



The REYKJAVÍK GRAPEVINE

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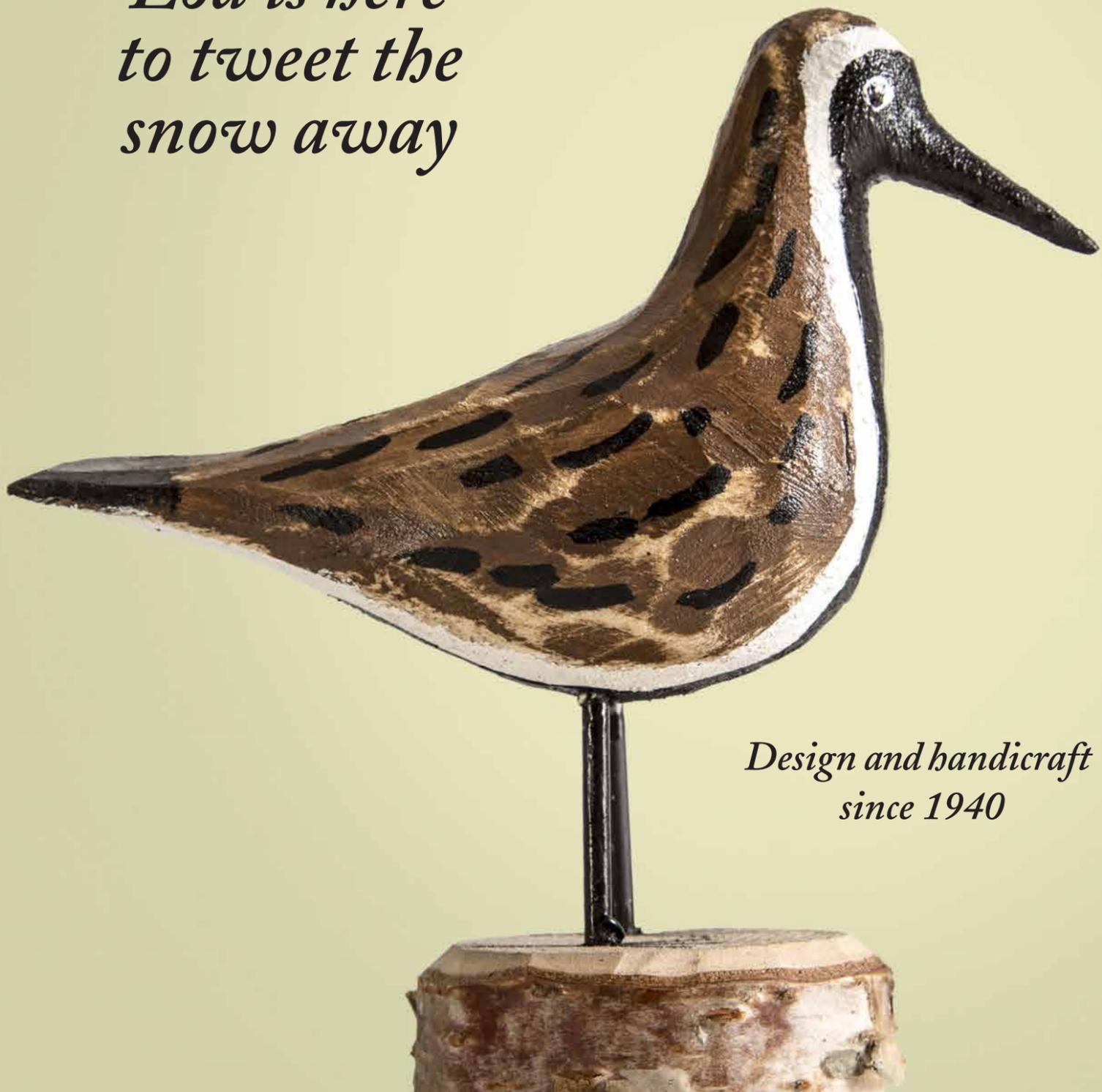




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SOUR GRAPES & STUFF

The Loveliest Letter!

To the editor of the REYKJAVIC GRAPEVINE.

Dear sir or madam would you be kind enough to publish an email letter of mine in your journal. I am in the process of writing a story about my day trip in Concord to your beautiful country that I made the day after I became 50 years old. That is on the 22nd August 1987.I took with me my wife and two daughters one aged 15 and the other aged 13.It so happened that when we were coming into land at Reykjavic our pilot told us that the con-

trol tower of Reykjavic had asked him if he would fly low over Iceland because the people of Iceland had never seen Concord all they had done was hear it. So the pilot flew low over your island. I would also like to ask in an email if anyone remembers that day and if they took any pictures of Concord landing at your airport and could they email them or send to me so I could publish them in my story of my visit. In addition I would like to know the name of the island that we visited that day which had had a volcano eruption on it.

Yours sincerely
Nigel Ferris
nigel2012anthony@yahoo.co.uk

Dear Nigel,
That is so cool! Any of you remember seeing the Concord on August 22, 1987? Email Nigel! And email us, too!
Love,
Your Friends At The Reykjavik Grapevine

I wish to write in response to the last article published titled 'WHOEVER KEEPS TREATING IMMIGRANTS LIKE SHIT, YOU NEED TO STOP THAT!' If you could please print this as a response ,as I felt compelled to get this humble message across.

Firstly I would wish to address that I am not Icelandic. I came to Iceland because of love. Iceland is similar in some ways to my homeland , so I was instantly able to relate to the people and the culture although there are still some differences. This fire ice rock of an island has maintained elements that my homeland has lost, so it also attracted me to my new home where I am now.

Yes ,moving to a new land is a deep dive into the unknown, your confidence is rattled from time to time. Sometimes you can feel completely left out in this new territory (this has nothing to do with people more of self growing issue and learning more about yourself in different situations), You can feel like you are three years old again , learning to read and write and beginning to walk! The first stages of development. Attempting to learn Icelandic and trying to adapt, is not easy and alot of Icelanders have complimented me, with my efforts, they know it is not an easy task and they have always commended me in my pursuit.

People from my own homeland have also being called 'racists', so hearing the same stories in a different land is a curious thing, and you start to view these perceptions differently. Everywhere in the world the very same cases come up. So I truly think this is a commu-

nication problem as well as huge misunderstanding between people.

I do not believe people set out to be difficult on others when they are from a different place, I am beginning to perceive it as possible misunderstandings.

We have to work on this!, without causing unnecessary unease and resulting in victimization overload. Its far too easy to call people something ,separating them from you ,painting everyone with the same brush. How can we progress with a divided mindset. There are far too many positive things Iceland that have allowed me to dream to achieve and thought possible. I cant overlook these things and allow the few minor negative instances damage my living experience here, We always remember insults over the compliments and that does not do justice to the experience of living here . If so many immigrant are so miserable here why oh why do we still persist in living here? I completely agree on the point that some workers rights are being dreadfully ignored but that will not continue for long. Icelanders are outraged by injustices on immigrants and Icelanders alike.

Yes,being fully fluent in the native tongue ,will determine what work you will be in, Are these factors I knew before I moved, YES. I knew it would be difficult learning a new living language in ways but also absolutely worth it, I did not wish to move to another English speaking country or European speaking city, I made a decision to be here .

Even in my homeland I met difficulties, I have met rude arrogant people from

my home country, I have encountered one to two arrogant people here, I can not accuse them of being racist , I can only assume they are very unhappy individuals who lack respect for themselves and others. That is a universal problem I think we can all agree on.

hI came here to grow up more ,aswell as living alongside Icelandic people and the plethora of other nationalities here in the midsts of the vast stunning landscape I am privileged enough to walk on. I did not come here for the postcard snap of Iceland.

I wish to direct my last point to the writer of the last article. It is because you are different, you can excel beyond the average, you have a different story to tell,(rhyme not intended), There will be sweat and moments of frustration. But you have to strive past this. Things always change at the end of the day. Takk

Dear Elaine,
Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us. We actually received quite a number responses, expressing a range of opinions. Unfortunately we don't have the space to print them all in this space, but we'll be posting them all on grapevine.is in the near future.

Thanks for writing, all of you!
Your Friends at The Reykjavik Grapevine



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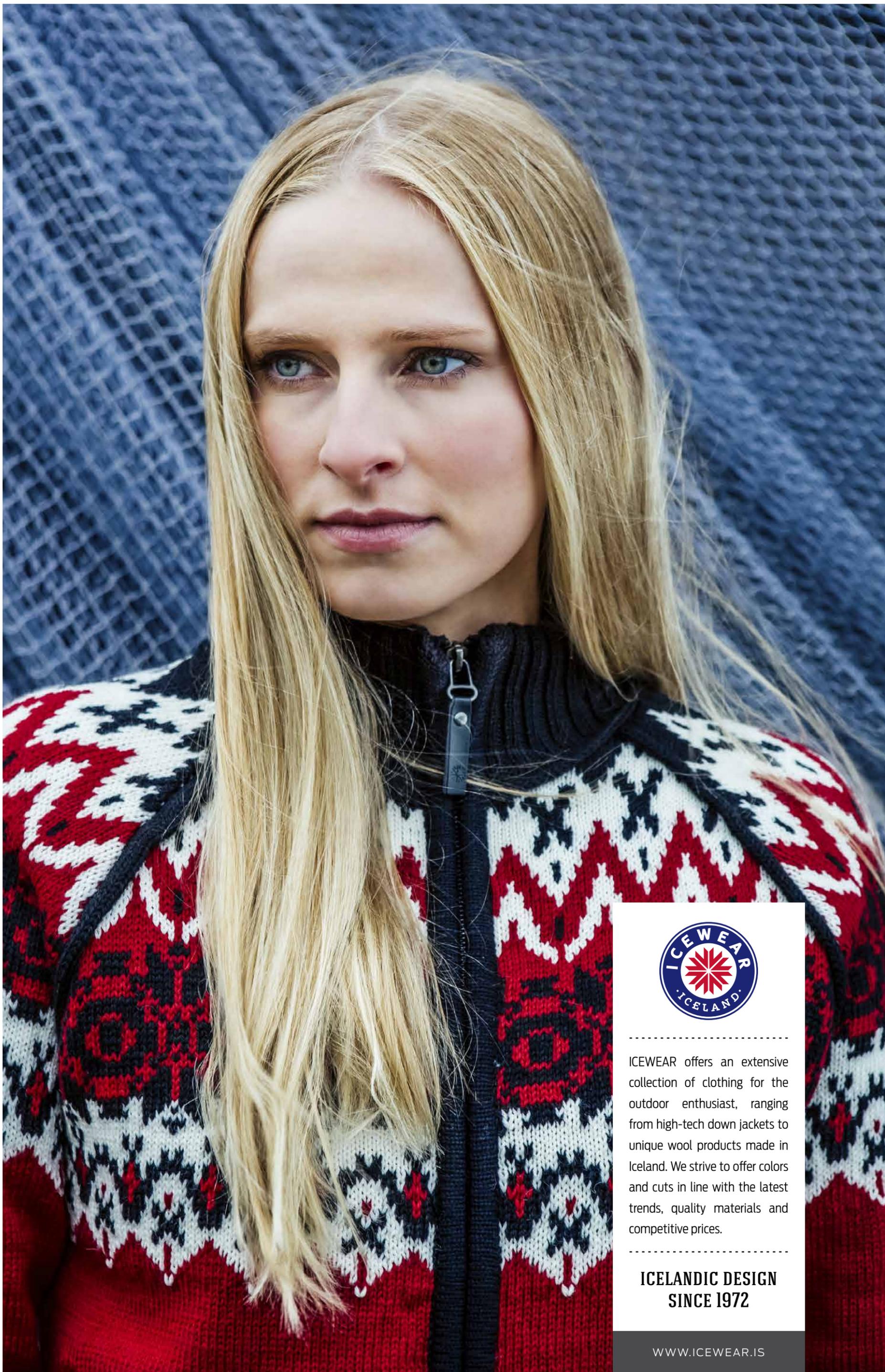


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Driving In Circles

Sjálfshjörg caseworker Andri Valgeirsson opens up about Strætó's incompetence

Words by Gabriel Benjamin
Photos by Hörður Sveinsson

When an eighteen-year-old girl with severe development disabilities went missing for seven hours in early February, people were naturally worried. Like usual, Ólöf Þorbjörg Pétursdóttir had gotten into a van operated by the public bus company Strætó, which she relies on to transport her to an afterschool programme at Hitt Húsið. But when it was time to go home at the end of the day, she was nowhere to be found. It turns out she had never made it to the programme, and was actually still in the van, sitting in front of the driver's house with her seatbelt fastened.

The ensuing kerfuffle drew the ire of various institutions and politicians from both sides of the aisle. The driver claims it was a misunderstanding and blames Hitt Húsið. The father says it was Strætó's fault for not having more safety checks. The head of Strætó's transportation services has apologised, as has Reykjavík's mayor. For the people using the services, however, it was the straw that broke the camel's back.

One of those people is Andri Valgeirsson. Andri is a 29-year-old student and caseworker for Sjálfshjörg ("Self Help"), a national union of people with disabilities. Born with arthrogryposis, a condition characterised by stiff joints throughout his body, Andri spends most of his waking day in a wheelchair, which makes him entirely dependent on Strætó's services to get to school, work, the doctor's office, and social functions. As such, he is not the least bit pleased with the recent developments.

Built on sand

Andri says this incident is part of a problem that began when the Strætó's Ferðajónusta Fatlaðra ("Transport Services for Disabled People") decided to put the transportation service out for tender. Andri says Sjálfshjörg contacted the city and surrounding counties to offer suggestions on how to make the service more efficient after three of its clients had been picked up by three separate vehicles to get to a single location. The counties, however, somehow took this to mean that they should put the collective contract out for tender, Andri says, which was exactly the opposite of what Sjálfshjörg wanted.

"We were opposed to the idea right from the beginning, because as has now come to light, there was no transfer of knowledge," he says. "Two or three decades worth of experience that the

previous companies had accrued from working with people with disabilities was all thrown away, and mostly new people were hired."

Very few of the drivers and staff from the support centre were transferred over when Hópbílar got the contract at the end of 2014, although Strætó maintains that all employees had the possibility of keeping their jobs. When the company tried out their new services in November, Andri says it was a disaster. "We at Sjálfshjörg were pushing to have a say in how the operation was run, but our requests fell on deaf ears," he says, "and the service was absolutely abysmal. The vans were far later than they said they would be, there were repeated communication breakdowns between the calling centre and drivers, and there were a few cases of disrespectful behaviour from the drivers."

With the new contract, clients were also limited to 60 trips per month, or 30 back-and-forth rides. This includes any trips to school, work, medical appointments, and to see friends. For what Strætó calls "active individuals," a fuzzy term, there was the option of applying for an additional twenty trips per month at the cost of 1,100 ISK per ride, which is a tall order for people on disability benefits that amount to less than 200,000 ISK per month.

Andri shows me a diary he's kept of his travels since the new system went into effect. On the fourth of January, he notes the van was 25 minutes late, and the driver took five minutes to drive off, as he didn't know how to operate the door. On the seventh of January the van didn't come on time and Andri was seventeen minutes late for a physiotherapy appointment. Again on that same day, he heard a driver admit for the first time that the system was broken and that the whole office was going mad. The rest of the diary continues this way,

Who is Andri Valgeirsson?

Andri is a 29-year-old student and caseworker for Sjálfshjörg ("Self Help"), a national union of people with disabilities. He spends his free time editing videos for the comedy sketch group Oryrki.is ("Legally Disabled"), taking photographs and programming, as well as playing video games, and listening to hardcore and metal music like Muck (read our review of their latest album on page 27). Heck, Andri even makes his way to metal extravaganza festival Eistnaflug when he can.

with late appointments, missed meetings and erroneous bookings.

"The only good things to come out of the new contract were the new fleet of cars, which are better suited to the needs of people with disabilities, and the ability to book same-day trips with only two hours notice through a call centre that's open for longer," Andri says, "but to be honest, everything else has been for the worse."

The winds of change blow slowly

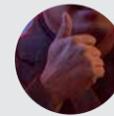
After Ólöf went missing in February, Reykjavík City Council was forced to face the diminished quality of the service, and put together an emergency committee to make meaningful changes to the way the service was conducted. Strætó also shaped up and removed the additional cost per trip for "active individuals," but people soon started seeing the same problems pop up again.

Andri allows me to look at a closed Facebook group for people with disabilities where complaints about the transport services are frequently posted. Just in one day late late February I see three



NEWS IN BRIEF

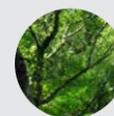
BY PAUL FONTAINE



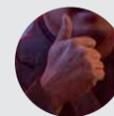
February may be the shortest month of the year, but it made up for that by being packed wall-to-wall with news. Kicking things off was an incident that took place in the bustling metropolis of Kópavogur, where **officials finally found a way to close the gender wage gap**. In response to a complaint from a woman working for Kópavogur that her pay was lower than that of a man doing the same job, the town lowered the salary of the man in question. Surprisingly, the gesture was not appreciated: not by the woman who filed the complaint, nor Minister of Welfare Eygló Harðardóttir. There's just no pleasing some people.



Religion in Iceland made international headlines, too, and for positive reasons: **Iceland's pagans will soon get their own Ásatrú temple to the Norse Gods**. There, they will be able to practice the worship of Óðinn, Freyja and Þór in relative peace and comfort, as the temple is to be located by the Öskjuhlíð hill, upon which Perlan rests.



Pretty soon that old joke about what you do if you're lost in an Icelandic forest* will seem even more tired and antiquated, as it looks like birch forests are returning to Iceland. That's right: the Icelandic Forest Service has determined that 130 square kilometres of **birch forest has grown in Iceland** over the past 25 years alone. That's about 1.5% of the country, which is nothing to sneeze at, but still a long way to go to reach 25%, i.e., the amount of land covered in trees at the time of the Settlement. Patience, trees take time to grow!



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*(Stand up, GET IT??)

CONTINUES OVER



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 Municipality, December 31, 2014 _____
 Name and address _____

Return to _____
 Tax commissioner use only
 Family status _____
 Remarks _____

Domestic injury insurance
 For application mark x here

1 General information

1.1 Dependant children born 1997 or later, domiciled with the filer at the end of the year 2014

The filer must check and correct the information regarding his dependant children.

Single parent
 (If the filer is a single parent mark x for verification.)

1.2 Joint taxation of spouses and cohabitants: A mark from both spouses is required otherwise joint taxation is not granted.

Mark x for application Id. no. of spouse or cohabitant _____

1.3 In the case of a joint taxation of spouses it is sufficient for either of them to fill out 1.3 and 1.4

The tax authorities can grant a deduction from the filer's taxable base if he supports a youngster with insufficient income to support himself or herself, f.ex. if he is attending school, in which case the name of the school must be stated. The application applies mainly to youngsters aged 16-21.

526	Name of school	527 Id.no. of youngster	528 Income of youngster

1.4 Notification of property change or other information

Account for any purchase or sale of real estate on the form RSK 3.02

1.5 Received inheritance Id. no. of testator _____ Inheritance tax _____ Paid inheritance tax _____

With this signature the filer verifies that all information filed on the tax return is, to the best of his or her knowledge, correct. Jointly taxed couples and cohabitants must both sign the tax return.

Date/signature _____ Telephone number _____

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So Who're Those Jailed Bankers I Keep Hearing About?

Words by Kári Tulinius @Kattullus
Illustration by Lóa Hjálmtýsdóttir

For several years, the internet has been teeming with stories of how Iceland sent their bankers to jail. They are, largely, not true. While a handful of bankers have received jail sentences in the years since the 2008 financial crash, their sentences have for the most part been only a few months long, and they have been largely suspended ones. The one exception was when in 2012 the Supreme Court sentenced two bankers to four and half years each in prison, for shenanigans too boring to explain. Now it looks like those two will have some company.

Hopefully the company won't be a bank. I wouldn't trust them with an ice cream van, personally.

Last month, the Supreme Court of Iceland sentenced four businessmen to jail for financial fraud. This caused a great amount of gleeful chuckling in Iceland, as these were some of the main people behind Kaupthing, one of the banks that drove the whole of Iceland's financial system into a ditch.

If only people had laughed at them when they were running the banks.

The shortest jail term, four years, was given to Sigurður Einarsson, the former chairman of the board, while the longest, five and half years, was handed down to Hreiðar Már Sigurðsson, the bank's former chief executive. The other two who received four and a half year sentences are Magnús Guðmundsson, former chief executive of Kaupthing's Luxembourg subsidiary, and Ólafur Ólafsson, one of Kaupthing's majority owners.



That doesn't seem that such a long time for driving an entire economy off the rails.

Icelandic prison sentences are not as long as those in some other countries. So, if you keep in mind that murderers usually get sixteen years, four or five years is quite a severe punishment. The sentenced parties have reacted in different ways. One, Ólafur Ólafsson, asked to start serving his sentence immediately. Another, Sigurður Einarsson, agreed to be interviewed live on television. Perhaps to cope with the stress, he decided to fortify his spirit with some alcoholic spirits.

Usually when people notice someone being drunk on television, it's not because they're unusually witty.

Indeed, he rambled and mumbled. Within a few minutes, the news anchor mercifully decided to end the interview. At one point, he said that the Supreme Court was "convicting people for who they are, not what

they did." Which is basically like saying that the court is racist against bankers. Though perhaps the most interesting thing he said was at the end: "What it is all about it is that no funds went out of the bank, none went into the bank. So the bank was positioned in exactly the same way before as it was after."

That sounds less like a defence against accusations of financial fraud than a confession.

The bankers were convicted for making it appear that a well-respected Qatari businessman had bought shares in Kaupthing after other Icelandic banks had collapsed, when in fact it was only the bank buying shares in itself. The phrase "þetta reddast" is common in Iceland. It means, roughly, "everything will work itself out." It is generally used when a situation seems hopeless and something needs to be done. Then some people will resort to a "skítaredding," i.e. "a shitmix" or "a shitty fix." A classic example of a "skítaredding" would be duct-taping a plastic shopping bag over a broken car window.

Ah, I understand, so these bankers tried to duct tape a plastic bag over a broken bank?

Sort of, if the window had just been broken by a still-raging sandstorm, and there was no plastic bag even though the bankers were telling you they had just covered the window with it. Also, they were trying to convince you to lend them money they were going to pay you back once they had sold the perfectly undamaged car to some guy you've never heard of.

So these bankers didn't get sent to jail for the damage they caused, but their stupid attempt to fix things?

While the financial fraud in question was merely a shit cherry on top of an ice cream sundae made of shit, it may have caused more damage by convincing the Icelandic Central Bank to lend most of its foreign currency reserves to Kaupthing.

That seems like a smart thing to do, giving all your money to people who've driven your economy into a ditch.

At the time, Icelandic bankers had been praised to the skies by Icelandic politicians, including the incumbent president, as well as by the media. The idea of an Icelandic banking miracle was still fresh in people's minds. That kind of dream can take a long time to wake up from. It is not so strange that it has taken the courts so many years to send the former miracle workers to prison.

NEWS IN BRIEF



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If you were worried that **foreign relations between Iceland and Bhutan** have been at a standstill (and honestly, who hasn't been worried about that?), good news: President of Iceland Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson has called for closer cooperation between the two countries. Specifically, the President correctly points out that climate change



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Xenophobia, Ignorance And Útvarp Saga

It's bullshit-calling time



Words by Paul Fontaine

Illustration by Lóa Hjálmtýsdóttir

When it comes to discussions about immigration and multiculturalism in Iceland, most of our daily media focus has been on the things politicians say. This is natural, to an extent—these are the people who write our laws, after all, which will have repercussions for us whether we like it or not. But I think we forget that some of the more shockingly ignorant and xenophobic remarks from politicians on national and local levels don't arise from a vacuum. There are, unfortunately, populist voices of xenophobia, and one of them is undoubtedly radio station Útvarp Saga.

For the unfamiliar, Útvarp Saga is a talk radio station of a kind you've heard many times before. The flagship show, Línan laus ("The line is open") features a pair of hosts prattling on their opinion on a particular subject at length before taking calls from listeners who invariably agree with them. Útvarp Saga bears the distinction of being, to put it in the nicest possible terms, a hive of hate speech and pig-headed ignorance with zero basis in reality. I have heard some jaw-dropping levels of ugliness come from this station, and not just from the people who call in. Línan laus's hosts, Arnþrúður Karlsdóttir and Pétur Gunnlaugsson, are all too diligent and sowing hatred and fear amongst their listeners.

It would be nice to believe that pretending this station doesn't exist will make them go away, or that they don't really have a lot of reach and influence. History disproves the former, and personal experience disproves the latter. Here, I'd like to address the two main talking points Útvarp Saga frequently tosses around when it comes to foreigners.

The unemployment myth

1. "We have all this unemployment in Iceland, but these foreigners are taking work from Icelanders!"

Boy does this one come up a lot. Fortunately, this one is easy to shoot down. First of all, according to the Directorate of Labour, Iceland's current rate of unemployment is 3.4%, down from 4.2% one year previous. Let that sink in a moment. This is just over half of the US's unemployment rate (5.8%) and about a third of the EU's unemployment rate (10%). Maybe compared to the 2% unemployment rate we used to enjoy bragging about during the boom years, 3.4% seems astronomical, and there are certainly socioeconomic problems Iceland still needs to contend with, but joblessness is demonstrably on the decline.

Útvarp Saga is not very concerned with European immigrants, but rather with

Útvarp Saga bears the distinction of being, to put it in the nicest possible terms, a hive of hate speech and pig-headed ignorance with zero basis in reality.

those from outside the EU (more on that later). That being the case, maybe Pétur and Arnþrúður will breathe easier knowing that for us non-EU immigrants who aren't here to study or marry Icelanders, we are required—by law—to only work a job that no Icelander can do or wants to do. What this invariably means is that immigrants will comprise a sizeable portion of job sectors that most locals avoid if at all possible (in Iceland's case, this means cleaning offices and homes, caring for the elderly and disabled, minding children at after-school programmes, and working in bars and restaurants).

It is hard to imagine what Iceland would be like if all these foreign workers—tending to low-paying, physically demanding but absolutely essential jobs—just up and left the country. Hell, it's hard to imagine how things would function if all these people stopped working for a single day. Thanks to a permanent underclass of immigrant labour consigned by law to only work jobs that the locals avoid, Icelanders like Pétur and Arnþrúður can sit in warm, comfortable chairs and get paid to complain about these very same immigrant workers.

Even in the long term, immigration is good for the Icelandic economy. Japan has been in an economic slump for about 20 years now, and as the Japanese government tries every trick in the book to get the economy motivated, economists around the world have pointed to two main factors that are contributing to their

financial woes: the population is getting older, and immigration restrictions are exceedingly high. More native Japanese are leaving the workforce with age, but there aren't enough new workers to replace them. Meanwhile, according to Statistics Iceland, Icelanders are getting older, too: in 1990, the average Icelander was 33. Today, the average age is up to 37.2. Iceland's population is ageing, and it will need foreign labour to keep the economy going.

White people

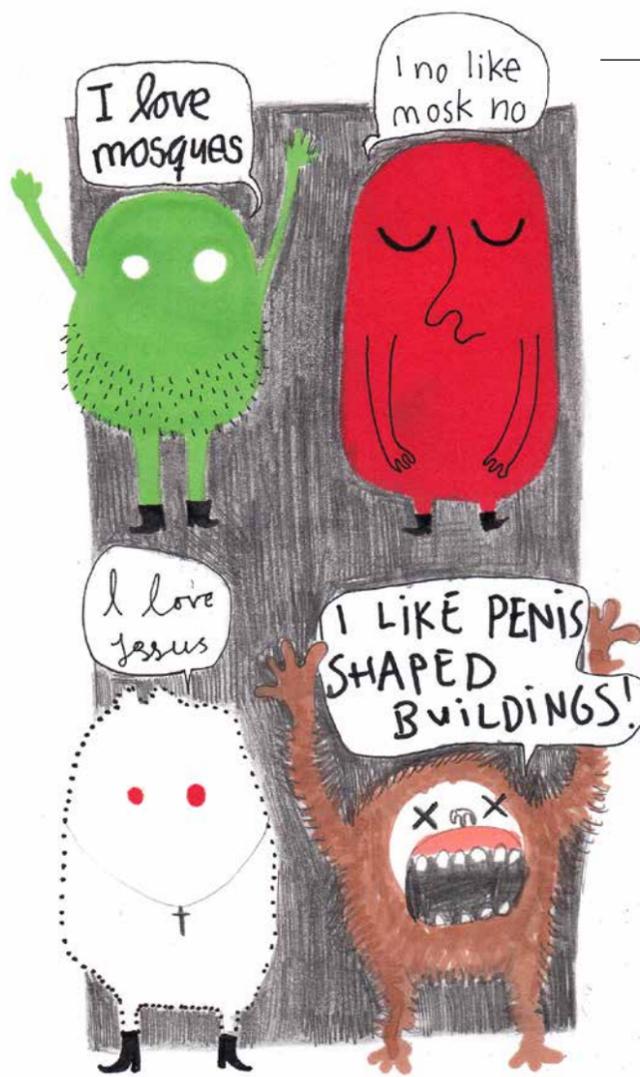
2. "But these people are too different from/don't respect our national culture!"

Let's cut the bullshit. Whenever anyone on Útvarp Saga talks about "our national culture," they mean white people. Of course, they don't say "these people aren't white" because that would be straight-up racist. Instead, they use dog whistles like "our national culture," because that way, they can make assertions such as "Poles are similar to our national culture" (as Pétur did on February 3, and has said on many occasions), despite Poles coming from a completely different ethnic, linguistic and religious heritage than Icelanders. These differences aren't a bad thing, mind you, but it's clear where the similarities between Poles and Icelanders actually lie when he talks about "our national culture," and it's also clear what kinds of people

are most certainly not a part of "our national culture," especially for all the fear-mongering this radio station engages in regarding Middle Eastern Muslims and asylum seekers.

The weird part about this second assertion is you can advance it sans any evidence whatsoever. Not once has Útvarp Saga presented a single fact that backs up the assertion that non-white immigrants "disrespect" Icelandic society, nor that non-white immigrants have somehow damaged Icelandic society in any way. Muslims in Iceland, arguably Útvarp Saga's favourite boogiemen, have yet to demonstrate even a modicum of violence, extremism, or other social ills they are repeatedly accused of being about to unleash in Iceland. There are about 1,500 Icelandic Muslims, and they've been here for a couple decades now. If Iceland's Muslims are planning to wreak havoc on this country, they sure are taking their sweet time.

For the record, I don't think Útvarp Saga should be banned or censored. Enforcing Iceland's hate speech law would only make martyrs out of them. Instead, media outlets and NGOs alike need to be more diligent when it comes to calling out Útvarp Saga when they are both wrong and irresponsible. They are frequently one or the other, and often both.



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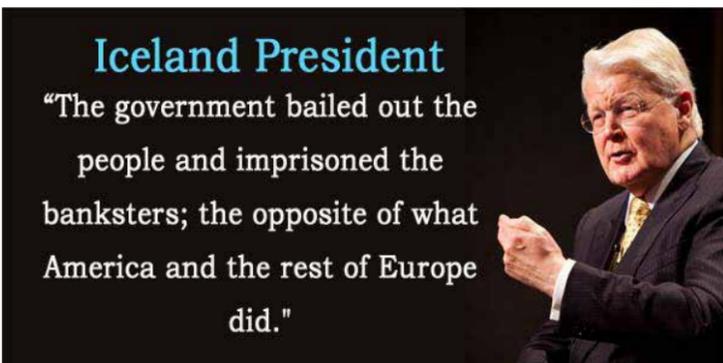
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Bankers Behind Bars

Whoa! Is Iceland actually living up to that meme?

Words by Magnús Sveinn Helgason
Photos by DV ehf / Sigtryggur Ari

One frequently encounters foreigners who believe that Iceland offers a unique model of how to deal with a financial crash. A popular internet meme that purports to explain how Icelanders dealt with the crash features a photo of President Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson overlaid with this: “The Government Bailed out the People and Imprisoned the Banksters—The Opposite of What America and the Rest of Europe Did.”



Until last month most Icelanders would have argued there was only a fraction more truth to the claim that Icelanders “imprisoned the banksters” than there is to the fairytale that we all believe in elves (the first part of the statement, that the government had “bailed out the people,” has been one of the most hotly contested questions of Icelandic politics in the past years—see sidebar).

Finally some banksters jailed!

Now, Iceland has truly started jailing its banksters. On February 12, the Supreme Court of Iceland decided the fate of defendants in the so-called “Al-Thani case,” the first major case against the managers of the former banks to reach the court.

The verdict was that the top brass at Kaupthing—Iceland’s largest bank on the eve of 2008’s financial collapse—with the assistance of one of its principal shareholders, did, in fact, undertake particularly brazen efforts to manipulate the bank’s share price.

Consequently, the bank’s chief executive Hreiðar Már Sigurðsson, its chairman Sigurður Einarsson, and Kaupthing

Luxembourg CEO Magnús Guðmundsson will soon begin serving their four to five-and-a-half-year prison sentences for market manipulation, “a crime against both the general public and the financial markets,” as the Supreme Court put it. Kaupthing’s second largest shareholder Ólafur Ólafsson—one of Iceland’s most prominent investors in the lead up to the crash—has already started serving a four-and-a-half-year sentence for his involvement, at white collar criminal prison Kviabryggja.

These are, to date, the longest prison sentences for financial crimes in Icelandic history. They are quite long compared to other non-violent crimes, with the average sentence in serious drugs trafficking cases at five years and eight months.

Surprise and Schadenfreud

The ruling was met with a certain level of surprise from a large portion of the population. Many Icelanders half expected that Kaupthing’s bosses would walk free. The embattled Special Prosecutor’s Office, which was created in 2008 to investigate suspicions of wrongdoing

in the lead-up to the crash, seemed to move at the pace of a tortoise. In the six and a half years that have passed since the crash, the Special Prosecutor has reviewed hundreds of cases, but only a handful had been sent to court. All the while, lawyers with ties to those under investigation have maintained a continuous barrage of criticism directed at the office, and the current government has already slashed its budget.

Small wonder, then, that many had started believing the Icelandic justice system was no more a match for financial fraud than those in the US and Europe. The schadenfreud that characterized the public reaction to the verdicts is therefore understandable.

Six years is not a long time

While the public’s frustration over how slowly justice seems to move is understandable, it is not entirely reasonable. Cases like the one against the Kaupthing Four are extremely difficult to prosecute, and it usually takes a long time to uncover the facts. Consider, for example, the time that passed between Enron’s collapse in December of 2001, and the sentencing of its disgraced CEO Jeffrey Skilling in October of 2006.

The alleged crimes are usually extremely complex, and the accused can usually afford the best legal representation money can buy. Anti-corruption crusader Eva Joly, who in 2009 and 2010 advised the Special Prosecutor on financial crimes, argued that for the case to go through the whole system, up to the Supreme Court, in “only six years” was “quite quick, contrary to what people believe,” adding that cases like this

could easily take up to nine years to investigate and prosecute.

Five guilty verdicts, one acquittal

Despite public perception, the Special Prosecutor’s track record is, in fact, quite good: only one of the six cases he has brought to the Supreme Court has resulted in acquittal.

The SP’s first case to go to the Supreme Court concerned the insider trading of one Baldur Guðlaugsson, who was, in 2012, found guilty and sentenced to two years in prison. Baldur’s verdict raised a few eyebrows, not least because he had been among Iceland’s most powerful people, the Permanent Secretary of the Prime Minister’s Office, an Independence Party insider and former chairman of the government’s privatization commission. Other successes followed.

The Special Prosecutor’s record at the Reykjavík District court has been somewhat less impeccable. Last year, a number of important cases were heard by the court, several of which resulted in acquittals for former bank CEOs and prominent Corporate Vikings (see sidebar).

Scores of new cases are still to be heard

Of course, every District Court ruling has been appealed to the Supreme Court. Furthermore, the Special Prosecutor is reportedly ready to send a large docket of cases to District Court. In April, the

court will hear an extensive case against nine top-level managers of Kaupthing, alleging that the bank engaged in systematic and extensive market manipulation.

The SP is currently determining whether fourteen other cases will be brought to trial, while another twenty-four are still under investigation, with many nearing completion.

An important precedent

This makes the Supreme Court’s ruling in the Al-Thani case all the more important for two reasons.

For one, the court was particularly harsh in doling out punishment, stating that the four bankers’ crimes were aimed at “the entire public and the financial markets at large”—and that they were “thoroughly organized, committed with determination and extraordinary indifference to their consequences.”

Secondly, every single one of the

Journalists reported that a “shining white knight” had come to Kaupthing’s rescue, and seemed quite impressed with the fact that such a prominent foreigner was giving the bank his seal of approval.

REPORT



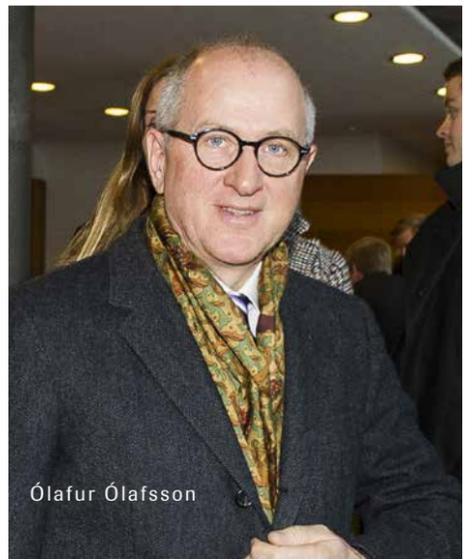
Magnús Guðmundsson



Hreiðar Már Sigurðsson



Sigurður Einarsson



Ólafur Ólafsson

Continues on P.14

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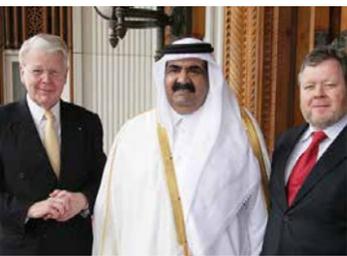
Reykjavik Excursions
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Continued from P.12

defendants' dismissal claims was dismissed out of hand. The court furthermore admonished the bankers' lawyers for attempting to train witnesses and giving them access to evidence.

Essentially, the legal system found that no matter how many shell companies the bankers created to funnel money back and forth, the criminal intent was both blatant and obvious.

Thus, the ruling sends a very clear message to the District Court, as well as the defence lawyers working on these cases. It sets a critical precedent, signalling that the Supreme Court will take cases like this very seriously. According to independent news website Kjarninn, defence lawyers who have worked on cases connected to the crash were "in shock" following the verdict, as it indicated that the Supreme Court would approach these types of trials with far less leniency than they had hoped.

THE AL THANI CASE:
BACKSTORYA deal that never
made any sense

In September of 2008, as the global financial system teetered on the brink of collapse and concerns about the solidity of Icelandic banks grew, Kaupthing announced that Sheikh Mohamed bin Khalifa Al-Thani, a senior member of the Qatari royal family, had purchased a five percent stake in the bank, making him Kaupthing's third largest shareholder after Exista and Ólafur Ólafsson, who held roughly 25 and 10 percent, respectively. Many proclaimed this announcement a solid vote of confidence for the bank.

However, after Kaupthing's eventual collapse, it became clear that the transaction had been financed entirely by the bank itself. Kaupthing had approved two separate thirteen billion ISK loans to two companies, located in Tortola and owned by Ólafur Ólafsson and Al-Thani. Those funds were then routed through other shell companies before finding their way back to the bank in the form of payment for the five percent stake.

For one, the court was particularly harsh in doling out punishment, stating that the four bankers' crimes were aimed at "the entire public and the financial markets at large"—and that they were "thoroughly organized, committed with determination and extraordinary indifference to their consequences."

A systematic campaign
of market manipulation

Internal Kaupthing emails that surfaced in the Al-Thani case refer to the need to "put the jack to work, just create demand." Such attempts to jack up share prices were not at all uncommon, as the 2009 Special Investigation Commission found. In fact, the Al-Thani deal was just the most brazen example of Kaupthing's systematic attempts to manipulate markets. The SIC's report demonstrated that the bank had for a long time methodically engineered the purchases of large chunks of its own stock—effectively cleaning up all sale offers in the Icelandic Stock Exchange—with the aim of maintaining its value. These blocks of stock were then sold on to key employees and financiers with ties to Kaupthing, who paid for the shares with loans from the bank.

The Special Investigation Commission found that all of the Icelandic banks had practised such market manipulation. Maintaining share prices was important to prop up confidence in the banks. It was also critical to their survival, since their shares served as collateral for countless highly leveraged holding companies and investment vehicles that formed the Icelandic economic miracle.

In essence, the verdict confirms that Kaupthing was little more than a giant market-manipulation machine.

A knight in
shining armour

By announcing that a foreign investor had purchased a large stake in Kaupthing, in the midst of a financial crisis, the bank hoped to dispel fears that it might be on the brink of collapse. As a publicity stunt, it was a great success, at least judging by the Icelandic media's reception. Journalists reported that a "shining white

knight" had come to Kaupthing's rescue, and seemed quite impressed with the fact that such a prominent foreigner was giving the bank his seal of approval. News stories about the deal frequently referred to Al-Thani as "his royal highness," stressing that he was not just any old foreigner: Al-Thani was a royal foreigner.

The fact that any foreigner was all of a sudden making major investments in Iceland was of course newsworthy enough. Despite grand plans of making Iceland a "global financial centre," local authorities and financial wizards had consistently failed to lure significant foreign capital to the island—indeed, in 2006 foreign analysts wrote off the Icelandic banks as hopelessly overvalued.

"A very private man"

A few commentators expressed doubts about Al-Thani's investment. Where had this Qatari prince come from? Despite being touted as a respected global investor by Ólafur Ólafsson and Kaupthing's PR department, Al-Thani did not seem to have made much of an appearance in the global financial media.

Curiously, the only other mentions of Al-Thani as global investor were also in connection to Iceland. In June of 2008, mere months before the Kaupthing announcement, it was announced that Al-Thani had purchased a 12.6% stake in Alfesca, a marketing company for fish products. Kaupthing and Ólafur Ólafsson, through his investment company Kjalar, were the two largest shareholders of Alfesca, which was also a major customer of Kaupthing.

At the time, I was a business reporter for newspaper Fréttablaðið. While attempting to cover the story of this Qatari White Knight, we had serious trouble finding information on his backstory, or even anything concerning his other global investments.

I therefore called up Ólafur Ólafsson and asked him about Al-Thani's background: Who was this man, and what other significant business dealings had he engaged in?

Ólafur refused to provide any details, explaining that Al-Thani was a very private man who had kept a low profile as an investor, since he did not care for media attention. Which seemed strange, considering the fact that he had just made a major investment that was obviously designed to create media attention. There was something missing from the story.

The truth.

Continues on P.16

A Crash Of
Historical Proportions

Kaupthing's bankruptcy was one of the largest in financial history. Compared to the largest bankruptcies in US history, it ranks in fifth place, well ahead of Enron. If we take the crash of the three largest Icelandic banks as a single event, only the bankruptcies of Lehman Brothers and Washington Mutual were larger.

Comparison of the bankruptcy of the Icelandic banks and the largest corporate bankruptcies in US history.

