Members of the Scandinavian royal families and Nordic heads of state were guests of honor at The American-Scandinavian Foundation’s 100th birthday celebration on October 21 at New York’s Hilton Hotel. Nearly 1,200 guests came to participate in the historical festivities and mingle with the illustrious crowd. From Denmark there were Crown Prince Frederik and Crown Princess Mary, from Norway King Harald V and Queen Sonja and from Sweden King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia. Finland was represented by President Tarja Halonen and Iceland by President Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson and Mrs. Dorrit Moussaieff. Serving as master of ceremonies for the evening was Norwegian actress and director Liv Ullmann. Providing entertainment during dinner was Broadway star Brian Stokes Mitchell.
Broadway star Brian Stokes Mitchell entertains at dinner.

ASF Co-Chairman Bernt Reitan leads a welcome toast to the guests of honor.

Sweden’s Princess Madeleine with her parents King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia.

Guests taking their seats at the Centennial Ball dinner.

Christine Butler

Denmark’s Crown Princess Mary dances with her husband Crown Prince Frederik.

Linda Nordberg, ASF Trustee and Vice Chair for Finland, with Finland’s President Tarja Halonen.

Iceland’s President Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson and his wife Dorrit Moussaieff.
Norway’s Queen Sonja greets Ambassador John L. Loeb, Jr. as King Harald V and actress Liv Ullmann display instant recognition. In the background are Sweden’s Queen Silvia and King Carl XVI Gustaf (partly obscured).

ASF Co-Chairman Richard E. Oldenburg

Lynn Carter, ASF Executive Vice President, with ASF Trustee Ambassador Lyndon L. Olson, Jr.

Christian R. Sonne, ASF Treasurer, and his wife Sally

ASF Trustee Christina Lang Assael, a Co-Chair of the Ball.

ASF President Edward P. Gallagher (left) and Co-Chairman Richard E. Oldenburg (right) with, from left, ASF Trustees Jane Errko, Lise Stolt-Nielsen, Nadia Stolt-Nielsen and past President Lena Biörck Kaplan.
After-dinner dancing in the ballroom of the New York Hilton.

ASF Trustee and Centennial Ball Co-Chair Inger G. Ginsberg and her husband William B. Ginsberg.

ASF President Edward P. Gallagher dances with Finland’s President Tarja Halonen.

U.S. Ambassador to Norway, Barry B. White, bringing greetings from President Barack Obama.

ASF Trustee and Ball Co-Chair Monika Heimbold with husband Ambassador Charles A. Heimbold.

ASF Trustee, Master of Ceremonies and noted actress Liv Ullmann with husband Donald Saunders.

ASF Trustee, Master of Ceremonies and noted actress Liv Ullmann with husband Donald Saunders.
Luminous Modernism: Scandinavian Art Comes to America, 1912, an exhibition of paintings by leading Nordic artists of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, opened at Scandinavia House on October 20, 2011. It revisited the groundbreaking exhibition sponsored by the ASF in 1912 that introduced work by Scandinavian masters to American audiences and was expanded to include works from the same period from all five Nordic countries, thereby illustrating the richness of artistic expression throughout the region. These photographs are from the opening-day ceremonies, with Norway’s Queen Sonja cutting the ribbon.

Above: A view of the exhibition, Luminous Modernism: Scandinavian Art Comes to America, 1912 in the ASF galleries. Opposite page: Norway’s Queen Sonja cuts the ribbon to formally open the historic show in the immediate presence of ASF President Edward P. Gallagher and the exhibition’s coordinating curator Dr. Patricia G. Berman. Others are, from left, Denmark’s Crown Princess Mary, Norway’s King Harald V, Sweden’s King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia, and Finland’s President Tarja Halonen.
Denmark’s Crown Princess Mary, Curator Patricia Berman and Norway’s Queen Sonja view paintings by Norwegians Harriet Backer and Christian Krohg, at left, and Jean Heiberg to the right.

Left to right: Bente Svensen Frantz, ASF Deputy Chairman; Kjersti Reitan; ASF Co-Chairman Bernt Reitan; Barbara Bunaes and former ASF Chairman Bård E. Bunaes.

Norway’s King Harald V and ASF President Edward P. Gallagher confer in front of a painting by Thorvald Erichsen.

ASF President Edward P. Gallagher and Finland’s President Tarja Halonen view a Ludvig Carsten painting.