ASF FELLOWSHIPS FOR AMERICANS IN THE NORDIC COUNTRIES
AMERICAN FELLOWS 2022/23

New York, NY—The American-Scandinavian Foundation (ASF) is pleased to announce its 2022-23 American Fellows. Since 1912, ASF has supported cultural and educational exchange between the Nordic region (Denmark, Greenland, Faroe Islands, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sámpi, and Sweden) and the United States. ASF’s fellowships help further academic scholarship and scientific research and encourage expressions in the creative arts and music. Awards are made in all fields.

We are now accepting applications for ASF’s 2023-24 Fellowships for Americans in the Nordic Countries. The upcoming deadline is November 1, 2022. To learn more about ASF’s Fellowship program, please explore our website here.

TO DENMARK
AMES, Audra from Fundación Oceanogràfic
Postdoctoral Research, Bioacoustics, Marine Bioacoustics Laboratory at Aarhus University

In collaboration with Professor Peter Madsen, director of the Marine Bioacoustics Laboratory at Aarhus University, Dr. Ames will examine how marine vessel noise interferes with the acoustic communication of bottlenose dolphins and belugas. In particular, Dr. Ames is interested in testing whether toothed whales increase their communication signals in direct response to noise generated from increased vessel traffic. Dr. Ames hopes this study will yield critical information related to the survival of individual toothed whales and their populations. In 2019, Dr. Ames received her PhD in Experimental Psychology at the University of Southern Mississippi and, since then, she has been working as a research scientist with Carnegie Mellon University, Greenland Institute of Natural Resources, and Fundación Oceanogràfic.

GOLDMAN, Aaron from Lund University
Postdoctoral Research, Theology, Søren Kierkegaard Research Centre

Dr. Goldman’s postdoctoral research project will reevaluate Søren Kierkegaard’s concept of faith expressed in *Philosophical Fragments* (1844) and apply it to present-day intellectual problems revolving around religion’s relationship to secular culture. Using the Søren Kierkegaard Research Centre as his research base, Dr. Goldman will also access transcripts housed at the Royal Library and the Danish Royal Theater. A 2016 ASF Fellow, Dr. Goldman received his PhD in the Study of Religion from Harvard University in 2021 and is currently a researcher at the Centre for Theology & Religious Studies at Lund University.

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MAXWELL, Kristi from University of Louisville
Sabbatical Creative-Arts Project, Languages and Literatures, Copenhagen, Vejle, and Aarhus

Dr. Maxwell will write an eco-poetic book that begins exactly where the renown Danish poet Inger Christensen left off in alfabet, Christensen's acclaimed work organized according to the Fibonacci sequence and abecedarian form. The working title of Dr. Maxwell's book is The Rest of the Alphabet, and she plans to go to Copenhagen, Vejle, and Aarhus to work on her project. She will interview translators of Christensen's work, engage with interdisciplinary scholars working on Christensen, and begin her own research and writing emulating Christensen's “writing habitats”. By incorporating conversations on climate crisis, Dr. Maxwell plans to move between the themes of resilience and devastation. She received her PhD in Literature and Creative Writing from the University of Cincinnati in 2010. She is currently Associate Professor of English at the University of Louisville and the author of seven books of poetry.

NORMAN, David from University of Michigan
Postdoctoral Research, Art History, Nuuk Art Museum

Dr. Norman will access archival and non-digitized materials at Nuuk Art Museum and Greenland's National Museum and Archives to expand the research for his current book project Home Rule Contemporary: Experimental Art and Self-Determination in Kalaallit Nunaat. Chronicling early experiments of Greenlandic artists during the 1980s and 1990s, Dr. Norman aims to demonstrate how Greenlandic artists used nontraditional media (e.g., land art, video art, installations) as a strategy for responding to politically turbulent times and an extension of movements for Indigenous self-determination. Dr. Norman received his PhD in Art History from the University of Copenhagen in 2021, and he is currently a Forsyth Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of the History of Art at University of Michigan.

PETERSON, Malory from Montana State University
Dissertation Research, Public Health, Southern Denmark University and University of Greenland (Ilisimatsuurarsafik)

Ms. Peterson will go to Greenland to examine how climate adaptation policies have an impact on fertility and reproductive health behaviors. Collecting data from individual interviews with Greenlandic men and women of reproductive age in Nuuk, Ms. Peterson will also collaborate with three scholars: Dr. Christina Viskum Lytken Larsen at the Greenland Center for Health Research at the University of Southern Denmark; Dr. Gitte Adler Reimer at the University of Greenland (Ilisimatsuurarsafik); and Dr. Elizabeth Rink at Montana State University. While other studies have looked at the effects of climate change's environmental pollutants on female reproductive health in Greenland, Ms. Peterson's research aims to provide an account of how both climate change and climate adaptation policies directly affect female reproductive health behaviors and hence outcomes. Ms. Peterson received her BS in Biomedical Science from Colorado State University in 2013 and her MS in Community Health from Montana State University in 2021.