Rank	Firm	Year	Industry	Assets (billion USD)
1	Lehman Brothers	2008	Finance	691
2	Washington Mutual	2008	Finance	328
3	WorldCom	2002	Telecommunication	104
4	General Motors	2009	Manufacturing	91
5	Kaupthing	2008	Finance	83
6	CIT Group	2009	Finance	80
7	Enron	2001	Energy	66
8	Conseco	2002	Finance	61
9	Landsbanki Íslands	2008	Finance	51
10	Glitnir Bank	2008	Finance	49

(Source: Financial Services Authority of Iceland)

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Continued from P.14

Victims of a political witch hunt?

While most feel that the guilty verdict in the Al-Thani case proves that the Icelandic justice system can handle even the most powerful bankers, others have cried foul. In that group you'll find convicts Ólafur Ólafsson and Sigurður Einarsson, who have both complained that they are victims of a political witch hunt. Independence Party MP Brynjar Nielsson, a prominent defence lawyer before being elected to parliament, similarly criticized the Special Prosecutor and Reykjavík District Court (which found the Kaupthing Four guilty while giving a shorter prison sentence), essentially for having "given in to public anger," out of fear that if defendants weren't found guilty "and given harsh sentences, waves of loud anger would rise."

According to this line of defence, bankers like the Kaupthing Four are only found guilty to placate the public. Ólafur has even appealed his sentence to the European Court of Human Rights. His argument is that since Icelandic laws regarding market manipulation are based on European legislation, and since guilty verdicts (like the

one he received) are unknown in Europe, he could not possibly be guilty.

Sentenced for something others get away with

Ólafur and Sigurður are understandably frustrated that they are being punished for activities that were probably quite common in their heyday. Kaupthing is unlikely to have been the only global financial institution to attempt to shore up stock prices in the lead-up to the crash. Moreover, is almost unheard of globally that banks' top executives and powerful financiers like Ólafur are sentenced to jail, no matter how questionable and immoral their activities.

It is unclear whether their activities were more brazen, or not as well executed, as the shenanigans of other European or American bankers that have not had to face charges (let alone prison). But, it is clear that they were caught, while other financiers have walked scot-free.

Perhaps it has something to do with the fact that the bankruptcy of Kaupthing was the fourth largest corporate bankruptcy in the history of global finance.

Verdicts

The post-collapse edition

Since 2009, Iceland's Special Prosecutor has been investigating criminal activity in the year's leading up to the financial crisis. Here, we've tried to compile a list of every single one of those cases in which a verdict has been reached.

Supreme Court rulings:

February 2012

Baldur Guðlaugsson, former Permanent Secretary of the Prime Minister's Office.
Verdict: Two years in prison
Charge: Insider trading

June 2012

Ragnar Z. Guðjónsson, former CEO of Byr, an S&L
Verdict: Four and a half years in prison

Jón Þorsteinn Jónsson, former Byr chairman
Verdict: Four and a half years in prison

Charge: arranging fraudulent loans from Byr to a holding company, Exeter-holdings, in October 2008, which then used the funds to buy shares in Byr at inflated prices from Jón Þorsteinn and several Byr key employees.

October 2013

Styrmir Þór Bragason, former CEO of MP bank
Verdict: One year in prison
Charge: money laundering and participation in the arrangement of fraudulent loans from Byr in the Exeter case (see above).

December 2013

Friðfinnur Ragnar Sigurðsson, former director of interbank markets at Glitnir
Verdict: Nine months in prison
Charge: Insider trading

March 2014

Lýður Guðmundsson, former chairman of investment company Exista, one Kaupthing's largest shareholders
Verdict: Eight months in prison

Bjarnfreður Ólafsson, former Kaupthing board member
Verdict: Six months in prison

Charge: Lýður was charged with giving misleading information to the Company Registry when he arranged to purchase a large offering of Exista shares in December 2008. The end goal of the transaction was to secure that Lýður and his brother, Ágúst, would maintain control of Bakkavör. Exista owned a large stake in Bakkavör, which Lýður and Ágúst had grown into the UK's largest producer of chilled ready-made foods with the help of Kaupthing financing.

February 2014

Lárus Welding, former CEO of

Glitnir

Verdict: Acquitted
Guðmundur Hjaltason, former head of corporate finance at Glitnir
Verdict: Acquitted
Charge: arranging a fraudulent loan to investment company Milestone.

February 2015

Hreiðar Már Sigurðsson, CEO of Kaupthing
Verdict: 5.5 years in prison
Sigurður Einarsson chairman of Kaupthing
Verdict: 4 years in prison

Magnús Guðmundsson, CEO of Kaupthing Luxembourg:

Verdict: 4.5 years in prison
Ólafur Ólafsson, prominent investor, one of the largest shareholders of Kaupthing
Verdict: 4.5 years in prison
Charge: Market manipulation

Reykjavík District Court rulings appealed to the Supreme Court

June 2014

Birkir Kristinsson, former head of private banking at Glitnir
Verdict: Five years in prison
Jóhannes Baldursson, managing director of capital markets at Glitnir
Verdict: Five years in prison
Magnús Arnar Arngrímsson the managing director of corporate finance at Glitnir
Verdict: Five years in prison
Elmar Svavarsson: stockbroker at Glitnir
Verdict: Four years in prison

Charge: market manipulation and fraudulent loans to holding companies which speculated in the bank's shares.

June 2014

Sigurjón Árnason, former CEO of Landsbankinn
Verdict: Acquitted
Elín Sigfúsdóttir, former managing director of corporate finance
Verdict: Acquitted
Steinþór Gunnarsson, former director of brokerage at Landsbankinn
Verdict: Nine months in prison

Charge: market manipulation.

June 2014

Jón Ásgeir Jóhannesson, prominent Corporate Viking, largest shareholder of Glitnir
Verdict: Acquitted
Lárus Welding, former CEO of Glitnir
Verdict: Acquitted
Magnús Arnar Arngrímsson, the managing director of corporate

finance at Glitnir

Verdict: Acquitted
Bjarni Jóhannesson, former account manager at Glitnir
Verdict: Acquitted

Charge: Jóhannesson, the largest shareholder of the bank, pressured the bank's management to extend a fraudulent loan to one of his many holding companies to buy a second holding company from one of his business partners, at grossly exaggerated prices.

November 2014

Sigurjón Árnason, former CEO of Landsbankinn
Verdict: One year in prison
Ívar Guðjónsson, former director of proprietary trading at Landsbankinn
Verdict: Nine months
Júlíus S. Heiðarsson, broker in proprietary trading at Landsbankinn
Verdict: Nine months
Sindri Sveinsson, broker in proprietary trading at Landsbankinn
Verdict: Acquitted
Charge: market manipulation

October 2014

Sigurjón Árnason, former CEO of Landsbankinn
Verdict: Acquitted
Elín Sigfúsdóttir, former managing director of corporate finance
Verdict: Acquitted

Charge: arranging fraudulent loans to shell companies in Panama, which purchased shares in Landsbankinn.

December 2014

Karl and Steingrímur Wernersson, brothers, prominent Corporate Vikings and owners of Investment company Milestone
Verdict: Acquitted
Guðmundur Ólafsson, former managing director of Milestone
Verdict: Acquitted
Three accountants at KPMG
Verdict: Acquitted

Charge: Karl and Steingrímur Wernersson were charged with having arranged Milestone to fraudulently pay five billion ISK to their sister in the lead up to the crash.

February 2015

Hannes Smárason, former CEO of investment company FL Group
Verdict: Acquitted
Charges: Embezzling three billion ISK from FL Group in 2007.

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Every Swimming Pool In The Greater- Reykjavík Area, Rated

Words by Magnús Sveinn Helgason
Photos by Anna Domnick

Any visitor to Iceland simply must visit one of the island's ubiquitous public swimming pools.

This is not a request. A point of pride for most locals, the pools are generally first rate, and admission is dirt-cheap (around 5-600 ISK). There is no better way to immerse yourself in Iceland. Again, visit one of those pools. This is not a request.

Public pools in Iceland generally open early and close late, making for an excellent start—or ending—to your day of frolicking among elves and Björkses! Opening hours in the capital region vary slightly, but you can count on Reykjavík pools being open from 6:30-22:00 Monday through Thursday (on Friday-Sunday, closing times vary).

Almost every pool in the capital region hosts a well-equipped gym. However, they are sometimes operated by private companies, so you'll need to pay separately for the workout.

While every pool has its charm and a loyal following of regulars that will sing its praises, they are far from equal. To assist you, intrepid traveller, in finding the right place to swim a lap, soak your bones in hot water and/or boil yourself in piping steam, we went out and surveyed every single swimming pools in the greater Reykjavík area (except that one in Kjalarnes—it takes like eight hours to get there). Read on and pick one, then go take a dip.

This is not a request.

Legend

- 👍 = Thumbs up
- 👍👍 = Two thumbs up, great
- ✓ = Check, it's there
- ✗ = Nope, not there

Vesturbæjarlaug Hofsvallagata, Reykjavík



Monday-Thursday: 06:30-22:00
Fridays: 06:30-20:00
Saturday-Sunday: 09:00-18:00

Hot tubs: 👍
Sauna: 👍 (for historical significance)
Hot dog stand: 👍👍
Location: 👍
Hipsters/local politicians: ✓

This pool was recently voted "Iceland's best pool," and you'll definitely encounter a number of locals who will offer their highest praise, proclaiming it a must-visit. This makes absolutely no sense.

That's not to say it's all bad. Far from it. Vesturbæjarlaug has a number of things going for it. But it is also safe to say that it is Iceland's most overrated pool.

When Vesturbæjarlaug was opened in 1961 it was described as "the pearl of Western Reykjavík." Since then, the pool has occupied a certain place in the hearts of Reykjavík natives. It has good character, and some significant renovations in recent years have modernized and improve it considerably.

The hot tubs are certainly the best place for the traditional Icelandic hot-tub debates on politics and current affairs. The dressing rooms and showers are still largely original. It still lacks a water slide, and hopefully one will never be added (not every pool has to pretend it would rather be by a hotel in Majorca).

Vesturbæjarlaug was Iceland's first pool to offer a sauna. It was gender-segregated in the beginning, since Reykjavík's then-pool authorities adhered to the Finnish tradition of sweating in the nude.

The current sauna is OK. However, it isn't hot enough, and you can't control the humidity, which almost takes all the fun out of the experience. It is also rather small, seating five to seven comfortably. What the sauna lacks in comfort, it makes up in historical significance, as it plays a small, but important role in Icelandic queer history. Before being gay was accepted by Icelandic society, closeted homosexuals would frequent the sauna, which became a notorious cruising location. Although cruising culture is largely a thing of the past, a number of gay men of a certain generation retain loyalty to the place.

Vesturbæjarlaug also has a unique steam bath, a large circular room, resembling a yurt, with glass walls and a concrete floor. While it has a pleasant feel to it, you get the sense that the contractor never really finished the job. It runs quite hot, which is nice (but beware the scorching concrete floor!).

What really gives Vesturbæjarlaug its edge is the location, close to the city centre. The café that recently opened right across the street is the perfect place to observe young up-and-coming Icelanders attempt to balance a bourgeoisie lifestyle with hipster cool. There is also a really good hot-dog stand right next door—a definitive plus.

Lágafellslaug

Lækjarhlíð 1, Mosfellsbær



Mondays-Fridays: 06:30-21:30
Saturdays-Sundays: 08:00-19:00

Steam bath: 👍
Sauna: 👍👍

Hot dog stand and concessions: ✗

View: 👍

Icelandic suburbanites: ✓

Lágafellslaug is hands-down one of the very best pools in the Reykjavík area. It also offers the best sauna. This one has almost everything.

Just a few years old, the pool is a great example of what we could term "Scandinavian welfare-state architecture." Modest while radiating prosperity, it is simple enough while providing everything you can hope for in a good Icelandic pool. The dressing rooms have a nice enclosed garden area for outdoor showering, and an excellent steam bath with a glass wall oversees the pool area. The sunbathing spot also offers a lovely view of Mt. Úlfarsfell.

Lágafellslaug's main attraction is definitely its sauna, which is unquestionably the best you can find in the greater Reykjavík area, a large traditional sauna with virtually no drawbacks.

OK, there's one drawback: its size. The sauna comfortably seats 15-20 people. Coupled with Icelanders' lack of proper sauna culture, this results in folks wandering in and out every few minutes, loud conversations and hordes of unruly children, transforming what should be a place for quiet contemplation into a loud bus stop.

But, the sauna is wonderful. It has a large rest area with benches and showers, and even a tiny enclosed garden with a couple of benches where you can cool down and watch the sky change colours.

The pool is perhaps out of the way, but it is an ideal place to stop when you arrive back in Reykjavík at the end of a trip around the country.



Sundhöll Reykjavíkur Barónsstígur, Reykjavík



Monday-Thursday: 06:30-22:00
Fridays: 06:30-20:00
Saturdays: 8:00-16:00
Sundays: 10:00-18:00

Location: 👍👍
Hot dog stand: ✗ (doesn't really matter)
Historical significance: 👍
Regulars: ✓

Sundhöll Reykjavíkur—Sundhöllin—is a great piece of history. Opened in 1937, after years of delays and difficulties caused by the Great Depression, it was considered one of the most important public buildings in Iceland, a beacon of modernity and progress. It is the only pool in Reykjavík to offer a proper diving board, its deep end reaching 3.5 metres.

The pool's changing rooms, complete with personal walk-in lockers, are still largely original, and its modernist design is a sight to behold. Furthermore, the hot-tubs are among Reykjavík's best. And whilst it has no sauna, Sundhöllin does offer a very nice, very small steam room.

In recent years, Sundhöllin has been bereft of an accompanying hot dog stand; however, there is a fine selection of great food destinations close by. We recommend Vitabar—a neighbourhood bar and burger joint that has made Grapevine's Best Of Reykjavík list a number of times—and the small café just to the pool's west, Reykjavík Roasters—one of Reykjavík's best cafés, period.

To anyone wandering around



Lágafellslaug

downtown Reykjavík, looking for something to do (or just feeling tired after a long night): a visit to Sundhöllin is something you should seriously consider.



Laugardalslaug

Sundlaugarvegur, Reykjavík



Monday-Thursday: 06:30-22:00
Fridays: 06:30-20:00
Saturday-Sunday: 08:00-22:00

Hot tubs: 🍷
Hot dog stand: 🍷
A place to take the kids: 🍷
Crowds of foreigners: ✓
Location: 🍷

The current iteration of Laugardalslaug was inaugurated in 1968, sixty years after the municipality began operating a bathing facility in the area, which has acted as a pool site since 1772. Throughout Iceland's history, the Laugardalur valley's numerous hot springs (all underground and hooked up to the geothermal power utility by now) have been a great boon to locals, who would in the past venture there to do their laundry. Legend has that the steam rising from these hot springs were what gave the capital its name, as "Reykjavík" literally translates as "Smokey Bay."

The pool is Reykjavík's largest, a favourite with locals and usually packed during summer. The swimming pool itself is 50 metres long, ideal for swimming laps. It has something for everyone: a large warmer pool popular with young teens, a large indoor pool, a tall water slide, a wading pool, two smaller waterslides for younger kids and a large selection of hot tubs. There is even a sea-water tub filled with water pumped from a low-temperature underwater hot spring just off the coast to the west of the pool.

Since Laugardalslaug is located close to several large hotels along with Laugardalur's camping grounds and hostel, it has become a favourite destination for groups of tourists. This means that the tourists-to-Icelander ratio will at times be roughly the same as in your average puffin shop.

Laugardalslaug's late opening hours make it a great place to finish off your day. An on-site hot-dog stand ensures

you can experience almost everything you would want from a pool trip in Iceland.

Except a decent sauna, which is a shame. But, to be fair, the steam bath is pretty intense. It is certainly the best example of the narrow, claustrophobic feeling and dimly lit plastic tanks that pools in the Reykjavík area used to offer in lieu of a decent steam bath or sauna, providing a unique impression of how it feels to be a piece of broccoli in a steam cooker.



Árbæjarlaug

Fylkisvegur 9, Reykjavík



Monday-Thursday: 06:30-22:00
Fridays: 06:30-20:00
Saturday-Sunday: 09:00-18:00

Hot dog stand: ✗
Family destination: 🍷🍷
Crowds of foreigners: ✗
Best swimming pool during summer days: ✓

This pool is a favourite destination for families. It offers a nice water slide, a shallow outdoor pool, and a very nice shallow indoor pool that connects to the outdoor area via a little river. Kids love it. There are also three large hot tubs, and a beautiful view of Reykjavík. The dressing rooms also have a large comfortable outside changing area. This pool is really wonderful in the summer.

A newly added steam bath ensures Árbæjarlaug status as one of the very best in the capital region. The old hell-closet of a steam-cooker (like the one in Laugardalur) has been replaced with a spacious steam bath that runs hot enough to drain away the fatigue of a long hike or the worries of the workday.

Definitely worth the visit, especially if you want to avoid the flocks of tourists at Laugardalslaug.



Breiðholtið

Austurberg 3, Reykjavík



Monday-Thursday: 06:30-22:00
Fridays: 06:30-20:00
Saturday-Sunday: 09:00-18:00

Hot dog stand: ✗
Average Icelanders: ✓
Sauna: 🍷🍷

Apart from Vesturbæjarlaug, this is the only swimming pool in Reykjavík proper that sports a sauna. In line with Vesturbæjarlaug, the sauna is gender-segregated—however, Breiðholtið's sauna is actually very good. It runs hot, you can control the humidity and it comfortably seats at least ten people. Sure, the resting area could be nicer, but the sauna itself gets two thumbs up.

Breiðholtið's steam bath is also very good, large and spacious, with a glass wall facing the pool area. The pool itself is an old-school Icelandic swimming pool: a no-frills place to bathe, swim and relax in the hot tubs. Since the pool is located in a residential suburb, far from many tourist attractions, you will only meet locals, making this a great place to observe salt-of-the-earth Icelanders. It is also a great place to experience the changing face of the Icelandic nation, since the surrounding neighbourhood's large immigrant population means you are just as likely to hear snippets of conversations in Polish as Icelandic.



Seltjarnarneslaug

Suðurströnd, Seltjarnarnes



Monday-Friday: 06:30-21:00
Saturday-Sunday: 08:00-19:30

Small organic café: 🍷🍷
Place to take the kids: ✓
View: 🍷
Locals and regulars: ✓

Situated in a well-off suburb, Seltjarnarneslaug is one of the nicest pools in the capital region. The pool is very compact and has everything you could want (except a sauna): a very comfortable dressing area, a selection of hot tubs (four in all, 37°C-44°C) a water slide and a wading pool and probably the best view from any pool in the region. The steam bath is also excellent, hitting the Goldilocks spot of steam

baths: not too big, not too small, not too hot, not too cold. That's some good steam bath feng-shui.

Seltjarnarneslaug also likes to boast that its water is particularly healthy as it comes directly from a nearby borehole, making it rich in minerals and ideal for treating various skin conditions.

Instead of a hot dog stand where you can get your fix of processed pig meat in a bun, by Seltjarnarneslaug you'll find the lovely eco-friendly café/shop Systrasamlagid, "The Sisterhood," which sells sandwiches, smoothies and coffee. Definitely worth a visit!



Álftaneslaug

Breiðumýri, Garðabær



Monday-Friday: 06:30-21:00
Saturday-Sunday: 09:00-19:00

Hot dog stand: ✗
Family destination: 🍷🍷
Wave pool & Iceland's largest waterslide: ✓
Sauna and steam bath: 🍷🍷

Like two of the most luxurious suburban pools, Lágafellslaug and Ásvalla-laug, this pool is a product of the financial boom.

This shows. The designers really went overboard. So much so, in fact, that the cost of the pool, which opened in the spring of 2009, played a major part in the bankruptcy of the municipality of Álftanes, which led to it being absorbed by neighbouring Garðabær. Soak up those bubble krónur and enjoy the luxury of Icelandic fiscal mismanagement at its best!

A stone's throw from the President's house, Álftaneslaug features the largest waterslide in Iceland—ten metres high and eighty metres long—the island's only wave pool, a nice indoor pool, two excellent hot tubs and a wading pool for the kids—plus a really good swimming pool.

To top all this, Álftaneslaug has an excellent sauna and a top-notch steam bath. Neither are very large, but they are roomy and very comfortable—and both have a window with a view of the surrounding landscape. This is especially welcome in the sauna—while a traditional sauna is meant to be a dark windowless cabin, there is something

particularly relaxing about gazing at the cold blue winter-sky through sauna haze.

Varmárlaug

Skólabraut, Mosfellsbær



Mondays-Fridays: 06:30-21:00
Saturdays: 08:00-17:00
Sundays: 08:00-16:30

Sauna: 🍷
Regulars: ✓

Varmárlaug allows you to experience the feel of a classic Icelandic small-village pool—in the capital region. You'll find none of the big city pools' glamour, yet it definitely has an allure. And while it lacks a steam bath, it does have a very good gender-segregated sauna.

Of all the pools in the greater Reykjavík area, Varmárlaug is probably the least-known: frequented as it is almost exclusively by locals, very few people know of its existence and even fewer would know how to find it. In fact, it has very few things going for it, other than the sauna.

However, the Laugaland camping area that rests on the small hill above the pool offers a magnificent view of Mt. Esja and Kollafjörður bay with its islands—it's certainly the place for campers who value view and nature above crowds.

Sundhöll Hafnarfjarðar

Herjólfsgata 10, Hafnarfjörður



Mondays-Fridays: 06:30-21:00
Saturdays-Sundays: closed

Historical significance: ✓
Sauna: ✓

Sundhöll Hafnarfjarðar is one of the capital's oldest public swimming pools. Opened in 1943 as an outdoor pool, rebuilt in 1953 as an indoor pool, Sundhöll Hafnarfjarðar offers an interesting glimpse of a bygone era. It was also the first pool in the capital region to have a proper sauna. To tell the truth, both sauna and pool are past their prime—a real shame, because the building has its charm, and the location, by Hafnarfjörður's outer harbour, nestled in a lava field, is truly beautiful.



Garðabæjarlaug

Ásgarður, Garðabær



Monday-Friday: 6:30-21:00
Saturday-Sunday: 08:00-18:00

Sauna: ✓
Regulars: ✓
Capturing the atmosphere of a decaying post-Soviet Union industrial city: 👍👍

Garðabæjarlaug used to be the only pool in Garðabær, until the municipality swallowed bankrupt Álfanes along with its luxurious pool (see above). The two pools could not be more different: Garðabæjarlaug is everything Álfaneslaug is not, but not in a good way. It is old and run down, it offers practically nothing to children, and little for adults beyond the opportunity to swim a few quick laps. The hot tubs are uncomfortably deep, reducing their lounging potential, and the steam bath is just awful; dark, dingy and not even decently hot.

However, the second-rate facilities do have a sort of Post-Soviet Union charm. You really get the feeling you're visiting a place that got lost in the bureaucratic shuffle, but just keeps going out of force of habit more than anything. This is all the more baffling in light of the fact that Garðabær is a well-off municipality, which many of Iceland's wealthiest people call home. To wit: Garðabær's mayor is the single highest-paid municipal employee in Iceland. This really makes you wonder why the municipality would offer its residents a third-rate public pool. Perhaps they figure everyone has their own private pool?

Despite all of this the pool has its regular and very loyal customers. The pool also has a decent sauna, which is gender-separated, with women's and men's hours.



Grafarvogslaug

Dalhús, Reykjavík



Monday-Thursday: 06:30-22:00
Fridays: 06:30-20:00
Saturday-Sunday: 09:00-18:00
Hot dog stand: ✗

Suburban Icelanders: ✓
Family destination: ✓

Grafarvogslaug is a small, nice, no-frills suburban pool. It serves its purpose well enough, but there is really no particular reason to visit this pool if you don't live in the neighbourhood. As a consequence, the clientele is primarily local.

During those rare hot summer days, Grafarvogslaug is packed with frolicking teenagers and kids playing on the water slide, in the indoor pool, or the shallow kids' pool outside. The steam bath is pretty good, quite hot, with just the right amount of steam. However, it is as if it was meant to serve as locker room for a NBA team: the benches seem designed for someone who is at least two metres tall. If you are any shorter, your feet won't reach the floor when sitting down.

The main hot tub has a clever design: a long trench with benches on either side, rather than the classic round design, making it ideally suited for conversations.

The absence of any sort of concession stand, for post-lounging hot dogs and stuff, is a major drawback.



Kópavogslaug

Borgarholtsbraut 17, Kópavogur



Summer opening hours (May 1-September 30):
Monday-Friday: 06:30-22:00
Saturday-Sunday: 08:00-20:00

Winter opening hours (October 1-April 30):
Monday-Friday: 06:30-22:00
Saturday-Sunday: 08:00-18:00

Kiosk across the street: 👍👍
Family destination: 👍
Bodybuilders and bleach-blondes: ✓
Steam bath: 👍

Kópavogur's two swimming pools are unquestionably among the best in the capital region; large, comfortable and well designed.

Kópavogslaug is older of the two, built in 1967. It recently underwent a complete renovation that lifted it into the highest class of capital region pools.

The pool itself is 50 metres long (most swimming pools in the Reykjavík area are 25 metres), making it a great destination for serious swimmers. It has a waterslide, an indoor pool and a warm wading pool for the kids in addition to the standard selection of hot tubs.

The view on the pool grounds is also a little bit different than, say at Vesturbæjarlaug. Instead of lounging in the hot tub with a bunch of hipsters or politicians, you are treated to some of the best Iceland has to offer in the department of bodybuilding beefcakes and bleach-blondes.

The steam baths in both of the Kópavogur pools are top notch, with blue mosaic tiles and an asymmetrical layout providing a relaxing feel that is lacking from most of the area's steam baths. Somehow, they have also hit upon the correct mix of steam, heat and light (because steam baths have to be dimly lit, but not too dark), so that you truly manage to unwind, rather than just battle the steam and heat. Both steam baths also have a really nice resting area with good showers and chairs where you can sit and cool down. Nothing remotely comparable can be found in any of the Reykjavík pools.

Across the street, you also have a nice neighbourhood kiosk, which sells hot dogs and ice cream. Ergo: Kópavogslaug has pretty much everything you might wish for.



Salalaug

Versalir 3, Kópavogur



Summer opening hours (May 1-September 30):
Monday-Friday: 06:30-22:00
Saturday-Sunday: 08:00-20:00

Winter opening hours (October 1-April 30):
Monday-Friday: 06:30-22:00
Saturday-Sunday: 08:00-18:00

Hot dog stand: ✗
Family destination: 👍👍
Steam bath: 👍

The newer of the two Kópavogur pools is among the best family pools in the capital region. It features a large, shal-

low indoor pool, an outside wading pool, a large kid-friendly hot tub, a water slide and even a small lazy river. Like the other Kópavogur pool, Salalaug offers an excellent steam bath. The beautiful blue tiled interior is steamy and dimly lit, while right outside you'll find a nice resting area where you can take a cool shower before you wander out into the hot tubs.

The main drawback of this pool is that it's located far out in one of Kópavogur's distant suburbs, so, it is really out of the way. Also, there is no way to procure hot dogs within walking distance.



Suðurbæjarlaug: Hafnafjörður

Hringbraut 77, Hafnafjörður



Mondays-Fridays: 06:30-21:00
Saturdays: 08:00-18:00
Sundays: 08:00-17:00

Locals and regulars: ✓
Beautiful grounds: ✓
Sauna: 👍

Suðurbæjarlaug is a great pool to visit on hot summer days, its large grounds making it ideal for sunbathers. It also has a proper sauna, which is a definitive plus. Since saunas seem to be more popular among men in Iceland than women, Suðurbæjarlaug does not even bother having separate men's and women's hours. So much for equal opportunities (to sauna).

Considering how good the (men's) sauna is, the steam bath is a terrible disappointment. It's one of those tiny windowless closets which still serves as steam baths in many Icelandic pools. It's way too hot, dark and uncomfortable.



Ásvallalaug: Hafnafjörður

Ásvellir 2, Hafnafjörður



Mondays-Fridays: 06:30-21:00
Saturdays: 08:00-18:00
Sundays: 08:00-17:00

Family destination: 👍
Olympic length swimming pool: ✓
Shelter from the weather and winds: 👍
Senior citizens: ✓
Steam bath: 👍

Ásvallalaug opened in September 2008, just as the great Icelandic financial bubble was deflating. It is another great example of the prosperity which characterized the naughts in Iceland. Housed in a giant recreational centre (with a first-rate gym!), it is one of Iceland's largest pools, certainly its largest indoor pool. This makes it the ideal destination if you really want to swim but won't brave the unpredictable weather.

The pool main attraction is a giant 50-metre long pool, part of which is split in two (accommodating those who feel swimming 50 metres in one lap is too much). There is also a large shallow kids' pool, a large waterslide and three hot tubs. There are even two hot tubs outside.

The steam bath is also first rate, with a perfect balance of steam and heat. If you're afraid of the weather, this is your pool.

Please remember

YOU WILL WASH YOUR BATHING SUIT before entering any pool in Iceland. Those who fail to do so can expect to receive glances of deep hatred and disgust from locals. In Iceland, subjecting strangers to soaking in your dirt is not considered good manners (this is one of the only things Icelanders like to be polite about).

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A Legend Attempts Real Life

And the documentary that shows how he succeeds



Words
Valur Gunnarsson

Photos
Brynjarr Snær Prastarson and stills

One of the many, many things Icelanders like to brag about to foreigners are the merits of our handball teams. Rather than eliciting the expected warm glow of admiration, these boasts are usually met with a puzzled: “Yes... but what is handball?”

In brief: handball is like football (“soccer” to you Yanks), but played with your hands. Icelanders who become very good at using their hands to play football are usually elevated to national hero status. Chief among these is Ólafur Stefáns-son—Óli Stef—one of the celebrated “Silver Boys” (yes, we came in second at the 2008 Olympics) and former professional player in Dubai.

It was about time someone made a documentary about him.

The person who took it upon himself to make that documentary—it’s called ‘Óli Prik’—is one Árni Sveinsson, whose legal troubles following his first documentary more or less destroyed his career for a decade. More on that in a bit—for now, we want to learn about the inevitable philosophical underpinnings of a movie about a living handball legend. Also present for the conversation was the film’s producer and owner of Netop Films Grímar Jónsson, who interjects with comments as he sees fit.

Learning the ABCs

“What do sports stars do when they become too old to play?” Árni says, discussing his film. “Everyone expects them

to stick with the sport and become trainers, but they also want to do something else. Óli gets caught between the two. He dreams of creating an educational computer programme for children, but the philosophy behind both is the same. You have to consider your options very quickly, and then chose the best one.”

After playing professional handball abroad for many years, he comes back home to coach his old team Valur. This brings to mind the plot of celebrated Icelandic biopic ‘Tears Of Stone’ (1995) about composer/conductor Jón Leifs who—after working at Berlin’s best concert halls—returns home to direct a school orchestra.

Árni: “Óli has advanced ideas about the game, but he doesn’t know the basics about coaching. He has to learn the ABCs before he picks up the whistle. He is dealing with very young guys, and is trying to get through everything in one winter.”

Grímar: “Óli is coming from a very professional environment to one where everyone is doing volunteer work.”

The film is also about his attempts to

readjust to Iceland?

Árni: “Ólafur has lived most of his adult life abroad, and in a very sheltered environment where he only needs to worry about the team. Everything is very simple and routine. When he comes back to Iceland, dealing with day-to-day hassles and the nearness of everything gets problematic. He also has to get through the Icelandic winter.”

Grímar: “He goes through a lot in over a short period, buying a house and doing things he never had to worry about before. In a way, it’s a coming-of-age story.”

“Did I just ruin the movie?”

What’s the process like of making a docu-drama like ‘Óli Prik’?

Grímar: “We started financing the film in 2012, and the script work was almost like writing a movie. We try to find certain themes to go with. Some of these pan out and others don’t.”

Árni: “We also try to find characters we think are interesting, such as his wife Kristín, his daughter Stebba and the former trainer Boris. The match Óli is training for provided suspense, but we were never dependent upon how it would turn out. Things happen and we just go with it. Last summer, we shot three endings for the movie.”

Óli’s defining characteristic seems to be his will to win...

Árni: “When the team he was coaching didn’t do so well, he asked me: ‘Árni, did I just ruin the movie? Who wants to watch a film about a team that loses.’ Sadly, my camera was turned off then.”

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And what does he learn?

Árni: "It's an open ending, but Óli follows his heart and makes the Brutus decision to leave handball. In sports everything is clear, you either win or you lose, and he has a harder time outside those parameters. But not everything is like that. Rocky loses the match at the end of the first movie, but he gets Adrian."

Brutal censorship

Speaking of Rocky, you had to fight your own battles to get stuff made. Eight years passed between your first feature length doc, 'In The Shoes Of the Dragon' (2002), and your second, 'Backyard' (2010)...

Árni: "Yes, the beauty pageant that was the subject of 'Dragon' demanded an injunction on the film. That was a brutal example of censorship that is still used as an example in law studies at the University of Iceland today. We had to pay a lot of legal bills, the premiere was delayed for six months and some of the contestants were blurred, like in an episode of 'Cops'. We got to show it, and it was all a very educational and messed-up process. In the end I had to do like the Vikings and sail off—I went to the US where I worked editing films. A documentary called 'Dis-arm', about antipersonnel mines in various countries, was what eventually saved me from 'In The Shoes Of The Dragon!'"

And then you finally returned to make 'Backyard', which follows in the footsteps of 'Rock In Reykjavík' (1982), capturing a music scene....

Árni: "Yes, it was a portrait of a group which was there in 2010, a generation

that is dominant in Icelandic music today. We had about two months of planning and didn't get any grants, but it won at the Skjaldborg doc festival. This led to the Icelandic Film Centre adopting it and it was subsequently shown at very many festivals worldwide."

Springtime for Icelandic cinema?

These days, Árni and Grímar are busy placing English subtitles on 'Óli Prik', in preparation for doing the festival rounds. That version will also be screened in Bíó Paradís, so be on the lookout for that. Grímar's next project for Netop will be 'Hrútar' ("Rams"), by his almost namesake Grímur Hákonarson. A short preview of the film got rave reviews from international critics at the recent Stockfish Film Festival.

"I feel very fortunate to have been able to get both Árni's project and 'Rams' and to have been able to secure funding for both. There are many interesting films currently in development and I feel we could be at the cusp of a new spring for Icelandic cinema. Things are going well, even if it is always a struggle, and I can't believe anyone would want to cut down funding now," Grímar says.

Árni: "Support for cinema was increased after the economic collapse and we are seeing the benefits now. If they start to cut funding like they have been talking about, the effects of that will only become apparent three or four years from now."

"One has to be optimistic, but in this business, you can't camp for just one night," Grímar concludes.

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www.straum.is

Words

Óli Dóri & Davíð Roach

First things first: **Sónar Reykjavík** at Harpa was a gigantic audiovisual explosion in dolby digital and HD vivid colors. For a three-day weekend, Harpa transformed into humongous club on an Ibiza scale. The music spanned the range from ambient to EDM and dubstep to disco. **Todd Terje** turned Silfurberg into a space station discotheque with his bouncy sci-fi disco, and Icelandic electro legends **Súrefni** presented a psychedelic techno hybrid with lots of rawk freakouts. **Kindness** ran the whitest funky boy alive discothon and **Skrillex** bombarded our senses from every possible angle. One of the best things about the festival is its size and the flow. There are five stages, all of them within a single venue, and there are no queues, so you can just wander between acts in no time at will without having to venture out and face the bastardly February climate. **Sónar Reykjavík** just keeps getting better—we're already looking forward for the next installment.

Just as one festival ends, we get big news about the next one. On Tuesday, we learned that hip hop revolutionaries, the self-proclaimed “black CNN,” **Public Enemy**, will be taking the stage at **All Tomorrow's Parties** in Ásbrú on July 2-4. Those guys are the atomic bomb, and we're pretty sure **Flavor Flav** can still tell us what time it is, even after all those years of indulgent crack smoking. Also added to the bill were experimental no-wave group **Swans** (maybe they'll make it over this time?), noise rock duo **Lightning Bolt**, **Bardo Pond**, **Grísalappalísa**, **Valdimar**, **Stafrænn Hákon**, **Oyama**, **Mr. Silla** and **Kippi**

Kaninus. All this on top of previously announced acts like **Belle And Sebastian**, **Iggy Pop**, **Run The Jewels** and **Godspeed You! Black Emperor**—we clearly have a diverse musical buffet of epic proportions in store.

Finally, check this out: Hörður Már Bjarnason, aka **M-Band**, just dropped a new video for one of last year's best Icelandic tracks, the haunting “Ever Ending Never” from his debut LP 'Haust'. In the video, Hörður floats around a purple visualizer that is connected to the repetitive bouncing synth line. Warning: this video will hypnotize you.

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New York, Old Tools, Timeless Jewels A Visit To Orri Finn Design's Studios

Words and Pictures
Gabrielle Motola

The couple behind Orri Finn Design—Orri Finnbogason and Helga Gvuðrún Friðriksdóttir—have a different, yet complementary, training in the art of design, jewellery and business. Helga has had a passion for jewellery since she was a child, often making her own. Despite lacking in formal training, Helga found a job with a jewellery designer, eventually working with the company's marketing director, and as project manager. Orri trained as a goldsmith and a diamond setter in New York. More on that later.

Straight edges, skeleton keys

A glance at the pair's Pinterest boards reveals that they are drawn to images of Native Americans: textural sepia images of heritage and objects and people from another world. Their work darkly echoes the Old West, or perhaps the Southwest, of the United States without being overly coloured in cloying corals and blues. Their current family of anchors, scarabs and braids will be joined this year by a new set of pieces inspired by the tools of the common worker.

While fixing up a house in the Westfjords, they came across a pair of antique hair cutting scissors. The simplistic yet elegant design got them thinking. Helga's mother was a haircutter for a period of time, the scissors a tool of her trade. Included in the collection are straight edges, as well as hair scissors, skeleton keys, fountain pen nibs, and axes. For a quick minute they thought of sticking to murder weapons but decided that they didn't want to put that kind of negative energy out into the universe. So they went with constructive objects of métier, even if they have the potential power to destroy. The wearer gets to decide the ultimate function.

Why not sail on?

Every piece, once cast, waits to be transformed into worn objects, a process they were in the middle of on the morning of my visit. Much of what I saw laid before me

was silver, partially oxidised and rubbed clean, to give a blackness that acts as dimensional shading; gold; and more polished chains of equal interest and varying proportion. We chatted as they polished and assembled pieces from their new collection with a fluidity and mutual respect that begets synergy.

We talked about the feelings that come with creating something new and, by default, the previously new work becoming "old." The question arises: has enough honourable attention been given to their previous works? The ambition to release one's creations at a pace that's absorbed gradually and thoroughly is understandable. But, as long as the winds of inspiration carry you forward, why not sail on? Besides, I come to realize that I, perpetually disinterested in jewellery, would greedily wear all their creations all at once. To my surprise and slight horror, I have begun a mental inventory.

Run the jewels...

The pair's new workshop is located on that street leading up to the big church on the hill. The one with an impossibly long name that, ironically, is most frequented by tourists who cannot pronounce it. The workshop is charming and perfectly formed, complete with a dual hot plate for both work liquid, and copious amounts of coffee brewed in a moka pot. Even the walls carry an aesthetic that complements their work.

Helga and Orri both spent time living in New York City, but they didn't meet there. Helga's purpose in town was tutoring the daughter of an Icelandic musician. Orri arrived to the city on a break of sorts, and did not expect to move there. In Iceland, he had found that it was next to impossible to gain the kind of apprenticeship he sought—the only way he could study something to do with metal work was enlisting in a shipbuilding course. Thus, upon arriving in New York, he jumped on the chance to apprentice with a diamond setter, earning his apprenticeship by first spending a period of time as a diamond runner. Quid pro quo, my son.

As a diamond runner, he was responsible for transporting tremendously valuable goods from point A to point B. He explained that diamond trade was often under a lot of time constraints to move pieces around once stones are set, and there wasn't always time to arrange for an armoured car, complete with armed guards. Thus, a young man with a backpack, a pair of strong legs, a sense of adventure and no idea of the danger he's putting himself into did nicely enough. Sure, there were instructions, like "never take the same route" and "never take the backpack off, even when you're sitting on a train." Still, equipping a young man with a backpack full of extremely valuable goods normally shielded by reinforced steel and armed guards seems

like a huge gamble. Especially in New York City in the 1990s.

It happens

Orri eventually learned to be a diamond setter, an extremely valuable skill that has taken him far in his work. But the jewellery market began to decline and the stress of working in that way which is American left him with little reason to stay in the Big Apple. Back to Reykjavík he went. And met Helga.

It was one of those stories where you both think you've seen everyone in the bar and met everyone in the town, especially in one as small as Reykjavík can often feel. And then one day, it happens. This person walks into your life with the same interests and inspires you. They both worked for the same jeweller for a while. When they met, Helga was wearing more than the causal amount of jewellery. Orri laid eyes on her and thought, "Now, that's the girl for me!"

They appear to have the kind of working relationship I both admire and covet.

The morning we spent together, Helga and Orri worked with cast objects to create what will eventually become some of the final pieces, arranging and assembling them with chains and jewels, the components and exact order of which was coming together before my eyes. Together they invent designs and assemble them in the way a band might work on the creation and refinement of songs. Once

decided upon, Orri will join the pieces together or set stones as required. Helga also assembles the chains and pieces at some stages. In addition to the design work Helga spearheads communications for the business, essential for any business's survival. They are a team in the best sense of the word.

Your thing

Let it be known that Orri Finn Design makes unisex jewellery which I was interested to learn of and is probably one of the reasons I find the aesthetic so attractive. However, much of the time this carries less merit in the land of the bejewelled than one would think. People, a lot of people, want to be told that jewellery is indeed classified as "acceptable" for men or women when buying it. "Are you sure this is okay for a guy?" a concerned girlfriend might ask before buying, say, a delicate gold braided ring for her boyfriend. The boxes people still wish to fit into are surprisingly persistent, even in Reykjavík, with all its gender equality.

I admired a draped chain mask on the face of a mannequin bust and thought it would look fantastically elegant on a man. Okay, not your thing? Zebra Katz wore it in a music video he shot here, it's apparently totally his thing.

Their stuff is fast becoming totally my thing.

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Album Reviews

Puzzle Muteson

Theatrics

www.bandcamp.com/puzzlemuteson

Gossamer folk songs, sensitively arranged



'Theatrics' is Puzzle Muteson's second album on the Bedroom Community imprint. He is still elusively hushed in style; his Antony-like vocals still quiver delicately along with his sparse, finger-picked guitars. There's a lot of talk about existence on the album, coded into personal, poetic phrases like "Don't take me now" and "I fell off that float, for me this done." "I used to think that the day would never come/that my life would depend on morning sun," calls to mind images of Iceland's long winters, or perhaps the singer's UK home on the Isle of Wight. Darker lyrical turns like "His teeth will tear you up/your home and half your

hands," are offset by brighter moments, like the resonant "Bells": "I am a bird/now I own the sky".

The fingerprints of producer-arranger duo Valgeir Sigurðsson and Nico Muhly are all over the collaborative elements on this album, from the repetition of gentle electronics on "We Are, We Own" to background static and a bit of distortion; from the pure tones of glockenspiel to the piano in "City Teeth" and "Belly"—sometimes delicate and ethereal and then suddenly aggressively low and accented. Additional orchestrated elements are an essential dramatic element for the album, like the snare drum that conjures images of marching, war, tri-

umph, and perseverance.

