

## NORDIC NARRATIVES OF NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

*First Workshop of the Ecocritical Network for Scandinavian Studies (ENSCAN)*

**Date:** 2-3 December 2016

**Venue:** Mid Sweden University, Campus Sundsvall, L-Building, Lecture Hall L111

**Conveners:** Reinhard Hennig (Mid Sweden University), Anna-Karin Jonasson (Mid Sweden University), and Peter Degerman (Mid Sweden University)

Perceptions and representations of nature and the environment – e.g. in literature, film, and other forms of cultural expression – are always embedded in specific cultural, social and historical contexts. While many environmental risks and the global environmental change occurring today may be unprecedented in the history of human life on earth, the images and narratives by which humans relate to such phenomena nevertheless build upon and make use of established cultural tropes and narrative models. The first workshop of the *Ecocritical Network for Scandinavian Studies* focuses on how specifically Nordic cultural, social and historical contexts influence the construction of images and narratives of nature and the environment.

### Friday 2 December

- 9.00** Welcome and Introduction
- 9.30** The Ecocritical Network for Scandinavian Studies – Background and Objectives
- 10.00** Coffee Break
- 10.30** Jenna Coughlin (University of California, Berkeley)  
Of Wildflowers and Butterflies: Interrogating Species Names from the National Romantic to the Anthropocene
- 11.00** Lauren E. LaFauci (Linköping University)  
Narratives of Nordic Safety: Preparing for the “Long Emergency”
- 11.30** Martin Gregersen (Aalborg University)  
Trans-Materiality – Literature in the Light of the Anthropocene

- 12.00** Lunch Break
- 13.00** Linda Haverty Rugg (University of California, Berkely)  
Two Brothers in a Wood
- 13.30** Kari Haarder Ekman (Stockholm University)  
Scandinavian Wilderness: Two Women Writing about Sápmi/Lapland 1907-1915
- 14.00** Frederike Felcht (Goethe University Frankfurt)  
The Nature of Hunger: Karl August Tavastjerna's *Hårda tider*
- 14.30** Coffee Break
- 15.00** Jørgen Bruhn (Linnæus University)  
Climate Guilt
- 15.30** Anna Sofia Rossholm (Linnæus University)  
Climate Change in Imaginaries of the Nordic Mountain: Hanna Ljung's *I Am a Mountain to Measure*
- 16.00** Johannes Riquet (University of Zurich)  
Arctic Ache: Greenland, Climate Change, and the Poetics of Water
- 16.30** Coffee Break
- 16.45** Hanna Samola (Stockholm University)  
Bluebells, Cotton Grass, and Chilli. The Importance of Flowers and Plants in Dystopian Fiction
- 17.15** Jørn Riseth (University of Caen, Normandy)  
Losing Collective Knowledge About the Natural Environment: Fragile Memories of Plants and Animals in the Novel *Twilight Country* (1974) by Knut Faldbakken
- 18.30** Conference Dinner

## Saturday 3 December

- 9.00** Discussion: The Ecocritical Network for Scandinavian Studies – Next Steps and Long-Term Development
- 10.30** Coffee Break
- 11.00** Nina Goga (Bergen University College)  
Confronting an Anthropocentric Perspective – Advocating an Ecocentric Perspective
- 11.30** Lykke Guanio-Uluru (Bergen University College)  
Ecocentric, Bio-Semiotic and Anthropocentric Perspectives on the Norwegian Children’s Narrative “Kubbe Makes Shadow Theatre”
- 12.00** Lunch Break
- 13.00** Toni Lahtinen (University of Tampere)  
A Flood in a Bird’s Nest: The Myth of Great Deluge in Risto Isomäki’s *Sands of Sarasvati*
- 13.30** Pia Maria Ahlbäck (Åbo Akademi University)  
The “Ghost” at Sköldvik Manor: Notes on a Petrified Place
- 14.00** Coffee Break
- 14.30** Katharina Nagy (University of Greifswald)  
Johannes V. Jensen’s ‘Myter’ from an Ecocritical Perspective
- 15.00** Beatrice G. Reed (Volda University College)  
Naturalization as Trope and Strategy in Stina Aronson’s Late Prose
- 15.30** Irene Bordignon (University of Milan)  
A Norwegian Perception of Nature Through Bergljot Hobæk Haff’s Literary Production: The Case of the Symbolist Novel *Bålet*
- 16.00** Closing Remarks