SALMON, Mandy from University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine
Master's Level Research, Public Health, University of Copenhagen

Ms. Salmon will evaluate the Standard Tests for Asthma, Allergic Rhinitis and Chronic Rhinosinusitis (STARR-15 survey) developed at the University of Copenhagen as a metric in populations with chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps (CRSwNP). Her aim is to both validate this study in the Danish CRSwNP population and replicate it in a US population of patients with CRwNP to more accurately capture symptom severity and inform future treatment options. A 2020 ASF Fellow, Ms. Salmon could not accept her award due to restrictions imposed because of the pandemic; she will apply her 2022 award toward research in her fourth year as an MD candidate at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

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TO FINLAND

ERLIKH, Sydney from University of Illinois at Chicago
Dissertation Research, Dance, Kaaos Company

Employing critical performance ethnography, Ms. Erlikh will conduct observations and interviews with a dancer who has intellectual disabilities at Kaaos Company to inform her dissertation research on the culture of inclusive dance companies. She aims not only to explore this culture but also to establish best practices for supporting the artistic development of dancers with intellectual disabilities. Kaaos Kompany is a Finnish dance company that was founded in Helsinki in 2010 and, as a professional company of DanceAbility Finland, provides an optimal site for Ms. Erlikh’s dissertation research for her PhD in Disability Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

JONES, Megan from University of Rhode Island
Dissertation Research, Education, University of Helsinki

Working alongside Dr. Kristiina Brunila of the University of Helsinki, Ms. Jones will continue her dissertation research on how queer topics are or are not addressed in Finland’s teacher education program and comprehensive educational contexts. Building on research data gathered during her Fulbright in 2021, Ms. Jones will use her ASF award to complete her dissertation and hopes that her dissertation findings will create actionable steps toward addressing queer inclusivity within educational models. She obtained her MA in Reading Education at the University of South Florida in 2018 and is currently pursuing a PhD in Education and Queer Studies at the University of Rhode Island.

TO ICELAND

CROCI, Cassidy from University of Nottingham
Dissertation Research, History, The Árni Magnússon Institute for Icelandic Studies

Using traditional history and literary methods along with Social Network Analysis and Visual Analytics, Ms. Croci’s dissertation research aims to construct social and geographic networks of 3,500 individuals found in the medieval Old Norse-Icelandic text Landnámabók. By constructing and visualizing networks digitally, Ms. Croci hopes that various patterns, such as patterns of land and power consolidations, will be identified and will provide new insights into how social networks formed during the settlement of Iceland. While in Iceland, Ms. Croci will work with Dr. Emily Lethbridge and utilize the manuscripts housed at the Árni Magnusson Institute for Icelandic Studies (SÁM) in Reykjavik. In 2017, Ms. Croci obtained her MA in Viking and Anglo-Saxon Studies, and she is currently pursuing her PhD in English at the University of Nottingham.

OGILVIE, Astrid from Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research, University of Colorado at Boulder
Senior Scholar Research, History, Stefansson Arctic Institute, University of Akureyri, University of Iceland, Icelandic Museum of Natural History, and Icelandic Whale Museum

Dr. Ogilvie’s research project, entitled Whales and Ice: Marine-mammal subsistence use in times of famine in Iceland ca. AD 1600-1900 (ICEWHALE), will utilize data from documentary sources to examine the impacts of varying sea-ice conditions on the Icelandic population. She expects to include an analysis of whale strandings and their importance in times of famine as well as additional analyses on food scarcity and its impact on seal hunting and spear-drift whaling. Her work endeavors to demonstrate the implications of changes in the Arctic and the relationship between people and sea ice in Iceland over a long period. Collaborating with other colleagues at her affiliated institutions, ICEWHALE will continue to contribute to an increased understanding of marine mammals, climate and sea-ice history, and crisis and famine in Iceland’s history.

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Ms. Perlman is working on a multi-screen video installation inspired by tidal life and coastal waters in Iceland. While Ms. Perlman has already filmed shorelines of the south Westfjörds in 2018, she is now expanding her project to include other Icelandic coastlines, including the Breiðafjörður region, the coasts of the eastern fjords, and Seyðisfjörður. While in Iceland, Ms. Perlman will attend an artist residency at Skæfjell Center for Visual Art. A 2013 ASF Fellow, Ms. Perlman completed her MFA from San Francisco Art Institute and, in 2021, she completed her latest residency at Gilsfjördur Arts in Westfjörds, Iceland.