For an album titled 'Theatrics', there aren't a lot of bells and whistles to Puzzle Muteson's latest. Okay, there are literal bells, but no vocal pyrotechnics, no blazing solos. But that's not saying there isn't a theatrical flow. After "True Faith" and "Chair" finish the album with a kind of cinematic drama, you may realize that all along you've been listening to a song cycle. This kind of theatre transforms an album into an emotional journey, a meditation on light and darkness, on life being taken and life being worth living.

✉ NATHAN HALL

Subminimal

Sinian (2014)

www.facebook.com/subminimal

In bass, no one can hear you scream



Over the past few years, the dance music consciousness has seen drum and bass make a return from the wilderness (cue hordes of hardcore DnB fans going "What? It never went away! etc..."), with new kids and older producers who've kept the faith reheating, recalibrating and reworking those old jungle and drum and bass sounds.

While many seem merely satisfied with chopping up dusty old amen breaks to scoop out those last residues of old skool roughage, some producers still try to project forward, keeping one eye up to the cosmos. Subminimal (aka Tjörvi Óskarsson) belongs in the latter group, one of the few Icelandic producers making drum and bass music (the only others being the Tjörnin crew). 'Sinian', released on Möller records, marks his debut full length following on from his 2012 'Micro-

fluidics' EP.

Like 'Microfluidics', 'Sinian' forsakes today's idea of DnB as a redlining beast stuffed with continuous Molly-spazzed drops, instead being more concerned with the idea of "space" both in terms of sci-fi and á la dub space. Along with tracks titles such as "Lunar," "Carbon," and "Enun," there are the prerequisite dark synth sounds and notes of doom emanating from ye olde abandoned space station. 'Sinian's first few tracks do provide some signs of inspiration from/fealty to those 90s rave sounds, from the cosmic pad progression in "Lunar," to the cheekily blatant and rather meta sample-of-a-sample from FSOL's "Papua new Guinea" on 'Sinian'.

Once you're reacquainted with his sound, the rest of 'Sinian' sees Subminimal stretching out and feeling into new dark spaces. His rhythms, always

a plus, are much bolder, tighter, more ambitious, using mainly organic drum sounds to propel the music along. On tracks such as the "The Gang" and "Dense," there's a real sense of pull and release in the flow of the groove, with little stabs of dub pads adding to the unease. With precision-tooled slow burners such as "Constraint" and "Enun," reminiscent of the music that DnB titans like dBridge have been releasing over the past few years, this is an album that understands that a powerful statement does not need to be screamed in your face.

✉ BOB CLUNESS

Momentum

The Freak is Alive

www.facebook.com/subminimal

It's a goddamn masterpiece



Jesus to the effing Christ how desperately I have waited for this album to finally drop! This review was fully formed in my head long before tidings of a long-lusted-for release date reached my excited ears, and awaited only for said ears to confirm at long last what educated guesses had always reckoned would be a full-blown masterpiece.

And an honest to goddamn masterpiece it's proving to be!

'The Freak Is Alive' drops a beautiful weight on the listener's chest with chord one. It goes on to slather aural gorgeousness across the listener's mesmerized headspace with broad

strokes of the brush from a palette of infinite finesse throughout its entire runtime.

Every song is a new journey through soothing soundscapes that softly caress the listener's frail senses, yet pummel and punish her heavier leanings all at the same time. Every distinguishing element meshes seamlessly into a flawless mosaic of compositional wonderment as the dynamics ebb and flow, much like a Neurosis dirge such as "In The Eye Of Every Storm."

Every strike of the drums is a stroke of genius, while the vocals embrace a conscious choice of appropriately clean singing throughout, and the

strings strum continuously crushing riffs that intertwine with beautifully woven passages which lull the listener into a meditative trance—intermittently broken as the crushing riffing comes crashing down on him again.

Self-classified as progressive doom, the sounds Momentum convey on this, their sophomore LP, are as original as that apt description. I promise you that the psychedelic trip this album will take you on is like one you've never been on before, and are exceedingly unlikely to experience again this side of a possible nirvana.

✉ BOGI BJARNASON



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FREE



HATER VS. LOVER



Muck

Your Joyous Future

www.facebook.com/muckband

The most beautifully dirty music you'll ever hear



+ Muck's latest endeavour catapults them to heretofore-unreachable heights, perfectly capturing the band's intense stage presence. 'Your Joyous Future' can be a tough pill to swallow after that first listen, but the monster quickly grows on you.

Muck come storming out the gates, all but overwhelming the casual listener in the first track, "Provoke Me." Throughout, it keeps building on that volatile energy, all the while displaying the band's refined songcrafting approach that ensures each instrument, each segment, get just enough space to shine.

The album has plenty of variety,

with the 88-second whirlwind of a song "Time" and the slow and atmospheric "Martröð" providing sharp contrast. "Here Comes The Man" stands out as the album's crown jewel with its weird time signatures, carefully controlled clash of instruments, and shouted lyrics that make you want to stand up and punch your father-figure in the gut (like all good hardcore should).

Go buy it already.

✉ - GABRIEL BENJAMIN

Muck

Your Joyous Future

www.facebook.com/muckband

A kick to the groin



+ On their Prosthetic Records debut, 'Your Joyous Future', Muck continue to aggressively transgress—yet never egress—their progress. The whole album feels like an extended encounter with the Millwall Bushwackers, following a particularly bad loss. Although Muck have certainly come a long way from their humble beginnings, they still shill nifty parts in lieu of cohesive songs, favouring ferocity over finesse. Their true element is found on any stage Muck can burn down with

the sparks caused by the friction of their hearts-ablaze performances against the innocent air around them—rather than a string of zeroes and ones documenting their lack of grasp of the value of proper transitions.

A lesson in brutal punishment for sure, but one perhaps better suited for a younger audience than myself, who has grown to appreciate force tempered with beauty, over a kick to the groin followed by a knee to the kisser.

✉ - BOGI BJARNASON

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Vatnajökull

How to get there: Take Route One South From Reykjavík and drive all the way to the Jökulsárlón visitor centre for pickup. Book in advance at iceguide.is.

Under

Beneath the Vatnajökull glacier lies a photographer's paradise

The Ice

Words John Rogers

Photos Axel Sigurðarson

Seeing a glacier for the first time is a memorable experience. As the southern ring road from Reykjavík gently loops towards the coast, the peaks of Eyjafjallajökull start to appear, a white shadow against the sky, almost unbelievably high. It's soon followed by the even bigger Mýrdalsjökull, an icecap that squats over the active volcano Katla, pouring forth its many glacier tongues to within just a few kilometres of the road. The twin glaciers tower above the rocks like snow citadels, compacted over time by their own weight into a natural phenomenon that infests the mountains like an organism of ice.

But both are dwarfed by the monstrous Vatnajökull. Located in Southeast Iceland, a five-hour drive from Reykjavík, this vast glacier is amongst the largest in Europe, both in terms of height and geographical area. It covers more than 8% of the country's landmass, and its many peaks include Iceland's tallest mountain, often glimpsed poking through fast-moving clouds. The glacier spills out into roughly 30 icefalls, each of which tumbles dramatically down to ground level.

The most accessible outlet is Breiðmerkurjökull, a jagged tableau vis-

ible from the Ring Road, which terminates in the famous Jökulsárlón iceberg lagoon. It's here that we arrive to meet Óskar from Ice Guides. A down-to-earth, outdoorsy fellow from the nearby town of Höfn, he gathers the nine people who are booked on today's trip onto the glacier in search of the famous "crystal cavern"—a famous network of ice caves carved out by nature itself.

Let's off-road

After a brief hello, we load into a chunky Ford Econoline jeep and start chugging

down the road, turning off down a scantily marked track. It quickly becomes apparent that the huge car is completely necessary—even with heavy-duty tyres and a roaring, powerful engine, the car labours to pull us through a series of slush-filled ditches, scree banks and sudden, slippery inclines (tip: don't try this in your rental car). About eight kilometres from the road, we approach a foreboding black crack in the bright white snow of the foothills. We park and the group piles out of the car, strapping on helmets with anticipation. "They won't save you if the

ice cave collapses," smiles Óskar, "they're mostly to stop you banging your head. But don't worry, it won't collapse."

After some brief safety instruction ("if you don't see a footprint, don't make a new one") we squat through the cave's low and narrow entrance. We've fortuitously arrived on a bright afternoon—sunbeams shine through the entrance, casting shadows and reflections around the frigid space. Fresh snow has caught the myriad facets of the ice, creating a vivid, dappled texture. "You're very lucky," Óskar says. "These are the best conditions

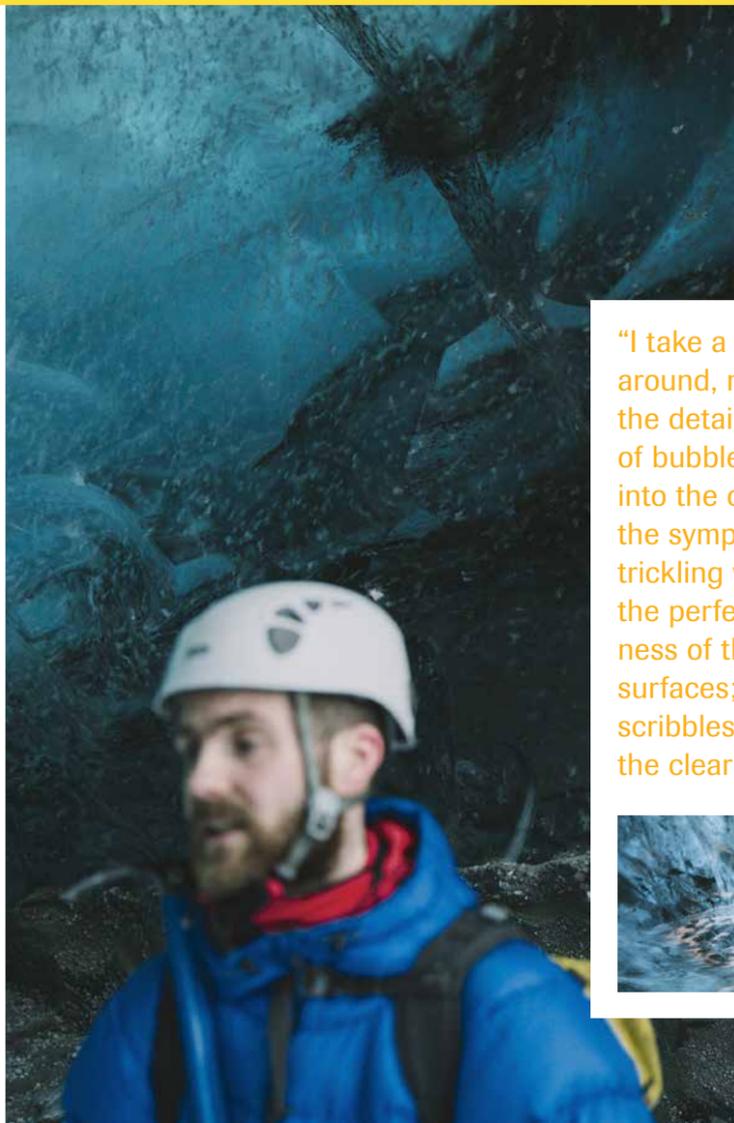
we've for months."

Friendly fire

It soon becomes apparent that, for the majority of those on the trip, this isn't about just experiencing the cave, but documenting it. Almost everyone has a tripod tucked under their arm and long-lens artillery around their neck. Within a few minutes, people are set loose to find their frames, fanning out to try different compositions, popping off their lens caps and strafing the cave with rapid shutter-clicks.



Distance from Reykjavík
Around 379 km



"I take a slow walk around, marvelling at the detail—the lines of bubbles frozen into the cave's walls; the symphonies of trickling water and the perfect smoothness of the various surfaces; the etched scribbles of cracks in the clear ceiling."



After a brief exploration of the dazzling spaces that form the cavern network, I stand and talk to Óskar for a while, occasionally being shushed out of someone's shot. "My job is often a bit like nannying," he smiles. "I bring people here, and keep an eye on them, and then just try to stay out of the way."

The tours started about ten years ago, as a photographer's trip. "It was an occasional thing," he explains. "Then someone printed one of their pictures in a big American newspaper—I think it was maybe the New York Times—and demand

went through the roof. Now there are five or more trips here a day, and they're often fully booked. We're actually under pressure to make more seats available, but we don't want to compromise either the space, the experience, or the level of safety, so we're keeping the groups at a reasonable size."

Nature's painting

The caves are a natural phenomenon formed by flooding. Fast-moving glacial

run-off water, either from rain, or melting, or both, cuts a pathway through the ice on its seaward journey. In the summer, when the frost has receded, the floor of the cave is a river, and the cave is unsafe and completely inaccessible. But as the winter approaches, the Ice Guides come back to see if the roof still stands, checking the safety of the various entrances, or cutting steps into the ever-changing ice formations to allow access.

As the hour mark approaches, I take a slow walk around, marvelling at the detail—the lines of bubbles frozen into the

cave's walls; the symphonies of trickling water and the perfect smoothness of the various surfaces; the etched scribbles of cracks in the clear ceiling. Some sections are like being inside a huge naturally hewn gemstone, the countless facets gleaming and dripping in the sunlight. Others are like a glorious abstract composition of black ash suspended in a vast, bright blue crystal.

Our time inside comes to a close, and the photographers emerge from the cave, and from their almost frantic trigger-happy trance. People are beaming in disbelief,

their long-held bucket-list portfolio shots having been duly gathered. One guest seems to have had a small epiphany—his eyes glowing, he thanks Óskar heartily. "This place is paradise," he says. Óskar's eyes slowly scan the inhospitable, deeply frozen wasteland around us. "Yeah?" he says, breaking into gentle laughter. "I guess it is!"

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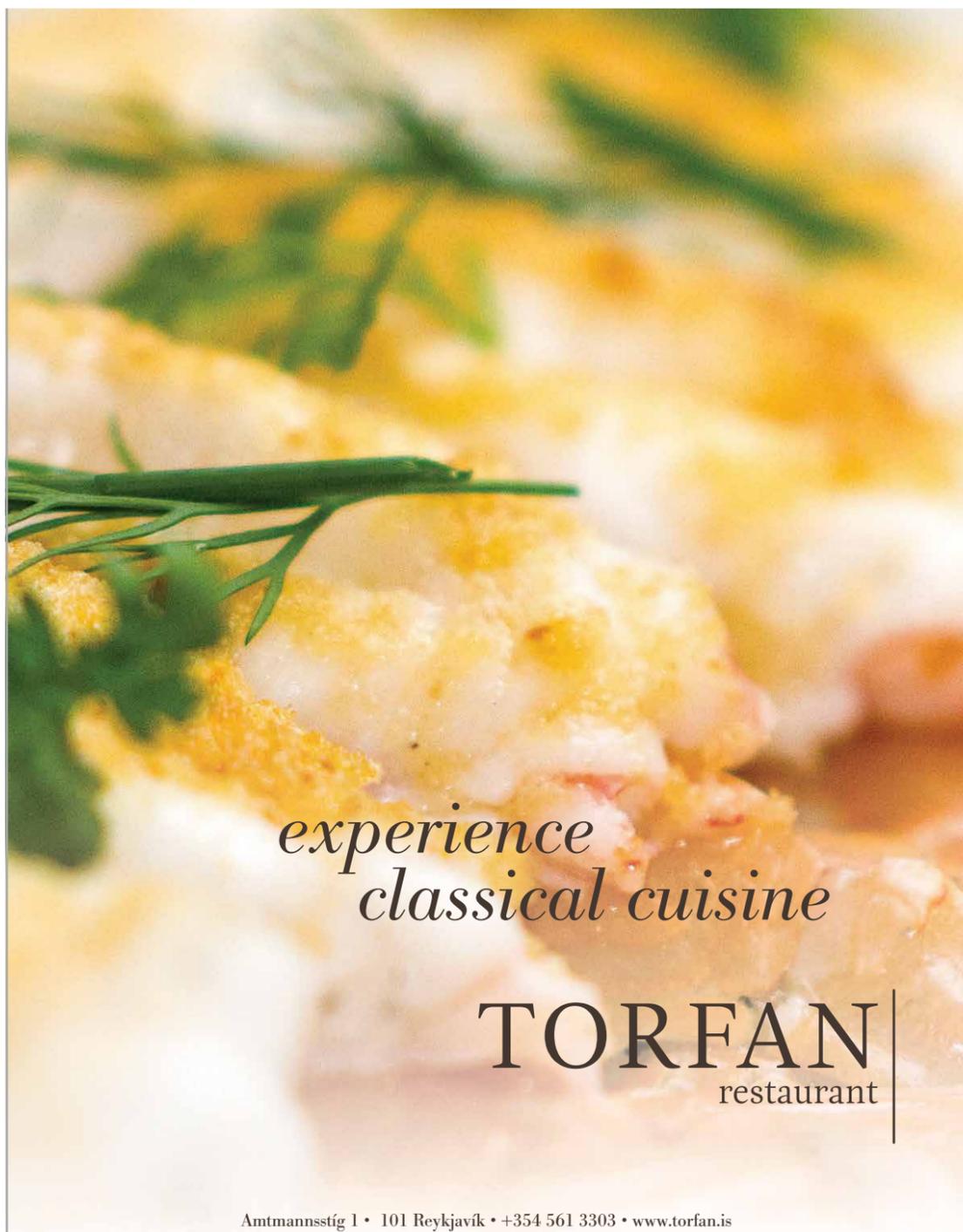


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Cooking Up The Place

'North', by Chef Gunnar Karl Gíslason & Jody Eddy

Words

York Underwood

When I was in high school, a group of us went on an ice fishing trip at our friend's family cabin. It had the usual itinerary of binge drinking, homoeroticism, and deep discussions on the meaning of life and the beauty of women. After deciding to stay an extra night, three of us awoke to find ourselves snowed in, stuck, or as the cabin's owner put it, "fucked."

We had decided to stay an extra night without any provisions other than the remaining 24 beers and a lake full of jackfish, walleye, perch, whitefish, and burbot. As you can imagine, the usual gaiety of the ice fishing hut was tempered with desperation.

We survived on poached fish and beer and managed to get ourselves shovelled out the following afternoon. It was the first time in my life that I thought about food—really thought about it. Where do the flavours I enjoy come from? Why, in a situation where there was an abundance of food and water, was I clueless about what I could make? What if I was snowed in forever? Was the land of my home unable to sustain me or please me? Or was I ignoring the food all around me?

Look around you

This is not an adequate introduction for Chef Gunnar Karl Gíslason's sharp book, 'North: The New Nordic Cuisine of Iceland'. The book is sharp because it cuts itself a clear path, a distinction, from other cookbooks. Aesthetically, it is a work of art, much like the chef's food. Narratively, it makes an argument through the stories of food production and collection. It takes me back to that cabin, and the snowy walks through the trees and the farmers' fields filled with hay bails. I was stranded in a cacophony of flavours waiting to be noticed, appreciated, and harmonized. Chef Gunnar's book isn't a guide or a manual; it's an invitation to see what's around you, an appeal to the flavour of location.

The book's introduction is written by Chef René Redzepi, the Danish chef and co-founder of both New Nordic Cuisine and Noma, a two Michelin star restaurant ranked "Best Restaurant In The World" by Restaurant Magazine. New Nordic Cuisine is a philosophy and way of life—put simply: New Nordic Cuisine is the use of ingredients from your surroundings to create traditional dishes for a region. In the introduction, Chef René writes about his first time in Iceland. When he asked the cab driver to take him somewhere with Icelandic cuisine, the cabbie took him to a sushi bar. He felt a disconnect with the meal. "Simple substitution doesn't make a place." This desire of connecting place and food informed Chef René's cooking in Copenhagen—leading to the creation of New Nordic Cuisine.

The book is parsed by suppliers and

region, chapters with titles such as "The Bacalao Producer," "The Rúgbrauð Baker," and "The Birch and Mushroom Forager." These ingredients circle the great hand of Iceland. There is a note preceding the book reminding readers to exchange ingredients native to Iceland for ones closer to home: arctic thyme to regular thyme; lovage to tarragon; birch to bay leaf; wolf-fish to catfish. The fermenting times are dependent on the relative humidity levels where you live. Don't let the book dictate. Let your environment guide you.

Build skills, habits

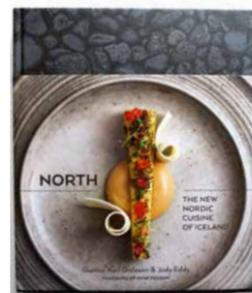
You won't make all the recipes in 'North'. They're not complicated; however, the plating of these dishes appears to require the same patience as engraving the bible on a grain of rice. The recipes are the results of shifts in attitude, labours of preparation. The preparation time for one of the dishes is one year (365 days); even for the most ardent home chef, that's still a bit daunting. The dedication and focus on display in 'North' defines this style of cooking as a philosophy rather than a trend or fad. It's about building skills and habits—giving yourself the ability to integrate your kitchen with proximate resources.

Beyond the photography, geography, ethnography, autobiography, et cetera, there is a list of things you should do right

away after reading this book: make beer vinegar (use a local brew of your liking), start pickling vegetables, make yourself a simple smoker (the instructions are simple, cheap, and the end result will impress your friends) and infuse your own oils. These simple additions will improve your time in the kitchen and make

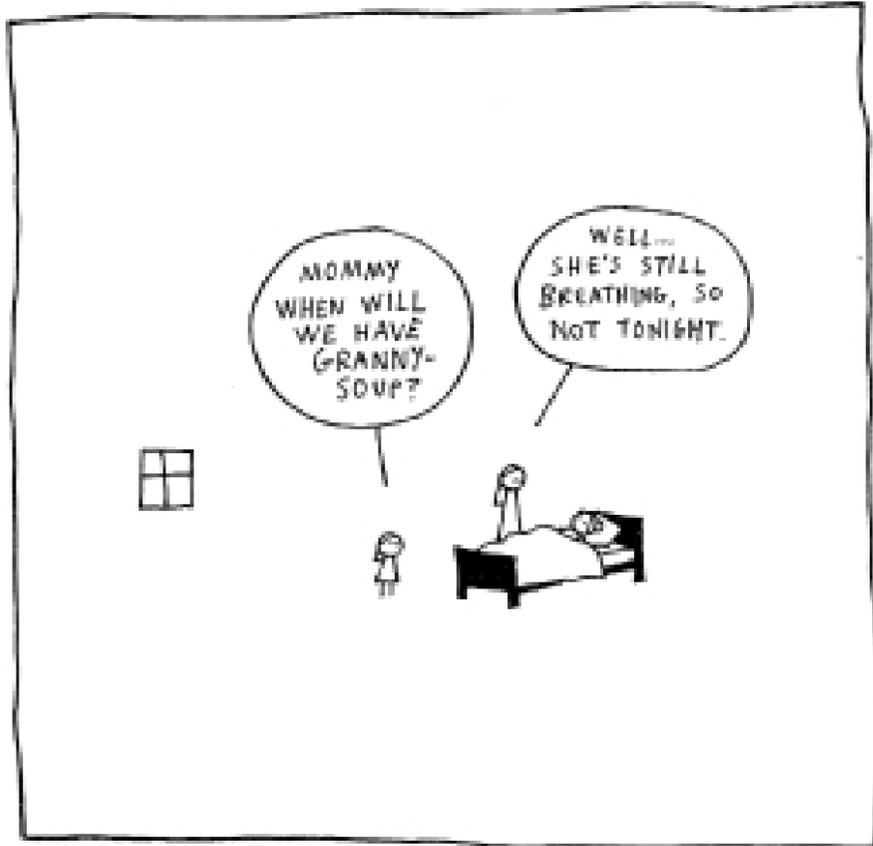
you appreciate the ingredients around you.

'North' manages what few cookbooks can: it's specialized to the point of brilliance, but belongs almost anywhere in your home. The photography attracts it to your coffee table. The stories and research beckon your nightstand. The recipes demand space in your kitchen cupboard. The philosophy sticks with you as you forage around your home and shop in your grocery store or farmers' market. 'North' will introduce you to Icelandic ingredients while giving you the skills to discover your own.



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On Sea And Land

Two days with chef
Gunnar Gíslason of Dill

Words

York Underwood

Photos

York Underwood

Chef Gunnar Gíslason drives nearly an hour out of Reykjavík to a small bay on Hvalfjörður. As he puts on his fishing hip waders, they crinkle and crack in the cold. The snow falls sideways through the air due to the wind from the ocean. Gunnar is setting up plastic containers on the black lava-rock beach. He fills each container—wading into the freezing water to dunk them underwater. Gunnar’s breath is quick and short. The water is cold. The wind is cold. The snow is cold. The containers are heavy. After the last container is filled, he carries them one by one into his old Land Rover Defender. The drive home is cold. The heater doesn’t work. The snow skirts across the highway as Gunnar shivers and listens to The Boss all the way home. Why did he do all this? Hours of freezing labour? Gunnar uses the seawater to make his own salt. If you order the seven-course meal at Dill, Gunnar’s restaurant, you will notice a tiny pile of salt served with your bread and butter service. That’s it. All that for some teaspoons of salt.

“I really enjoy doing this,” Gunnar tells me when we reach his restaurant. “I usually go alone. I listen to The Boss and go outside and enjoy nature. I like to sit there and listen to the ocean, smell the ocean. In the summer, I forage for things. In the winter, I look at things. I don’t know any other chefs going out and collecting their own seawater. But, then again, I don’t know everything.”

Detail, Focus

Dill is a fine-dining restaurant located at Hverfisgata 12 in 101 Reykjavík. Dill uses techniques from New Nordic Cuisine, with a special emphasis on Icelandic ingredients. The dishes are seasonal, based on available ingredients, which Gunnar also forages, always on the lookout for something new and interesting.

“I started Dill with my friend a few days before the 2008 crash,” Gunnar says. “The money fell through, and we were considering going back to our old jobs with our tails tucked between our legs. But we decided to try plan B instead. It started out as

New Nordic Cuisine, but over the years it has become increasingly focused on Icelandic traditions and ingredients.”

Dill described in a word: detail. Gunnar described in a word: focus. He arrives in the morning and works with the other chefs prepping and chopping vegetables, slicing fish, and getting the fried pig skin ready to be smoked outside with hay and onion peels. Gunnar doesn’t seem to get upset or angry. He always seems present and in the moment—but always breaking into a smile when one of the other chefs fires off a joke. You can tell everyone enjoys working there. They take pride in what they do, and how they do it.

As Gunnar dices onions and peels celeriac, another chef brings in a large silver pot and a ladle. It’s the salt made from the seawater collected in Hvalfjörður. The chef carefully scoops the salt from the pot and places it on a pan lined with cooking paper—spreading the crystals out evenly in the pan.

“It takes a while to make: it takes hours to go get it and it takes days to slowly reduce it,” Gunnar says. “It’s not boiling; it’s

just steaming. The slower you do it, the better. It starts to crystallize and you take the crystals and put them in a flat pan. If there is still moisture, you put the crystals in the oven.”

Sometimes it works and sometimes it’s shit

Gunnar started making his own salt after observing how artisanal salt company Saltverk made their salts while researching his book, ‘North’, which focuses on local producers and their methods. Saltverk use a method from the 17th century—capitalizing on the proximity of geysers to the sea in Reykjanes, in the Westfjords. All the salt is made using geothermal energy. Originally, when Iceland was under Danish

rule, the production of salt was to sustain the Baccalá (salted cod) export from Iceland.

“We went to their company and looked at what they were doing. That’s when I realized how easy it was,” Gunnar says. “I still buy salt from them because, if I didn’t, all I would be doing is making salt. The salt we do make is used for our butter and bread service. We make enough to last two or three months.”

It wasn’t that easy, but that’s Gunnar’s attitude: try it. He takes risks. He’s always looking for better wine, better beer, better ingredients. He likes to joke that sometimes it works and sometimes it’s shit.

“We found out you need to collect it in

the right place,” Gunnar says. “You have to know the currents of the ocean. We collected seawater in the wrong places and it was a disaster. It tasted sandy.”

What Gunnar discovered is that the ocean is not static. It may look like any beach is as good as the other, but you need to find locations where the current is moving towards the shore, not out to sea. The water is clean and pure when it comes from the ocean, but when it’s heading out, it’s bringing with it debris from inland.

Works of art

Gunnar has the courage to learn by trial and error.

Dill only does a dinner service, beginning at 19:00. Every part of the seven-

course dinner has an intricate and precise technique of preparation. The cod is brined and slowly cooked at a very low temperature. The cod roe is prepared in near boiling water for five minutes—leaving it mousse-like and ready to be lightly fried in browned butter. The pork belly is ready. The potatoes have been placed in pressurized canisters to give them almost surreal creamy and fluffy consistency. The pickled onions are lightly torched to intensify the flavour. The level of detail for each dish would seem almost masochistic to the reluctant home cook—without taking into account the presentation.

Every dish is a work of art. If there were

some way to make ingredients sing, it would be the all-around aesthetic experience.

Before long guests start to enter and are seated. A few have called ahead warning that they are going to be late. A group of middle-aged American men laugh in unison while regaling each other with various tales of sexual harassment of young women they had committed in various countries (apparently forgetting that everyone speaks English and can hear them). A newlywed couple, as of that day, moan with every bite and lock eyes while smiling. A young man from Australia takes his first bite and immediately upgrades from the five-course to seven-course meal.

Dill is always full, understandably. If you walk back into the kitchen, you’ll find Gunnar, already on his next project after working all day preparing for dinner service. “I’ve just torched hundreds of apples and their cores,” Gunnar says. “I’m going to use everything. I will mix it with a nice beer and just let it ferment. This will be on the menu in three months—if it works.”

Dill restaurant is open 19:00–22:00. Reservations are required.



“I really enjoy doing this,” Gunnar tells me when we reach his restaurant. “I usually go alone. I listen to The Boss and go outside and enjoy nature. I like to sit there and listen to the ocean, smell the ocean.”

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LEMÚRINN

Do Sheep Care

About

A total eclipse of the sun in Iceland, 1954

Solar Eclipses?

Words
Lemúrinn

Photos
US National Archives and Records Administration

Many Icelanders will, weather conditions permitting, get to witness a solar eclipse on March 20. The last total eclipse of the sun in Iceland occurred on June 30, 1954, when, around midday, the southernmost parts of the country experienced a total eclipse for about a minute.

The event was widely covered in the Icelandic press, both before and after. On the day of the eclipse, newspaper Morgunblaðið promised those lucky enough to view the total eclipse an experience of such a “peculiar and mysterious nature it can hardly be described in words” and the day after, described it as the “most magnificent natural phenomenon” witnessed in Iceland since the Hekla eruption of 1947.

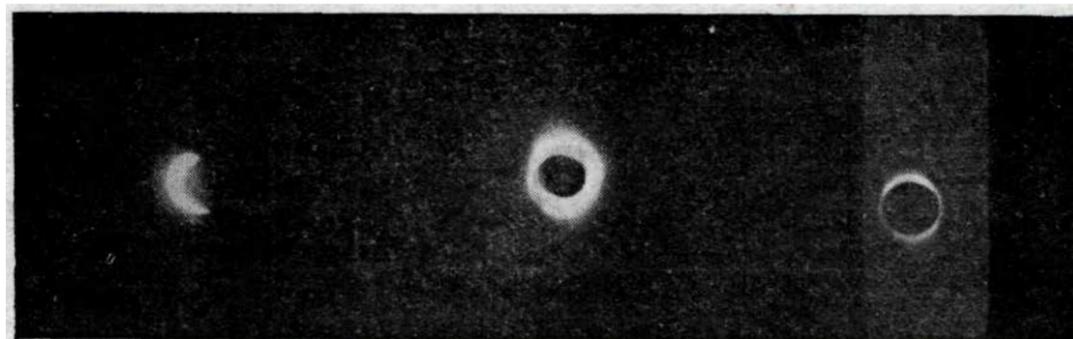
Of course, views of the eclipse were not limited to Iceland, and the next day Morgunblaðið reported a number of curious occurrences, for example that many women in Copenhagen seemed to have given birth to babies prematurely during the eclipse.

Many Icelanders were similarly interested in any effects the eclipse might have on nature or man. On the tiny island Dyrhólaey on Iceland’s south coast, one journalist set out to see this for himself.

Writing in Morgunblaðið’s weekly supplement some time after the eclipse, the journalist admitted that the whole thing had perhaps been slightly overhyped: “It is likely that many imagined that the darkness would be blacker than it turned out to be, as so much had been made of the darkness that was to be expected. It is possible that some were less impressed than they expected to be.”

The journalist went to Dyrhólaey having heard predictions that during solar eclipses “seabirds will flee out to sea, land birds will think night has fallen and crouch down, livestock will run together into a knot, the cows mooing, horses neighing and sheep bleating.”

He positioned himself on a cliff overlooking much of the island, keeping a close eye on the birds nesting in the nearby cliffs or circling around the island. Agents, stationed around the island, similarly monitored flocks of sheep,



cows and horses.

The result of this comprehensive survey were, perhaps, rather disappointing. The journalist reported that almost all birds he saw seemed to pay the eclipse no attention at all, registering no change in their behavior and hearing no “peculiar sounds” from their general direction. None of them fled out to sea, as had been predicted. The screeching birds

kept screeching, the nesting birds kept nesting. However, a few oystercatchers seemed to be taken aback, he reported, shrilling loudly and flying away as darkness fell.

Similarly, the flocks of sheep grazing in the hills of Dyrhólaey “seemed to pay no heed to this wonder of nature,” and just kept on grazing. Some hens went inside their henhouse as it got colder, and

a rooster, somewhat confused, crowed as the sun returned.

The horses did not seem to mind, either. Perhaps somewhat curiously, of two small groups of grazing cows observed, one group paid no attention, while the other momentarily stopped eating as the moon passed in front of the sun.

LAKE MÝVATN WINTER TOUR



DISCOVER THE NORTH

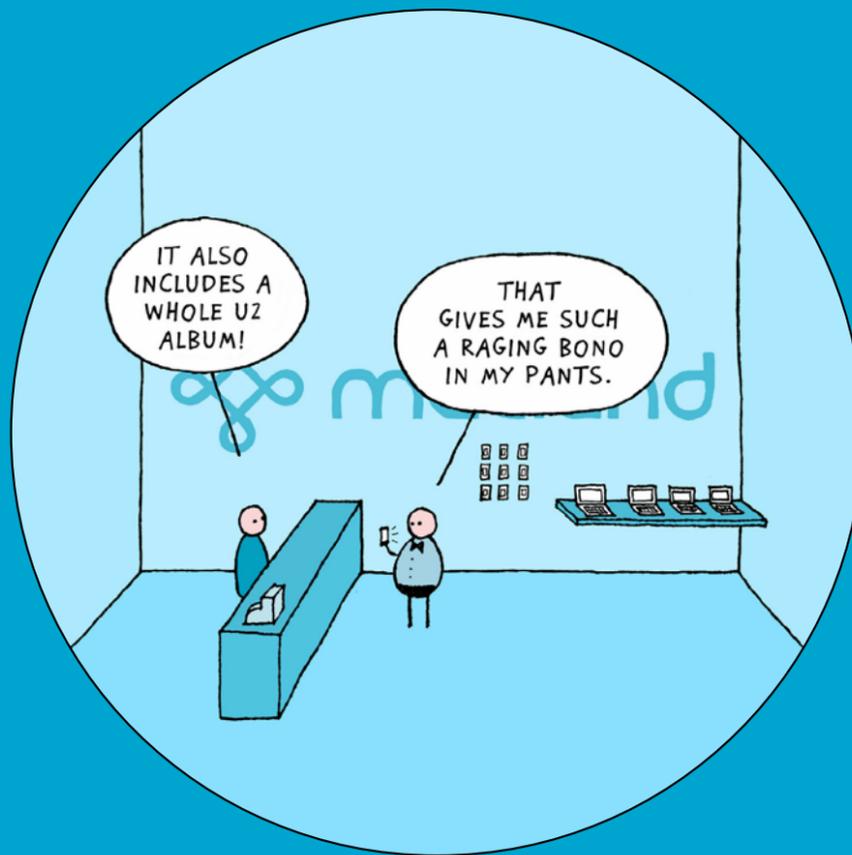


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P.18



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P.06



"In essence, the verdict confirms that Kaupthing was little more than a giant market-manipulation machine."

We finally jailed our bankers!

P.32



"Gunnar is setting up plastic containers on the black lava-rock beach. He fills each container—wading into the freezing water to dunk them underwater. Gunnar's breath is quick and short. The water is cold. The wind is cold. The snow is cold. The containers are heavy."

Tagging along with Dill chef Gunnar Gislaon is no joke!

P.34



"The journalist went to Dyrhólaey having heard predictions that during solar eclipses 'seabirds will flee out to sea, land birds will think night has fallen and crouch down, livestock will run together into a knot, the cows mooing, horses neighing and sheep bleating.'"

Icelanders had some wild ideas about Iceland's last total eclipse of the sun...



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Issue 3 - 2015

www.grapevine.is

Your essential guide to life, travel and entertainment in Iceland



7

March

HÚRRA GRAPEVINE!

We at the Grapevine just started a new and wonderful monthly concert series with our friends at Húrra where we aim to show some love to all that wonderful local talent we keep writing about. Our second instalment features none other than neo-psychedelia rockers **Singapore Sling** and garage rock band **Pink Street Boys**. Singapore Sling has been rocking through Reykjavík for fifteen years now, and have released six LPs in that time. Meanwhile, Pink Street Boys are the new kids on the block with only one LP released (but it's a great one), and have just embarked on their own musical journey. In between sets, **DJ Palli Banine** spins some choice records.

Note you'll have to pay **1,500 ISK** to get in, which you will happily do as all of that goes towards the artists performing.

Photo by Heiða Jónsdóttir



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MUSIC

CONCERTS & NIGHTLIFE

Mar 6 - Apr 9

How to use the listings: Venues are listed alphabetically by day. Events listed are all live performances, with troubadours and DJs specifically highlighted. For complete listings and detailed information on venues visit listings.grapevine.is. Send us your listings to: listings@grapevine.is.

Friday March 6

Bar 11
22:00 The Roulette / Alchemia / Elín Helena

Bar Ananas
22:00 DJ Styrmir Dansson

Boston
21:00 DJ Óli Dóri

Café Rosenberg
22:00 Árstíðir

Dillon
22:00 Hellvar

Dolly
22:00 Katnip

Dubliner
20:00 Troubadours Kjartan & Garðar

English Pub
22:00 Troubadours Ingi Valur / Eiki & Steini

Frederiksen Ale House
22:00 Vára

Gaukurinn
22:00 Nirvana Tribute Concert

Hressó
22:00 Spútínik

Húrra
22:00 Disco Owes Me Money #3

Kaffibarinn
23:00 DJ Símon FKNHNDMSM

KEX Hostel
20:00 Reykjavík Folk Festival: Kólga
20:40 Reykjavík Folk Festival: Lindy Vopnfjord
21:40 Reykjavík Folk Festival: Klassart
22:30 Reykjavík Folk Festival: Lay Low

Lebowski Bar
21:00 DJ Raggi / Jesús

Mengi
21:00 Vítor Ramil

Paloma
21:00 DJ Cosmic Bullshitter / Hyperboreans / LaFontaine / HaZaR / Sigrún Jónsdóttir & Hekla Magnúsdóttir

Prikið
21:00 DJ Danny vs Stefan XQR / Logi Pedro

Salurinn í Kópavogi
20:30 Jón Ólafsson & Guðrún Gunnarsdóttir

Stúdentakjallarinn
21:00 DJ Matti

Saturday March 7

Bar 11
22:00 HimBrimi / Mosi Musik

Bar Ananas
22:00 DJ Ívar Pétur from FM Belfast

Boston
21:00 DJ Sigrún Skaftadóttir

Café Rosenberg
22:00 Björn Hlynur & Band

Dolly
20:00 RVK DNB #8 / Sexitæm

Dubliner
20:00 Troubadour Andri

English Pub
22:00 Troubadours Ellert / Biggi

Frederiksen Ale House
22:00 Var

Háskólabíó
17:00 Johnny Cash Tribute Concert: John Carter Cash & Páll Rósinkranz
21:00 Johnny Cash Tribute Concert: John Carter Cash & Páll Rósinkranz



1
April

Furries Of Iceland, Unite!
Grumbling Fur / Sin Fang

Húrra

Naustin (D3) | 🕒 21:00 | 2,500 ISK

The FALK music and art collective is hosting an Easter concert for those who have better things to do than just munch on chocolaty goodness: a concert with British psychedelic folk-pop duo **Grumbling Fur!** The two long-time friends are veterans of the UK experimental underground scene, and bring a wealth of experience to the stage. Joining them is electronic lo-fi pop artist **Sin Fang**, who has received no lack of praise for his two albums 'Flowers' and 'Summer Echoes'. Heck, we at the Grapevine gave him the album and song of the year prizes at our second ever music awards! Go see what all the fuss is about. **GB**

26
March



Once More, With Feeling
Benedetti plays Mozart with the ISO

Harpa

Austurbakki 2 (C4) | 🕒 19:30 | 2,400 ISK

The Scottish-Italian violinist **Nicola Benedetti** will be playing selections from Mozart. You know, the stuff he wrote when he was 19. How's your life working out (I'm a 28-year-old intern)? She's also playing two pieces that were inspired by great painters. Classical music has been called inaccessible, but don't think that. Music is for everyone. Whenever it feels too overwhelming, remember this: "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star" is Mozart too. So dress up, or don't, and enjoy spectacular music in a great venue. Your soul will thank you. **YOU**



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MUSIC

CONCERTS & NIGHTLIFE

Hressó

22:00 Rokktrío Jonna Ólafs

Húrra

21:00 Húrra Grapevine #2: Singapore Sling / Pink Street Boys / DJ Palli Banine

KEX Hostel

20:00 Reykjavík Folk Festival: JP Hoe

20:40 Reykjavík Folk Festival: Bjössi Thors

21:40 Reykjavík Folk Festival: Pétur Ben

22:30 Reykjavík Folk Festival: Egill Ólafsson

Lebowski Bar

21:00 DJ Sandala Gústala / Anna Brá

Mengi

21:00 Nadja (duo)

Paloma

21:00 DJ Exos vs. YAMAHO / Steindór Jónsson

Prikið

21:00 DJ Árni Kocoon

Sunday March 8

Dubliner

22:00 Troubadour Garðar

English Pub

21:00 Troubadour Danni

Hressó

21:00 Live jazz jam Session

KEX Hostel

13:00 Cozy Sundays

Lebowski Bar

21:00 Sunday Funk: DJ Haraldur Einarss

Monday March 9

Dubliner

22:00 Troubadour Andri

English Pub

21:00 Troubadour Tryggvi

Húrra

21:00 Monday Jazz

Lebowski Bar

21:00 DJ Raggi

Tuesday March 10

Café Rosenberg

21:00 Bláskjár

Dubliner

22:00 Troubadour Gísli

English Pub

21:00 Troubadour Ingi Valur

Gaukurinn

19:00 Karaoke Night

Harpa

20:00 Master Pianist Series: Richard Goode

Húrra

21:00 DJ Ísar Logi

KEX Hostel

21:00 KexJazz

Lebowski Bar

21:00 DJ Halli Einarss

Wednesday March 11

Café Rosenberg

21:00 Buffið

Dolly

21:00 Affair DJ Night

Dubliner

22:00 Troubadour Kjartan

English Pub

21:00 Troubadour Arnar

Frederiksen Ale House

21:00 Lily of the Valley / Sister Sister / Milkhouse / November Pearls

Harpa

21:00 Múlinn-Jazz Club: Guðlaug Ólafs & Kristbjörn Helgason

Húrra

20:00 DJ Musician & Vindva Mei / DJ Silja Glömmi

Lebowski Bar

21:00 DJ Raggi

Thursday March 12

Bar Ananas

21:00 DJ Chris Fretwell

Boston

21:00 Thursday Grind: DJ Benson Is Fantastic

Café Rosenberg

21:00 Jónas Sig og Ritvélar framtíðarinnar

Dillon

21:00 Antimony Album Release Party / DÖPUR

Dolly

21:00 Emmsjé Gauti

Dubliner

22:00 Troubadour Roland

English Pub

21:00 Troubadours Magnús & Ívar

Gaukurinn

20:00 November Pearls / Lily of the Valley

Harpa

19:30 Iceland Symphony Orchestra: Helsing Conducts Sibelius

Húrra

21:00 Low Roar / Farao / DJ Óli Dóri

Lebowski Bar

21:00 DJ Vala



14

March

Do You Even Polka, Bro?

