

ASF TRANSLATION COMPETITION 2023 OPENS

New York, NY—The American-Scandinavian Foundation has announced the opening of its 43rd annual Translation Competition for outstanding translations of poetry, fiction, drama, or literary prose written by a 20th or 21st-century author from the Nordic region (Denmark, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Finland, Norway, Sweden, and Sámpí).

Four prizes will be awarded this year: the Nadia Christensen Prize, which recognizes an outstanding translation of a literary text from a Nordic language into English and includes a \$2,500 award; the Leif and Inger Sjöberg Prize, which recognizes distinguished effort by an individual whose literary translations from a Nordic language have not previously been published and includes a \$2,000 award; the Wigeland Prize, which recognizes the best translation from Norwegian by a Norwegian and includes a \$2,000 award; and the Inger and Jens Bruun Translation Prize, supported by ScanDesign Foundation, which recognizes the best Danish translation and includes a \$2,000 award. All four prize recipients will also have an excerpt of their translations published in *Scandinavian Review* (ASF's illustrated journal) and will receive a commemorative bronze medallion.

The 2023 Translation Prize is open through Friday, September 1, 2023.

To read the guidelines and apply, [please click here](#).

TRANSLATION PRIZE 2022 WINNERS:

RACHEL WILLSON-BROYLES, JENNIFER KWON DOBBS, WENDY GABRIELSEN



—IMAGES (L-R)—RACHEL WILLSON-BROYLES (LEFT, PHOTO BY BRIANNA ROYLE KOPKA), AWARDED THE 2022 NADIA CHRISTENSEN PRIZE; JENNIFER KWON DOBBS (MIDDLE) AWARDED THE 2022 LEIF AND INGER SJÖBERG PRIZE; WENDY GABRIELSEN (RIGHT) AWARDED THE 2022 WIGELAND PRIZE

The 2022 Nadia Christensen Prize was awarded to **Rachel Willson-Broyles** (Saint Paul, MN) for her translation excerpt from Swedish of Aris Fioretos' *Mary (Mary)*. The jury noted that "Willson-Broyles' evocative metaphors and descriptive language bring Mary's eponymous, courageous protagonist to life, and enliven this important and timely story of youth- and woman-led protest against dictatorship." Dr. Willson-Broyles has a PhD in Scandinavian Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a BA in Scandinavian Studies from Gustavus Adolphus College. She is currently working as a freelance translator, specializing in translating contemporary literature from Swedish to English. Her recent translations include *Stolen* by Ann-Helén Laestadius and *Blaze Me a Sun* by Christoffer Carlsson.

The 2022 Leif and Inger Sjöberg Prize was awarded to **Jennifer Kwon Dobbs** (Saint Paul, MN) for her translation excerpt, translated from Sámi in collaboration with Johanna Domokos, of Niillas Holmberg's *Juolgevuoddu (Underfoot)*. The jury commended Dr. Kwon Dobbs' "powerful" translation for "uphold[ing] the earthy nuance and reverberating rhythm of Holmberg's words for an English-speaking audience – no easy feat when translating from a grammatically complex language so inherently rich in nature terminology."

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Born in Wonju, Republic of Korea, Dr. Kwon Dobbs holds a Ph.D. in literature and creative writing from the University of Southern California and an MFA in poetry from the University of Pittsburgh. She is currently a professor of English, Race, and Ethnic, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at St. Olaf College and is also the senior poetry editor at *AGNI*.

The 2022 Wigeland Prize was awarded to **Wendy Gabrielsen** (Oslo, Norway) for her translation excerpt from Norwegian of Hanna Stoltenberg's *Nada (Nada)*. The Jury applauded her "engaging translation [. . .] enhanced by its wry dialog and droll humor. Gabrielsen's translation invites readers to sink into Stoltenberg's prize-winning story of Karin, a commitment-adverse divorcee who must renegotiate her relationship with her adult daughter Helene whose own marriage seems to be falling apart." Ms. Gabrielsen works as a translator with Norwegian publishers, including Gyldendal, Solum Bokvennen, Cappelen Damm, and Vigmostad & Bjørke, among others. Ms. Gabrielsen was born in London, England, in 1963. After finishing her BA in French from the University of Bristol and an MA in Translation from the University of Surrey, she moved to Oslo, where she translated two non-fiction books early on, trained as an English teacher, and taught at the University of Oslo and the French School until 2020. She translated several books from Norwegian to English, and her translation of the prize-winning novel *Nada* has been accepted for publication in the UK.

TRANSLATION PRIZE 2022 HONORABLE MENTION: MEG MATICH

Due to an unusually strong group of entries submitted during the 2022 Translation Prize Competition, the Jury decided to award an Honorable Mention Certificate to recognize the runner-up for the Nadia Christensen Prize.

Meg Matich (Reykjavik, Iceland) was awarded an honorable mention for the Nadia Christensen Prize for her translation excerpt from Danish of Greenlandic author Niviaq Korneliussen's *Blomsterdalen (The Valley of Flowers)*. The Jury commended her "fluent, idiomatic translation, from Danish, of excerpts from th[is] urgent and lyrical novel by acclaimed queer Greenlandic writer Niviaq Korneliussen. Tackling the indigenous suicide crisis as well as giving voice to the LGBTQIA+ community in Greenland, *Valley of Flowers* is the work of a notable young author who has yet to receive widespread recognition outside of the Nordic countries."

Ms. Matich has an MFA in Poetry and Literary Translation from Columbia University. Among other projects, she is the translator of *Cold Moons* (2017, Phoneme Media/Deep Vellum) by Magnús Sigurðsson, *Magma* (2021, Grove Atlantic/Picador) by Þóra Hjörleifsdóttir, and *Quake* by Auður Jónsdóttir (2022, Dottir Press). Meg has collaborated with poet Magnús Sigurðsson on an anthology of Icelandic poetry, translated a book of essays in honor of former President Vigdís Finnbogadóttir. She is the author of one book of poems, *Cold* (2021, Eulalia Books) and is currently at work on the short stories of Ásta Sigurðardóttir, a relatively unsung but significant mid-twentieth century feminist whose work explores the darker sides of Icelandic society (2023, Nordisk Books), as well as Niviaq Korneliussen's *Valley of Flowers*.



—IMAGE—MEG MATICH (PHOTO BY PATRIK ONTKOVIC)

The American-Scandinavian Foundation is a publicly supported American nonprofit organization that promotes intellectual and creative exchange between the United States and the five Nordic countries.

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