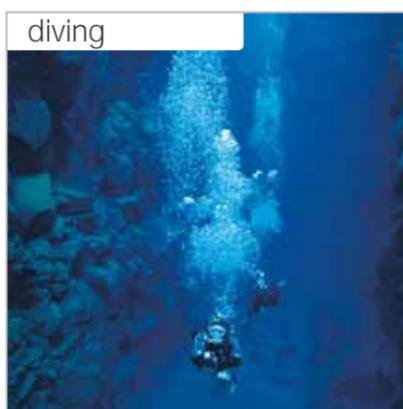
golden circle



car rentals



glacier tours



diving

ITA Tour desk at the Official Tourist Information Centre in Reykjavik

Aðalstræti 2, 101 Reykjavik
Open from 8:30 am to 7:00 pm

Other locations:

Hilton Reykjavík Nordica
Suðurlandsbraut 2, 108 Reykjavik
Open from 8 am to 8 pm

Icelandair Hotel Loftleiðir
Hlíðarfótur, 101 Reykjavik
Open from 8 am to 8 pm

Radisson SAS Hotel Saga
Hagatorg, 107 Reykjavik
Open from 8 am to 8 pm

Iða - Visitor Centre, 2nd floor
Lækjargata 2a, 101 Reykjavik
Open from 10 am to 10 pm

Cruise Liners Visitor Centre
Skarfabakki, 104 Reykjavik
Open from 8 am to 8 pm

Book your day tours and activities with us!



Unique Icelandic design shopping



How to get your 15% Tax Refund

- Shop for over 4,000 ISK.
- Fill out the Tax-Free form and we will help you with the process
- No waiting at the airport



Tax-Free stores at:

Hilton Reykjavík Nordica
Suðurlandsbraut 2, 108 Reykjavik
Tel: (+354) 444 5080

Icelandair Hotel Loftleiðir
Hlíðarfótur, 101 Reykjavik
Tel: (+354) 444 4080

Radisson SAS Hotel Saga
Hagatorg, 107 Reykjavik
Tel: (+354) 562 9500

Open
8 am - 8 pm
daily