Pokahontaz / Blaz Roca

Gaukurinn

Tryggvagata 22 (D3) | ☎ 20:00 | 4,500 ISK

Pokahontaz is a rap group from Poland, and this show is going to be nuts. I feel weird even suggesting you go. Polish rap is a haunting mix of jagged tones and up-talk inflections. Actually, I don't know what it is. But what do I know? I can't even speak Icelandic. But I do know that it's going to be sold out. The Facebook event already has hundreds of confirmed attendees. Oh yeah, and **Blaz Roca**, a veteran of the Icelandic rap game and member of XXX Rotweiller, will be opening the show. **YOU**

Prikið

21:00 Með á nótnum: DJ Óli Dóri & YAMAHO

Salurinn í Kópavogi

20:00 Anna María Album Release Party

Friday March 13

Austurbær

20:00 Tom Jones Cover Band

Bar 11

22:00 Altostratus / Sígull

Bar Ananas

22:00 DJ Benson is Fantastic

Boston

21:00 DJ Kári

Café Rosenberg

22:00 Jónas Sig og Ritvélar framtíðarinnar

Dillon

22:00 November Pearls

Dolly

22:00 SunSura

Dubliner

20:00 St Patricks Weekend Special: Troubadours Gísli, Roland, Ellert & Brjánn

English Pub

22:00 Troubadours Tryggvi / Alexander & Guðmann

Frederiksen Ale House

22:00 Four leaves left / Ceasetone

Gaukurinn

22:00 Auðn Album Release Party / Grafir / Skuggsjá / Draugsól

Hressó

22:00 Flauel

Húrra

22:00 Muck Album Release Show / Oyama / Pink Street Boys / DJ Terrordisco

Lebowski Bar

21:00 DJ De La Rósa / Anna Brá

Mengi

17:00 FM Belfast DJ Set

Paloma

21:00 DJ KGB

Prikið

21:00 DJ Spegill spegill / JAY-O

Saturday March 14

Bar 11

22:00 Börn / Kvöl

Bar Ananas

22:00 DJ Hats for Clowns

Boston

21:00 DJ Sexitæm

Café Rosenberg

22:00 KK & Maggi

Dillon

22:00 Russian Girls / A&E Sounds

Dolly

22:00 DJ Kari

Dubliner

20:00 St Patricks Weekend Special: Troubadours Gísli, Roland, Ellert & Brjánn

English Pub

22:00 Troubadours Arnar & Ingunn / Hjálmar & Dagur

Frederiksen Ale House

22:00 Shady

Gaukurinn

20:00 Pokahontaz / Blaz Roca

Hressó

22:00 Kongó

Húrra

22:00 Boogie Trouble / DJ KGB

Langholtskirkja

14:00 Men's Choir Heimir

17:00 Men's Choir Heimir

Lebowski Bar

21:00 DJ Smutty Smiff / DJ Raggi

Paloma

21:00 RVK Soundsystem / DJ Hunk of a Man

Prikið

21:00 Emmsjé Gauti Inc.

Salurinn í Kópavogi

13:00 Valgerður Guðnadóttir, Þór Breiðfjörð & Felix Bergsson perform animated film music

Stúdentakjallarinn

19:00 Swedish Eurovision and Karaoke Night

Sunday March 15

Dubliner

22:00 Troubadour Garðar

English Pub

21:00 Troubadour Danni

Hressó

21:00 Live jazz jam Session

Húrra

21:00 Lowercase Night

KEX Hostel

13:00 Cozy Sundays

Lebowski Bar

21:00 DJ Haraldur Einarss

Nordic House

15:15 Hanna Dóra Sturludóttir & Caput perform Þuríður Jónsdóttir & Aldo Clementi

Salurinn í Kópavogi

16:00 Nordic Affect Baroque Concert

Monday March 16

Café Rosenberg

21:00 Ingvar Örn

Dubliner

22:00 Troubadour Andri

English Pub

21:00 Troubadour Ingi Valur

Húrra

21:00 Monday Jazz

Lebowski Bar

21:00 DJ Jesús

Tuesday March 17

Dubliner

20:00 St Patricks Day Extravaganza: Troubadours Gísli, Roland, Ellert & Brjánn

English Pub

21:00 Troubadour Tryggvi

Harpa

21:00 Múlinn-Jazz Club: Ástvaldur Zenki Traustason Trio

Húrra

21:00 DJ Finnur Pind

KEX Hostel

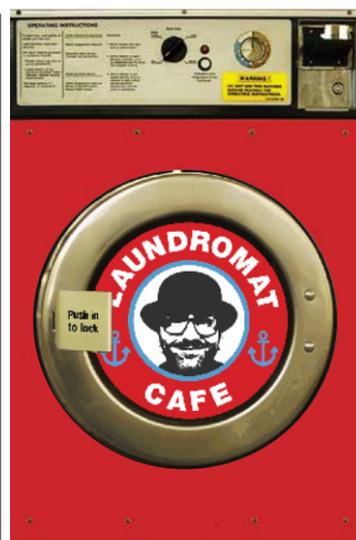
21:00 KexJazz

Lebowski Bar

21:00 Dj Halli The Dude

Prikið

21:00 DJ Volante



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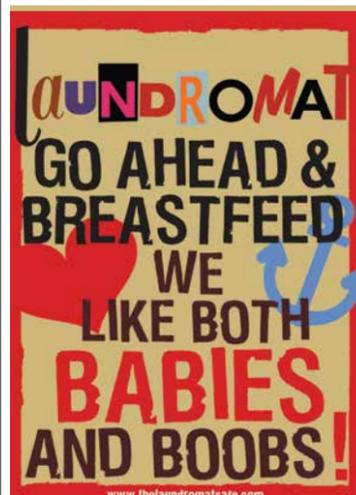
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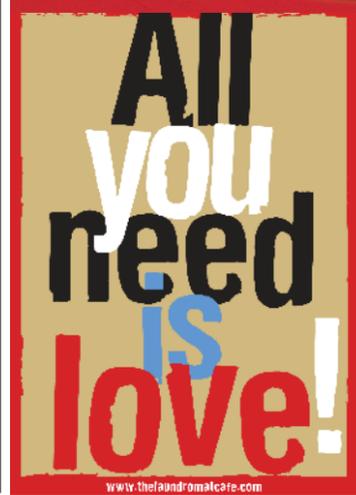
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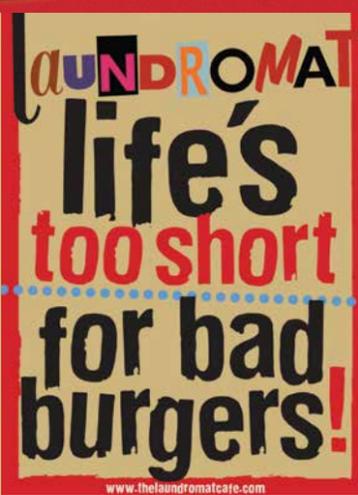
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MUSIC

CONCERTS & NIGHTLIFE

Salurinn í Kópavogi
19:00 Four on Tour Quartet perform
Classical music

Wednesday March 18

Café Rosenberg
21:00 Hinemoa
Dolly
21:00 Affair DJ Night
Dubliner
22:00 Troubadour Kjartan
English Pub
21:00 Troubadour Biggi
Gaukurinn
19:00 Karaoke Night
Hannesarholt
21:00 Gunnar Kvaran & Elísabet Waage
Húrra
21:00 Ben Frost
KEX Hostel
20:00 Konukot Benefit Concert
Lebowski Bar
21:00 DJ Anna Brá
Mengi
21:00 Meðgönguljóð Poetry Night
Prikið
21:00 Vinyl Wednesday: DJ Lord Kincaid Of Robotdisco
Salurinn í Kópavogi
12:15 Historie du Tango

Thursday March 19

Bar Ananas
21:00 DJ Atli Bolla
Café Rosenberg
21:00 Símon & Guests
Dillon
21:00 Ásta Fanney
Dubliner
22:00 Troubadour Roland
English Pub
21:00 Troubadours Hjálmar & Dagur
Húrra
20:00 Skúli Mennski / DJ Sunna Ben
Lebowski Bar
21:00 DJ Smutty Smiff
Mengi
21:00 Clemens Wilhelm
Paloma
21:00 DJ Creature of the Night
Prikið
21:00 DJ Introbeats
Salurinn í Kópavogi
20:30 Jón Ólafsson & Pálmi Gunnarsson

Friday March 20

Bar 11
22:00 Conflictions / Mercy Buckets / Grit Teeth
Bar Ananas
22:00 DJ Steindór Grétar
Boston
21:00 DJ Ómar Pálsson
Café Rosenberg
22:00 Svavar Knútur
Dolly
22:00 DJ KGB
Dubliner
20:00 Troubadours Kjartan & Ingvar
English Pub
22:00 Troubadours Andri / Alexander & Guðmann
Frederiksen Ale House
22:00 Kvika
Hressó
22:00 Vestanáttin
Húrra
21:00 Rökkurró / DJ Simon FKHNSM
Lebowski Bar
21:00 DJ Halli Einarss / Raggi
Mengi
21:00 The Richard Andersson Trio



6
March

Rock And Punk The Whole Night
The Roulette / Alchemia / Elín Helena

Bar 11

Hverfisgata 18 (E5) | ☎ 22:00 | Free!

Punk and rock and cheap beer! All night! Leading the charge at Bar 11 is newly formed band **The Roulette**, which describes itself as making "proggadelic conevo rock 'n' roll," marking them as hefty genre-benders. The other acts of the night are the melodic rock metal band **Alchemia** and the punk punk band (yes, that's right, they are double punk, more punk than everyone else) **Elín Helena**, whose songs feature poetic titles like, "Ljúga, ljúga, ljúga, ljúga, ljúga, ljúga, ljúga, ljúga..." (Lie, lie, lie...). Beers are on special offer until midnight, going for 350 ISK a pop, or 1,000 ISK with a shot as well. **STM**

Paloma
21:00 DJ Krystal Carma
Prikið
21:00 DJ Gay Latino Man
Stúdentakjallarinn
21:00 DJ Víðir og Dýrið
Salurinn í Kópavogi
20:00 Sætabrauðsdrengirnir

Saturday March 21

Bar Ananas
21:00 DJ Styrmir Dansson
Café Rosenberg
22:00 Svanhildur Jakobs & The Boys
Dolly
22:00 DJ Introbeats
Dubliner
20:00 Troubadour Andri
English Pub
22:00 Troubadours Alexander & Guðmann / Eiki & Steini
Frederiksen Ale House
22:00 Klassart
Gaukurinn
19:00 Ottoman
Hressó
22:00 Sólon
Lebowski Bar
21:00 DJ Sandala Gústala / Jesús
Paloma
21:00 DJ Kári
Prikið
21:00 DJ Árni Kocoon
Salurinn í Kópavogi
20:00 Sætabrauðsdrengirnir

Sunday March 22

Dubliner
22:00 Troubadour Garðar

English Pub
21:00 Troubadour Danni
Hressó
21:00 Live jazz jam Session
KEX Hostel
13:00 Cozy Sundays

Monday March 23

Café Rosenberg
21:00 Mamiko
Dubliner
22:00 Troubadour Andri
English Pub
21:00 Troubadour Tryggvi
Húrra
21:00 Monday Jazz
Lebowski Bar
21:00 DJ Anna Brá

Tuesday March 24

Café Rosenberg
21:00 1860
Dubliner
22:00 Troubadour Gísli
English Pub
21:00 Troubadour Ingi Valur
Gaukurinn
19:00 Karaoke Night
Húrra
20:00 Katrín Helga / Harpa Fönn / Bláskjár
KEX Hostel
21:00 KexJazz
Lebowski Bar
21:00 DJ Haraldur Einarss

Hressingarskálinn (Hressó) 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 Hressó heats up with **live music**. Weekends, **DJs** keep the party going until morning, with no cover charge

MUSIC

CONCERTS & NIGHTLIFE

Wednesday March 25

Café Rosenberg
21:00 Eglá
Dolly
21:00 Affair DJ Night
Dubliner
22:00 Troubadour Kjartan
English Pub
21:00 Troubadour Arnar
Frederiksen Ale House
22:00 Unnur Sara
Gaukurinn
22:00 Antimony / Dulvitund
Húrra
21:00 Rúnar Þórisson / Himbrimi / DJ Myth & Lazybones
Lebowski Bar
21:00 DJ Jesús
Mengi
21:00 múm perform to 'Menschen am Sonntag'
Prikið
21:00 Vinyl Wednesday: DJ Kári

Thursday March 26

Bar Ananas
21:00 DJ Stymir Dansson
Boston
21:00 Tom Selleck - MUSTACHE COMPETITION
Café Rosenberg
21:00 Quiet People
Dillon
21:00 Stronger Sex
Dolly
21:00 Guilty Pleasure DJ Night
Dubliner
22:00 Troubadour Roland
English Pub
21:00 Troubadours Magnús & Ívar
Harpa
19:30 Iceland Symphony Orchestra: Benedetti Plays Mozart
Húrra
21:00 Dulvitund / Antimony
Lebowski Bar
21:00 DJ Vala
Mengi
21:00 Önnur Stundin
Prikið
21:00 Mosaic Music Productions DJ Set

Friday March 27

Bar 11
22:00 Jón Þór / Knife Fights
Bar Ananas
22:00 DJ Óli Dóri
Café Rosenberg
22:00 Helter Skelter Beatles Cover Band performs 'The White Album'
Dillon
22:00 Brain Police
Dolly
22:00 Lagaffe Tales DJ Night
Dubliner
20:00 Troubadours Roland & Gísli
English Pub
22:00 Troubadours Hjálmar & Dagur / Biggi
Frederiksen Ale House
22:00 Stronger Sex
Hressó
22:00 Langi Sel og Skuggarnir
Húrra
22:00 DJ Ívar Pétur
Lebowski Bar
21:00 DJ Halli / Anna Brá
Mengi
21:00 Vortex
Nordic House
20:00 Icelandic Flute Ensemble
Paloma
21:00 DJ KGB
Prikið
21:00 DJ Moonshine

Saturday March 28

Bar Ananas
22:00 DJ Atli Bolla
Café Rosenberg
22:00 Bjóssi Thor & Lacey Walker
Dolly
22:00 DJ Hausar vs. Borg LTD
Dubliner
20:00 Troubadours Roland & Andri
English Pub
22:00 Troubadours Arnar & Ingunn / Siggí Þorbergs
Frederiksen Ale House
22:00 Ljónagryfjan: Reykjavíkurdætur's Music Festival
Háskólabíó
19:30 Guns n' Roses Tribute Concert
Hressó
22:00 Dixon
Húrra
22:00 DJ KGB
Lebowski Bar
21:00 DJ Jesús / De La Rósa
Mengi
21:00 NOLO
Nordic House
20:00 Icelandic Flute Ensemble & Guests



28
March

Kick Yer Blues Away Reykjavík Blues Festival Street Party

Skólavörðustígur

Opening Ceremony Mar 28 🕒 14:00 | Free! | Festival Mar 28 - Apr 2

This year The Reykjavík Blues Festival celebrates the 100th Birthdays of Willie Dixon and Muddy Waters. The festival starts with a street party for the festival's "Blues Day"—playing blues to the folks just bumming around Skólavörðustígur. This year's headliners are legendary: **Bob Margolin**, **Bob Stroger**, and **Debbie Davies**. **The Vintage Caravan**, who wowed the festival a few years back with their debut, will be returning to set the stage on fire again. We know it's cold, but winter is almost over. Let blues warm you up, and take your troubles away. **YOU**

Paloma
21:00 DJ Kári
Prikið
21:00 DJ Logi Pedro

Sunday March 29

Dubliner
22:00 Troubadour Garðar
English Pub
21:00 Troubadour Danni
Hafnarborg
20:00 Phonemes
Hressó
21:00 Live jazz jam Session
Lebowski Bar
21:00 DJ Halli Einarss

Monday March 30

Dubliner
22:00 Troubadour Andri
English Pub
21:00 Troubadour Ingi Valur
Húrra
21:00 Monday Jazz
Lebowski Bar
21:00 DJ Jesús

Tuesday March 31

Café Rosenberg
21:00 Óregla
Dubliner
22:00 Troubadour Gísli
English Pub
21:00 Troubadour Tryggvi
Gaukurinn
19:00 Karaoke Night
Hilton Reykjavík Nordica
20:00 Reykjavík Blues Festival: KK band / Blúsband Björgvins Gíslasonar / Blúsaðasta band
Húrra
21:00 DJ Davíð Roach
KEX Hostel
21:00 KexJazz
Lebowski Bar
21:00 DJ Halli The Dude

Wednesday April 1

Café Rosenberg
21:00 Bigga Gunn's Jazz Band
Dolly
21:00 DJ Sexitæm vs. Kanilsnældur
Dubliner
22:00 Troubadour Kjartan
English Pub
21:00 Troubadour Ellert
Hilton Reykjavík Nordica
20:00 Reykjavík Blues Festival: Bob Margolin / Bob Strøget / Blue Ice band
Húrra
21:00 Grumbling Fur / Sin Fang

Thursday April 2

Dubliner
22:00 Troubadour Roland
English Pub
21:00 Troubadours Hjálmar & Dagur
Harpa
19:30 Jesus Christ Superstar
22:30 Jesus Christ Superstar

Hilton Reykjavík Nordica
20:00 Reykjavík Blues Festival: Debbie Davis / Blue Ice Band / The Vintage Caravan
Mengi
21:00 Kría Brekkan

Friday April 3

English Pub
22:00 Troubadours Ingi Valur / Biggi
Mengi
21:00 Guðlaugur Óttarsson

Saturday April 4

Café Rosenberg
21:00 Ellen K, Eypór G & Daughters
English Pub
22:00 Troubadours Alexander & Guðmann / Eiki & Steini
Hressó
22:00 Dalton
Mengi
21:00 DJ flugvél og geimskip

Sunday April 5

Dubliner
22:00 Troubadour Garðar
Hressó
21:00 Live Jazz Jam Session

Monday April 6

Dubliner
22:00 Troubadour Andri
English Pub
21:00 Troubadour Tryggvi
KEX Hostel
21:00 KexJazz

Tuesday April 7

Dubliner
22:00 Troubadour Gísli
English Pub
21:00 Troubadour Ingi Valur
Gaukurinn
19:00 Karaoke Night
KEX Hostel
21:00 KexJazz
Stúdentakjallarinn
20:00 Ableton Live Night

Wednesday April 8

Dubliner
22:00 Troubadour Kjartan
English Pub
21:00 Troubadour Arnar Friðriks

Thursday April 9

Dubliner
22:00 Troubadour Roland
English Pub
21:00 Troubadours Alexander & Guðmann
Harpa
19:30 Iceland Symphony Orchestra: Evening with Mozart



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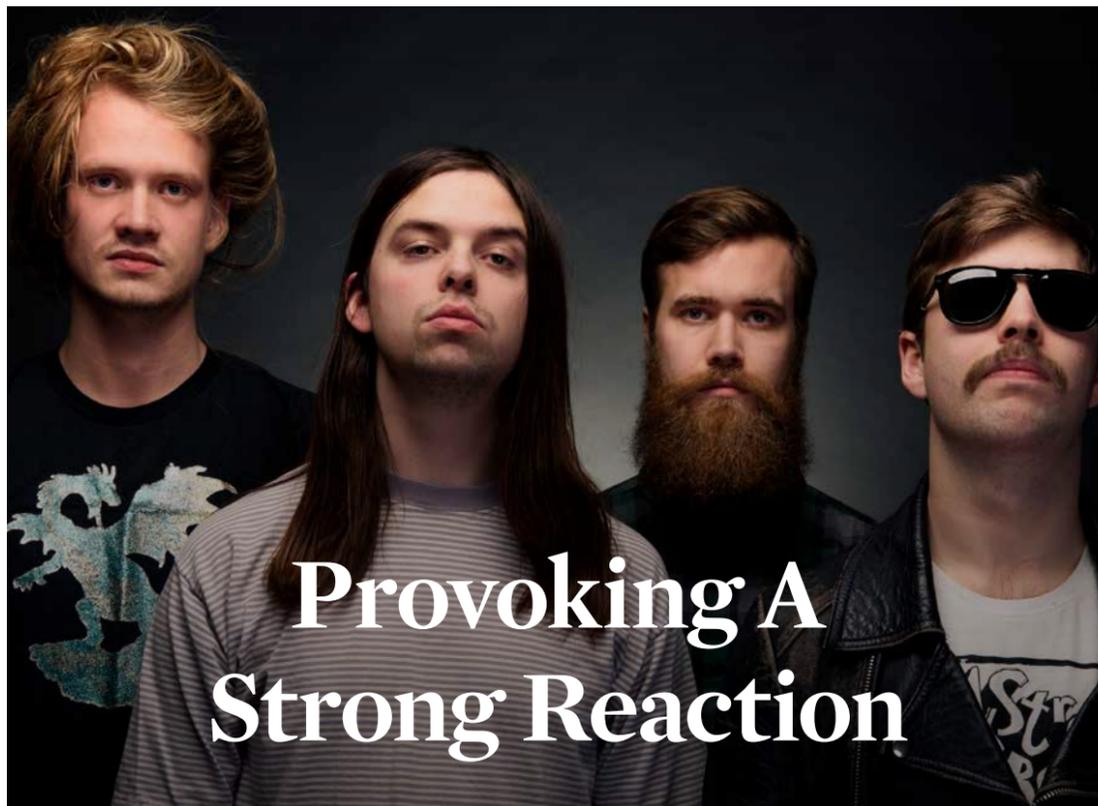


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MUSIC

ON YOUR OWN



Muck / Oyama / Pink Street Boys

🕒 March 13 at 21:00

📍 Húrra 2,000 ISK

Words Gabriel Benjamin

Photo Matthew Eisman

Hey! You! Check it out: Artcore noisemasters Muck are celebrating the release of their new awesome album 'Your Joyous Future' by throwing a concert at Húrra, drafting in their friends from Oyama and Pink Street Boys to ensure the party's near-certain blow-out status. It's sure to be quite the bash: Muck are at an exciting point in their career, scoring rave reviews from fancy international publications like Kerrang!, Metal Hammer and Noisey. They're all poised to engulf 2015. The Year Of Muck, they're calling it.

Even this humble street rag thinks it's pretty great (read a couple of reviews on page 27)—indeed, we're currently working on an in-depth, long-ass profile interview for your benefit. To carry you over until then, here's a taste of things to come.

"I know people talk about how deadly the second album can be," Muck's talkative drummer Ási tells me as we excitedly discuss the band's then-imminent sophomore effort—"but that's just bullshit. People in the punk world are too busy thinking about other things than that kind of pressure. And besides, nobody's going to get famous or rich playing this kind of music." Long-haired guitar slayer Kalli steps in to note that second album pressure is maybe a thing for mega hit bands like Of Monsters and Men—"but 'Slaves' fucking sucks compared to our new album!"

Ási concurs, adding that even if there were some interesting ideas on the pre-

vious album, it was much too crowded, a mistake they avoided repeating: "We knew we had to take our good ideas and simplify them, delivering them more clearly than before. 'Your Joyous Future' has much

better song structures, and the band's chemistry has taken leaps and bounds. We've learned a lot about what kind of music we want to make and how to make it."

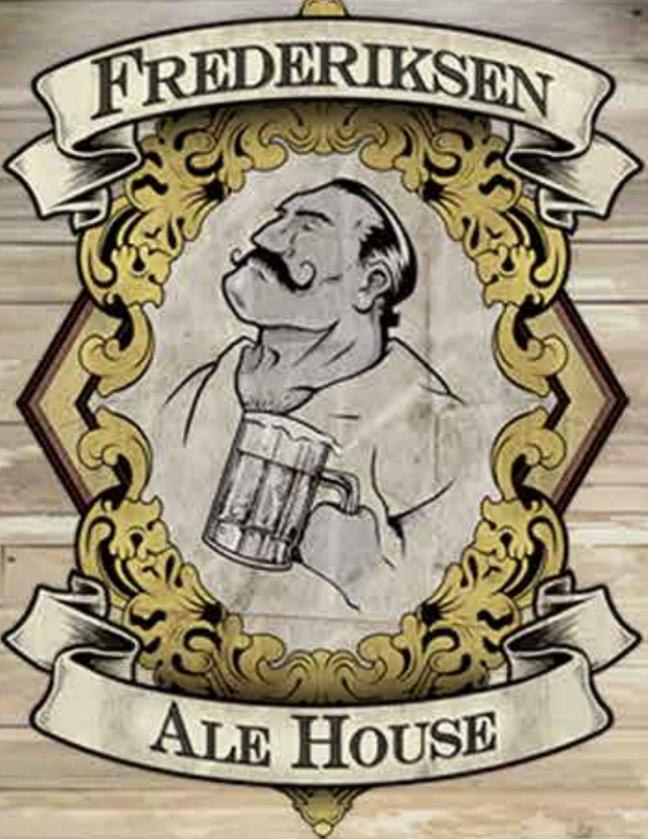
One of the milestones in the band's transformation into the monster it has become came at the end of 2012, when they went on an artists' residency in New York to record more material. Having written, rehearsed and created an album's worth of songs, they crammed in a quick session

over a weekend where they recorded the whole album in one go before hopping on a plane. When they then got to the US, they were left with nothing to do but create more material, get into a creative zone and rekindle their love of music.

"It was incredibly maturing for me as an individual and us as a band to completely disconnect from what was going on at home and just create," chilled out bassist Loftur says, the rest of the band soberly nodding along. "I had no money, no chores and no obligations, and it reminded me why I love making music. Now when I'm playing with my band, I just feel like we're hanging out at the playground."

--
[See you in the pit.](#)

"Nobody's going to get famous or rich playing this kind of music."



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A Hundred Years Later

Icelanders celebrate the 100 year anniversary of women's suffrage



Words **Gabriel Benjamin**

Photo From the archives of the Reykjavik Museum of Photography

Icelandic suffragettes reaped the fruits of their labour in 1915, one hundred years ago, when women over the age of 40 were given the right to vote (followed by all adult women five years later). Celebrating this momentous anniversary, the Reykjavik City council's Forsætisnefnd ("Presidential Committee") will be promoting a hundred events this year that highlight the work of women or are connected to women's issues. We met with Sóley Tómasdóttir at her City Hall office to find out what Reykjavik has planned to mark the occasion.

Sóley sits on the City Council on behalf of the Left-Green Party, and is an outspoken feminist. She's humble about her role in the committee, and states that they are all working hard to put together the schedule for the upcoming months. "My role there is facilitating that as many organisations and people as possible have the opportunity to host events and work with the city and partake in the celebrations."

She says the planned events vary in size, scope and subject, with some being organised by the grassroots feminist movement, and others by more civic-minded groups. "There are even events being planned by an organisation of women in the fisheries sector, one I didn't even know existed," she says.

Lending a helping feminist hand

While the committee doesn't have much of a budget, what they have—in spades—Sóley tells me, are resources. "There was for example a self-defence course planned for women which they were struggling to find a venue for," she says, "and we were able to find a gymnasium that suited their needs. We have a lot of people working for the city that have very specific skillsets, who can help organisers with all sorts of tasks."

Other planned events include a rock camp for girls aged thirteen to sixteen, art exhibitions, rallies, and panel discussions. "One event that we're particularly excited about is the International Women's Day, at Iðnó, which is happening this Sunday, March 8," Sóley says. "It's organised by the culture and peace organisation MFÍK (which is run entirely by women), and features an interesting presentation."

Sóley says the event will focus on feminism and fascism, presenting them as opposing forces and highlighting how a greater emphasis on feminism can combat the wave of fascism that's been washing over Europe in the last few years. "It's a very exciting idea, and very topical in the current discussion of democracy in Iceland."

Speaking of democracy, Sóley says the city council has approved a resolution to denominate March 31 as a day that the city council seats will be filled exclusively by women. "On that day we'll pass motions that have to do with women's rights and welfare matters," she says. One topic in particular has been on Sóley's mind: revenge porn. "I don't believe there is a more potent weapon for the patriarchy to keep women in place than revenge porn," she says. "It has the potential to destroy girls' lives and limit their ability to partake in political life in the future."

Events and female empowerment

These one hundred, independently organised events are all meant to display how celebrating things in a feminist manner is, simply put, fun. Sóley is confident that after witnessing so many events with feminist undertones over the course of a year, organisers will see a benefit in continuing that trend.

The committee will promote numerous events through mainstay festivals and events like RIFF, Reykjavik Pride and the National Day in Iceland, as well as on June 19, which is Women's Rights Day in Iceland, and October 24, which is the day that women in Iceland go on strike to protest the gender-based wage gap (this has been an annual occurrence for the past 40 years). Until then, here are a few select events in the coming month.



"Feminism Against Fascism,"
Iðnó, March 8 at 15:00

The culture and peace organisation MFÍK gives a presentation on how feminism is useful in the fight against fascism. This is followed by performance by folk

band Hljómsveitin Eva and a panel discussion lead by Kolbrún Halldórsdóttir and Gyða Margrét Pétursdóttir, featuring Sóley Anna Jónsdóttir, Drífa Snædal and Margrét Steinarsdóttir. The event is in English and accessible, and there is no admission fee.

'Kynlegar Tölur' pamphlet published, March 8

The pamphlet, printed and distributed by the city of Reykjavik, features an assortment of graphs, charts and statistics highlighting some gender-based differences in society. Amongst these are the gender distribution of top managers of financial institutions and other leadership positions; the number of yearly traffic accidents and what kind, by gender; the number of vasectomies versus tubal ligations; emigration and immigration by gender; media representation by gender; and so on.

Unveiling of monument for author Ásta Sigurðardóttir, April 1

The late author Ásta Sigurðardóttir will be honoured with a plaque in her name, with descriptions in Icelandic and English. Ásta is known for, amongst other things, writing one of the first modernist short stories, "Í hvaða vagni?", back in 1953.

'The Water Carrier -Mountain+Woman' by Ásmundur Sveinsson, Reykjavik Art Museum: Ásmundarsafn, runs until April 26

The late sculptor whom the museum is named after, Ásmundur Sveinsson, made a piece called "The Water Carrier" in 1937. At the time, although water carriers were some of the worst paid workers of the city, the profession enforced an equal pay policy. In celebration of the women's suffrage centennial, Ásmundur's piece, along with six others, will be put on display.



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Árbær Open Air Museum



The Settlement Exhibition



Reykjavik Maritime Museum



Viðey Island



Reykjavik Museum of Photography



More information in the Museums & Galleries section.

Reykjavik City Museum

ART OPENINGS



Everything You'd Expect From Fashion Designs 'UN PEU PLUS' by Helga Björnsson

Museum of Design and Applied Art

Garðatorg 1, 210 Garðabær | Feb 6-May 31 | ☹️ Tu-Su 12-19 | 500 ISK

Fashion designer and costume maker Helga Björnsson was a student of haute couture with Louis Féraud in Paris. Her sketches are on display at the Museum of Design and Applied Art and are exactly what you think fashion designs should be—minimally drawn female models that make Barbie look proportionate, beneath enormous clothes drawn in pencil with messy colours spilling over the lines. They are certainly beautiful and may make you think of Audrey Hepburn in a tiara holding a cigarette holder. **AM**

'Cairns' by Jónína Guðnadóttir

This exhibition is artist Jónína Guðnadóttir's attempt to reflect on her youth, growing up in Iceland in the middle of the last century. On display are sculptures and wall works that combine diverse materials such as concrete, glass and ceramics.

Opens March 28
Runs until May 10

Harpa

Reykjavík Fashion Festival 2015: Fashion Shows

The Reykjavík Fashion Festival was started in 2009 and has been a venue for Icelandic design and fashion ever since, affording designers the opportunity to show off their work. This year's fashion show showcases the works of Sigga Maija, JÖR, Another Creation, Scintilla, MAGNEA and EYLAND.

Opens March 13
Runs until March 14

Kling & Bang

'TENDER BEND' by Una Björg Magnúsdóttir

Una Björg recently graduated from the Iceland Academy of the Arts and although she has participated in several art events, this is her first private exhibition. Combining sculpture and drawings, the idea for the exhibition was born from observing an assembly conveyor at a dry cleaner, and uses repetitive movements to fill the space.

Opens March 7
Runs until March 29

Listamenn Gallerí

'Onetonine' by Sara Riel

Artist Sara Riel's newest exhibit is an exploration of the art of mathematics through visual arts, music, mathematics and science. There is a special opening party on March 7 at 17:00.

Opens March 7
Runs until March 23

Mengi

Greener on the other side - International video art festival

Displaying the works of several German video artists, this festival was started by Clemens Wilhelm and tackles the issues facing a globalised generation.

Running on March 19

Nordic House

'Evolution in the Pollution' by Inga María Brynjarsdóttir

Inga María shows how animals are affected by pollution in her exhibition in the foyer of the Nordic House. She works with drawings and motion pictures, drawing inspiration from nature and wildlife.

Opens March 7
Runs until March 22

'Persona - Memories and the complex self' by Laufey Jónsdóttir

This show is an exploration of the human being through mixed-media artworks. Laufey Jónsdóttir bases her art on interviews which she uses to create three-dimensional portraits. Laufey holds a degree in fashion design from the Iceland Academy of the Arts and is the chair of the Icelandic Fashion Council. Along with her extensive experience in fashion, she has also worked on numerous projects as an illustrator.

Opens March 12
Runs until March 29

Mar 6 - Apr 9

How to use the listings: Venues are listed alphabetically by day. For complete listings and detailed information on venues visit listings.grapevine.is. Send us your listings to: listings@grapevine.is

Opening

Anarkía

'Berlín Krýsuvík' by Guðlaugur Bjarnason

In this photo exhibit, sculptor Guðlaugur Bjarnason displays a series of photos from Iceland and Berlin where he lived from 1995 to 2012 and participated in many art exhibitions and projects. Guðlaugur also wrote a poem, inspired by his photographic projects, that will be performed during the exhibition in accompaniment to the musical piece 'Weather Changes' by Ingibjörg Azimu.

Opens March 7
Runs until March 29

ASÍ Art Gallery

'TRANSPPOSITION' by Jón Axel Björnsson

Jón Axel's exhibition characterises the dissolution of the shelter as an essential aspect of the human condition. His work uses large blocks of colour and black to present a feeling of marginalisation of man. There are two more floors at ASÍ showing Jón Axel's work. The ground floor displays a collection of his watercolours in a similar theme that feature isolated men in situations they do not understand. The lower ground floor shows sculptures Jón Axel exhibited at the same gallery fifteen years ago.

Opens March 7
Runs until March 29

Gallery Tukt

'Exhibition by Students at Breiðholt College'

This selection of works by students is based on the concepts of autonomy and independence, presented in multiple mediums. There is a special opening party on March 21 at 15:00.

Opens March 21
Runs until July 7

Hafnarborg

'Gray Area' by David Taylor

This exhibition of new works by Scottish designer David Taylor follows his trend of making art from non-traditional materials that often borders on sculpture. He works in a grey area, between art and design which he chooses to call "contemporary craft." There is a special opening party on March 12 at 18:00, with guided talks on March 13 at 12:30 and March 15 at 15:00.

Opens March 7
Runs until March 16

'MEN'

The exhibition focuses on the status of men at the beginning of the 21st century and how it's changed with women's increased rights and participation in the workforce. On display are works by Curver Thoroddsen, Finnur Arnar Arnarson, Hlynur Hallsson, and Kristinn G. Harðarson.

Opens March 28
Runs until May 10



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Summer (1. May-15. September)
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WHAT'S INSIDE

Reykjavík Map | Happy Hour Guide | Places We Like | Best Of Reykjavík | Practical Info

Reykjavík

March 6 - April 9

Keep it in your pocket

FIVE WEEKS

The Grapevine picks the events, places and what to experience in the next five weeks

7 March

Festival

Short Films Galore

5-26 March

Theatre

An Honest Look At Life



A Play By Finnbogi Þorkell Jónsson

Nordic House (H2) | Mar 6, 8, 13, 14, 26

This biographical monologue play is based on two years of interviews with Garðar Sölvi Helgason, who describes how he learned to successfully cope with schizophrenia through a system of rewards. The play provides an informative and blunt yet comical look at the life of a schizophrenic, which may provide solutions for people in a similar position. Finnbogi, the author of the play, also performs it. It is directed by award-winning director Árni Kristjánsson and the music is composed by Svavar Knútur. **RÓG**

Music

It's Karaoke Night!



Wednesday Karaoke Night

Gaukurinn (D3) | Wednesdays 🕒 19:00 | Free!

Like to sing? Like to listen to others as talented as you? Then this is your chance, because Gaukurinn has just started its weekly karaoke nights! Oh, and there will also be open mic nights as well, where you can do whatever you want: tell jokes, perform songs, read some of your poems. And if that doesn't tickle your fancy, Gaukurinn has also set up a cosy console corner. There's no need to register in advance, just show up and enjoy. **STM**



Örvarpið Short Film Festival

Bío Paradís | 🕒 18-21 | Free!

Örvarpið began as a weekly short film feature on the Icelandic National Broadcasting Service's website, but has since expanded into a whole festival. Twelve short films from Örvarpið have been selected for the upcoming screening, along with a few others handpicked by the festival's managers, making a total of twenty short films shown. With a wide variety of films, including documentaries, animation, and dance films, everyone should find something to suit their taste. At the end of the festival the Short Film of the Year will be awarded. The festival's guest of honour is writer Andri Snær Magnason. **RÓG**

STAND UP COMEDY in Reykjavík

Mið-Ísland Every Thurs, Fri, & Sat.

Leikhúskjallarinn @ 20:00 (Thu, Fri, Sat) & 22:30

(Fri, Sat)

Stand Up super group, Mið - Ísland, deliver laughs in bulk.

3,500 ISK

March 12

Bar 11 @ 21:30

Jón Magnús Arnarsson, Leifur Leifsson, Greipur Hjaltason, Andri Ívarsson, **Rökki Vésteinsson (host)**, Bylgja Babylóns & York Underwood (CA). **1,000 ISK**

March 19

Stúdentakjallarinn @ 21:00

Bylgja Babylóns hosts this stand up comedy show featuring Snjólaug Lúðvicksdóttir, Þórdís Nadia Semichat, Hugleikur Dagsson and more! **FREE!**

March 21

Húrra @ 21:00

Hugleikur Dagsson at Hí á Húrra. Last month this show was packed and had three hilarious performances. Don't miss this. **FREE!**

March 26

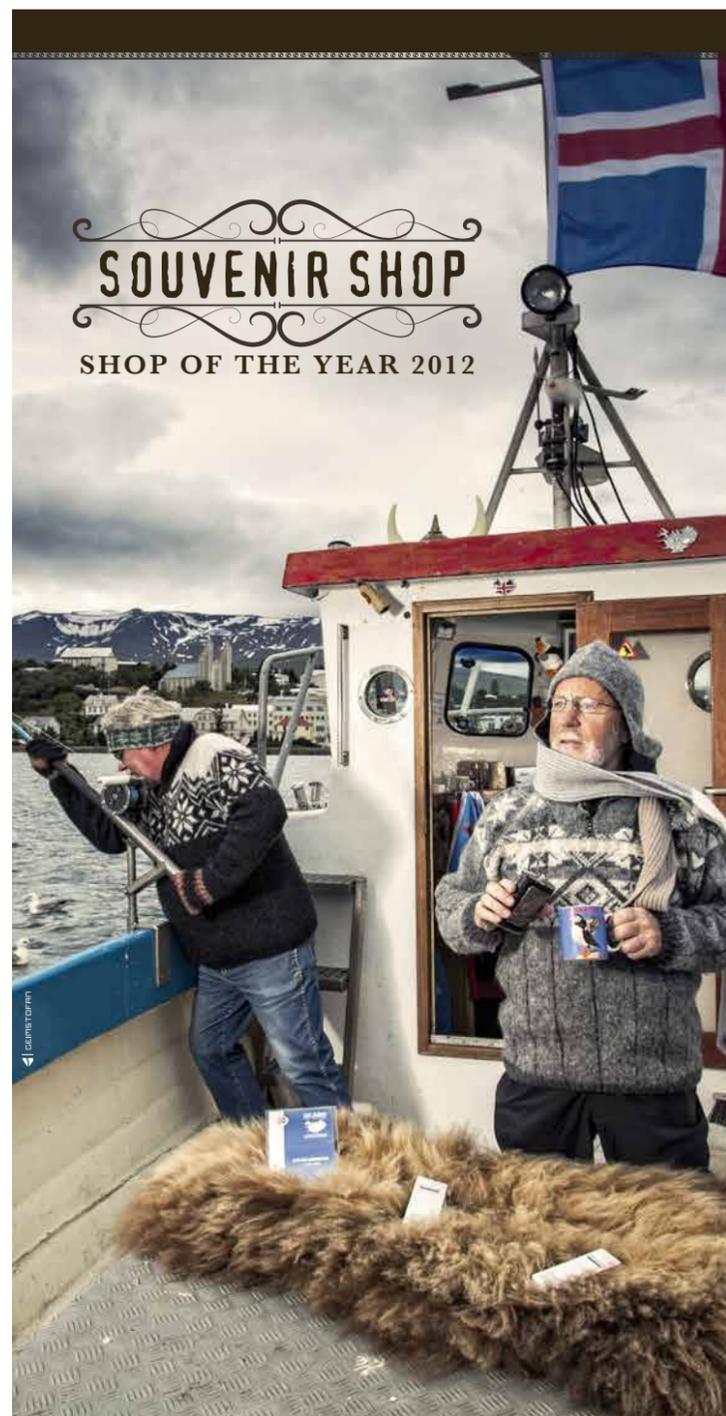
Bar 11 @ 21:30

Experimental Gig with loads of laughs. Come see newcomers, amateurs, and pros work out new material...or die trying. **FREE!**

March 26

Spot @ 21:00

Snjólaug Lúðvicksdóttir is spitting funny for Mottumars, or Mustache March. Proceeds go to Prostate and Rectal Cancer Research. Other comedians include: Hugleikur Dagsson, Bylgja Babylóns, and the musical funny man, **Andri Ívarsson**. **2,500 ISK**



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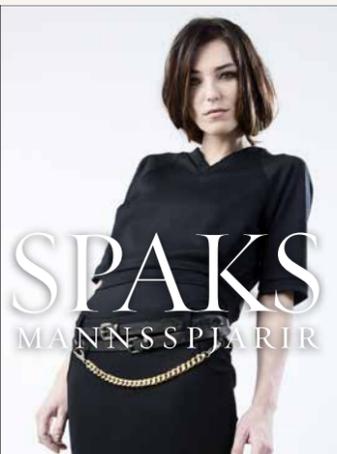
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A



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C

MAP

Places We Like

Eating

1 Tapas Húsið

Ægisgarður 2
 Tapas Húsið is a cosy place by the harbour which specialises in Spanish tapas. It offers anything from bacalao gratin to goat cheese and beetroot with cardamom and pistachios. Their mission is to connect Icelandic food with Spanish cuisine, thereby creating an eclectic menu.