Ms. Weidner’s research project intends to track the movement of carbon over the last few thousand years on an archaeological site in southern Iceland. Using tephra layers and bulk sediment samples, Ms. Weidner will create a temporal chronosequence of maps to trace the movement of carbon both before and after the settlement of this site. Collaborating with Professor Orri Vésteinsson at the University of Iceland’s Institute of Archaeology, Ms. Wiedner hopes to better understand the drivers behind Iceland’s carbon budget over the course of changing Icelandic land management practices. In 2021, she obtained her BA in Environmental Sciences and English Literature at Northwestern University, and she is now pursuing her MS in Geosciences at the University of Edinburgh.

Mr. Stewart-Halevy will go to a range of Scandinavian archives to access historical material on the 1970s and 80s Scandinavian “Participatory Design” movement — a movement that involved workers in the design of automated objects. Alongside archival materials, he will interview surviving members from the Participatory Design movement to reconstruct the discourse of participants and workers within the Scandinavian workplace, which will allow him to better contextualize this movement within a comparative and international frame in his dissertation. Mr. Stewart-Halevy obtained his MA in Architecture from Princeton University in 2012, and he is pursuing his PhD in Architectural History and Theory at Columbia University.

While Edvard Munch is primarily known as a figure painter, Dr. Clarke will focus on Munch’s landscapes and preoccupation with human relationships to nature. In order to support her findings, she will access key archival material from the Munch Museum, namely newspaper clippings, that contain reviews of Munch’s work and exhibitions. Her archival research will inform three essays that she will write and publish in Edvard Munch: Transforming Nature. Dr. Clarke received her PhD in the History of Art and Architecture from Brown University in 1999 and was a 2007 ASF Fellow. She is currently the Rothman Family Curator of Prints and Drawings at the Art Institute of Chicago.
GERSTEN, Jennifer from Stony Brook University
Creative Arts Project, Music, Norwegian Academy of Music

Ms. Gersten will study Norwegian folk music influences in the work of the Norwegian composer Øyvind Torvund. Working alongside Professor Eivind Buene at the Norwegian Academy of Music, Ms. Gerstein will conduct a series of interviews with Torvund and other musicians similarly associated with transposing folkloric elements into their music. Ms. Gersten’s project will also feature two recitals in Oslo where she will demonstrate neofolkloric music while playing the violin and the Hardanger fiddle and presenting her research findings. Ms. Gersten obtained her BA in English from Yale University in 2016 and is currently pursuing a PhD in Musical Arts at Stony Brook University.

GUNN, Olivia from University of Washington, Seattle
Monograph Research, Languages and Literatures, The University of Oslo’s Centre for Ibsen Studies

While at the Centre for Ibsen Studies, Dr. Gunn will complete a scholarly monograph, *Future Ghosts: Haunting Ideals and the Question of Progress in 21st Century Ibsen Adaptations*, and collaborate with Norwegian author Camara Lundestad Joff on a translation of Joff’s memoir *Eg snakkar om det hele tida (I Talk About It All the Time)*. Dr. Gunn received her PhD in Comparative Literature from the University of California, Irvine, and was also a 2009 ASF Fellow. She is currently Associate Professor of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Washington and holds the Sverre Arestad Endowed Chair in Norwegian.

STEINER, Sallie Anna from The Wisconsin Academy of Sciences
Postdoctoral Research, Folklore, Solbakken asylmottak (Solbakken Asylum Center) – Florø, Norway

Expanding upon her dissertation research, Dr. Steiner will conduct ethnographic fieldwork on a refugee sewing group in Florø, Norway, as well as gather additional materials necessary for the completion of her book manuscript. While in Norway, she will access special materials at libraries in Oslo and Bergen and attend other refugee-focused sewing groups to further build her comparative ethnographic data. Her work explores how refugee women use handcrafts as a mode of engagement to celebrate their connections to the past as they move forward to engage with and create new communities, relationships, and expressive forms. Dr. Steiner was a 2017 ASF Fellow and received her PhD in Folklore from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2019. She is currently the Events & Communications Manager at the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences.

TO SWEDEN

HEUER, Christopher from The University of Rochester
Postdoctoral Research, Arctic Studies, University of Gothenburg

Dr. Heuer will conduct fieldwork for his book manuscript, entitled *Olaus Magnus’ Discursive Arctic*, where the precarious landscape of the Arctic is explored via the Swedish bishop Olaus Magnus’ work, *Historia*. While in Sweden, Dr. Heuer will visit Universitetsbiblioteket, which contains the world’s greatest collection of Olaus’ publications, and the Swedish Polar Research Station in Abisko, where a small library and the immersive experience of the Arctic will provide further materials for his book project. Dr. Heuer obtained his PhD in the History of Art at the University of California, Berkeley, in 2003, and is currently Professor of Art History at the University of Rochester.