2 Hamborgarafabrikan

Katrínartún 2
 Reykjavík's premier burger "factory" offers up some of the fanciest and craziest burgers in town. The restaurant, owned and operated by two local TV celebs, pulls off some adventurous takes on the classic meat-and-buns. Check out the 'Lamburger' and that crazy chicken breast thing that will make you want to try the whole menu.

3 Gallery Restaurant

Hótel Holt, Bergstaðastræti 37
 Truly one of Iceland's finest dining establishments, Hótel Holt's Gallery Restaurant has been a local staple since opening in 1965. Their consistently outstanding take on French cuisine and impeccable service ensures the highest marks (as well as repeat visits) from gourmets and critics alike.

4 KEX Hostel

Skúlagata 28
 KEX Hostel is the darling of Reykjavík hipsters and professionals and their visiting peers from abroad, drawing crowds daily. With its great views and cheap accommodation, excellent dining and choice beer selection—along with an abundance of exciting events—you don't have to wonder why.

5 Hraðlestin

Lækjargata 8
 Despite being the faster and more affordable cousin to one of the top restaurants in the country, Austurindíafélagið, flavour is never compromised by promptness. Their short selection of authentic Indian cuisine is cooked with the finest ingredients, the spices are masterfully blended and the experience is wholly satisfying.

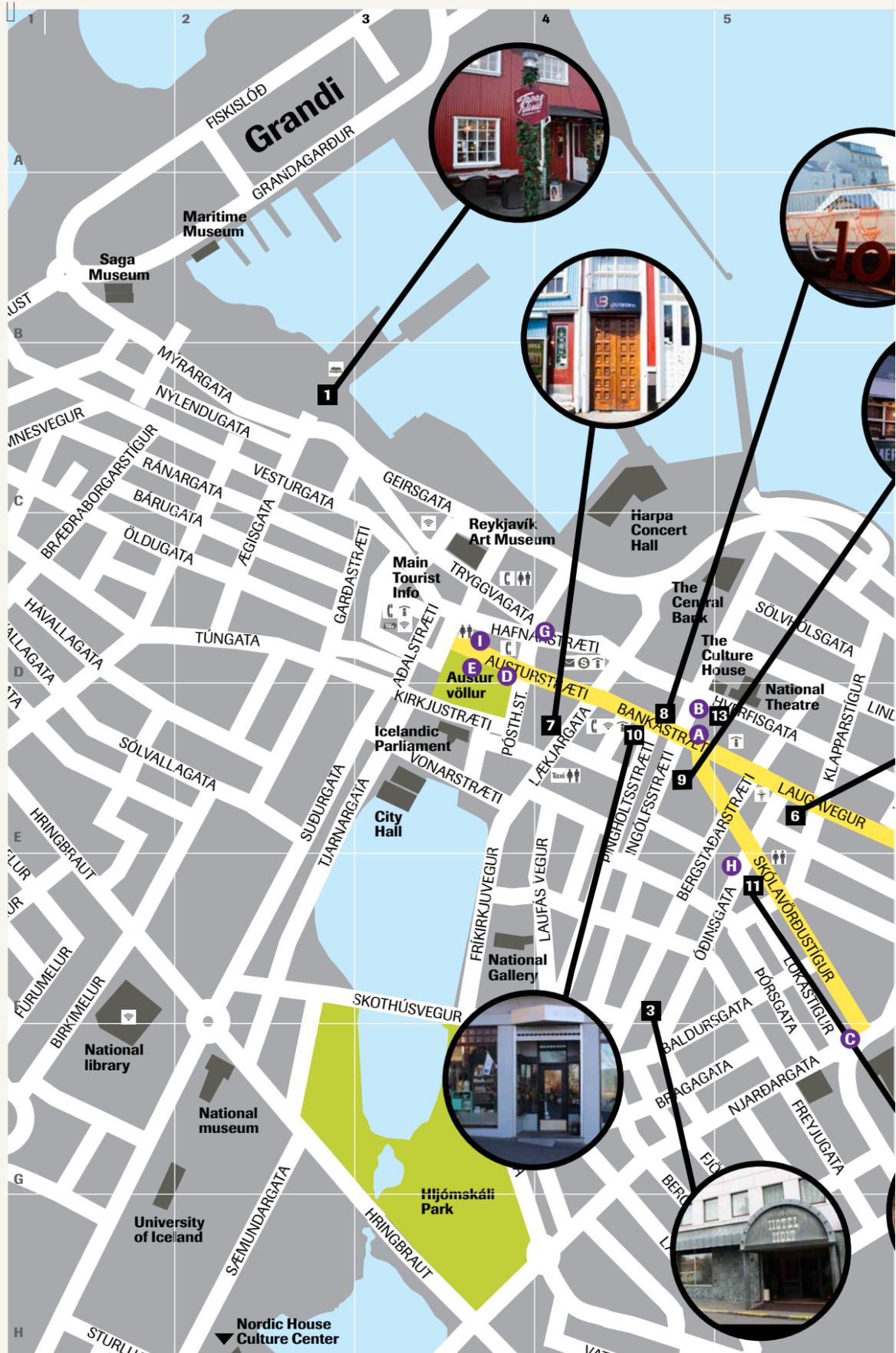
Drinking

6 Kaldi Bar

Laugavegur 20b
 A small, stylish drinking hole popular with the after-work business crowd, this is a great place to feel a little classier and drink with dignity. The beer selection is top-notch, and the handcrafted interior tips the scales of upscale rustic charm. You can be certain that conversation will rule, not loud music.

Useful Numbers

Emergency number: **112**
 Medical help: **1770**
 Dental emergency: **575 0505**
 Information: **118**
 Taxi: Hreyfill-Bæjarleiðir: **588 5522**
 BSR: **561 0000**
Tax-Free Refund
Iceland Refund, Aðalstræti 2, tel: 564 6400
Tourist Information
Arctic Adventures, Laugavegur 11, tel: 562 7000
City Centre, Aðalstræti 2, tel: 590 1550
Iceland Excursions – Grayline Iceland, Hafnarstræti 20, tel: 540 1313



7 Lavabarinn

Lækjargata 6a
 Lavabarinn is one of only a handful of clubs to be found in Reykjavík, and it is split up into a basement where DJs play dance music all night long, a middle floor with a big seating area and an upstairs VIP room available for hire. Their cocktail menu leaves little to be desired and the place gets packed later on, but be warned that you will have to adhere to a dress code to get in.

8 Loft Hostel

Bankastræti 7
 With a brilliant location right in the centre of the action, the views from the upstairs bar and rooftop patio at the Loft Hostel can't be more entertaining. In addition to clean, comfortable rooms for all types of travellers, this new hostel is quickly becoming a hotspot for live music and comfortable accommodation alike.

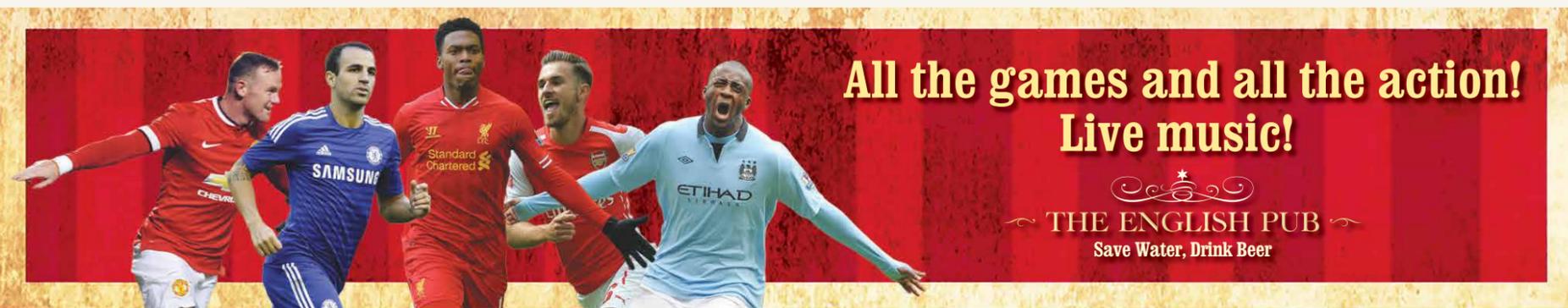
9 Den Danske Kro

Ingólfsstræti 3
 This Danish-themed bar is located on Ingólfsstræti, just off Laugavegur. They serve up Danish favourites such as Tuborg beer and Akkavit schnapps and proudly promote the Danish tradition of daytime drinking. If you're wondering how you should ask for a large beer in Danish, you should say: "Hej, jeg vil gerne ha' en stor."

The Icelandic Travel Market, Bankastræti 2, tel: 522 4979
Trip, Laugavegur 54, tel: 433 8747
Pharmacies
Lyf og heilsa, Egilsgata 3, tel: 563 1020
Lyfja, Laugavegur 16, tel: 552 4045 and Lág-
 múla 5, tel: 533 2300
Coach Terminal
BSÍ, Vatnsmýrarvegur 10, tel: 562 1011, www.bsi.is
Domestic Airlines
Air Iceland, Reykjavíkflugvöllur, tel: 570 3030, www.flugfelag.is
Eagle Air, Hótel Loftleiðir, tel: 562 4200

Public Transport
 The only public transport available in Reykjavík is the bus. Most buses run every 20-30 minutes (the wait may be longer on weekends) and the price per fare is 350 ISK for adults and children. Multiple day passes are available for purchase at select locations. Complete route map available at: www.bus.is. Tel: 540 2700. Buses run from 07:00-24:00 on weekdays and 10:00-24:00 on weekends. Main terminals are: Hlemmur and Lækjartorg.
Opening Hours
Bars and clubs: According to regulations, bars can stay open until 01:00 on weekdays and 04:30 on weekends.

Shops: Mon-Fri 10:00-18:00, Sat 10:00-16:00, Sun closed. The shopping centres Kringlan and Smáralind as well as most supermarkets and tourist shops have longer opening hours.
Swimming pools: Weekdays 06:30-22:00 and weekends 09:00-17:00, although each pool varies plus or minus a few hours.
Banks in the centre are open Mon-Fri 09:00-16:00.
Post Offices
 Post offices are located around the city. The downtown post office is at Pósthússtræti 3-5, open Mon-Fri 09:00-18:00. Stamps are also sold at bookstores, gas stations, tourist shops and some grocery stores.



D

New In Town



13 Mikkeller & Friends

Hverfisgata 12

Rejoice! There's now a bar in Reykjavík with twenty different craft beers on draft, and most of them are from Denmark's Mikkeller brewery. In case you're unfamiliar, they're the masterminds behind 'Beer Geek Breakfast', the combination of oatmeal stout and French press coffee. The place was so crowded on its opening night that our journalist had to wait in line, and he showed up 10 minutes early! Even on a quiet night though, the place is full of beer enthusiasts thirsty for something a little different. And if you're looking for something really different, try their house beer. It's really pretty out there.

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Venue Finder Music & Entertainment

- | | |
|--|---|
| Austur
Austurstræti 7 D3 | Hressó
Austurstræti 20 D3 |
| B5
Bankastræti 5 E4 | Húrra
Naustin D3 |
| Bar 11
Hverfisgata 18 E5 | Kex Hostel
Skúlagata 28 E7 |
| Bíó Paradís
Hverfisgata 54 E5 | Kaffibarinn
Bergstaðastræti 1 E4 |
| Bjarni Fel
Austurstræti 20 E4 | Kaldi Bar / Café
Laugavegur 20b E5 |
| Boston
Laugavegur 28b E5 | Kigali
Ingólfsstræti 8 E4 |
| Bunk
Laugavegur 28 E5 | Kofinn
Laugavegur 2 E5 |
| Café Rósenberg
Klapparstígur 25 E5 | Lavabarin
Lækjargata 6 E4 |
| Cooco's Nest
Grandagarður 23 B2 | Loft Hostel
Bankastræti 7 E4 |
| Den Danske Kro
Ingólfsstræti 3 E4 | Paloma
Naustin D3 |
| Dillon
Laugavegur 30 E5 | Prikið
Bankastræti 12 E4 |
| Dolly
Hafnarstræti 4 D3 | Reykjavík Roasters
Kárástígur 1 F5 |
| Dublínur
Hafnarstræti 1-3 D3 | Stofan Café
Vesturgata 3 D3 |
| English Pub
Austurstræti 12 D3 | Thorvaldsen
Austurstræti 8 D3 |
| Frederiksen Ale House
Hafnarstræti 5 D3 | Ólsmiðjan
Lækjargata 10 E3 |
| Gaukurinn
Tryggvagata 22 D3 | Ólstofan
Vegamótastígur 4 E5 |

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Museums & Galleries

- | | |
|--|--|
| ART67
Laugavegur 67 F7
Mon-Fri 12-18 / Sat 12-16
www.nordice.is | The Nordic House
Sturlugata 5 H2
Tue-Sun 12-17
www.nordice.is |
| Ásgrímur Jónsson Museum
Bergstaðastræti 74 G4
Mon-Fri through Sep 1 | Reykjavík Art Gallery
Skúlagata 30 E7
Tue-Sun 14-18 |
| The Einar Jónsson Museum
Eiríksgata G5
Tue-Sun 14-17
www.skulptur.is | Reykjavík Art Museum - Hafnarhús
Tryggvagata 17 D3
Open 10-17
Thursday 10-20 |
| Galleri List
Skiptuhólf 50A H10
M-F 11-18, Sat 11-16
http://www.gallerilist.is/ | Kjarvalsstaðir
Flókagata 24 H8
Open 10-17 |
| Hafnarborg
Strandgata 34, Hafnarfjörður
www.hafnarborg.is | Ásmundarsafn
Sigtún
Open 10-17
www.listsafnreykjavikur.is |
| Hannesarholt
Grundarstígur 10 F4
www.hannesarholt.is | Reykjavík City Library
Tryggvagata 15 D3
www.borgarbokasafn.is |
| Hitt Húsið
Gallery Tukt
Pósthússtræti 3-5 E3
www.hitthusid.is | Reykjavík City Museum - Árbæjarsafn
Kistuhylur 4
Daily tours at 13 |
| Hverfisgalleri
Hverfisgata 4 D4
www.hverfisgalleri.is | The Settlement Exhibition
Aðalstræti 17 D3
Open daily 10-17 |
| i8 Gallery
Tryggvagata 16 D3
Tue-Fri 11-17 / Sat 13-17 and by appointment. www.i8.is | Reykjavík Maritime Museum
Grandagarður 8 B2
Open daily 10-17 |
| The Icelandic Phalological Museum
Laugavegur 116 F8
www.phallus.is | Reykjavík Museum of Photography
Tryggvagata 15 D3
Mon-Thur 12-19 / Fri 12-18 / Sat-Sun 13-17 |
| Kirsuberjatréð
Vesturgata 4 D3
www.kirs.is | Víðey Island
Ferry from Skarfabakki Harbour, Sat-Sun only
www.videy.com |
| Kling & Bang
Hverfisgata 42 E5
Thurs-Sun from 14-18
www.this.is/klingogbang | Saga Museum
Grandagarður 2 B2
www.sagamuseum.is |
| Knitting Iceland
Laugavegur 25 E5
www.knittingiceland.is | Sigurjón Ólafsson Museum
Laugarnestangi 70
www.iso.is |
| Kunstschlager
Rauðarárstígur 1 G8
Mon-Sat from 15-18
www.kunstschlager.com | SÍM
Hafnarstræti 16 D3
Mon-Fri 10-16
www.sim.is |
| Living Art Museum
Skúlagata 28 E7
Tue-Sun 12-17
www.nylo.is | Spark Design Space
Klapparstígur 33 E5
M-Fri 12-18, Sat 12-16
www.sparkdesign-space.com |
| Mengi
Óðinsgötu 2 F5 | Tveir Hrafnar
Baldursgata 12 G4
Thu-Fri 12-17, Sat 13-16
www.tveirhrafnar.is |
| Mokka Kaffi
Skólavörðustígur 3A E5
www.mokka.is | Wind & Weather Gallery
Hverfisgata 37 E5
www.windandweather.is |
| The National Gallery of Iceland
Frikirkjuvegur 7 F3
Tue-Sun 11-17
www.listsafn.is | ÞOKA
Laugavegur 25 E5
www.thoka.is |
| The National Museum
Suðurgata 41 G2
Open daily 10-17
www.natmus.is | |

H

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F

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G

Shopping

10 Aurum

Bankastræti 4

Guðbjörg Kristín Ingvarsdóttir's nature-inspired designs are a breath of fresh air and a celebrated entity of Icelandic design. Her jewellery-cum-concept store offers stunning accessories for both us and our homes.

11 Geysir

Skólavörðustígur 16

This tourist shop gathers memorabilia, souvenirs, clothing and gift items from all over Iceland at a convenient location. Great for loading up at the last minute, as their stock is diverse and high-quality.

12 JÖR

Laugavegur 89

This high-end men's fashion boutique caters to those whose bodies only tolerate the finest fabrics and most delicate of tailoring. Head designer Guðmundur Jörundsson, who honed his craft in the exclusive haberdasher Kormákur & Skjöldur, gives impeccable attention to each item, leaving the wearer feeling like a million bucks.

Public Phones

There aren't many public payphones in the city centre. The tourist information centre at Aðalstræti 2, City Hall, Kolaportíð, entrance at Landsbankinn and in Lækjargata. Prepaid international phone cards are recommended for int'l callers.

Internet Access

Most cafés offer free wireless internet access. Computers with internet connections are available to use at: Ráðhúskaffi City Hall, Tjarnargata 11 Ground Zero, Frakkastígur 8, near Laugavegur 45, The Reykjavík City Library, Tryggvagata 15

The National and University Library, Arngrímsgata 3
Tourist Information Centre, Aðalstræti 2
Icelandic Travel Market, Bankastræti 2
Reykjavík Backpackers, Laugavegur 28

Swimming Pools

There are several swimming pools in Reykjavík. The one in 101 Reykjavík, Sundhöll Reykjavíkur, is an indoor one, located at Barónsstígur. It features a nice sunbathing area and some outdoor hot tubs. Opening hours: Mon-Thu from 06:30-22:00, Fri from 06:30-20:00, Sat from 08:00-16:00 and Sun from 10:00-18:00.

Public Toilets

Public toilets in the centre can be found inside the green-poster covered towers located, for example, at Hlemmur, Ingólfstortorg, by Hallgrímskirkja, by Reykjavík Art Museum, Lækjargata and by Eymundsson on Skólavörðustígur. Toilets can also be found inside the Reykjavík City Hall and the Reykjavík Library.

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440 kr.

480 kr.

Osushi is a unique restaurant in Iceland. The method of dining involves snatching small plates from a conveyor belt. Pricing is distinguished by the color and pattern of the plate – most range between 230 - 440 ISK.

Everything off the conveyor belt is tasty and if you don't really fancy sushi, you can instead choose for example teriyaki chicken, noodle salad, tempura and desserts.

The vibe in **Osushi** is friendly and relaxed. The restaurant is located almost next door to Althingi (the parliament) which is in the heart of the city.

osushi.is



Pósthússtræti 13 / Borgartúni 29 / Reykjavíkurvegur 60 HF.
Tel: 561 0562 / www.osushi.is

Best Of Reykjavík

Every year around the beginning of July, we make a BEST OF REYKJAVÍK ISSUE celebrating some of what makes Reykjavík-life worthwhile, posting some good entries into a hopefully never-ending discussion. The primary purpose of BEST OF REYKJAVÍK is celebration! It's about big-upping stuff, giving mad props to it and patting it on the shoulder. The following are some nice tips we pulled from BEST OF REYKJAVÍK 2014 which you can read in full at www.grapevine.is.



BEST BAKERY: SANDHOLT REYKJAVÍK

Laugavegur 36



Sandholt is another perennial Grapevine favourite that continues to deliver. And sure, its fresh croissants, pastries, breads, sandwiches and baked goods will set you back marginally more than some of the city's other top-of-the-line bakeries, but you won't regret spending the extra krónur, particularly if owner Ásgeir Sandholt has done the day's baking. A fourth-generation baker, Ásgeir still uses the same oven that his predecessors used when the bakery opened in 1920, although he has changed up nearly everything else about the place, including the bread recipe (a deceptively simple one which was in use 100 years ago).



BEST PLACE TO READ A BOOK: THE NATIONAL/ UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Arngrímstgata 3



For those of you who want to read your book with some background noise and chatter, there are many fabulous cafés around the city for you to choose from. But if you need a distraction-free zone to finish that last chapter, we suggest you make the radical choice to read in a library. The National/University Library, in particular. Its windowed corner nooks have loungers and foot rests so you can get comfy, and none of the students will look askance at you if you kick off your shoes (pretty much everyone goes around in their socks). There's also an extensive A/V collection with Icelandic and foreign music, sound recordings, films and documentaries that you can use on-site and a café downstairs if you get peckish.



BEST SECOND HAND SHOP: SPÚÚTNIK

Laugavegur 32

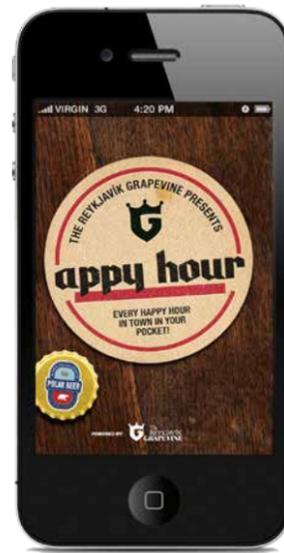


If you're at all into second hand shopping, there is no place you'll enjoy more than Spúútnik. It has a wide variety of clothing, shoes and accessories for all genders and ages and definitely has the largest selection of vintage dresses, denim and printed shirts, and leather jackets in all of Reykjavík. Items are also pre-selected and arranged neatly so you're not going to have to spend hours going through piles of junk!

A GUIDE THAT FUCKS YOU UP

A list of every
Happy Hour in
101 Reykjavík

- Austur**
Thursday to Saturday from 20:00 to 00:00.
Beer 800 ISK, Wine 800 ISK.
- B5**
Every day from 16:00 to 22:00. Beer 550 ISK,
Cider 700 ISK, Wine 700 ISK.
- Bar 7**
Every day from 16:00 to 20:00. Beer 350 ISK,
Shot 450 ISK
- Bar 11**
Thursday from 21:00 to 1:00. Beer 450 ISK
Friday to Saturday from 21:00 to 00:00. Beer
500 ISK
- Bjarni Fel**
Monday to Friday from 21:00 to 23:00. 2 for 1
Beer 990 ISK, single with mixer 1,300 ISK.
- Boston**
Every day from 16:00 to 20:00.
Beer 600 ISK, Wine 650 ISK.
- Bravó**
Every day from 17:00 to 21:00.
Beer 500 ISK, Wine 750 ISK.
- Bunk Bar**
Every day from 16:00 to 20:00.
Beer 500 ISK, Wine 750 ISK.
- Cafe Haiti**
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 650 ISK,
Wine 800 ISK.
- Den Danske Kro**
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. 2 for 1 Beer
1,000 ISK and 2 for 1 Wine 1,200 ISK.
- Dillon**
Every day from 16:00 to 20:00. Beer 550 ISK,
Wine for 700 ISK, Whiskey 550 ISK.
- Dolly**
Wednesday to Thursday from 20:00 to 22:00,
Friday to Saturday from 20:00 to 23:00. Beer
600 ISK, Wine 600 ISK.
- Dubliner**
Every day from 16:00 until 22:00. Tuborg 600
ISK, 2 for 1 Wine 1,000 ISK.
- Einar Ben**
Every day from 17:30 to 20:00. Small Beer 500
ISK, Big Beer 700 ISK, Wine 800 ISK



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town in your pocket.
Available in the App
Store and on the
Android Market.

- English Pub**
Every day 16:00-19:00.
Beer 650 ISK, Wine 850 ISK.
- Frederiksen Ale House**
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00.
2 for 1 Beer 1,000 ISK and Wine 1,100 ISK
- Gaukurinn**
Sunday to Thursday 19:00 to 22:00. Friday to
Saturday 21:00 to 22:00.
Beer 500 ISK, Wine 700 ISK. Shots 500 ISK
- Glaumbar**
Thursday to Saturday from 20:00 to 00:00.
Beer 500 ISK, Shot 390 ISK.
- Húrra**
Every day from 18:00 to 21:00. Beer 500 ISK,
Wine 700 ISK.
- Kaffibarinn**
Every day from 15:00 to 20:00. Beer 650 ISK.
- Kaldi Bar**
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00.
Beer for 650 ISK, Wine for 650 ISK.
- Kiki Queer Bar**
Thursday from 21:00 to 01:00.
Beer 500 ISK, Shots 500 ISK.
- Klaustur Bar**
Every day 16:00-18:00.
Beer 800 ISK, Wine 800 ISK.
- Kolbrautin**
Every day from 16:00 to 18:00. Beer 450 ISK,
Wine 500 ISK, Cocktails 1,000 ISK.
- Lebowski Bar**
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00.
2 for 1 Beer and Wine 1,100 ISK.
- Loft Hostel Bar**
Every day from 16:00 to 20:00.
Beer 600 ISK, Wine 700 ISK.
- Matur og Drykkur**
Thursdays to Sundays, 21:00-22:00. Beer 500
ISK, Wine 500 ISK, cocktails for half price.
- Micro Bar**
Every day from 17:00 to 19:00. Beer 700 ISK.
- Miðgarður Bistro bar**
Every day from 17:00 to 19:00. Beer 500 ISK,
Wine 600 ISK, all drinks half price.
- Mimisbar**
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 500 ISK,
Wine 650 ISK, Cocktail of the day 1,100 ISK,
Shot + Beer 1,000 ISK.
- Nora Magasin**
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00.
Beer 650 ISK, House Wine 600 ISK.
- Park**
Friday to Saturday from 22:00 to 04:30.
Beer 500 ISK, Shot 400 ISK.
- Prikið**
Monday to Friday from 16:00 to 20:00.
Beer 500 ISK.
- Skúli Craft Bar**
Every day from 14:00 to 19:00.
Beer 700 ISK, Wine 1,000 ISK.
- Slippbarinn**
Every day from 15:00 to 18:00. Beer 500 ISK,
Wine 450 ISK, selected Cocktails 1,000 ISK.
- Sólón Bistro**
Weekdays from 15:00 to 18:00.
Beer 650 ISK, Wine 700 ISK.
- Stofan**
Every day from 17:00 to 20:00.
Beer 750 ISK, Wine 950 ISK
- Thorvaldsen Bar**
Monday to Saturday from 16:00 to 20:00. Beer
500 ISK, Wine 600 ISK.
- Tíu Dropar**
Every day from 18:00 to 21:00. 2 for 1 Wine for
1,000 ISK and Beer 1,000 ISK.
- Vinsmakkarinn**
Monday to Sunday from 17:00 to 20:00.
Beer 600 ISK, Wine 700 ISK.

ART

OPENINGS & ONGOING

'The power of thoughts - according to the Grail Message' by Christopher Vasey

A lecture based on Abd-ru-shin's 'In the light of truth: the Grail Message' on the thought-provoking topic of thoughts, what they are and how they influence our surroundings. The lecturer, Christopher Vasey, is a naturopath and has authored books on alternative medicine and spiritual matters.

Runs on March 19

'The Parasite' by Sophie Tiller

A photo exhibition by Austrian photographer Sophie Tiller, showcasing the various stages in a project in which she drilled holes into old natural history books and planted flower seeds within them. The natural process eventually turns the books into microcosms.

Opens March 28

Runs until April 26

Reykjavík City Museum - The Settlement Exhibition

'Settlement Sagas. Accounts from manuscripts'

This unique exhibition is held in collaboration with the Árni Magnússon Institute for Icelandic Studies. At the centre of this special exhibition are rarely seen manuscripts that tell the history of the settlement of Reykjavík. There is a special opening party on March 21 at 16.00.

Opens March 21

On permanent view

SÍM

'Finding the Past' by Gunnhildur Þórðardóttir

Gunnhildur Þórðardóttir's exhibit is a collection of sculptures, wall pieces and poems.

Opens March 13

Runs until March 25

Tveir hrafnar listhús

Exhibit

The Icelandic artist Guðbjörg Lind Jónsdóttir studied at the Iceland Academy of the Arts and has held several solo exhibitions in Iceland, the US, the UK, Spain, Germany, Denmark, Holland and Luxembourg. She engages stillness and nature in her paintings.

Opens March 20

Runs until April 18

Viðey island

'IMAGINE PEACE TOWER relit on spring equinox'

The IMAGINE PEACE TOWER will light up the evening sky on spring equinox and stay lit for a whole week. The timing of the relighting of the tower is tied to Yoko Ono and John Lennon's marriage which was on March 20, 1969.

Opens March 20

Runs until March 26

Ongoing

ART67

'Speculations' by Guðbjörg Sigmundsdóttir

Guðbjörg is ART67's guest artist for March and has an exhibit that is made up of cups of various sizes and styles meant to signify joy, love and friendship. She uses an array of mediums such as porcelain, oil paint, canvas, and paper.

Runs until March 31



The Victims Of Prenatal Diagnostic Tests
'First And Foremost I Am' by Sigga Ella

Reykjavík Museum of Photography

Tryggvagata 15 (D3) | ☎ M-Th 12-19, F 12-18, Sa-Su 13-17 | Free!

Sigga Ella's exhibition presents 21 portraits of people with Down Syndrome, aged nine months to 60 years old. The idea came from a radio interview Sigga heard about the ethical questions surrounding prenatal diagnosis of birth defects. If parents could choose not to keep an embryo with Down Syndrome, how many of these people would be with us? The title of the work comes from an article written by Halldóra Jónsdóttir after being troubled by a newspaper article that dealt with these ethical question. In it, she powerfully declares, "I have Down syndrome but FIRST AND FOREMOST I AM Halldóra."

AM

Artótek

'Color and learn about Icelandic Contemporary Art' by Freyja Eilíf Logadóttir

The Icelandic Artist Freyja Eilíf Logadóttir is exhibiting her art book 'Color and learn about Icelandic Contemporary Art' on the 1st floor of Reykjavík City Library's downtown branch. The book contains 94 drawings of various works from contemporary Icelandic artists. Selected drawings have been framed and will be exhibited at the library's salon. Samples from the art book will also be available to read and colour.

Runs until April 4

Árbær Open Air Museum

A guided tour in English through this open air museum, which consists of twenty buildings happens daily at 13:00. Admission 1,100 ISK.

On permanent view

Better Weather Window Gallery City Library, Spöng

'Standard Euro Installation' by Leifur Ýmir Eyjólfsson

Leifur graduated from Iceland Academy of the Arts in 2013 and has created an impressive amount of work since then. This past autumn he was invited to be a guest artist at studio das weisse haus in Vienna, sparking his fascination with the supermarket Euroshopper began. In this exhibit he takes the most mundane grocery items imaginable and turns them into works of art.

Runs until March 29

City Library, Spöng

'Washed Up' by Gunnhildur Þórðardóttir

Gunnhildur's 2D and 3D works consist of numerous items that have been discarded and washed up on the shore, or extra materials that she puts to good use. The works are, in a way, transformed from junk and litter into pieces of art. Sustainability is the name of the game

An absolute must-try!

Saegreifinn restaurant (Sea Baron) is like none other in Iceland; a world famous lobster soup and a diverse fish selection. **Open 11:30-22:00**

Saegreifinn
saegreifinn.is

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-- -- [Route 40] -- --

The Light
Ragnar Th. Sigurdsson
Press Photo Exhibition

Ámundi
Graphic Designer
Un peu plus
Drawings and sketches by fashion designer Helga Björnsson

Largo and Presto
Video installation by Tumi Magnússon

Gray Area
Designer David Taylor
MENN
Opens March 28th

Kópavogur Art Museum / Gerðarsafn
Hamraborg 4, Kópavogur
Open 11-17 / Closed on Mondays
www.gerdarsafn.is

Hönnunarsafn Íslands / Museum of Design and Applied Art
Garðatorg 1, Garðabær
Open 12-17 / Closed on Mondays
www.honnunarsafn.is

Hafnarborg / The Hafnarfjörður Centre of Culture and Fine Art
Strandgata 34, Hafnarfjörður
Open 12-17 / Thursdays 12-21
Closed on Tuesdays
www.hafnarborg.is

CHAQWA VIKING

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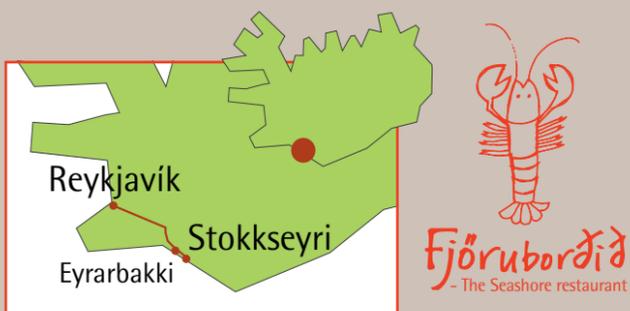
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- TripAdvisor

Vesturgata 3

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ART

ONGOING

in this exhibit, and its title is a reference to a poem Gunnhildur wrote about sustainability and our consumer-fuelled society.

Runs until April 12

The Einar Jónsson Museum

The museum contains close to 300 artworks including a beautiful garden with 26 bronze casts of the artist's sculptures.

On permanent view

Gallerí List

'Brilliant Rose - With Seams and Nudes' by Nikhil Kirsh

Nikhil Kirsh is an artist from London who's been living and working in Reykjavik for the past four years. He often draws inspiration from working with artists of different backgrounds. Nikhil received a BA in photography from Manchester Met University in 2003, a teaching degree with emphasis on art education in 2007 and an MA in Fine Art in 2009, both from Brighton University.

Runs until March 31

Gallery Tukt

Poster Exhibit

This exhibit displays proposals for posters for the Youth Art festival from first-year students of the Iceland Academy of the Arts. The festival takes place November 6-14, with its poster being selected from one of the exhibit's entries.

Runs until March 7

Gerðuberg

'Stund milli stríða' by Sara & Svanhildur Vilbergsdóttir

This painting exhibit features works by the sisters Sara and Svanhildur from their travels to sunny beaches around the world. The name of the show translates as "Moments Between Battles," describing the therapeutic effect that painting has on their relationship.

Runs until March 29

Hafnarborg

'Largo and Presto' by Tumi Magnússon

Tumi's new and large installation involves regular, repeated sounds and movements that affect the viewer's experience of time and space, such as the banging sound of a hammer and footsteps.

Runs until March 22

Horníð

'Take Two' by Jóhann Vilhjálmsson

Part artist, part musician, and part chef, Jóhann is a true jack-of-all-trades. His mediums are pastels and ink, and he gravitates towards bold, bright colours. His subjects range from people, to landscapes, scenes and more, but all have a surrealist quality in common. One could look at these paintings a hundred times and still find something new.

On permanent view

Hverfisgallerí

'View of Motivation' by Rakel McMahon

Rakel is an Icelandic artist whose work deals with gender, sexuality, and normality, as can be seen in her new exhibit.

Runs until March 7

i8 Gallery

'Exhibition' by Poul Gernes

The exhibition consists of works from 1965 to 1970 featuring a series of geometric-abstract paintings. The works are each based on a set of rules and principles with varying colour combinations.

Runs until April 11

The Icelandic Phalological Museum

The museum contains a collection of more than 215 penises and penile parts belonging to almost all the land and sea mammals that can be found in Iceland. There's also a penis sculpture honouring the Icelandic men's handball team.

On permanent view

Knitting Iceland

Whether you are a beginner or pro, you can come knit at Laugavegur 25, third floor, every Thursday, 14:00 - 18:00.

On permanent view

Kópavogur Art Museum

Gerðarsafn

'Press Photo 2014'

The annual Press Photo exhibition of the Press Photographer's Union of Iceland shows award-winning photos in seven categories as well as the best two videos of the year.

Runs until April 12

Living Art Museum

'Abreast' by Unndór Egill Jónsson

Unndór Egill Jónsson's works frequently deal with man's interaction with nature, highlighting how small and seemingly insignificant actions can have tremendous consequences. Having said that, this exhibition provides an unusually optimistic view of what the future may hold in store for us if society turns more sustainable.

Runs until March 28

Mokka Kaffi

'Poetry in Water' by Daði Guðbjörnsson

Artist Daði Guðbjörnsson's new exhibit features watercolour paintings married with poetry to interpret the colours and forms of Icelandic nature.

Runs until March 11

The National Gallery of Iceland

Vasulka Chamber

For the 130th anniversary of the National Gallery, the gallery will showcase the Vasulka Chamber, a department of video and media art.

On permanent view

'Carnegie Art Award 2014' by A Kassen

Christian Bretton-Meyer, Morten Steen Hebsgaard, Søren Petersen and Tommy Petersen make up the art group, A Kassen. They won third prize in November 2013 and have toured their work since.

Runs until May 10

'In The Light Of The Days' by Ásgrímur Jónsson

The works of Ásgrímur Jónsson span a long period in the history of Iceland. The interpretation of the seen and the unseen, landscape and oral tradition were his main topics throughout his career over the first half of the twentieth century. His paintings and drawings reflect sincere love for the country and the nation. The works chosen for the exhibition reflect the width in the artist's themes.

Runs until September 15

'Influential Women Of Icelandic Art'

In honour of women's centennial anniversary of getting the right to vote, this exhibit features various works of art relating to influential women in Iceland.

Runs until May 10

The National Museum of Iceland

'The Making Of A Nation'

This exhibition is intended to provide insight into the history of the Icelandic nation, from the country's settlement to the present day.

On permanent view

'Bundled up in Blue'

This exhibition is centred around new archeological findings from bones believed to belong to a woman from the settlement-era discovered in 1938 in East Iceland. This research provides answers on the age of the woman in question, where she came from, together with indications of what she may have looked like and how she would have dressed.

Runs until December 31

'Houses in the town' by Kristinn Guðmundsson

This photography exhibit features pictures of houses from downtown Reykjavik ca. 1875-85 by photographer Kristinn. The photos are meant to show the spirit of the times, and the formation of contemporary Reykjavik.

Runs until May 17

'On A Wayless Sea' by Kristinn E. Hrafnsson

An installation by visual artist Kristinn E. Hrafnsson on the history of sailing and navigation. Works by the artist intermingle with items from the museum collection relating to the exhibition's theme.

Runs until May 10

'Where, Who, What?'

In this exhibition, unlabelled works from the archives of the Icelandic Photography Museum is put on display in the hopes that visitors can identify them.

Runs until May 17

Museum of Design and Applied Art

'ART PEU PLUS' by Helga Björnsson

Fashion designer Helga Björnsson has created couture designs in Paris and costumes for Icelandic theaters. Her original drawings and sketches will be on display.

Runs until May 31

Nordic House

'You will tread your path' by Finnbogi Þorkell Jónsson

A documentary play about reality as experienced through schizophrenia. The author and actor Finnbogi based the play on interviews taken over the course of two years. The director, Árni Kristjánsson, is a winner of the Icelandic theatre awards for best radio play and has specialized in working with new Icelandic plays. The film features original music by Svavar Knútur.

Runs until March 8

The Old Harbour

Iceland Expo Pavillion

Every day from 10:00 to 22:00, Saga Films projects a film of Icelandic scenery inside their Iceland Expo Pavillion which provides a unique 360 degree movie experience.

On permanent view

BÍÓ ★ PARADÍS ART HOUSE CINEMA & CAFÉ

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ART

ONGOING

Reykjavík Art Museum: Ásmundarsafn

'The Water Carrier -Mountain+Woman' by Ásmundur Sveinsson

Works by sculptor Ásmundur Sveinsson, which the museum is named after, are on exhibition, including 'The Water Carrier' (1973). There are also works by six other artists displayed alongside Ásmundur's.

Runs until April 26

Reykjavík Art Museum: Hafnarhús

'All the Small Things' by Cory Arcangel

The American artist Cory Arcangel is a pioneer who combines digital technologies with art. Cory presents new works in this solo exhibition, as well as a selection of seminal early works which he's re-configured specifically for the show.

Runs until April 12

'Erró and Art History'

The exhibition provides an insight into the work of the Icelandic painter Erró. He maintains a style that varies between surrealism and pop art and also integrates elements of comics and science fiction. In this exhibition are presented works in which he has borrowed images and fragments of pictures by some of the leading artists in history, such as Picasso and Léger.

Runs until September 27

'Just Painted 1'

To give an overview of painting in Iceland today, the Reykjavík Art Museum presents exhibition in two parts at Hafnarhús and Kjarvalsstaðir displaying works by 85 active artists, of all ages and different artistic styles and ideologies.

Runs until April 19

Reykjavík Art Museum: Kjarvalsstaðir

'The Pulse of Time' by Einar Hákonarson

Einar Hákonarson, one of Iceland's best known artists, is an expressionistic and figurative painter. The works in this retrospective span the artist's career for over 50 years, from juvenilia and student works until 2014. There are special artist talks on February 15 and March 15 at 15:00.

Runs until March 15

'Poetic Colour Palette, from the Kjarval collection'

Jóhannes Sveinsson Kjarval occupies a special place in the history of Icelandic culture and art, as one of the country's most beloved artists. Kjarval's subject matter falls into three main groups: landscapes, portraits, and fantasies or works of imagination; a selection from all three groups will be on display.

Runs until March 15

The Reykjavík City Library

The collection centres around new Nordic literature, both fiction and nonfiction. The library lends out novels, academic publications, audiobooks and more.

On permanent view

Reykjavík City Museum - The Settlement Exhibition

Reykjavík 871 +/- 2

Archaeological findings from ruins of one of the first houses in Iceland (from 871 AD, give or take two years) and other excavations in the city centre.

On permanent view

Reykjavík Maritime Museum From Poverty to Abundance

Photos documenting Icelandic fishermen at the turn of the 20th century.

On permanent view

The History of Sailing

Iceland's maritime museum showcases the growth of the Reykjavík Harbour through history.

On permanent view

The Coast Guard Vessel Óðinn

This vessel sailed through all three Cod Wars and has also served as a rescue ship to over 200 ships.

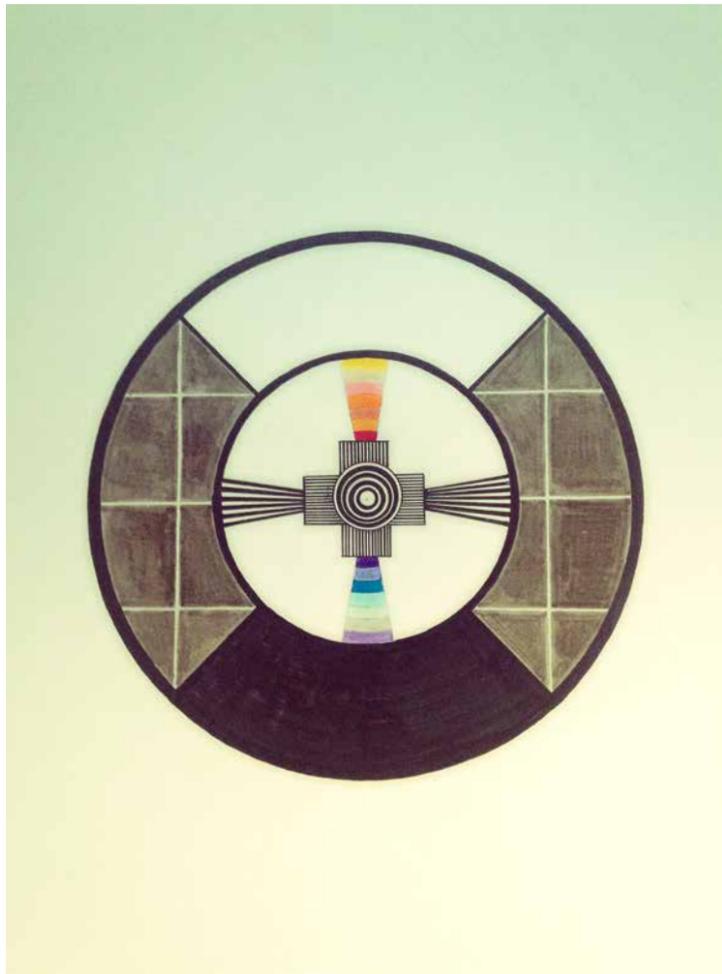
On permanent view

The Reykjavík Museum of Photography

'Iceland Defence Force' by Bragi Þór Jósefsson

Bragi Þór took this photo series after the US naval base closed in 2006, showing the abandoned military base amid Icelandic lava fields. Few Icelanders had any experience of life on the base, and in the photographs it is seen abandoned, and unambiguously foreign.

Runs until May 10



The Art of Mathematics 'Onetonine' by Sara Riel

Listamenn Gallerí

Skúlagata 32-34 (E7) | March 7-23 ☺ M-F 9-18, Sa 12-16 | Free!

In this exhibition of her drawing and paintings, Sara Riel explores the art of geometry, morphology and even algebra, using only a select few basic tools (pencil, ruler, compass) and basic forms (circle, line, triangle). With reference to abstract art and modernism, her works bring together visual arts, music, mathematics and science, leaving it to the viewer to find their meaning, or lack thereof, through her own personal perception. Sara Riel has studied in Iceland and Germany and her works have been displayed in Iceland, Germany, China and Japan. She's even made a street art mural for the Grapevine (too bad it's been torn down to make room for a hotel)! **RÓG**

'Stories from Reykjavík' by Þórdís Erla Ágústsdóttir

This exhibit is part of a long-term project by Þórdís Erla, 'Icelanders' Homes', which began many years ago when she started occasionally taking photographs of people in their homes. The series provides insight into life in Reykjavík homes, with a focus on these "ordinary" people's life stories.

Runs until April 7

'First and foremost I am' by Sigga Ella

The portrait project of the Icelandic photographer Sigga Ella, consists of 21 portraits of people with Downs syndrome aged between nine months and 60-years-old.

Runs until April 7

Sigurjón Ólafsson Museum

'An Artist at the Saga Sites' by Jóhanness Larsen

The Sigurjón Ólafsson Museum is presenting 25 drawings by the Danish painter Johannes Larsen from his journeys to Iceland in 1927 and 1930 in the upper hall.

Runs until March 29

'Selected Works' by Sigurjón Ólafsson

Selected works by the namesake of the museum will be on display.

Runs until March 29

Tveir Hrafnar

The artists and affiliates of Tveir Hrafnar have an ongoing exhibit, featuring a diverse selection of paintings and sculptures.

Runs until March 19

Týsgallerí

'KJÖR' by Haraldur Jónsson

Haraldur's new show features an installation made out of various material such as carton, nylon, blankets, plexiglass and paper. It fills up both of Týsgallerí's exhibition spaces.

Runs until March 7

Volcano House

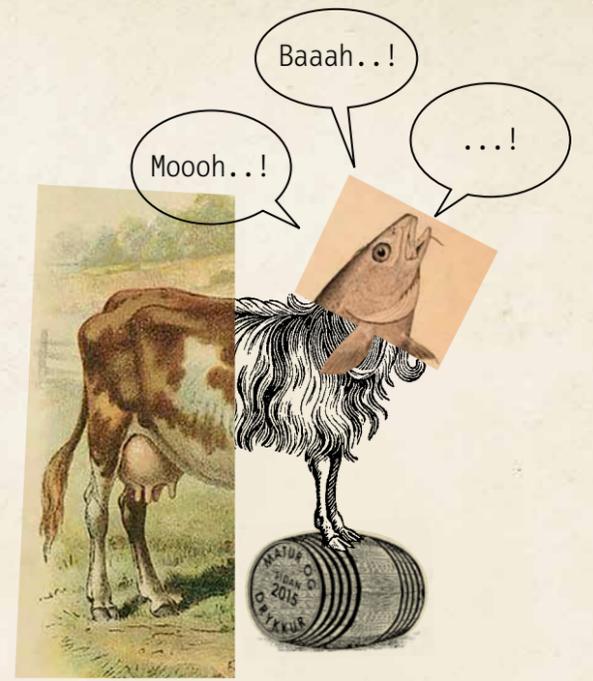
The exhibition gives a brief overview of Iceland's geological history and volcanic systems with superb photographs of volcanic eruptions and other magnificent aspects of Icelandic nature.

On permanent view Wind and Weather Window Gallery

'Let Go!' by Ámundi

Ámundi's work spans 30 years of style and history. It is characterised by vibrant colours and images born out of fantasy. The second part of his work, 'Let Go!', is on display this month at the Wind and Weather Window Gallery, so walk past anytime day or night for a quick fix to the winter blues.

Runs until April 28

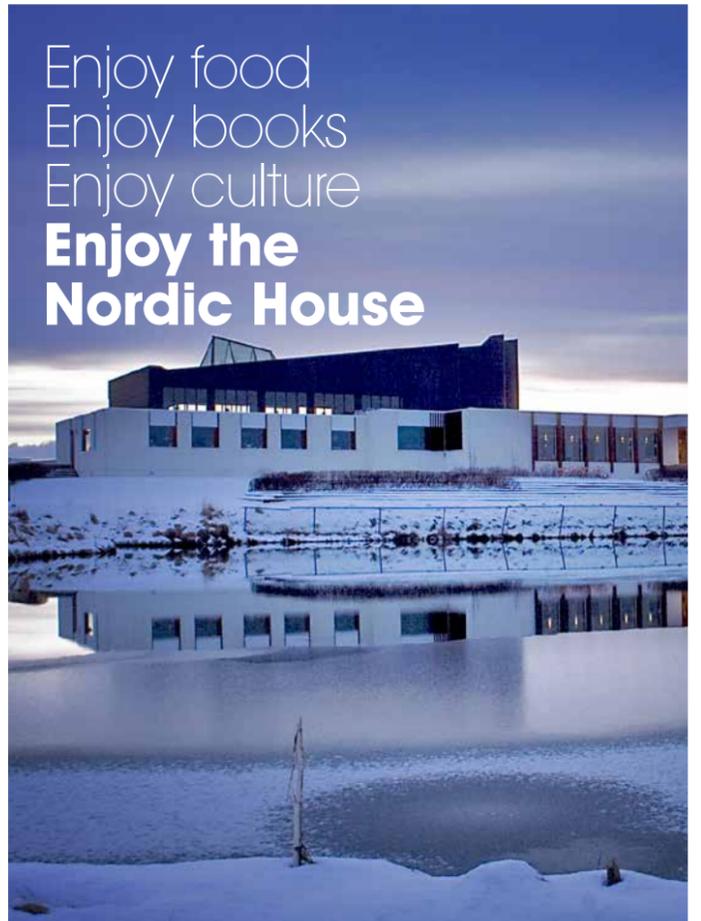


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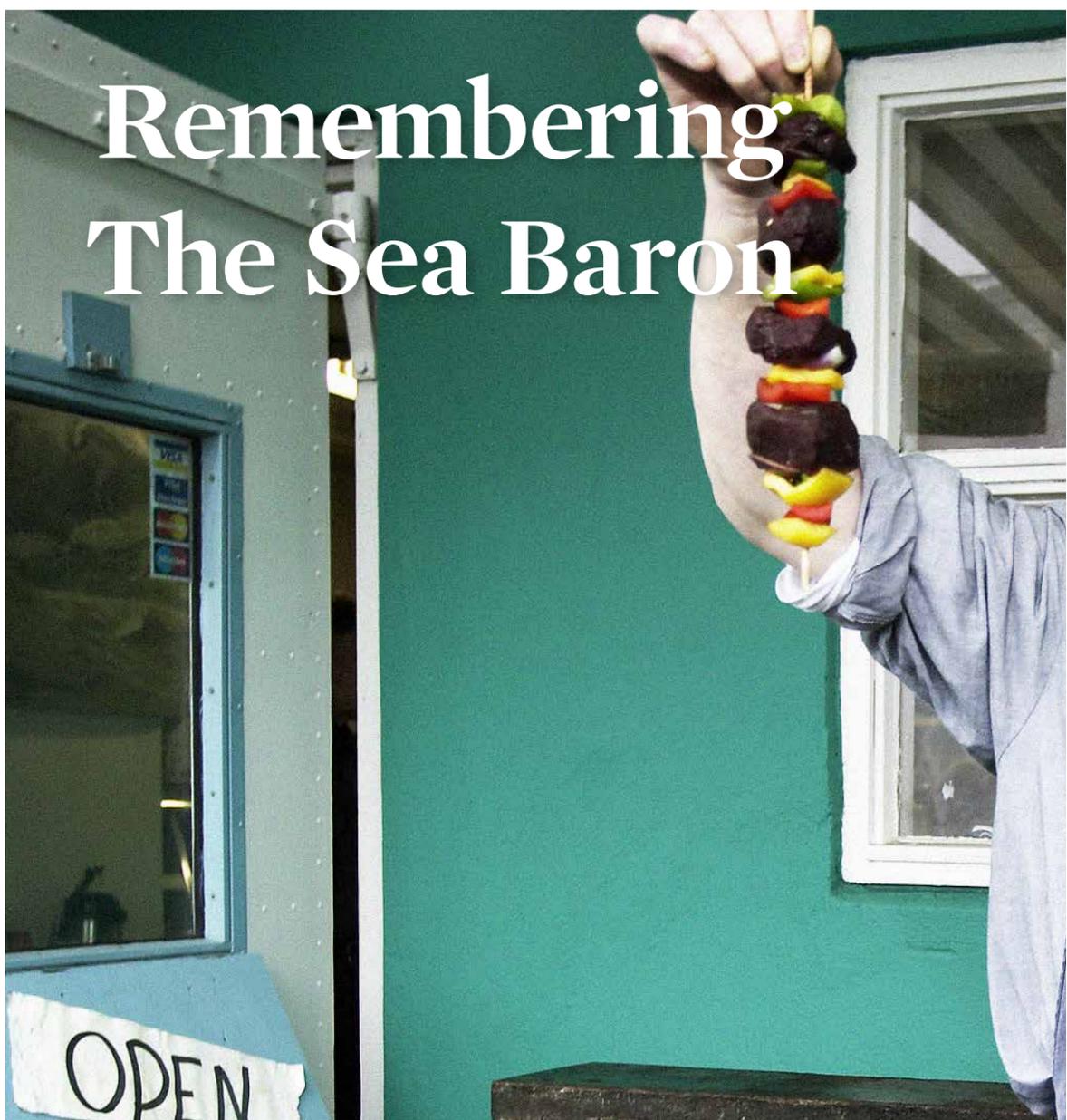


steamed fish
fish stew
fish soup

FOOD

FOR THE SOUL

Remembering The Sea Baron



Words Ragnar Egilsson

Photo Gunnar Konráðsson

Sægreifinn, The Sea Baron, is a fish restaurant that was founded in 2003 by the late, great Kjartan Halldórsson. Originally a fishmonger, Sægreifinn soon began offering grilled fish and lobster bisque to hungry travellers and locals in the downtown area. Kjartan sold the business in 2011 to his employee Elísabet Jean Skúladóttir (and it's still going strong), but continued working the grill for a period afterwards, only taking a break when his health problems absolutely demanded it.

Kjartan passed away on February 8. He was 75 years old and leaves behind three sons and nine grandchildren.

Many of us at Grapevine came to know Kjartan and Sægreifinn. It may have been a simple matter of logistics: it is located quite close to our offices, and many of us had been waiting for exactly this kind of place when it opened. Whatever the reason, many current and former employees formed a bond with the place and the charming gentleman behind the counter.

In memory of Kjartan, some of us who have been involved with the Reykjavík Grapevine in one way or another over the last decade thought we should share our memories, such as they are, of the indomitable Sea Baron.



Bart Cameron
Former Grapevine editor

I'm not positive how well I knew Kjartan. My Icelandic isn't fantastic. Aðalsteinn, our ad man, found him. Back then, the little area his shop was in wasn't really a place you went.

He was one of those energetic men who could probably bite a penny in half. His soup was great and I think I went back every other week as my wife and

I would go there to buy our fish. There were amazing stories usually—he might be serving whale to Germans who asked for fish, and then explaining that Icelanders don't have different words for whale and fish. He told me a lot of things about Icelandic fish that I later learned weren't true, but that didn't hurt anyone.

I featured him in our book. For one thing, he cooked good fresh food. For another, his stand was affordable. And people just loved his stories.

When I visited Iceland recently, his shop had become a huge tourist attraction. Between that and writing that ridiculous story about Bill Clinton eating a hot dog at Bæjarins Bestu—it's just strange to know I had a hand in building myths. Though Kjartan—he was so charismatic, if we hadn't written him up, someone else would've found him.

On a less amusing note: Kjartan worked brutally hard. His stories and energy were great, but there was desperation underneath them. Probably the whole staff can tell you about the time he hosted us for a dinner, but he got sick and wound up sleeping in a closet while his daughter served us.

To think of that little stand as I last saw it, surrounded by businesses from people who had access to capital—as opposed to Kjartan, who survived entirely on inner energy, sweat, and a relentless smile—is wonderful.



Paul Fontaine
Grapevine mainstay/jack of all trades

I met Kjartan in Hafnarfjörður. On my way there, I was told that this guy could work magic with whale meat. The whale meat I had tried up until that point tasted like boiled beef that had been soaked in tepid sea water, so I was skeptical to say the least. I was also looking forward to lecturing this guy on the unethical nature of whale hunting, just to satisfy for my own self-righteousness.

Once we arrived, though, I was met by an old man in an apron bent over a grill who greeted me with what was probably the warmest smile I had ever received from a total stranger who wasn't about to talk to me about Jesus. That kiboshed my plans to lecture him about whaling, and I decided instead to politely suffer through what I was certain was going to be a rubbery, flavorless helping of minke.

What I got was the tenderest, juiciest, most flavorful mammal flesh I had ever tasted. I must have been visibly stunned, because he started to laugh at my reaction. "But this is good!" I said, or something similar. "How?" Kjartan

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FOOD

FOR THE SOUL



shared with me the secrets of making tasty whale meat, which was essentially, "You have to tenderize it first. I use one of these," he said, showing me one of those cool aluminum mallets with the medieval spikes on both sides. "Then you need to marinate it. I recommend letting it soak for a couple days."

The rest of the evening was a bit of a blur—there was not a small amount of beer involved—but I won't forget how goddamned tasty that whale meat was, nor how welcome Kjartan made me feel. It was like going to have dinner with a good friend who hasn't seen you in a long time, and is happy to have you there. One helluva guy.



Ragnar Egilsson
Grapevine's food editor

Kjartan led the transformation of the blue-green boat shacks by the marina, which gave us the bustling restaurant scene we have there now. This in turn has helped preserve the cultural and architectural heritage of the area. Kjartan was a great storyteller and told stories peppered with a number of colourful curse words (at least until he had to tone it down a bit after the Sea Baron became a must-stop on the downtown tourist circuit).

He was a real old-school tough guy who made a great lobster bisque and was as farm-to-table, nose-to-tail, local and seasonal in his cooking as some of the best restaurants in Iceland.

I still remember vividly when I and one of Grapevine's owners paid a visit to this curious gentleman that had set up shop by the marina and was taking his first steps in the restaurant business after a long career at sea.

After a nice chat, we decided to offer him a sizable discount on magazine ads and we pointed out some ways for him to better get his name out there. Following that, we did all we could to spread the

word of this charming little soup shack. For no other reason than because we liked the place and him personally.

I wouldn't dare to assume credit for Kjartan's success but on a good day I can't help but think we played a tiny part in his initial recognition and it never fails to put a smile on my face.

Kjartan was a real entrepreneur who used the tools and knowledge at his disposal to build a business and always danced to his own tune, and he represented a living bridge between the old marina and the new. I was deeply saddened to hear that this unique man had passed.

Finally, Kjartan always reminded me a little of my late grandfather on my mother's side (who also worked for a time as a cook on a fishing boat), in their mannerisms and the way they spoke. I simply can't think of a kinder way to describe a person.



Aðalsteinn Jörundsson
Grapevine's Sales Director

When I first started selling ads for a living, I took it as a compliment when people told me I was too pushy, when they said I was a shark. This was before I understood that building long-term business relationships is far more important—for your business and your soul—than biting a huge chunk out of a client's budget. My first sales call to Kjartan was an important first step towards this realisation.

On the afternoon of December 23, 2004—Þorláksmessa—I was hanging out with my friend Ragnar, casually going through my sales numbers and dreaming of Christmas break. To my disappointment, I came to understand that I needed a little more to finish my first month as a Grapevine sales guy with a bang. So, I called up Kjartan and asked whether I could come over and show him some ad space.

"Of course, vinur minn, come over and I'll let you try some skate!"

I brought Ragnar to the meeting. Kjartan was just washing up after serving skate to some workplace function, so the smell was very harsh. He greeted us with that warm smile of his, ushered us to a seat, starting piling the horribly smelling dish on some paper plates and asked us if he could interest us in some happiness, too. "Sure, happiness, we're into that!"

He then brought over some vile, sickly-sweet liqueur that was thick with sugar and proclaimed—screaming with his prankster laugh—"It doesn't taste good, but if you drink a couple of those, you're sure to find happiness at the bottom of the bottle!"

He then walked around, cleaning up the place, people coming and going as we worked on our skate and on our happiness.

Ragnar tells me that we decided to give him a sizeable discount on ads at that meeting, but the truth is that I needed to hold back on not giving him everything I had to offer for free, simply because I instantly loved the man.

I'm sure you understand. I was trying to sell ads to an old man who had worked hard on trawlers all his life, was now retired. A man who it turns out didn't have the patience to retire, so he decided to try his hand at the most difficult, most likely-to-fail business there is—in a building that was on a demolition list—and succeeded!

At length, he told us about how the system was desperately trying to discourage him from opening his shop, but he somehow managed to do it anyway. He literally fought the system and won. The man is a hero, and every single restaurant in this small patch of harbour space owes him everything.

I eventually learned that Kjartan had already decided he was going to buy our ads, and he wasn't going to haggle over the price—he simply trusted me to be fair. He had killed the shark, with skate and happiness.

Breakfast

Brunch

Lunch

Happy Hour

Dinner

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FOOD

FOR YOUR MIND BODY AND SOUL



A Fancy Cafeteria, With Lots Of Potential

Smurstöðin

Harpa, 101 Reykjavík

What We Think: Fancy cafeteria in Harpa. A lot of potential, let down by the service

Flavour: Scandinavian classics, in the New Nordic style

Ambiance: Casual

Service: Patchy at best

Price for 2 (no drinks): 10-12,000 ISK



Smørrebrød, a Danish tradition, has its roots in necessity and modesty. However, the open-faced sandwiches of today are a far cry from their bread-and-butter avatar: whisper-thin slices of dark rye, groaning under the weight of pyramids of blushing shrimp, cascading chunks of chopped egg and herring, topped with everything from dainty fried shallots to an artful smattering of fresh herbs. I, for one, have completely fallen in love with these beautiful sandwiches, even if some are simply too pretty to eat. And now we have more to choose from in Reykjavík!

Opening last September, Smurstöðin is the latest cafe/restaurant at Harpa. The space is seemingly open but, as with Munnharpan before it, seems to have a confused air about it. This is perhaps due to the atrium location and not really the restaurant's fault. One can either

sit by the windows, with askew views of the harbour or the street, or gaze at that beautiful ceiling.

The menu is a balanced mix of the traditional, with thoughtful selections for vegetarians, such as the potato dish with lovage—which I may have to go back for.

The beef tartare (2,090 ISK) we started with was studded with capers, little walls of fingerling potato chips, and evenly piped mayonnaise, leaving every bite flavourful. Clean and classic, this is definitely something I'd go back for. Our other favourite was the celeriac with pickled onions (1,570 ISK). The celeriac was chunky and creamy, folded with smoked mayonnaise and garnished with pearl onion petals pickled in a juniper-spiked pickling liquid. The contrast of textures and flavour was on the money in this one, with the crunch of candied hazelnuts, the pucker of the onions and the smokiness of the mayo. A spunky dish. The leverpostej (1,650 ISK), pâté with peppered bacon and mushrooms, was delightful. The pâté was savory, with none of that metallic tang that often accompanies liver-based dishes. The jam was runny from the warm pâté, settling into little nooks and crannies. There were chunks of pickled celeriac as well. I wish they'd diced them a touch smaller and scattered them, though, just to break up the richness of the pâté.

The dish I was most excited about was also the biggest letdown of the meal. Shrimp and eggs with crispy chicken skin (2,090 ISK) sounds great, doesn't it? Now, I'm a sucker for the greasy, fatty, generally considered uncool parts of anything that once moved (chicken butts? Bring them on!). Done right, chicken skin is wonderful in terms of both texture and flavour. The ones we were presented with at Smurstöðin, however, were a touch

chewy; the fat needed to be rendered further (and slower too, I presume?). The shrimp was also a letdown. On the other hand, the quail eggs were a nice touch. With a little tweaking, this could be a superlative dish.

Dessert was a faultless chocolate cake made with 100% nibs (990 ISK). Warm and comforting.

Overall, the smørrebrød were all beautifully made, the garnishes there for a reason and the produce fresh. The bread is a dark sourdough rye, made in-house, chock-full of seeds and grains. It could hold up the toppings very well, without getting lost. I couldn't tell if the bread was toasted; if yes, that would explain its dryness. A swipe of butter could help, since it is a beautiful dense bread.

Having been at the receiving end of not so memorable service on previous visits, I was particularly interested in seeing if there was a difference this time around. Despite the restaurant being notably empty, the service was slow. Once the food arrived, no one checked in on us, or cleared the table until we specifically requested it. Smurstöðin's service is clearly lacking, and the seating layout does not allow for any visual communication with the staff, adding to the problem. The kitchen is doing things right, while the front of the house desperately needs training, both on the service end as well as some simple education on the menu. This could turn Smurstöðin into a spot deserving some rightful attention that justifies its location and prices.

RAGNAR EGILSSON
ART BICNICK

#109



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Pain And Gain

Kolabrutin

Harpa, Austurbakki 1

What We Think:

A new and improved Kolabrutin.

Flavour:

Modernist Italian. Think River Café rather than Olive Garden.

Ambiance:

Romantic but chilly.

Service:

Brilliant and ninja-like.

Price for 2 (with drinks):

25,000-30,000 ISK



The first thing you see when you walk into Kolabrutin is a neon sign that says “Scandinavian Pain.” The sign was originally debuted nine years ago by Ragnar Kjartansson at a Norwegian art festival, and it is a good fit for the restaurant which I, four years ago, criticized for a offering an uncertain mix of Italian and New Nordic styles (I also called Harpa a “sooty ice-cube blocking the view of my favourite mountains”). Today, I am happy to declare that I have made peace with Harpa (those blinky light things helped) and Kolabrutin has since refocused and won me over.

Although Kolabrutin’s menu mostly eschews Scandinavian pain in lieu of Southern European warmth, the decorations are still on the cold side. I definitely still struggle with the mirrored ceiling, no doubt meant to invoke basalt columns (an idea that Icelandic architects and designers never tire of invoking).

The cool sleekness is offset nicely by a large wood-burning stove and some fantastic service. The staff is extremely well

trained by Icelandic standards, ninja-like in their anticipation of the customer’s every need.

Kolabrutin has an impressive selection of Italian wines, divided by region. To accompany our dinner, we settled on a Perticaia Montefalco Sagrantino 2006, an earthy and full-bodied wine with ludicrous tannins, a great wine but probably not the best choice for seafood dishes.

The wine, and other liquids, were served in geometric space-age Chef & Sommelier glasses. Those were fine enough for the wine, but frustrating when drinking water from whisky tumblers that widen around the middle, making them impossible to hold except as if drinking a single malt in the snootiest way possible.

We started our meal with a Negroni (2,000 ISK) made with Punt e Mes, an intense red vermouth from the palace of sweet bitters that is Fratelli Branca. The drink was stellar, and would have made Orson Welles proud.

Our first primi was the gnocchi with pecorino, smoked pine nuts and baked kale (2,600 ISK). The gnocchi was well made, with a deep flavour. It furthermore has the dubious honour of being Kolabrutin’s only vegetarian offering, not counting substitutions.

The second primi was the Calamari with barley and black garlic (2,980 ISK). Black garlic is a hideously time-consuming ingredient which came into vogue a few years back and seems to be on the rise again. The process involves slow-cooking heads of garlic until they turn black and take on a uniquely sweet and sour flavour reminiscent of balsamic vinegar. The black garlic streaked the plate much like balsamic would at most restaurants, while adding a subtle touch. The few flimsy strips of calamari were well-cooked but under-represented. Since we dined at Kolabrutin, they have substituted the calamari for scallops.

The belly and fillet of lamb with tur-

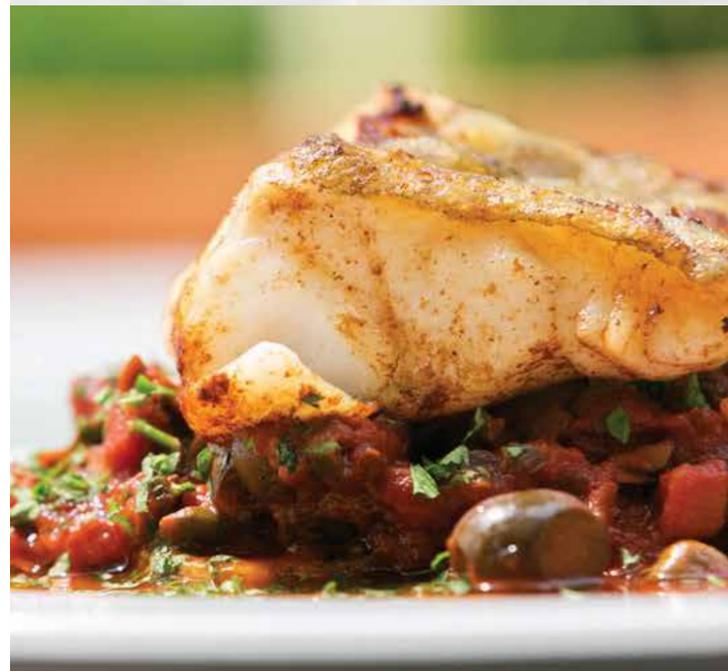
nips and charred onions (5,450 ISK) was an interesting dish, the most Scandinavian offering on the menu. It is made from two of the softest parts of the lamb: the fillet, known for its lack of fat and mild flavour, and the belly (which used to be called “lamb breast”), which is mostly fat and known for its pungent flavour. A lamb dish is almost mandatory in Icelandic restaurants, but it seems they were trying to add their own spin on the staple with this odd combo, using the priciest part of the lamb to meet expectations at their price range while boosting the flavour with the belly. It doesn’t hurt that a belly will also score a chef some cool points in our post-David Chang world. It was a tasty dish, but a bit of an overreach in my mind when other lamb cuts might have delivered the same balance.

The lemon Zabaione with puff pastry, crème fraiche ice cream and blackberries (1,900 ISK) left me dry, but not nearly as dry as the pastry. That dessert needs serious rethinking.

Fortunately the yoghurt in three textures, served with apples, mint, and verbena (1,900 ISK) was completely genius. A truly well-balanced dish with a nice blend of textures and as light and crispy as fresh linen. Heavily recommended.

Kolabrutin has come a long way from my last visit. The finer touches in design are still missing, and some dishes don’t quite deliver. But gone is the heavy hand of salt, fat, and buttery sauces and forced dalliances with New Nordic cuisine. The result is a pretty impressive modernist Italian restaurant breaking away from the standard fare.

RAGNAR EGILSSON
ART BICNICK



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5. Hits & Tits Karaoke

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6. Disco Owes Me Money #3

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7. Húrra Grapevine #2: Singapore Sling & Pink Street Boys

21:00 1500 isk

9. Monday night jazz

21:00 free entry

10. DJ Ísar Logi

11. DJ Musician & Vindva Mei

20:00 1500 isk

DJ Silja Glømmi

12. Low Roar & Farao

DJ Óli Dóri

21:00 1500isk

13. Muck, Oyama & Pink Street Boys

22:00 1500isk

DJ Terrordisco

14. Boogie Trouble & friends

DJ KGB

22:00 free entry

15. Lowercase night

21:00 free entry

16. Monday night jazz

21:00 free entry

17. DJ Finnur Pind

18. Ben Frost

21:00 2000isk

19. Skúli Mennski DJ Sunna Ben

20:00 1500isk

20. Rökkurró DJ Simon FKHNDSM

21:00 2000isk

7. Húrra Grapevine #2: Singapore Sling & Pink Street Boys DJ Óli Dóri

21. Hí á Húrra #3: Stand-up comedy

20:00 free entry

DJ Óli Dóri

23. Monday night jazz

21:00 free entry

24. Katrín Helga, Harpa Fönn & Blásjár

20:00 1000isk

25. Rúnar Þórisson & Himbrimi

21:00 1500isk

DJ Myth & Lazybones

27. DJ Ívar Pétur

28. DJ KGB

30. Monday night jazz

21:00 free entry

31. DJ Davíð Roach



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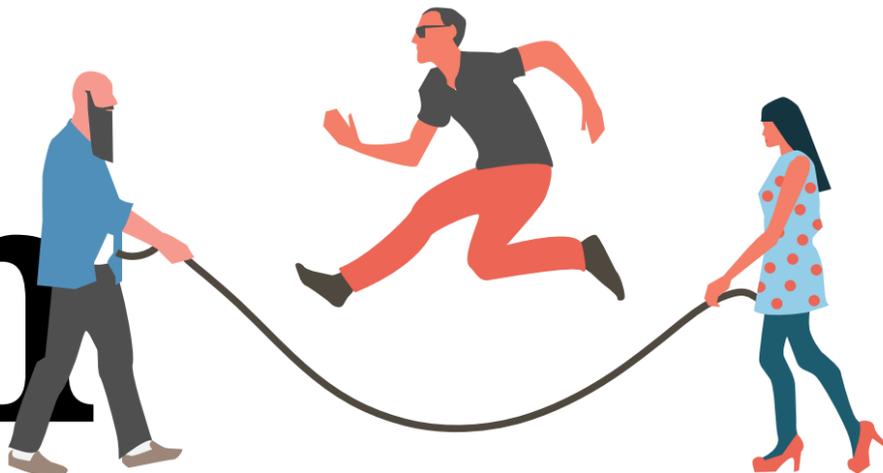
Turn to page 12 to read all about them!

Photo by Matthew Eisman

Play

To Win

At DesignTalks, learn how design thinking crosses into all disciplines
(Thursday March 12th, at 09:00)



Words by *John Rogers*

Illustrations by *Jónas Valtýsson*

One of the major components of DesignMarch is DesignTalks—a packed day of lectures and seminars held at Harpa, where leading design professionals from around the world share their projects, methods, thoughts and ideas. Each year comes with a theme, and 2015 will be based around the idea of “play,” which is reflected through a schedule of speakers famous for their various forward-thinking processes, experimental methods, interdisciplinary practices and good old-fashioned punk attitude.

“I think play is a fascinating phenomena,” smiles Hlín Helga Guðlaugsdóttir, curator of the DesignTalks programme. “It’s hugely important but often overlooked somehow. Research shows that there is a clear relationship between the playful mindset and creativity, imagination and innovation. I think it might be good for us in the creative industries to remember that a little bit more often and to actively adopt this kind of mindset. I’m not saying everyone should be playing all the time, but I do think we could all benefit from playing a little bit more.”

To illustrate the theme, the programme of DesignTalks brings together a group from across the creative disciplines, each of whom who address their chosen field with a sense of brave creativity that’s brought them not just acclaim, but a certain sheen of cool, too.

“They’re high-profile people in different stages of their careers,” says Hlín, “and they come from all areas of design—architecture, fashion, music branding, theatre... they touch on really varied subjects but they all have a certain flair that binds them together.”

Playing can be harder than you’d think

It’s one thing for a painter to come into the studio and address the blank canvas in a different way than they did the day before. But for those involved in the technical, drawn-out processes that constitute designing, say, a new type of building or car, I wonder if playfulness comes less easily, or even becomes counter-intuitive.

“Yes, definitely,” says Hlín, “we designers have a lot of limitations around us. We often end up being problem solvers, and that’s very limiting in terms of imagining the full range of possibilities available to us. But there are methods and even tools specifically for incorporating play into what we do. I, speaking personally, think we in design may all need to be a little bit more visionary.”

Hlín’s point of view is persuasive, and resonates not only what’s most appeal-

ing and entertaining to those looking at design from an outside perspective, but also with what’s going on within the industry. “Design has been reinventing itself for a while, but particularly over the past five years,” Hlín explains. “Everyone is looking for new ways of doing things, the challenges of incorporating sustainability, and new roles for designers and design. In a way, it’s been like going back to the sources. The ways we want to talk about design now go all the way back, perhaps, to after the last World War, when we had architects drafting up huge plans and schemes for all sorts of things. So there’s something interesting happening, there’s something in the air.”

The mother of invention

Iceland is a young nation in many ways—from the cultural and industrial developments of the last few decades, to its freshly appeared swathes of volcanic land. It’s also somewhat isolated, as an island perched out in middle of the North Atlantic, and whilst awareness of this little country is famously on a somewhat meteoric trajectory, Iceland is in many ways still a developing nation.

This breeds a certain DIY mentality—for example, if people want to hear live reggae music in Reykjavík, they’ll have to form a reggae band. It’s a proactive attitude that pervades many aspects of Icelandic culture, including design.

“Our design history is short,” says Hlín, “so if you look into product design in Iceland you’ll see quite a lot of experiments. And it’s not for the sake of it—it’s out of necessity. We have a phrase here that translates to something like, ‘Scarcity teaches the naked woman to spin,’ meaning that when you don’t have anything, you have to figure out how to get it or make it yourself. Product design here has been a lot like that—we don’t have the industry and support mechanisms that many other countries have. We’re so small! And we just don’t have the same natural resources—hardly any wood, for example—just little bits of this and that.”

The younger generation of Icelanders

doesn’t let the expense of import taxes or the scarcity of local materials hold them back, rather turning it into a strength. “It’s certainly a really rich flora we have here, even despite these obstacles,” smiles Hlín. “It’s interesting to people, and I think it links to our theme of play—there’s a certain type of open-minded experimentation that happens here quite naturally—a bit humorous, a bit strange, odd and quirky. That’s present in a lot of Icelandic culture, and design is no exception.”

Thus, while DesignTalks aim to offer Icelanders some fresh ideas, the event also presents an opportunity for visitors to be inspired by the local scene, and lets people from other disciplines tap into some cutting-edge design thinking. “We believe that design has something to share with all of us, rather than just talking to itself,” finishes Hlín. “It’s an undertone in the DesignTalks that we’ve tried to find people who also have relevance for a larger audience and across many disciplines. These ideas and processes are things we can all learn from.”

Introducing the speakers



Anthony Dunne

“Anthony Dunne is head of the interaction design programme design at RCA and a partner in Dunne & Raby. He’s particularly interesting in this context of play, as in playing with ideas and being radical about ways of thinking about the now, through the future. They propose that we create future scenarios so that we can have discussion here in the present. I think it’s a very interesting approach, and one that has gained momentum over the last years. They’ve really established these field of speculative design. It’s interesting to bring in people who are offering something new in the evolution of design, but also something that could benefit society at large. Projecting the best, worst, craziest things that could happen, so we can decide what we don’t want, and decide what we do want through that. It helps us decide what we want and need. He is a pioneer in that sort of thinking, and has a relevance across disciplines—he talks about things that concern us all.”



Jessica Walsh

“Jessica is a partner at Sagmeister & Walsh, a famous design studio in New York. She’s been working for some really heavy-duty clients, yet maintains a sense of freedom and freshness in her work. I think that’s very cool—she’s actually partially the inspiration behind our theme. She’s quite young but she’s gained a lot of awards and attention, partially because she has this fearless, almost provocative, radical way of approaching things. She’s really fresh. She’s going to talk explicitly about some examples of play in the work, as a method for creation—whether it’s problem solving or innovation. There’s a touching point there between a lot of fields, again—the mindset, and the approach.”



Walter van Beirendonck

“Walter is mainly a fashion designer, but he’s an interesting ‘player’ across many fields. He might not necessarily use that term himself—when I told him the theme he was like, ‘What does that mean?’ He’s a real rebel, and he’ll be interesting for everyone—fashion, theatre, advertising, participating in think tanks, working with musicians, illustrating books—he was one of the Antwerp Six, so he’s come through with a lot of very cool international figures who inspire each other back and forth. He’s an inspiration for many top names in the fashion industry. He’s also a bit of a trickster, you know? I think he’ll be hugely inspiring—this rebellious, playful voice. A creative spirit.”



Marti Guixé

“Marti is Spanish, a pioneer in many many things and very playful. He pushes and questions everything that he’s ever had to do with. He’s kind of a product

designer that hates products—it’s probably why he calls himself an ex-designer. He was maybe the first designer to work with food as a material, and has inspired a whole generation of food designers. He worked with shoemakers Camper for almost a decade, and created the concepts for their first flagship stores around the world. It was very new and refreshing at that time, with slogans like, ‘If you don’t need it, don’t buy it.’ So he was really one of the first ones to embrace the challenges of sustainability. He’s kept his voice and his way of rebelling or revolting against things, but at the same time really been appreciated and worked with some really big companies—he shows that you can be true to your ideals and still design a lot of great stuff. A great mind.”



Julien De Smedt

“Julien is known for not taking the conventional route. He started out with Rem Koolhaas, which is very big in the industry, and founded PLOT with Danish architect Bjarke Ingels. He has this really beautiful and interesting ways of speaking about performative architecture and design as story. He talks very well about his approach as an architect and a designer. Film people or storytellers might find it very interesting how that translates into his work.”

Landnáma

Fun fact! The typeface used for the headlines in this fancy DesignMarch pullout is called Landnáma. It was created by Guðmundur Ingi Úlfarsson & Mads Freund Brunse (AKA GUNMAD) of Or Type, Iceland’s first and only type foundry. Be sure to go check out their newly launched website www.ortype.is for an interactive experience with the rest of their type specimens.





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Icelandic Fashion Designer's Moment Has Arrived

Former Grapevine Design Award winner releasing a new collection.

Words by Victor Marquardt & York Underwood
Photo by Héðinn Eiríksson for Kyrja

This month, the Icelandic fashion label Kyrja is releasing its Autumn/Winter 2015/16 Campaign pictures, to be followed shortly by the lookbook. Its founder and creator, Sif Baldursdóttir, says it's been in the works since she released her first collection in 2013, which won her The Reykjavík Grapevine's "Looking Forward To More In 2014..." award.

Her label name Kyrja comes from the Icelandic word Valkyrja, or Valkyrie in English, the winged women who carried the slain Vikings to Valhalla. "It comes from the old Icelandic verb 'to choose,'" founder and creator Sif Baldursdóttir says. "So, it's like, you know, about power. I always do what feels natural. I don't like to complicate things. I'll have an idea and just go with it. I don't feel like I need to justify everything I make with a concept. I get ideas randomly and sometimes they mean something on a deeper level and sometimes they don't. It's my choice."

Indeed, choice as a concept seems to guide Sif, who appears to be watching everything and nothing at the same time, her mind constantly buzz-

ing behind her blue eyes. "I'm always looking around me. I'll see a fold in a T-shirt, and be like, 'ohh that reminds me of something,' and my mind will trail off and it will end up being a completely different concept from where I was inspired," Sif says. "I like natural fibres—fabrics that drape and fall nicely. Touch is important, but it has to be practical as well—sewable, not too fragile, not too impractical."

Sif studied fashion design at Istituto Marangoni in Milan, Italy, a school that was founded in 1935, and also has schools in London, Paris, and Shanghai. "I was in Rome working as an au pair, but I didn't really like it there. However, I felt I wasn't quite finished with Italy," Sif says. "There was one

major city in Italy I hadn't checked out—Milan. I had wanted to study fashion design since I was a teenager and I had a friend in fashion suggest going to the school there. I applied. I got in."

However, after Sif finished school, she felt she needed a break from fashion. "The school was a lot to handle, and they beat you down a bit. I needed some time to just gather myself. This job can be really personal and I was petrified of being judged," Sif says. "I was waiting for the moment when I would have the courage, you know? I was working shitty jobs in the meantime, not being happy. I was miserable. Then one day I woke up and just decided that I was ready. I quit the jobs I hated, moved back to my parents in order to save money and started Kyrja."

Since then, she has released five collections and established a chic minimalist style. "I'm really into pattern construction," Sif says. "My favourite is the Raglan sleeve, and I am really intrigued by silhouettes. I like to keep the details consistent—everything within the collection is always

a variant of something else. You can't just have one piece that's just not connected to anything. You have to have certain elements that are continuous throughout the collection."

Already though, the ambitious designer is thinking about her next collection. "A collection needs to be ready up to nine months before it hits the stores," Sif says. "I have until September to have my Spring/Summer 2016 collection ready, and then I'm looking do a trade show in Paris or Copenhagen, but I'm leaning towards Paris."

Kyrja is available at Kiosk and Baugar & Bein in Iceland and featured at Reykjavík Outpost and Lastashop in Los Angeles. Garments can be purchased online at www.kioskreykjavik.com. To check out the designs, visit www.kyrja.com.

Don't Miss These!

So you probably just flipped through the DesignMarch schedule and you're like, whoa, there are so many events. I can't possibly see them all? What on Earth should I see? Well, you're in luck because we consulted with a handful of our more design savvy friends, and they have some recommendations for you.

Slowly Changing Course

Have you ever walked around Reykjavík and thought, 'huh, that's kind of a weird building?' Yeah, well, it wouldn't hurt to think more about that kind of stuff, you know, before it's too late. And that's exactly what the people behind Slowly Changing Course have been doing. Designers, scholars, scientists, psychologists, architects, and economists—they've all been thinking about what we want Reykjavík to look like in the future, considering everything down to where we will raise our Chihuahuas. We hear they've come up with something great!