HODGSON, Lucia from Austin, TX
Postdoctoral Research, History, Linnaeus University Centre for Concurrences in Colonial and Postcolonial Studies, Swedish Emigrant Institute

Dr. Hodgson’s postdoctoral project reexamines the legacy of Swedish–Texan tycoon S. M. Swenson (1816–1896) and Swedish settlements in Texas from 1830–1880, where land dispossession, slavery, and whiteness operated as forms of Indigenous and Mexican erasure.
Because Swenson often expressed his attitudes toward Indigenous and Mexican rights and chattel slavery in his letters, Dr. Hodgson will travel to the Swedish Emigrant Institute to access Swenson's undigitized, archived letters. While at Linnaeus University Centre for Concurrences, Dr. Hodgson will also work with Dr. Gunlög Fur, whose research similarly engages with Nordic colonialisms. Dr. Hodgson received her PhD in English from the University of Southern California in 2009, and she is currently Dean's Special Initiatives Project Coordinator at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin.

**LARSON, Svea from University of Wisconsin - Madison**
Dissertation Research, Folklore, Lund University and Stockholm University

Ms. Larson's dissertation research will look at how everyday objects from the Swedish migration to the US in the early 20th century were used to construct “Swedishness.” While in Sweden, Ms. Larson will access archival materials documenting folk costumes and customs housed in Lund’s Folklivsarkivet and Stockholm’s Riksarkivet. She hopes to demonstrate how the domestic sphere became a site of cultural formation, illuminating sites of knowledge production in both institutional and informal practices in Swedish American and Swedish culture. These findings will have broader implications for ongoing academic discussions on issues of migration, national identity, and belonging. Ms. Larson obtained her MA in History from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and is currently pursuing her PhD in Scandinavian Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

**LAWRENCE, Stewart from Memorial University of Newfoundland**
Dissertation Research, History, The University of Gothenburg

Mr. Lawrence's dissertation research will look at the perception of class and class identity of Stockholm workers at the end of the nineteenth century. To complete the part of his dissertation interested in examining the regulation of alcohol consumption and prostitution by those higher in the social hierarchy, Mr. Lawrence will go to Stockholm's City Archive and Kvinnsam—The National Resource Library of Gender Studies at the University of Gothenburg—to photograph documents, such as prostitution protocols, interrogation minutes, and arrest records. Mr. Lawrence hopes that his collection and subsequent analysis of this data will further his dissertation research findings on how Stockholm's working-class and underclass were perceived by the bourgeois. In 2019, Mr. Lawrence obtained his MA in History at the Memorial University of Newfoundland, where he wrote his thesis entitled, “The Dreaming Boy and the Waking City: Alcohol Consumption and the Construction of a Working-Class Identity in Late Nineteenth-Century Stockholm.” He is currently pursuing his PhD in History at the Memorial University of Newfoundland.

**RAYES, Diana from Johns Hopkins University**
Dissertation Research, Public Health, Stockholm University

Ms. Rayes’ research looks at how Syrian refugees in Sweden are coping with the psychological stress of displacement and integration and how Swedish policymakers have responded to these issues over the past decade. In collaboration with Dr. Mikael Rostila of the Department of Public Health Sciences at Stockholm University and principal investigator of the Studies of Migration and Social Determinants of Health, Ms. Rayes will use national registry data to identify Syrian refugees and conduct interviews to pursue her three research objectives: identifying predictors of mental health conditions like PTSD, locating barriers to utilizing mental health services, and exploring what policy solutions may remedy mental health outcomes and overall integration. She hopes her findings will help inform strategies for improving refugee mental health issues and integration not only in Sweden but also for other high-income contexts, including the United States. Ms. Rayes is currently pursuing her PhD in Public Health at Johns Hopkins’ Bloomberg School of Public Health and is the University of California, Berkeley’s Qualitative Research Lead for a two-year funded study by the Research for Health in Humanitarian Crises as well as a consultant for Physicians for Human Rights.  

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THEODOSOPOULOS, Angela from University of Colorado at Boulder

Dissertation Research, Biology, Lund University

Ms. Theodosopoulos plans to study the spread of the globally invasive SGS1 strain of avian malaria parasite that is a conservation concern for North American birds. In collaboration with Dr. Staffan Bensch, an expert in the field of malaria research, at Lund University, Ms. Theodosopoulos intends to conduct lab work for sequence capture methods and investigate where in Europe this SGS1 originated, how it was introduced to the US, and how SGS1 is adapting to new geographic regions with different hosts. As part of this work, Ms. Theodosopoulos will share her findings at the Lund University symposia and the 2023 Wildlife Malaria Conference. In 2015, Ms. Theodosopoulos received her BS in Biology at the University of Utah, and she is currently pursuing her PhD in Ecology and Evolutional Biology at the University of Colorado in Boulder.

CONTACT

For further information, please contact Monica Hidalgo, Program Associate, at grants@amsan.org. For information on ASF Fellowships & Grants, please see the ASF’s website at amscan.org.

THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN FOUNDATION

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