Where: Reykjavík Art Museum, Hafnarhús

When: Throughout DesignMarch

Flóra

Flóra means flora, and it describes Design Awards winner Hildur Yeoman's show particularly well. She is exhibiting a collection of photographs and illustrations featuring Iceland flowers and herbs from some kind of Icelandic sorcerer's recipe book. Oh, this is no Sabrina, the teenage witch kind of stuff...

Where: Vörðuskóli,

Frakkastígur 27

When: March 12, 21:00

MAGNEA x AURUM

Fashion/knitwear designer Magnea has teamed up with jewellery makers AURUM to debut a jewellery collection. If jewellery made from wool and other unconventional materials strikes your fancy, go take a gander!

Where: Aurum, Bankastræti 4

When: March 11, 18:00

Infinite String Quartet

Composer Úlfur Eldjárn—in collaboration with graphic designer Sigurður Oddsson and programmer Halldór Eldjárn—introduces The Infinite String Quartet, an interactive music composition. Says Úlfur: "The listener creates his own version of the music through an intuitive graphic interface on the web or mobile app, by looping and layering recordings of an actual string quartet. The possible versions of the piece are infinitely many."

This sounds way cool.

When: March 12, 17:00

Where Gallery H71A, Hverfisgata 71A, and at www.infinitestringquartet.is

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A Design For Life



Now in its seventh year, with over 130 events, DesignMarch has never been bigger. We got the lowdown from director Sara Jónsdóttir!

Words by *John Rogers*

Photo by *Art Bicnick*

As the winter passes its nadir and the days start to grow lighter, a bright fixture on Iceland's cultural calendar once again approaches. Every March, Reykjavík bursts into a celebration of the sprawling and multi-faceted emerging industry of Icelandic design. Whether "speculative design" that predicts and guides the city's architectural future, or the latest developments in Icelandic ceramics, graphics, textiles, jewellery and fashion, the DesignMarch festival offers a glimpse into the galleries, workshops, studios and minds of a dizzying range of local talents.

This year's programme boasts over 130 events, held in spaces from Reykjavík's 101 district to outlying boroughs like Garðabær and Hafnarfjörður, where interested locals can rub shoulders with international professionals in a four-day feast of exhibitions, seminars, product launches and parties. At the heart of it all is the small but dedicated team working out of the Iceland Design Centre, housed in an eye-catching little building daubed with a brightly coloured Siggí Eggertsson mural.

The team is led by Sara Jónsdóttir, who recently took over as festival director. "This will be the seventh festival," she says, cradling a hot cup of coffee on particularly chilly February afternoon. "But I've been involved for just a few months. It's my first time as director."

Out of the ashes...

Sara arrived well-equipped, coming from a background of marketing and business training, and on-the-job experience that bridges many aspects of the festival, from project management to advertising, graphic design, interior design and production design. She's watched the festival grow over the years, albeit from the sidelines until now.

"DesignMarch started just after the crisis," Sara recalls. "The Iceland Design Centre was founded in autumn of 2008, when the various designers' unions wanted to make a festival. Despite the crisis, they pushed ahead. I've heard it said that economic crises always lead to more artistic and design-oriented projects—people get more involved in culture at these moments. Somebody once said 'never let a good crisis go to waste,' and I think that's a great viewpoint."

Since those rocky times, DesignMarch has flourished. This year will mark its biggest edition to date, with a great range of work on show, and more

overseas professionals present than ever before. "It's grown a lot," Sara says, "and the quality has increased too. We have more international attention now, from the media and also from buyers and foreign designers wanting to come and exhibit and mingle with the Icelandic designers. We also run the DesignMatch—that's a day where buyers from the Nordic countries, and now Germany and France, come to meet with Icelandic designers. We've seen some good projects coming out of that."

Almost everything you own was designed by someone

It's easy to forget just how broad the discipline of design, taken in the widest sense, can run. From the clothes we wear to the houses we live in, to the furniture we sleep, sit and work on, the fonts we read and the phones and computers we use to communicate, design is everywhere. And here in Iceland, it's no different.

"Icelandic design has a very broad spectrum," explains Sara. "The Iceland Design Centre was formed by nine unions: architecture, landscape architecture, interior design, product design, clothing and fashion, graphic design, ceramics, jewellery and textiles. We have people and companies from all these fields taking part."

But whilst there's plenty of networking and business taking place, DesignMarch is about more than industry. Sara notes that international visitors to the festival often pick up on how relaxed everything is by comparison to similar overseas events. "DesignMarch is the big promotional platform for Icelandic designers, but it works on many levels," she explains. "It's very accessible to the public, partly because all the events are free—you don't have to buy a ticket. And



it takes place all over the city, so it's not in a closed-off fairground in an exhibition hall. People who come to DesignMarch from abroad love this element—it's more personal and relaxed, which maybe allows people to think outside of the box."

In fact, almost one in every ten Icelanders will partake in DesignMarch in one way or another. "Every year, 30,000 people participate in DesignMarch," Sara says, "so it raises awareness of Icelandic design across all fields. It's very important that we continue to involve people like this. Icelanders are very proud of quality Icelandic things, and before DesignMarch came about, people would often be surprised and say 'Oh, is this Icelandic design?' So this event lets them become more involved with what's happening here."

Scratching the surface

The widespread nature of the events is also a factor in getting local people involved with DesignMarch. The event happens all over the region in many different neighbourhoods, and Sara rattles off a large number of events off the top of her head.

"There are hubs all over the city," she says. "On Skúlagata for example, in the old Nýló building [by KEX Hostel],

there will be two exhibitions. We have a big exhibition in Hafnarhúsið, about the future of Reykjavík. It's a multi-disciplinary exhibition with people from all kinds of backgrounds. We have a show in the City Hall, some architecture and Finnish ceramics. Siggá Heimis is an Icelandic designer who'll be showing her new Ikea lamp there also. Hannesarholt will be another one of the hubs for product design, and there'll be things all over Grandi—we're for instance throwing a 'farmer's ball' down there. There's the design museum in Garðabær, they'll display the Design Awards and 'Designs from Nowhere.' Hildur Yeoman will be showing some new work, and in Sundhöllin, there'll be a one-off installation with 'Float,' the swimming gear designer, fashion designer Eggló and graphic designer Sigurður Eggertsson. There's also a lot going on at Epa, the product design store... There's so, so much happening. This is just scratching the surface, really."

Play

As well as these myriad exhibitions and events, DesignMarch also includes a series of seminars held in Harpa (learn more elsewhere in this very DesignMarch pullout). Each year, the DesignTalks day has a theme, with various pres-

tigious speakers invited from overseas to share their ideas with the throng. The theme for 2015 is "Play Away"

"We have some great design thinkers speaking about their way of working," explains Sara, "whether in the sense of using childish play, or play as in experimentation or working outside of the box, or coming up with a totally new way of thinking; all our guests this year speak of play in some form. I think the theme has coloured the festival this year. We told everyone about the theme at a designer meet-and-greet, and I think a lot of people have responded to it with what they're showing."

And as the world has noticed in beacons of Icelandic music, play and creativity is where ideas are born, and something Iceland is good at in many different media. "We don't have this huge history of design like some of the other Nordic countries," says Sara, "so we're not bound by that weight of history here. We can see the identity of Icelandic design developing now—there's a lot of humour in it, and it has a playful and experimental nature. And Icelandic designers often think of materials differently because of the scarcity of natural resources here—they use the materials in an interesting and original way."

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Grandi & Mýrargata



1 Tulipop Fantasy world Fiskislóð 31
For DesignMarch Tulipop premieres the new product line for 2015 at their office and showroom, bringing colour to Grandi. Among the new products are the Tulipop-lamp, quality school bags and cool puzzles. There will be refreshments, colouring books for the children, and characters from the fantasy world of Tulipop roaming around during the open house on Saturday, 14 March, from 12:00–15:00

2 HAPPY SKIN Farmers Market / Hólmaslóð 2
Happy skin is a series of drawings Birta Fróðadóttir created for a book of poetry: Happy skin (and gloria) by Sigurbjörg Prastardóttir. The drawings have their origin in the world of architecture, where architectural drawings and lines mutate into a biosystem from another world.

Sveitaball í Ófirrisey Farmers Market / Hólmaslóð 2
A "sveitaball" in Ófirrisey Farmers Market invites you to a quick "sveitaball", or country-dance, outside their headquarters in Ófirrisey. Live music, beautiful clothing and surprises!

3 1200 TONS Sjávarklasinn / Grandagarður 16
Every year, hundreds of tons of marine debris end up on Iceland's coastline. This exhibition explores how we can utilize the marine industry's waste material as a source for innovation and design. Designers: Þórunn Árnadóttir, Dagný Bjarnadóttir, Kristbjörg Guðmundsdóttir, Milja Korpela.

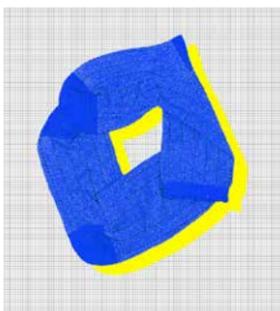
4 Búrið spoons Búrið / Grandagarður 35
Ólöf Erla Bjarnadóttir and Margrét Guðnadóttir present new spoons made from porcelain and reed. The spoons are part of a design project they have been developing for the last year. Ólöf Erla and Margrét are both designers at Kirsuberjatréd.

5 Obvious Grandagarður 31
An exhibition of Guðlaug Geirsdóttir's new porcelain lamps and dome lights. The lights are part of an installation based around the word Augljós ("Obvious"). Hulda Vilhjálmssdóttir, María Edit Antal and Sveinhildur Vilhjálmssdóttir take part in the installation with Guðlaug.

6 hidden home world STEINUNN studio / Grandagarður 17
To find a world within our home is a life-long task, each step from the beginning to the end is a search within ourselves. Steinunn Sigurðardóttir, fashion designer, and Sigrún Guðmundsdóttir, ceramic designer, work together to find the hidden home world. The freedom that allows you to create your own world is explored. The media that are being mixed in this installation are textiles, fashion, ceramics and music.

7 Sjóminjasafnið og Víkin Grandagarður 8
Terta Duo
The young creative studio Terta Duo will join DesignMarch for the first time full force. They bring new diverse products to the game, offering an interplay between old and new times with a focus on different materials.

Genitalia
Genitalia is a collaboration between different designers who have one thing in common: taking their inspiration from the Sacral Chakra, which rules our reproductive organs. At this exhibition the reproductive organs are presented in various forms along with material that aims to celebrate diversity.



This socks
When second year students in graphic design and other people's socks meet.

Skata 1959 – 2015
The „Skata“ chair is the oldest Icelandic chair still produced. On DesignMarch 2015 new colours and types of wood will be introduced.

8 World of the sea by the old harbour Kopar restaurant / Geirsgata 3
Kopar restaurant, sitting on the old harbour in Reykjavík, will serve its potent crab soup in porcelain bowls made by artist Eýgló Benediktsdóttir. The bowls are inspired by the ocean and belong to the porcelain collection Medusa.



9 MÝRIN Hafnarbúðum

ÖLLU SKARTAD / Adornments
Four Icelandic jewellery brands; Hring eftir hring, OrriFinn, STAKA og Twin Within, combine their designs in Mýrin, Hafnarbúðum. Different concepts, methods and use of material shows the diversity in Icelandic jewellery today.

Priceless
As We Grow is a children's clothing brand that promotes sustainability and nature-friendly products. All our products are timeless designs that are meant to last. We are therefore showing recycled children's sweaters, taken on by various Icelandic artists and designers and given new life as a piece of art.

Colour stories
From Stockholm, Tekla Evelina Severin, aka @teklan, gives us an insight into her colourful Instagram world. Her photography is all about colour and shape, a mixture of arranged setups and on-the-road, true "insta" moments. She will be showing selected images as posters at Mýrin.



Þóra Finnsdóttir
In her exhibition, Þóra will put together objects belonging to different applied categories, design, craft, art and thereby experience how these objects relate to each other and how the Finnsdóttir products act in this composition.

Kvos & Vatnsmýri

10 The activity web By the fence on Miðbakka
Students of landscape planning in architecture at the Agricultural University of Iceland weave an activity web with the help of pedestrians on Miðbakka, by Reykjavík harbour. The piece is animation based around a conversation between local residents and their environment.

11 Kotasæla Printwork exhibition Vesturgata 14 a+b
A show featuring silk-screen-printed posters and an open workshop. The graphic designers Kristján Freyr Einarsson, Friðrik Snær Friðriksson, Þorsteinn Davíðson and Þorleifur Kamban have run a screen printing workshop at Vesturgata 14 a + b, under the name Kotasæla, since 2010.

12 In drawers Kirsuberjatréd / Vesturgata 4
The designers at Kirsuberjatréd each have one drawer with which to display their designs. Kirsuberjatréd has a beautiful, old counter that speaks of the shop's former life. The subjects are varied, but the size of each project is determined by a single drawer.

12 Craftworks Kirsuberjatréd / Vesturgata 4
Kirsuberjatréd will be displaying craftwork by the artist Daniel Magnússon in its window. Daniel will be showing treasures he has crafted and developed over two decades, in as many as 24 different variations.

13 Recycled paper City Library / Tryggvagata
Kráka Design recycles old papers and books that would otherwise have been lost and gives them new life. Intriguing paper figures and images bring the handmade paper to life.

14 Slowly changing course Hafnarhúsið
What will the apartment of the future look like? How do we want to live? Slowly changing course is a new housing development project aimed at defining innovative housing options for the future development of high-density living areas in the far north. www.haegbreytilegatt.is

14 Street party – A pop-up city from Kraumur and the Aurora Design Fund Reykjavík Art Museum, Hafnarhús Saturday, 14 March, at 21:00–01:00
The Kraumur music fund and the Aurora Design Fund invite you to a street party where bands and musicians, designers and architects meet in a pop-up city of the future, in the art museum courtyard. Event designers are Theresa Himmer and Brynhildur Pálsdóttir. Musicians taking part: Retro Stefson, Sin Fang, Samaris, Snorri Helgason, Bjargey & Gígja from YLJA, Valdimar Guðmundsson and Örn Eldjárn. It's a street party, spread the word!



14 Wall projection Icelandic fashion photography
Icelandic fashion design is always getting stronger. Fashion photography is also on its way to becoming world class thanks to our highly trained photographers, who work all over the world. A selection of photographs will be projected on to the wall of Hafnarhúsið after sunset. The artistic director is Erna Bergmann.

15 Epal í Hörpu

COLUMNAR
Gerður Steinarsdóttir, industrial designer and illustrator, presents the COLUMNAR product line that she designed for the design agency Format. The line is inspired by the angular, ridged rock formations that create regular and irregular combinations in nature. The line consists of coffee tables, shelves, ornamental trees, and more.

Hundahólmí
Hildur Petersen and Anna Bjarnadóttir introduce new products from Hundahólmí. Þingvellir – then, now and in between is a small booklet containing a stroll through Þingvellir, decorated with drawings by the Swiss artist Karin Kurzmeyer. They will also be showing postcards and a shoulder bag featuring pictures from the booklet.

Föðurland
Ágústa Hera Harðardóttir, fashion designer, presents föðurland ("Long Johns") decorated with aerial photographs of Icelandic nature, designed in collaboration with Sigurjón Sigurgeirsson. They are made from high-quality cotton and can either be used as leggings or under clothing for keeping warm.



15 International Sharing Harpa
Wasatch Design Collective is a cooperative of industrial designers located along the Wasatch Front, Salt Lake City. At DesignMarch they will be sharing their designs with local Icelandic designers; Dögg design, Berlinord, Þórunn Árnadóttir, Studio Bility, Vík Þrjónsdóttir, Volki and Færið.

15 RFF Harpa, Silfurberg
Reykjavík Fashion Festival (RFF) is being held for the sixth time this year. The ambition of RFF is to draw attention to Icelandic design and the ongoing evolution of the Icelandic fashion industry. RFF sets up the catwalk for six Icelandic fashion labels this year: Another Creation, Eyland, MAGNEA, JÖR by Guðmundur Jörundsson, Scintilla and Sigga Maija. Tickets are sold at harpa.is.

16 Höfuðborgarstofa / Aðalstræti 2 Experience the creativity of Reykjaness
The designers from Maris, a design group in Suðurnes, present work that springs from the raw landscape of Reykjaness, in collaboration with Markaðsstofa Reykjaness. The Maris designers will be introducing clothing, jewellery, ceramics and textiles, among other things. The exhibition is supported by Heklan, the economic development agency of Suðurnes, and the Keflavík Airport development corporation.

17 Kraum / Aðalstræti 10 In a green hollow...
...there I keep the ring, decorate mud cakes, brew coffee, receive guests. We're playing house in Aðalstræti 10 and everyone is welcome. Goldsmiths Erling Jóhannesson and Helga Ósk Einarssdóttir will be showing their jewellery; the new, the old and work in development.

Grjótáborpið, colouring book
Kráka Design presents drawings by Gylfi Gíslason from Grjótáborpinu, litabók [colouring book]. Gylfi traces the history of Grjótáborpið with a focus on architecture. He tells the story of life in the houses and of the threat they face.

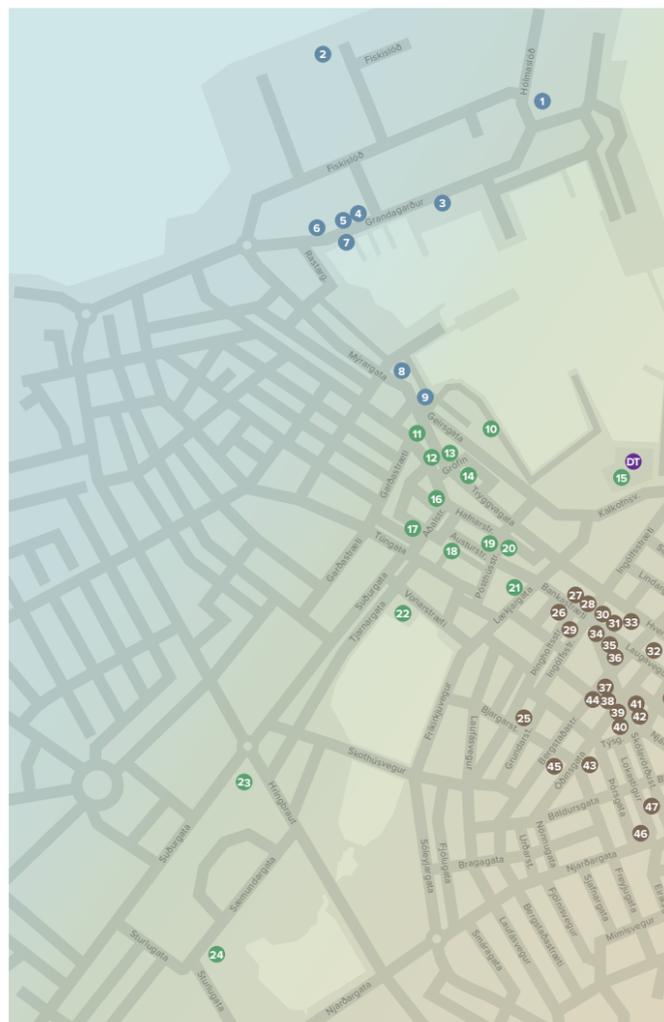
Christmas tree @ Kraum
Björgvin Þorvarðarson shows a new Christmas tree that he has designed to revive the memory of handmade trees. Around the turn of the 20th century Icelandic families often created home-made Christmas trees, because spruce trees were imported and therefore a rare luxury.

On the right shelf
Ómar Másson shows shelving inspired by the shelves of Helgi Einarsson, master furniture maker, from 1963.

Ljósápur
Covering and wrapping round the body is the focus of a new knitting line from UTANUM. UTANUM was founded in 2006 by Eva Vilhelmsdóttir. From the beginning, Icelandic wool and cultural heritage have been the main subjects, and all designs were made according to the philosophy of environmentally friendly production.



Anita Hirlekar
Anita Hirlekar is an Icelandic fashion textile designer. She will exhibit her MA collection from Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design in London. All the textiles are handmade by Anita, and embroidered with various threads, using wool, cotton, and acrylic combined with shiny sequins for a glamorous touch.



Undur
Esther Ír presents her home collection Undur. In the exhibition she will show Undur's first collection where you can find the Völundur-shelf.

18 e-motion Vallarstræti, outside
The Association of Furniture and Interior Designers (FHI) plans to stir up the emotions of pedestrians on Vallarstræti, with a piece that is a game for the eye and the body. The FHI encourages passers-by to take pictures of themselves by the work and then post them on social media.

19 Landsbankinn and design history Guided tour: Pétur Ármannsson, architect
Landsbankinn / Austurstræti 11
In the reception at Landsbankinn on Austurstræti two very different but notable periods in Icelandic design and architectural history come together. The architect Pétur H. Ármannsson focuses on the history and characteristics of these two remarkable interiors. There will be refreshments and live music. Sunday, 15 March, at 14:00.



20 Wood You? Galleri Tukt / Hitt Húsið
Wood You? is a series of projects made by final year students in the product design department of Iceland Academy of the Arts. Icelanders have mostly had to rely on imported wood, but with increased forestry activity in Iceland self-sufficiency is in sight

21 Reykjavík City Hall
Four teams of architects exhibit their various themes and views on architecture in Reykjavík City Hall.

Dressed in Ash
Ash is part of Icelandic nature. Dressed in Ash is volcanic ash that has been affixed to outer-wall cladding to be used on buildings here and abroad. The cladding is eco-friendly and has been tested as a building material by Innovation Centre Iceland.

Fishing hut lighthouse factory
The mysterious connection between nature and construction is expressed by slicing through fishing huts, lighthouses and factories in Skipaskaga. This project was put together by Katla Mariudóttir under the guidance of Basalt Architects and in connection with preparatory work for the hot springs that are to be built there.

Nýpurhyrna+StudioBua
A presentation of the varied work of Nýpurhyrna and its recent collaboration with the architectural group StudioBua. The project includes the vision and development for sustainability, buildings and spaces on the Nýpur farm at Skarðsbrönd in Dalabyggð. These spaces and buildings now host various cultural activities.

TREFF. MAST BROOK
TREFF. MAST BROOK is the name of the proposal by A2F architects who won first prize for the construction of a new multi-purpose hall and youth centre in the Mast Brook neighbourhood of Rendburg last October. The competition was part of an effort by the city to strengthen social feeling in the neighbourhood.

Views on clay
Design Migration is an association promoting Finnish designers abroad in events and exhibitions. This time we gathered a group of people to work with the clay material. The results show an interesting and perhaps surprising mix of approaches to clay.

Krusning: IKEA light
Sigríður Heimsdóttir will show a light installation with a new IKEA lamp: Krusning, made in paper. During the exhibition she will also host a workshop where people can customize their own light. Saturday, 14. March, 14:00.

23 Þjóðminjasafnið / National Museum of Iceland



Perspective
The Association of Icelandic Goldsmiths presents new work by its members. The choice of materials, design and working methods were left open. The exhibition is characterized by diversity and professionalism in the field of contemporary jewellery design. Sjónarhorn runs from 12–30 March at the National Museum of Iceland. Seeing is believing.

Jewellery design on stamps
National Museum of Iceland, lobby The Post Office shows enlarged stamps featuring jewellery by the designers Ástþór Helgason from Orr, Guðbjörg K. Ingvarsdóttir from Auum, Helga Ósk Einarssdóttir and Helgu R. Mogensen. Stamp design by Örn Smári Gíslason.

24 Norræna húsið / Nordic House PERSONA – memories and the complex self
Laufey Jónsdóttir shows experimental three-dimensional portraits created in mixed media. The pieces build on her personal conversations with different individuals about life and memories.



Moving Castle - Touring Design School

In this workshop we will make one special rug together. The rug project started during Stockholm Design Week 2015 and it will travel from Reykjavik DesignMarch to Helsinki. Come and join us and share your stories while binding knots together!

Lækjargata - Snorrabraut

25 Arkis og Verkis introduce Holmen svømmehall

Landsbankinn wall, Austurstræti 11 The swimming hall will rise on the beach in Asker, Norway. It is designed according to the philosophy of the "passive house". The project is a pioneering work and it has been a great challenge for Arkis and Verkis to meet the demands of the commission in regard to energy issues and maintaining environmental quality.

25 Hannesarholt Grundarstíg 10 DÖNSK

"A nation, without its own design, is no nation" The design-studios ÖRNDUVALD, DÖGG DESIGN and BERLINORD are all based in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Glazed Dialogue

An exhibition of the products and workshop of Studio Hannah Whitehead, where three dimensions have evolved into two, craftsmanship into digital work and potential into usage. Textiles, paper, ceramics and paintings. Guests are invited to arrange and shape the future and tailor it to their own needs.



26 AURUM Bankastræti 4

TUTTU – Reindeer hoof and silver TUTTU jewellery is created from the hoofs of Greenlandic reindeers. This black jewellery is soft and just a little rough, but at the same time pointy and sharp. On the smooth, black surface, miniature soft white and silver lines can be detected, relating to the colour of the silver.

My shape

Steinunn Vala / Hring eftir hring will be showing new sculptures and necklaces in the window of Aurum. The necklaces, which she calls Lögum [Shape], reflect a human life that is shaped and formed by layers from different periods. As the layers multiply, the human changes, but each layer will always exist within.

Inuk Design – Delights of Greenland The designer Liss Stender won an award in Greenland for most innovative and original design in 2012. Inuk Design's products are handicrafts, to be used every day or for special occasions.



MAGNEA X AURUM

MAGNEA presents a new jewellery collection in collaboration with Aurum. The inspiration for the collection comes from the fantasy world of the fashion label where the focus is on knitting and the use of Icelandic wool mixed with unconventional material.

27 Þórunn Árnadóttir at 66°N

66°Norður / Bankastræti 5 This is a collaboration between 66°North and product designer Þórunn Árnadóttir. Þórunn gives the classic hat from 66°North a new look, pointing to the brand's background, the sea and the fishery.

28 Hofsjökull trivet

Loft Hostel / Bankastræti 7 A display featuring a trivet that shows how Hofsjökull glacier will retreat during the next 300 years due to global warming, with information on climate change written by scientists. The trivet is white and comes in five pieces, each portraying the retreat of the glacier within a certain number of years.

28 URBAN DESIGN from the smallest details to the big picture

Solon Bistro, upper floor / Bankastræti 7a In urban design the human aspect is sometimes forgotten. A balance between aesthetics and functionality is important. The exhibition shows provocative projects from planning studies master students at LHI who have spent the last years playing with redesigning certain parts of the city.

29 Taktu há úr hala mínum / Take a hair from my tail

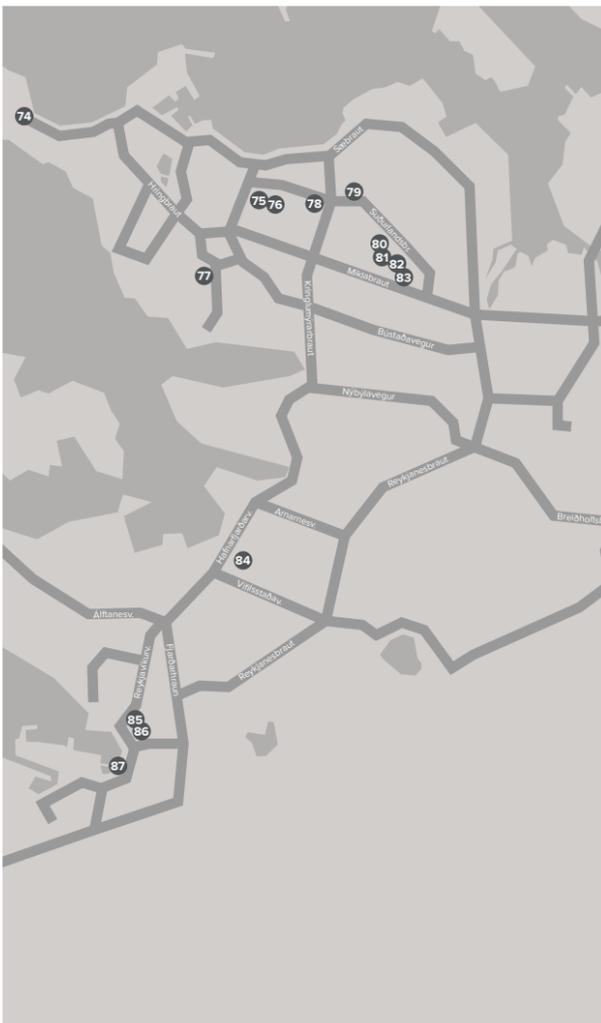
Stúdíó Stafn / Ingólfsstræti 6 Presenting five custom-designed handbags from cow skin mixed with bull skin and other fur. There will be drawings and concept work connected to the design process. The curator and designer is Elin Edda Árnadóttir, set and costume designer.

30 Möskvar Light

Spakmannsspjarir / Bankastræti 11 The shop Spakmannsspjarir will be displaying a new light developed from Icelandic herring nets. The light is designed by HAF in collaboration with experienced Icelandic netmakers and is a reinterpretation of the classic crystal chandelier. The light can be flat packed.

31 Deep Day additions

Skartgripaverslunin Orr / Bankastræti 11 The opening of Una Baldvinsdóttir's textile/clothing line, Deep Day additions. Consisting of simple items of clothing inspired by experimentation with different fabrics, colours, forms and textures in patterns and knitted fabrics.



32

A beautiful journey Bláa lónið verslun, Laugavegi 15. A video work from Döðlur for the Blue Lagoon, which seeks to show the origins of one of the wonders of the world. The video work will be exhibited in the shop window.

33

Paper Collective í NORR11 NORR11 / Hverfisgata 18a Paper Collective opens a pop-up exhibition at NORR11. Paper Collective is a Danish company creating graphic prints in collaboration with various artists supporting good causes.

35

Andstæðar TÝPUR / Opposite TYPE Mokka-kaffi / Skólavörðustígur 3a Opposite Type is a collaborative exhibition by five Icelandic graphic designers, one Finnish writer, one Icelandic writer and an American illustrator. The theme is "opposite types". Each designer, writer or illustrator interprets the work based on the theme.



36

Brooches Listhús Ófeigs / Skólavörðustígur 5. The goldsmiths Bolli Ófeigsson, Dýrfinna Torfadóttir, Karl Gústaf Davíðsson and Ófeigur Björnsson hold an exhibition of brooches. Refreshments are available and everyone is welcome.

37

Bíbi Spark Design Space / Hrímlinn / Kraum / Aurum / Minja / Epal PyroPet presents Bibi the bird. On 12 March, Bibi will be lit for the first time in the shops, and everyday during the festival one Bibi will rise from the ashes like a phoenix. Visitors are encouraged to participate in an Instagram game where they can share pictures of Bibi with the hashtag #PyroPetBibi. The winner will win a Bibi.



38

PETITS VOLCANS Mengi / Óðinsgata 2 The French/Icelandic design team IILF has joined hands with the international glass blowing center CIAV in Meisenthal, France and made a glass product collection inspired by the fierce natural phenomenon common in Iceland, volcanoes.



39

Can I have a Word With You? Geysir / Skólavörðustígur 16 Or Type invites you to a dialogue. A dialogue about everything that matters. Or even everything that does not matter. About physical and nonphysical things. About what was or what will be. A conversation between friends and enemies. A conversation between strangers. Everyone's conversation about everything or nothing at all.

40

Gersemar jewellery line An exhibition of the new jewellery line Gersemar at our new shop on Skólavörðustígur. The jewellery line was inspired by boxes decorated with conches and shells. The jewellery is made from silver or 14 carat gold.

41

TOOLS Skólavörðustígur 17a TOOLS are specific objects used for certain goals. The design team OrriFinn presents jewellery pieces that are replicas of chosen tools, some that relate to certain professions, others that are necessary in our everyday lives. There will be a performance on Saturday, 14 March, at 15:00.

42

StígurINN Stígur / Skólavörðustígur 17b The designers at Stígur take in the surroundings at Skólavörðustígur. The houses and street play the lead role, with each artist using their medium to create a picture of the setting in the window of Stígur. The participants are Bjarni Sigurðsson, Dagný Gyfadóttir, Helena Sólbrá and Ólöf Sæmundsdóttir.

43

Entrance to material Harbinger / Freyjugata 1 Approaching the subject through experimentation and play. Two designers visit a Swiss company and are introduced to a new material. Visitors will witness the designers' first encounter with the new material and the first steps of the design process.

44

Lestarhestar og Dalur Sjónarland bókaútið / Bergstaðastræti 7 Icelandic designer Katrín Olína Petursdóttir has created a set of home products that celebrate reading, made by shaping steel tubes with an old exhaust-pipe bending machine. The products will be displayed in the window of the bookshop Sjónarland.

45

Poison in a bottle

Ekkisens / Bergstaðastræti 25b Fashion and textile designer Tanja Levý will present her first clothing line with an installation. The prints and silhouettes are designed around the story of about a flatfish which is caught in an oil spill at sea, adapts to its environment and goes into disguise.

46

Leikið við Loka / Play with Loki Café Loki / Lokastígur 28 Loki Laufeyjarsón is brought to life from the stories in a painting at Café Loki, Lokastígur. The owner, textile designer Hrónn Vilhelmsdóttir, plays with a work of fine art by Sigurður Valur so that textile, product design and art connect in an exciting way.

47

STAND UP/ STAND OUT Eggert feldsker / Skólavörðustígur 38 Fashion designer Elísabet Karlsdóttir shows her project STAND UP / STAND OUT. The project is supported by Eggert feldsker (furrier) and was selected to participate in Remix 2015, an international fashion and fur design competition in Milan, which was held in collaboration with Vogue Talents.

48

One by eighteen Spark Design Space / Klappastígur 33 Spark Design Space presents a doll's house by designers Auður Ösp Guðmundsdóttir and Halla Kristín Hannesdóttir. For thousands of years doll's houses have fascinated people of all ages. The house, existing on a miniaturized scale, opens up the possibility for a fairyland that is not necessarily represented in reality.

Something Fishy workshop

Something Fishy is a fun, innovative product made from Icelandic fish bones, which can be glued together and painted in a variety of ways. This is an opportunity for children and adults to try the product, to use your imagination and to get playing.

49

25 Blue Apples and Snakes at Macland Macland / Laugavegur 23 During DesignMarch, 25 numbered Apple pillows from Bara design are for sale in Macland. These soft blue Apples reduce strain on the shoulders and back while working on the computer. In our Apple paradise we also have snakes that support the neck and head and remind us to keep our head centered when using computers and smartphones.

50

Habitat Skúmaskot / Laugavegur 23, bakhús In Skúmaskot different designers have found a habitat for creation where freedom, form and play lead the way. The payoff is an exhibition of seven designers representing the diversity of the group.

50

Space Experiment #01 – TALK Skúmaskot / Laugavegur 23, bakhús A composer, inspired by a poem about friendship, once wondered, "what would happiness sound like?" TALK is an experimental interactive surface that wonders "What can conversation create?" in an increasingly technology driven life, where the mantra "stay connected" ironically isolates.

51

Hendrikka Waage Verslunin Eva / Laugavegur 26 Hendrikka Waage presents jewellery, dresses and scarves at DesignMarch. The dresses and scarves are made from 100% Italian silk among other fabrics and are very colourful and elegant.

52

India – Iceland Hrímlinn hönnunarhús / Laugavegur 25 Traveling through India, Hildur and Ása became fascinated with Indian jewellery. Here they present an Icelandic jewellery collection with Indian influences. This is the first collaboration between Ása Jewellery, architect Hildur Steinþórsdóttir, and photographer Íris Stefánsdóttir. Ása Jewellery has created jewellery since 2009.

53

Vessels / Material & Transformation Kaffistofan / Hverfisgötu 42 Six students from the Product Design Programme exhibit selected work that deals with process, the dynamic relationship between author, material, tools and transformation.

54

Húrra Keramik Húrra Reykjavík / Hverfisgata 50 The roughly burned clay finds its way into the soft men's world. There it seeks to shine among the soft colours of the men's clothing store Húrra Reykjavík. Kristín Sigfríður Gardarsdóttir og Ólöf Erla Bjarnadóttir show new ceramics.

55

Power of the Pen Hringa / Laugavegur 33 Power Of The Pen is a new jewellery collection from Inga R. Bachmann. The subjectivity of the written word can be a great inspiration for human beings. Power Of The Pen deals with this and the power of free speech, whether as the written word or other creations of art.

56

Incarnation from Kria Aftur / Laugavegur 39 Incarnation from Kria is a group of designs that work together or individually, taking inspiration from natural orders and cycles. The incarnations are themselves cyclic, as they are made from repurposed metals and continue to explore the repeating patterns and fractal illusions they create.



57

Har eyewear Sjáðu / Hverfisgata 52 Har eyewear presents new glasses with a new choice of materials. Har eyewear offers handmade Icelandic glasses where thoughtful design and excellent workmanship go together. The ideology comes from skateboards and the frames are made from 9 layers of veneers.

58

Trend Beacons heimildarmynd Bió Paradís / Hverfisgötu 54 12.03 20:00 13.03 18:00 14.03 16:00 15.03 20:00

A documentary about people who predict what will happen in design and fashion two years ahead of time. There is a lot of money to be made from correct information. Three prophets – Christine Boland, RAVAGE and David Shah – were followed in order to see the forecasts being made.

58

Café Architecture Bió Paradís / Hverfisgötu 54 The Architecture Book Café is a place where people can sit down, enjoy light refreshments and talk about architecture with others who share the same passion. Every so often, small events and short presentations will take place in connection with the events and exhibitions on architecture during DesignMarch, plus there will be readings and other happenings. Exciting books on architecture are available.

58

BENIDORM Bió Paradís / Hverfisgötu 54 Photographer Rut Sigurðardóttir, stylist Anna Clausen and Eygló M. Lárusdóttir collaborate on Rut's photos of Eygló's winter collection. Welcome to the opening at Bió Paradís on Thursday, 12 March, at 17:00.

59

Doppelganger – homeland collection 38 Jrep / Laugavegur 49 The collection is a collaboration between the designers Guðrún Lárusdóttir and Ragna Fróða. The ideology behind the knitted collection comes from an aesthetic and eco-friendly point of view. Fun, timeless products are made from environmentally friendly material, wool and silk.

60

White on Black like the Flying Swan Laugavegur 51 Shoe designer Marta Jonsson has lived abroad for about twenty years, but she constantly looks towards Iceland for inspiration for her designs. For DesignMarch Marta will present a selection from her summer collection 2015 called White on Black.

61

Infinite String Quartet h71a / Hverfisgata 71a The Infinite String Quartet is an interactive music composition. The listener creates his own version of the music through an intuitive graphic interface on the web or mobile app, by looping and layering recordings of an actual string quartet. The possible versions of the piece are infinitely many. Opening Wednesday, 11 March, at 17:00–19:00.

62

3ply Lindargata 66 Three textile designers with a shared background show their work. Erla Dis Arnardóttir, Guðný Katrín Einarisdóttir and Lilj Erla Adamsdóttir work in different ways with texture, colour and forms. Visitors are invited to a visual dance of weaving, printing and knitting.

63

Showroom Kiosk Kiosk / Laugavegur 65 The designers at Kiosk invite you to take a look into the future with them during DesignMarch. Come and check out the new winter collections, enjoy light refreshments and celebrate with us on Saturday, 14 March, at 17:00.

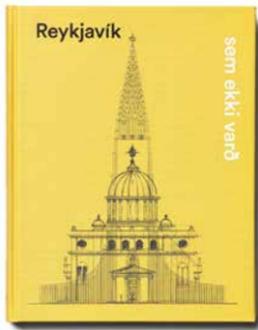
64

Hotel Aida / Laugavegur 66-68 The Icelandic design team Hugdetta (Róshildur Jónsdóttir and Snæbjörn Þór Stefánsson), Petra Lilja from Sweden and the Finnish design team Aalto+Aalto join forces in a fun way.

65

Shizuka
Gallería / Laugavegur 77
Saga Kakala presents a new line of silk and cashmere scarves. Hjalti Karlsson, one of the two owners of Karlsonwilker, New York, designs the patterns for the line Shizuka, Karlsonwilker for Saga Kakala.

65
Scintilla Posters
Verslunin Gallería/ Laugavegur 77
Scintilla presents a new line of posters in the Gallería store. Scintilla designs and makes products for the home. The focus of the design is on cutting edge graphics. The company has created its own world of patterns where forms and colour combinations are constantly being evolved.



66
Reykjavík that didn't happen
Crymogeia / Barónsstígur 27
The book Reykjavík that didn't happen was published in 2014 and received a lot of attention. The illustrations from the book show a completely different city from what we know. During Design-March the authors will dig even deeper into Reykjavík city planning, exhibiting material that is not in the book.

67
Superheroes daily round
Skúlagata 28
A group of practising graphic designers in Iceland host this group exhibition. The theme is the everyday lives of superheroes. This assorted group of designers shares their love of the cloak and a poetic world. The exhibition is a love letter to the superhero, one of the main subjects of the graphic designer.

The Association of Graphic Architects hosts the 15th annual Graphic Design Awards.
Icelandic graphic designers and illustrators submit their best works from 2014 and a panel of judges chooses the ones they find outstanding. The results will be announced at the opening ceremony of the grand exhibition.

Morrísland
A cartographic interpretation of William Morris and Iceland. A further work in progress developed from the Peter Jones Visiting Research Fellowship at the Iceland Academy of Arts during 2014.

Special day
Oscar Bjarnason shows graphic design in the form of logos for birthdays and celebration days. During the last five years Oscar has given friends and family logos for their birthdays, designed especially for the occasion.

Mæna
Mæna – a magazine featuring graphic design in Iceland, is published by the department of Graphic Design at the Iceland Academy of the Arts. Every year, under the guidance of an art director, the graduating year is responsible for the magazine's design.

Siggi Odds – Absurd Signs
Siggi Odds presents posters or signs with characters expressing dos and don'ts in a surreal way.

Design warmth
Heartfelt presents Hulda Ólafsdóttir designs. Hulda's products are aimed at spreading warmth, love and a positive attitude. She uses her own poetry, words of wisdom and text in her design, drawing from her own life experience. Hulda's latest designs are colourful heartshaped candleholders.

68
Twist
Skúlagata 30
A group of designers from The Icelandic Textile Guild are behind the event Twist / Twist. The diverse use of textile thread is characteristic of the group, which twists through the unlimited imagination of fun and play.

Stafrænt prentaður textill
Skúlagata 3
Introducing the work of Textile Printing Iceland in all its diversity. Textile Printing collaborated with different artists to design and implement a digital pattern or motif for printing on natural materials.

Superfolk spring
Irish design studio Superfolk show their new product collection. Visitors will be invited to taste some food and drinks from Ireland's most innovative artisan food producers and to share folk recipes and traditions for cooking with locally foraged Irish and Icelandic wild foods.

69
Post-Luxurian Artefacts
JÖR / Laugavegur 89
With her Post-Luxurian Artefacts Emilie F. Grenier explores alternative trends for the production of rare objects. The collection focuses on feldspar – the world's most prevalent mineral. Instilled with a new found sense of uniqueness, the otherwise meaningless rock has been transformed into a series of luxurious modern heirlooms.

70
Jökla – Design direct from the designer
Jökla / Laugavegur 92
Jökla is an Icelandic design shop where 11 designers and artists from different directions sell their products "directly from the designer", without the middleman. This weekend the designers will present themselves and their products, with special offerings, live music and refreshments.

71
We will always meet again
Gallerí Verkstæði / Grettisgata 87
The fashion designer Helga Lilja Magnúsdóttir and the artist Halldór Ragnarsson collaborate for the first time for an exhibition on a selection of Helga Lilja's new clothing line, derived from two of Halldór's series of works.

72
Overlap
Sundhöll Reykjavíkur / Barónsstígur 45a
Three designers from different genres come together to transform Sundhöll Reykjavíkur into a source of creativity and joy. Enchanting tones will flow together with visual experiences and a journey of playfully light weightlessness. The designers are: Unnur Valdis Kristjánsdóttir, Siggi Eggertsson and Egló Margrét Lárusdóttir.

73
Flora
Vörðuskóli v/Barónsstíg (Tækniskólinn)
In nature, magical force lies in the energy. Herbs grow from nature with powers to mend a wound or seduce a heart. Collection Flora by Hildur Yeoman revels in the history of this natural world and the women who had the knowledge to use its power and mysticism.

Mystique
IDA / Lækjargata 2a
Dulúð [Mystique] is a project where the three-dimensional sound solutions of Bryndís Bolla are imported into the dreamlike visual world of Elsa Nielsen, leading to a new dimension!

72
Gallerí Gróttá
Eiðistorgi 11, 2. hæð

Hadda Fjóra Reykdal & Hlín Reykdal
Two sisters, artist Hadda Fjóra and designer Hlín, collaborate on pieces that derive from nature, and investigate how their ideas meet and form and become interactions through different mediums. Hadda Fjóra and Hlín will offer guided tours through the exhibition on Friday, 13 March, at 15:00-17:00, and on 14 and 15 March, at 13:00-15:00.

72
Bókasafn Seltjarnarness
Eiðistorgi 11, 2. hæð
Sofa Complex is an installation or landscape designed for teenagers at the library. Design, architecture and art cross paths in a space meant for communication and intimacy.

73
Product design in wild nature
Englaborg / Flókagata 17
Exhibition on Tinna Gunnarsdóttir's research project: Product design's influence on wild nature. The possibilities of staying in Icelandic nature are explored from the point of view of product design. Research was done on the abandoned land of Möðruvellir in Héðinsfjörður, and three pieces were especially designed for this project, aiming at boosting the experience of the place while causing as little disturbance to the environment as possible. Opening Thursday, 12 March, from 08:00-11:00.

The Greater Reykjavík Area

74
The Idea Lab at Kjarvalsstaðir
The Idea lab is designed by Guðfinna Mjöll Magnúsdóttir (Vík Þróingsdóttir) for the youngest guests to stimulate creativity. Guðfinna Mjöll will lead a children's workshop together with Huginn Þór Arason, visual artist and the creator of the lab's adventurous wall ornaments. The workshop is aimed for children 7 to 10 years old. Free admission.

75
Ode to light
Geislar hönnunarhús / Bolholt 4
Geislar design house presents gift products and model toys. Over twenty new candleholders will be presented in the exhibiton, Ode to light, in a separate space. There will also be purses made from plywood and leather, among other gift products.

76
ATELIER
Listhúsið Laugardal / Engjateigur 17-19
Gling Gló welcomes guests to their workshop and store at Listhús, Laugardalur. New jewellery will be presented, along with the popular little fly, which is inspired by the poem/song.

78
Designers group exhibition at Syrusson design House
Designers: Reynir Syrusson Kjartan Óskarsson Sigrún Shanko Þórdís Ósk Helgadóttir Ingunn Jónsdóttir Vignir Kristinsson Kikkelanekoff Puridur Ósk Þóra Silla Sonja Design Daniel Bystrom and Kristján Kristjánsson Ólöf Björg Björnsdóttir

Energy, boldness and hard work are the characteristics of Icelandic designers. These elements are reflected in an exciting group exhibition at Syrusson design house. Icelandic designers bring innovation to furniture, lights and giftware design.

During the open house, there will be upholstery and leather workshops where guests can learn the tricks of the trade in producing furniture.

79
Countless colours of Icelandic design
Epál / Skeifan 6
This year Epál presents the most interesting Icelandic design by a diverse group of designers, well-known and newcomers alike. Since 1975 the store has strived to enhance understanding and respect for design in Iceland by choosing a selection of outstanding quality for their stores. Part of that is participating in DesignMarch.

Designers: Önnu Þórunni Hauksdóttir, Chuck Mack, Emblu Sigurgeirsdóttir, Erlu Sólveigu Óskarsdóttir, Egló Benediktsdóttir, Guðmund Lúðvík og Hee Welling, Guðrúnu Eysteinsdóttir, Guðrúnu Valdimarsdóttir, Hafstein Júlíusson, Heklu Guðmundsdóttir, Hjalta Axelsson, Hjalta Párelfus, Ingu Sól Ingibjargardóttir, Ingibjörgu Hönnu Bjarnadóttir, Ingibjörgu Þorvaldsdóttir, Julie Gasiglia, Mariú Lovísu Árnadóttir, Ólöfu Jakobínu Ernudóttir, Sigríði Hjaltdal Pálsdóttir, Sigrúnu Jónu Norðdahl, Sigurjón Pálsson, Snæbjörn Stefánsson, Steinunni Jónsdóttir, Steinunni Völu Sigfúsdóttir, Thelmu Magnúsdóttir and Þórunni Hannesdóttir.

80
HönnunarMars 2015 in Penninn
Skeifan 10
Penninn Furniture presents excellent Icelandic design mixed with renowned international design. For the last 30 years Penninn Furniture has offered beautiful Icelandic design as well as the best from the international design world. A visit to Penninn is a unique opportunity to get to know Icelandic and international design. The following designers and their work will be presented: Alberto Meda, Antonio Citterio, Barber & Osgerby, Erwan and Ronan Bouroullec, Charles and Ray Eames, Erla Sólveigu Óskarsdóttir, Hans J. Wegner, Hella Jongerius, Jasper Morrison, Studio 7.5 and Valdimar Harðarson. Opening Wednesday, 11 March, from 17:00-19:00.

81
Hönnunarsafn Íslands / Garðatorg 1
UN PEU PLUS – Drawings and sketches by fashion designer Helga Björnsson
Fashion designer Helga Björnsson spent years in the midst of the haute couture at Louis Féraud in Paris and has also created costumes for Icelandic theatres. Her drawings and sketches are the works of an artist. With only a few pencil lines she conjures up both elegance and sensuality.

Ámundi:
In a career that now spans 30 years, Ámundi Sigurðsson has worked on every kind of project imaginable in visual mediums for graphic designers. Ámundi's body of work certainly displays decades of style history, but his work is mostly characterized by the contrasts found in the conflict of the creative urge and the request for riveting images.

The Icelandic Design Award
Designs from Nowhere
The Icelandic Design Award was presented for the first time in November 2014. The winner was an international design project called East: Designs from Nowhere. The project and the award itself will be exhibited at the Museum of Design and Applied Art.

82
Blow The Wind Westerly
Litla Hönnunar Búðin / Strandgata 17
Margrét O. Leópoldsdóttir, designer for Gola & Glóra, explores uncharted territory with a textile collection labelled Blow The Wind Westerly. Inspired by fishermen and fisheries she draws pictures and patterns that end up as prints on textiles. There will be a talk with the designer on Sunday, 15 March, at 14:00.

83
Grey area
Hafnarborg / Strandgata 34
Especially for DesignMarch 2015 an exhibition of pieces from the Scottish designer David Taylor at S/K/E/K/K design store. He will present new pieces on the borders between art and design. The pieces are custom-made for the store.



84
Creative cluster
Íshús Hafnarfjarðar / Strandgata 90
Presenting the work of Íshús Hafnarfjarðar, a cluster of studios and workshops belonging to designers, artists and industry. In open workspaces guests will find a cutter at work, a 3D studio or ceramic, wood, and textile workshops. All are welcome to a talk on Sunday, 15 March, at 13:00.



85
Kleinubarinn
Icelandair Hótel Reykjavík Natura / Nau-thólsvegur 52
Kleinubarinn is a pop-up bar serving kleinur, traditional Icelandic twisted dough, with a twist. See you at Icelandair Hotel Natura!

Openings & Events

Saturday 07/03

14:00 Brooches
Listhús Ófeigs, Skólavörðustígur 5
15:00 Grey Area
Hafnarborg, Strandgata 34

Wednesday 11/03

16:00 Jewelry Design on Stamps
Þjóðminjasafn Íslands, Suðurgata 41
16:00 Perspective
Þjóðminjasafn Íslands, Suðurgata 41
16:00 Persona-Memories and the Complex Self
Norræna húsið, Sturlugata 5
17:00 Urban Design
Salón Bistro, Bankastræti 7a
17:00 The Countless Colours of Icelandic Design
Epál, Skeifan 6
17:00 DesignMarch 2015 in Penninn
Skeifan 10
17:00 Reykjavík That Didn't Happen
Crymogeia, Barónsstígur 27
17:00 Infinite String Quartet
h71a, Hverfisgata 71a
17:00 India – Iceland
Hrim hönnunarhús, Laugavegur 25
17:00 SHIZUKA
Gallería, Laugavegur 77
18:00 Poison in a Bottle
Ekksens, Bergstaðastræti 25b
18:00 Happy Skin
Farmers Market, Hólmaslóð 2
18:00 TUTTU, MAGNEA X AURUM, My Shape, Inuk Desig Aurum,
Bankastræti 4
18:00 Take a Hair from my Tail
Stúdíó Stafn, Ingólfsstræti 6
18:00 Ámundi:
Hönnunarsafn Íslands, Garðatorg 1
18:00 Un Peu Plus
Hönnunarsafn Íslands, Garðatorg 1
18:00 The Icelandic Design Award
Hönnunarsafn Íslands, Garðatorg 1
19:00 Twist, Textile Printing Iceland,
Superfolk Spring Skúlagata 30
20:00 FIT awards 2015, Superheroes Daily Round, Mæna, Morrísland, Special Day, Absurd Signs, Design Warmth
Skúlagata 28
20:00 Wall Projection – Icelandic Fashion Photography
Listasafn Reykjavíkur Hafnarhús, Tryggvagötu 17

Thursday 12/03

09:00 DesignTalks 2015 Harpa,
Austurbakki 2
16:00 Habitat Skúmaskot,
Laugavegur 23 bakhús
16:00 Stígurinn Stígur,
Skólavörðustígur 17b
16:00 Hofsjökull Trivet
Loft Hostel, Bankastræti 7
17:00 1+1+1
Hótel Alda, Laugavegur 66-68
17:00 Incarnation of Kria
Aftur, Laugavegur 39
17:00 1200 TONN / 1200 TONS
Sjávarklasinn, Grandagarði 16
17:00 Opposite TYPE
Mokka-kaffi, Skólavörðustígur 3a
17:00 Hendrikka Waage
Verslunin Eva, Laugavegur 26
17:00 Hadda Fjóra Reykdal & Hlín Reykdal
Gallerí Gróttá, Eiðistorgi 11, 2. hæð
17:00 Sofa Complex
Bókasafn Seltjarnarness, Eiðistorgi 11, 2. hæð
17:00 Stand up / Stand out
Eggert feldsker, Skólavörðustígur 38
17:00 Wood You?
Gallerí Tukt, Hitt Húsið, Pósthússtræti 3-5
17:00 Benidorm Bíó Paradís,
Hverfisgata 54
17:00 Scintilla Posters Gallería,
Laugavegur 77
17:00 3ply
Lindargata 66
17:00 Húrra Keramik
Húrra Reykjavík, Hverfisgata 50
18:00 Opnun HönnunarMars 2015
Harpa, Austurbakki 2
18:00 Columnar, Hundahólmi,
Long Johns Epál / Hörpu, Austurbakki 2
18:00 International Sharing
Wasatch Design Collective Harpa, Austurbakki 2
18:00 Doppelganger
Homeland Collection 38 prep, Laugavegur 49
18:00 Deep Day Additions
Skartgripaverslunin Orr, Bankastræti 11
18:00 White on Black like the Flying Swan
Marta Jonsson, Laugavegur 51
18:00 Jökla – Design Direct from the Designer
Jökla, Laugavegur 92
18:00 Har Eyewear
Sjáðu, Hverfisgata 52
18:00 Café Architecture
Bíó Paradís, Hverfisgata 54
18:00 Creative Cluster
Íshús Hafnarfjarðar, Strandgata 90

18:00 Grey Area – designer talk
Hafnarborg, Strandgata 34
19:00 Möskvar light Spaksmannsspjarir,
Bankastræti 11
19:00 Exhibition of Architecture
Ráðhús Reykjavíkur, Vonarstræti
19:00 Views on Clay
Ráðhús Reykjavíkur, Vonarstræti
19:00 Krusning: IKEA light
Ráðhús Reykjavíkur, Vonarstræti
19:00 Hidden Home World
STEINUNN stúdíó, Grandagarði 17
19:00 Entrance to Material
Harbínger, Freyjugata 1
19:00 DÖNSK, Glazed Dialogue
Hannesarholt, Grundarstíg 10
19:00 Slowly Changing Course
Listasafn Reykjavíkur Hafnarhús, Tryggvagötu 17
19:30 Can I Have a Word with You?
Geysir, Skólavörðustígur 16
20:00 Paper Collective i NORR11
NORR11, Hverfisgata 18a
20:00 Vessels / Material & Transformation
Kaffistofan nemendagallerí, Hverfisgata 42
21:00 Flóra
Vörðuskóli v/Barónsstíg (Tækniskólinn)

Friday 13/03

08:00 Product Design in Wild Nature
Englaborg, Flókagata 17
12:00 Play with Loki
Café Loki, Lokastígur 28
12:30 Grey Area – guided tour
Hafnarborg, Strandgata 34
13:00 Blue Appels and Snakes
Macland, laugavegur 23
14:00 Kleinubarinn Icelandair Hótel
Reykjavík Natura, Nauthólsvegur 52
16:00 Creativity of Reykjanes
Höfuðborgarstofa, Adalstræti 2
16:00 In Drawers, Craftworks
Kirsuberjatréd, Vesturgata4
16:00 In a Green Hollow... Grjótaþorpið,
Christmas Tree@Kraum, On the Right Shelf, Ljósápur, Anita Hirlekar, Undur Kraum, Adalstræti 10
17:00 Petits Volcans
Mengi, Óðinsgata 2
17:00 Kotasæla Printwork Exhibition
Vesturgata 14 a+b
17:00 Adornments, Priceless,
Þóra Finnsdóttir, Colour Stories Myrin, Hafnarbúðum
17:00 We Will Always Meet Again
Gallerí Verkstæði, Grettisgata 87
17:00 Sköpun, Þetta sokkar, Terta Duo, Skata 1959-2015 / Creation, This Socks, Terta Duo, Skata 1959-2015
Vikin/Sjóminjasafnið, Grandagarður 8
17:00 Þórunn Árnadóttir at ° 66N
66°Nórður, Bankastræti 5
18:00 Country-Dance in Örfirisey
Farmers market, Hólmaslóð 2
18:00 Búrið Spoons
Búrið, Grandagarður 35
18:00 Obvious
Grandagarður 31
18:00 One by Eighteen
Spark Design Space, Klapparstígur 33
19:30 Reykjavík Fashion Festival
Harpa, Austurbakki2
20:30 Overlap
Sundhöll Reykjavíkur, Barónsstígur 45a

Saturday 14/03

12:00 Tulipop Fantasy world
Fiskislóð 31 12:00 Hönnunarskóli á ferð og flugi: vinnustofa / Moving Castle – Touring Design School: workshop Norræna Húsið, Sturlugata 5
13:00 Idea Lab Kjarvalsstaðir,
Flókagata 24
14:00 Post-Luxurian Artefacts
JÖR, Laugavegur 89
14:30 Reykjavík Fashion Festival Harpa,
Austurbakki 2
15:00 Verkfæri / Tools
Skólavörðustígur 17a
16:00 Something Fishy: workshop
Spark Design Space, Klapparstígur 33
17:00 Showroom Kiosk
Kiosk, Laugavegur 65
21:30 Street Party – A Pop-Up City from Kraumur and the Aurora Fund
Listasafn Reykjavíkur Hafnarhús, Tryggvagötu 17

Sunday 15/03

13:00 Creative Cluster – guided tour and talk
Íshús Hafnarfjarðar, Strandgata 90
14:00 Landsbankinn and Design History: guided tour by architect
Pétur Armannsson Landsbankinn, Austurstræti 11
14:00 Blow the Wind Westerly – designer talk
Litla Hönnunar Búðin, Strandgata 17
15:00 Grey Area – guided tour
Hafnarborg, Strandgata 34



ÍSAFOLD BISTRO

BAR & SPA

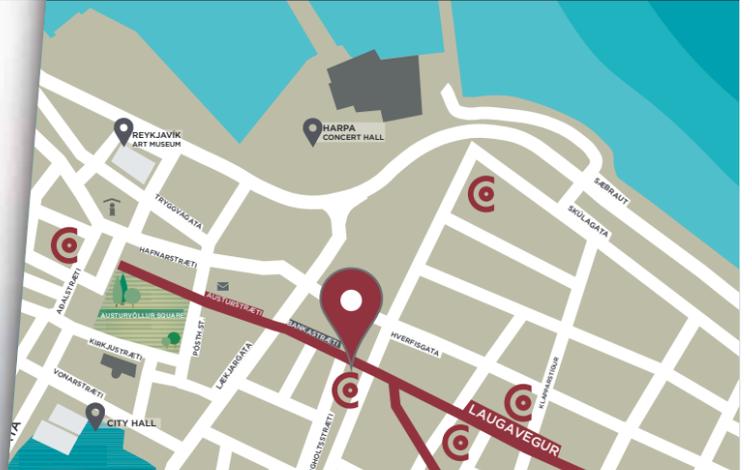
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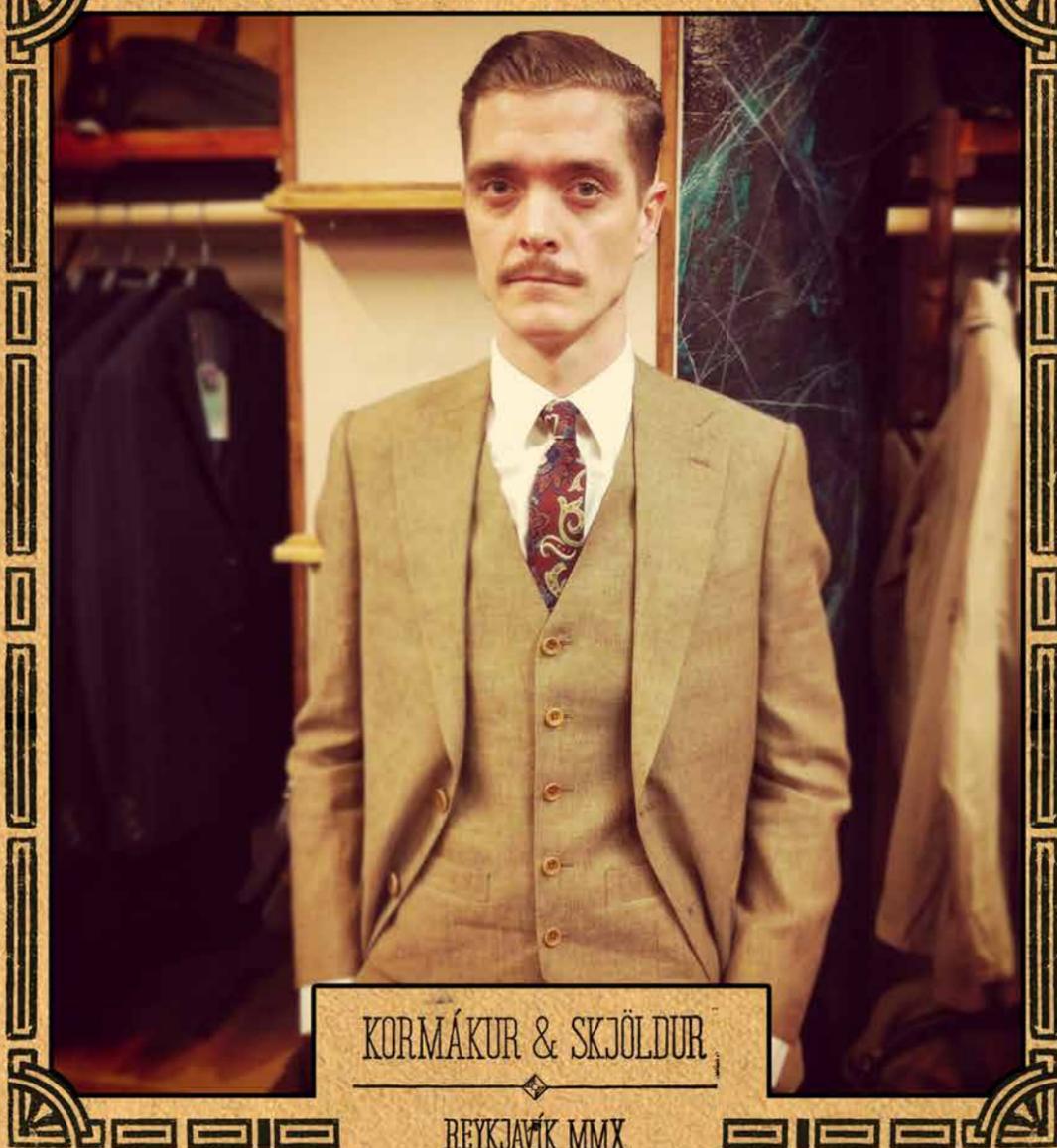


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The Reykjavík Grapevine Design Awards 2015

...For Best Product, Product Line, Project and Fashion Design of 2014

Words by *Elín Rós*

For our fifth annual Design Awards, we gathered a small panel of experts to help us determine what was on the cutting edge of Icelandic design in 2014. Here are the results: the winners and runners-up in each of the four categories, as well as designers whose projects will hopefully inspire more exciting work in the future. Well done to all of you!



Fashion Design Of The Year

Yulia

Created by *Hildur Yeoman*

This year's winner for fashion design is Hildur Yeoman. An original fashion show in Hafnarhúsið at DesignMarch last year revealed a breathtaking and vastly promising fashion line. It swiftly became the highlight of the year, and set jaws wagging throughout the design community, and beyond. And that's not to mention the story behind the concept, based on Hildur's

ultra-cool grandmother, who left her safe bourgeois lifestyle to traverse the States accompanied by motorcycle outlaws. Her rebellious decision to leave stability behind is the underlying theme that drives this outstanding and consistent clothing collection. It doesn't happen everyday that the wearer gets to be a part to the designer's life story. Hildur Yeoman has been

way too cool for years now and 2014 was no exception. She never fails to blow us away with the individuality of her designs.

Hildur Yeoman's fashion line and accessories can be bought at Kiosk, Laugavegur 65, and online at kioskreykjavik.com.

Runners Up



Sigga Maija

Created by *Sigríður María Sigurjónsdóttir*

Sigríður María is a noteworthy up-and-coming fashion designer who recently launched her own fashion label. She's been working as an assistant designer at Kron by KronKron as well as working independently for JÖR by Guðmundur Jörundsson. Last year she showcased her first collection at Reykjavík Fashion Festival, making a big impression. Her design is well produced and conceptually strong; the materials used, among others, are silk, wool and viscose. Sigga Maija aims to connect femininity and androgyny to present a stylish and independent look. Her first clothing line can be found at JÖR's flagship store on Laugavegur 89 and at www.siggamaija.com.



Eygló

Created by *Eygló*

Eygló is one of nine designers who co-own the shop Kiosk at Laugavegur 65, and her

latest fashion line demonstrates a clever way to do patterns and prints. Her freshness is also highly saleable, and her clothes are of a wide range, with something to suit everyone. Eygló's chief concept is creating something new with silk and natural fibres, with patterns and prints inspired by sources as disparate as dinosaurs and the surface of Mars. Eygló launched her own label in 2006 after graduating from the Iceland Academy of the Arts, having previously worked for Bernhard Willhelm, AsFour and Jeremy Scott. Edgy, young and sincere are Eygló's key characteristics. Buy Eygló at Kiosk at Laugavegur 65 and at www.eyglollection.com.

Looking Forward To See More in 2015



Helga Björnsson for Eggert Feldskeri

Created by *Helga Björnsson*

Seasoned haute-couture fashion designer Helga Björnsson presents a new fashion line and accessories based on Icelandic lambskin and other furs. Her collection is displayed at Eggert's exhibition space at Skólavörðustígur 38. For years Helga has been prominent in the fashion scene abroad and worked for various fashion houses in Paris. At last year's Design-

March, she presented her work at the electric station by Austurbæjarskóli, a kickass venue for matching Parisian flair with Icelandic products. This time she introduces a fashion line with a great twist—refreshing, timeless, sophisticated and classic. We look forward to see more from her in the future.



REY

Created by *Rebekka Jónsdóttir*

Rebekka Jónsdóttir graduated from Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising in Los Angeles in 2008. One year later, she launched REY and put on one of the most interesting shows at RFF 2014. Her emphasis is on honest quality and timeless designs—REY is at once sophisticated, saleable, classic, and minimal without ever being boring. The simplicity of her clothing line took elegance to another level, and the result was both sexy and smart. Rebekka Jónsdóttir's style is classy, feminine and timeless.



Product Of The Year

Sun Hat

Created by *Vík Prjónsdóttir*

The Sun Hat is a recent addition to the Vík Prjónsdóttir family. Each colourful hat reflects a certain month of the year. The first four, which have been launched for May, June, July and August, have a colour scheme drawn from the midnight sun and the moments between day and night, so the wearer is not only hella trendy, but

also carries with them the radiant colours of the Icelandic summer. The hats are made from 100% lamb wool, and the design is simple, accessible and playful. They bring a new life to Vík's already wonderful and warm line of products.

Photo by *Matthew Eisman*

Runners Up



Urban Shape

Created by *Paolo Gianfrancesco*

The Urban Shape project is a series of customizable maps designed by architect Paolo Gianfrancesco with OpenStreetMap data. The series includes all of the European capitals and represents each city's individual rhythm and balance. The ideology and process behind the maps really make them a winner, not to mention their visual beauty and accessibility. Oh, and they're folded like real street maps when bought at Spark Design Space at Klappartígur 33—find your favourite city and never get lost again!



Jakob & Ronja Lamps

Created by *Dóra Hansen*

Dóra Hansen's lamps were presented at DesignMarch last year and recently at Design Week in Stockholm as a part of WE LIVE HERE. They're made from driftwood and larch found on the Icelandic shoreline, which she calls a treasure chest for designers. Dóra herself collects and dries the wood at her summerhouse in the countryside, a process that takes about a year. The lamps are the most recent addition to a series of lights, the first one being the 2011 pendant lamp Tindur. Her use of natural resources and "slow design" is an inspiration to other aspiring designers, and her work can be bought in Hrim at Laugavegur 25 and Epal at Harpa.

Looking Forward To See More in 2015



Segulharpa

Created by *Úlfur Hansson*

Musician and composer Úlfur Hansson's electromagnetic harp is quite an elaborate project. It uses thirteen hand-woven magnetic actuators that run through 26 strings situated on the inside of the instrument. It's an electro-acoustic instrument that produces unique tones controlled by different devices, either via open sound control, a USB cable or a touch keyboard, which allows it to vibrate in your hands while playing it. The prototype has proved successful and the future version will allow any audio signal to be routed through the strings. The aesthetics are not only beautiful and sleek but also combine craft with digital processes. Úlfur Hansson has been prominent in the music scene for years and has previously produced an extensive amount of innovative work.



Omnom Chocolate Packaging

Created by *André Úlfur Visage*

The branding of Omnom chocolate bars is a design knockout. You can choose from several tastes such as Dark Milk & Burned Sugar, Dirty Blonde, or, every Icelander's favourite, Liquorice & Sea Salt. The colour scheme of the packaging and the visual experience add another dimension to the supreme handcrafted chocolate. The process of buying and eating is completed with the package turning into a tray after opening. When you then finally finish the chocolate you're left with a piece of art you might just want to frame! The illustrated characters, both mythical and real, are inspired by Iceland. Hopefully, Omnom will inspire other food producers to value the importance of packaging design. These popular chocolate bars can be purchased pretty much anywhere, but Keflavík Airport offers the best deal.



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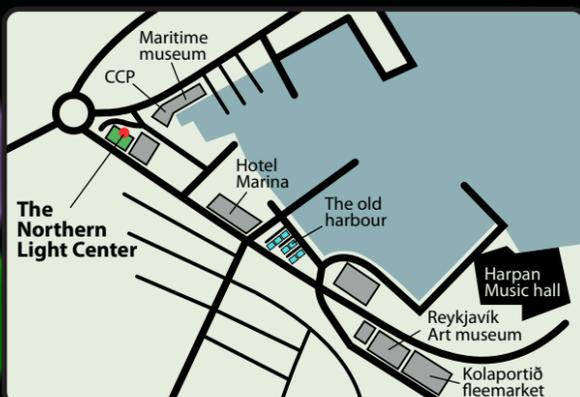
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Product Line Of The Year

Selected by Bility

Created by Bility

Bility is a design agency that selects three new design graduates to produce their own creative work. The project is partly funded by the Icelandic Design Fund and serves as a platform for the chosen designers to help them emerge into the vibrant design scene. The following are the designers and their work; Jón Helgi Hólmgeirsson for Krafla og Eldleiftur, Þorleifur Gunnar Gíslason for Krafla og Hringfari and Elin Brita Sigvaldadóttir for Sólstöður. The

agency's creative director Guðrún Lilja Gunnlaugsdóttir has presented great opportunities to graduates, and she's gotten them involved in design processes from concept to construction. Those sorts of efforts should be celebrated and we look forward to seeing what else Bility brings us in the future.

Photo by Matthew Eisman

Runners Up



Staka

Created by María Kristín Jónsdóttir

María Kristín Jónsdóttir's statement accessories for women and men give their wearer a distinct look that's sure to not go unnoticed on the streets. Made from local materials with sophisticated craftsmanship and technology, Staka make for courageous, contemporary accessories. Inspired by Icelandic sagas, landscape and the forces of nature, Staka was founded in 2011 and first introduced during DesignMarch in 2012 where it received international attention, and has since been exhibited globally. The collection consists of raw neck and arm pieces that are laser cut from black leather and then hand moulded by the designer herself. It's soon available in black leather and we can't wait!

Looking Forward To See More in 2015



Designs From Nowhere

Created by Pete Collard and Karna Sigurðardóttir

This fine project, which was shown at Spark Design Space last year, features the designers Max Lamb, Þórunn Árnadóttir, Julia Lohmann and Gero Grundmann, who collaborated with local practitioners scattered around East Iceland. The collaboration was established to explore the possibilities for small-scale design and local craftsmanship in the area. The objects exhibited are a set of narratives, combining old and new materials and their production techniques. The result consists of bone, fishing nets, rock, wood and seaweed objects. Teaser products are available at Spark Design Space at Klapparstígur 33 and at their online shop www.sparkdesignspace.com.



Project Of The Year

Raise A Flag

Created by Hörður Lárússon

This project has roots 100 years back, when a competition was held in Iceland to design a new national flag by submitting a written proposal to the Icelandic state. Hörður Lárússon initiated a similar competition, drawing all of the flags according to new design proposals and then exhibiting them at Þoka at last year's DesignMarch. His

assistant designers are Atli Þór Árnason and Unnie Arendrup. The project culminated in full-size flags being produced and planted near City Hall and Harpa. This act ended up being looked into by the police, and Hörður was accused of breaking laws with regard to the Icelandic flag. Of course this only resulted in more publicity for the project.

The next part in his series consists of two stamps launched to honour the 100-year anniversary of the Icelandic flag.

Photo by Matthew Eisman

Runners Up



Order To Effect

Created by Auður Ósp Guðmundsdóttir

Order To Effect is a project developed for Satt Restaurant at Icelandair Hotel Reykjavík Natura. It's a new restaurant concept that invites guests to order food based on its impact on the body. You could, for instance, order a dish that improves the quality of your sleep, lowers your blood pressure or boosts your immune system. The collaboration of top-notch food and design will hopefully inspire other restaurants to interact with consumers in innovative ways. The restaurant experience should be as much about presentation as taste, and here it's a reminder of nutritional value at the same time! Well done!



Teaser

Created by Attikatti team, Eygló Margrét Lárusdóttir, Guðjón Tryggvason, Guðrún Lilja Gunnlaugsdóttir, Hildigunnur Gunnarsdóttir, Hildur Steinþórsdóttir, Hlutagerðin, Siggí Odds, Snæfríð Þorsteins, Þórunn Árnadóttir and Ólöf Erla Bjarnadóttir

Teaser was a refreshing interdisciplinary collaboration conducted in a rather

unusual manner. The project was about tea; it was an exhibition, an event, an experiment and a development of various tea products. It opened last year at Spark Design Space in an exhibition designed by the Attikatti team. They played with various aspects of tea, providing a rare tea-house experience in downtown Reykjavík. The tea was presented in a non-traditional way. The design team went to great lengths to make the project as stirring as possible: for example, a part of the project took place in a swimming pool in Laugardalur, where guests were able to bathe in the tea. This was quite the visual, olfactory and sensual experience.

Looking Forward To See More in 2015



Krás Food Market

Created by Krás Food Market

Krás Food Market is more like a street food festival in which Iceland's top chefs from both high-end restaurants and more casual establishments join forces to prepare their glorious version of street food. This sort of food festival adds some spicy flavour to the vibrant city life in the summer. Design students were commissioned to design the frame around it, and they made a good example of how we can create the future food festival. Last summer it was held every Saturday from July 26 to August 23 at Sheriff's Town Square (Fógetagarðurinn), on the corner of Kirkjustígur and Aðalstræti. We urge them to open the festival again this year, and hopefully every summer to come!



Neptún Print Journal

Created by Helga Kjerúlf, Ágústa Arnadóttir and Kolbrún Löve

Neptún Print Journal covers a broad spectrum of arts, design and architecture. The Icelandic arts scene is the journal's main focus, but international artists are featured regularly. Neptún is published in Icelandic and English on a quarterly basis. It features a diligently planned and executed layout and is a real pleasure to read. The project is currently being crowdfunded at Karolina Fund and we gotta show them support!



Blær Online Magazine

Created by Birna Ketilsdóttir Schram, Svanhildur Gréta Kristjánsdóttir, Júlía Runólfssdóttir, Björg Brynjardóttir and Hugí Hlynsson

Created in 2014, Blær is an online magazine that has thus released ten issues. It strives to bridge the gap between printed magazines and the internet, with a new version of a visual presentation. It's edited by a group of young talents who are passionate about creating content that's diverse and dynamic. We want to see more of Blær in the future and we encourage the team to continue the good work!

Design Shopping in Reykjavík

Advertisement

Kirsuberjatréd



Vesturgata 4
www.kirs.is
+354 562 8990

Kirsuberjatréd is a gallery run by 12 women in the heart of the city. With different backgrounds and an individual approach to materials and fields of interest they approach the subject in their own way but join efforts in displaying their outcomes. Whether it be a single item or a series of objects, the focus is on the magic of reflection and the curiosity behind looking, viewing and experiencing what is seen.

Húrra Reykjavík



Hverfisgötu 50,
www.facebook.com/hurrarykjavik

Húrra Reykjavík is the brainchild of two young men born and raised in Reykjavík. The ideology is quite simple, offering Icelandic men the finest streetwear and contemporary fashion brands from around the world. Húrra Reykjavík has a passion for functionality, quality, the classic and the ultra modern. Blending traditional work and outdoor pieces with the avant garde, technical outerwear and sportswear that fits the Northern climate.

Fóa



Laugavegur 2
www.facebook.com/foaiceland
+354 5711433

Fóa is a store that sells handcrafted souvenirs and Icelandic design and is located in the heart of Reykjavík.

Fóa's aim is to offer souvenirs that are different - in our store you'll find handcrafted products made in Iceland by people who love making beautiful quality items from raw materials, take a long time to make and have a history behind them. Mass production is not our goal. We try to offer things that might remind you of Iceland and your adventure here.

Farmers Market



Hólmaslóð 2, Fishpacking district
www.farmersmarket.is
+354 552 1960

Farmers Market is an Icelandic design company and clothing brand, founded in 2005 by a young artist couple - a designer and a musician. With strong ties to the vibrant Icelandic music and design scene, the Farmers Market design concept and inspiration draws from Icelandic roots, combining classic Nordic design elements with chic modernity.

Norr11



Hverfisgata 18a
www.norr11.com
+354 4541111

NORR11 Showroom is the home of the Danish furniture brand NORR11 in Iceland. The showroom is located in the heart of Reykjavík at Hverfisgata 18a, directly opposite to the National Theater. During Design March NORR11 will host an exhibition and pop-up shop for Paper Collective. Paper Collective brings together graphic designers, agencies, artists and illustrators to create inspirational and iconic graphic prints while promoting great causes and charities.

Nostalgía



Laugavegur 39
www.facebook.com/nostalgia.laugavegi
+354 511 2023

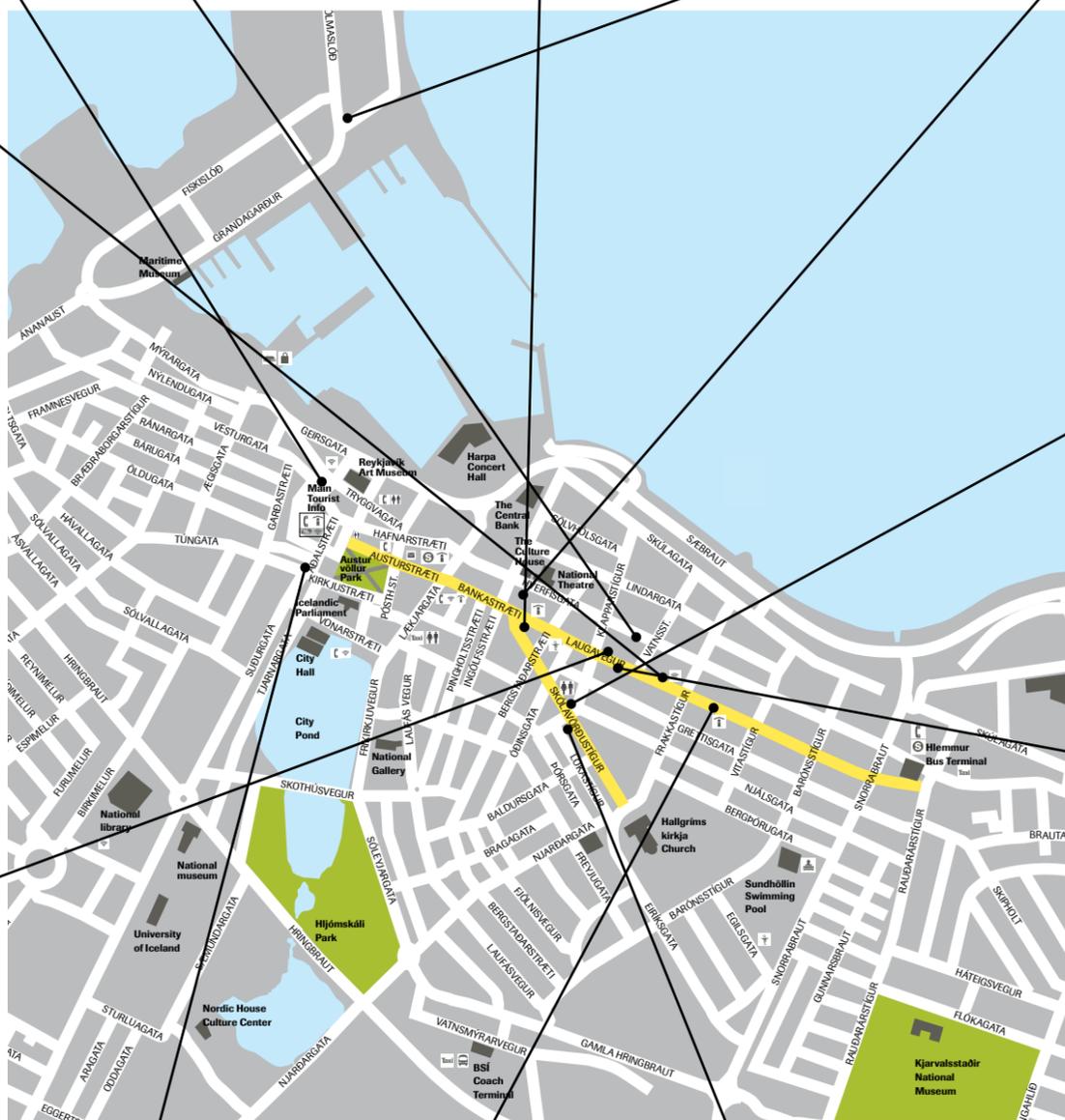
A beautiful and unique vintage store where every item is carefully hand-picked, whether looking for some outstanding party pieces or a vintage designer wear, this is the place to visit.

Skúmaskot



Laugavegur 23
www.facebook.com/skumaskot.art.design
+354 663 1013

In a back alley behind the blue building hosting Macland on Laugavegur, 10 designers and artists have found their home. Together they have formed a collective called Skúmaskot! The artists themselves welcome guests and offer original designs and pieces of art varying from light sculptures, fashion, childrens clothing, china, pearls, paintings, necklaces and much more. Skúmaskot is one of the hidden gems of design shopping in Reykjavík so keep your eyes peeled for a golden door in a back alley, just by the corner of Klapparstígur and Laugavegur.



Handprjónasambandið



Skólavörðustígur 19
www.handknit.is
+354 552 1890

The Handknitting Association of Iceland's official store. Handprjónasambandið is as authentic as can be, everything is made from Icelandic wool and knitted by Icelanders; The store features pullover sweaters, cardigans and other wool accessories.

Spúútnik



Laugavegur 28b
www.facebook.com/Spuutnik
+354 533 2023

A true second hand heaven. Spúútnik has been a local favourite for over 25 years. Here you will find a great variety of vintage clothing, shoes and accessories for both men and women.

Kraum



Aðalstræti 10
+354 517 7797

Kraum offers the biggest selection of Icelandic design and is situated in Reykjavík's oldest house. Kraum sells unique Icelandic pieces and you can find everything from jewellery, clothing and art pieces to Icelandic chocolates, salts and postcards. At DesignMarch, Icelandic designers from many different fields will show their new designs at Kraum including fashion and product design.

Kormákur & Skjöldur



Laugavegur 59
www.herrafataverslun.is
+354 511 1817

Located on the main shopping street at Laugavegur 59, Herrafataverzlun Kormáks & Skjaldar is a unique menswear shop that offers a great variety of clothing and accessories. In addition to brands such as Barbour, Filson, Ben Sherman, Loake Shoemakers & Hackett of London, they have an in-house brand that offers suits, shirts and more. The shop has a feel good decorative atmosphere and a staff that treats each person in a personal and gentle manner.

Geysir



Skólavörðustígur 16
www.geysir.com
+354 519 6000

When you walk up the charming street towards the big church on the hill you'll find Geysir, a charming store giving you a true taste of Icelandic design. The store is inspired by Icelandic history and the strong relationship between Icelanders and the unique Icelandic wool that has kept the nation warm through the centuries. Featuring labels such as Farmer's Market, Vík Þrjónsdóttir and their own clothing line Geysir. Geysir is a store you must visit.



GEYSIR