

2025 ASF TRANSLATION PRIZE WINNERS

New York, NY - The American-Scandinavian Foundation is delighted to announce the winners of its 45th annual 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 Sápmi).

In December of 2025, ASF awarded the following prizes: 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 Scan Design 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.

2025 TRANSLATION PRIZE WINNERS

TABATHA LEGGETT, SHEILA NYHOLM D'SOUZA, CAROLINE WAIGHT, and LUCY MOFFATT



IMAGES—Tabatha Leggett (left), awarded the 2025 Nadia Christensen Prize; Sheila Nyholm D'Souza (left middle) awarded the 2025 Leif and Inger Sjöberg Prize; Caroline Waight (right middle) was awarded the 2025 The Inger and Jens Bruun Translation Prize, supported by Scan Design Foundation; Lucy Moffatt (right) awarded the 2025 Wigeland Prize (photo credit to Ole Brodersen).

The 2025 Nadia Christensen Prize was awarded to **Tabatha Leggett** (Iowa, United States) for her translation excerpt from Finnish of Maisku Myllymäki's *Holly (Holly)*, originally published in 2021. In awarding the prize, the jury highlighted how Leggett "captures the story's compelling and unsettling central character in her translation, and vividly renders in English the enchanting Finnish original, which is filled with passion and humor." Tabatha Leggett is a writer and literary translator from Finnish to English. She is an Iowa Arts Fellow at the University of Iowa's Literary Translation MFA program and a graduate of New York University's Fiction MFA program, where she was an Axinn Fellow. She contributed a chapter on consciousness-raising to the anthology *Philosophy for Girls: An Invitation to a Life of Thought*, published by Oxford University Press in 2020. She has received fellowships from Bread Loaf and the Community of Writers. Her translation of Riikka Pulkkinen's *Enchantment* is forthcoming with Scribe in 2026.

The 2025 Leif and Inger Sjöberg Prize was awarded to **Sheila Nyholm D'Souza** (British Columbia, Canada) for her translation excerpt from Danish of Søren R. Fauth's *Moloch: En Fortælling om Mit Raseri* (*Moloch: A Story of My Rage*), originally published in 2020. In this book-length poem, the jury noted that Nyholm D'Souza "seamlessly captures the alternating moods of fury and gentle reflection in a consistent voice that reflects the Danish text with impressive accuracy and fluidity." Nyholm D'Souza is an emerging literary translator working from Danish into English. She holds graduate degrees in East Asian Studies and is drawn to writing that challenges mythologies of unity, coherence, and exceptionalism, as well as texts that explore belonging and marginalization. In 2025, she received a bursary from the Danish to English Literary Translators Association to attend the British Centre for Literary Translation's (University of East Anglia) Summer School for Literary Translation. She was also selected to participate in the Danish Arts Foundation's 2025 summer program for literary translators.

The 2025 Inger and Jens Bruun Translation Prize, supported by the Scan Design Foundation, was awarded to **Caroline Waight** (Rowledge, United Kingdom) for her translation excerpt from Danish of Liv Duvå's *Ned fra himlen* (*Down from Heaven*). The jury said that Waight's confident English translation "gracefully preserves the nuances and textures of Nordic literary expression. The reader drifts effortlessly through the spacious, minimalistic Danish landscape and the main character's stark reality." Caroline Waight is an award-winning literary translator working from Danish, German and Norwegian. Her translations include books by Laura Vogt, Ingvild Rishøi, Maren Uthaug, Caroline Albertine Minor, Asta Olivia Nordenhof and Dorthe Nors. Having first studied music at Cambridge, Oxford, and Cornell, she worked in publishing before transitioning into full-time literary translation. She was a finalist for the 2023 PEN Translation Award and received a special commendation at the 2023 Warwick Prize for Women in Translation.

The 2025 Wigeland Prize was awarded to **Lucy Moffatt** (Risør, Norway) for her translation from Norwegian of Bjørg Vik's *Små nøkler, store rom* (*Small Keys, Big Rooms*), originally published in 1988. The jury stated that Moffatt's translation of this intimate portrait of a young girl's life in Oslo during and after WWII is "seamless and left the jury wanting to read more about Elsi and the other residents of a seemingly ordinary apartment building." London-born Lucy Moffatt has been translating professionally since the mid-1990s, initially from Spanish and, more recently, from Norwegian. Moffatt obtained a BA in French Studies from the University of Manchester in 1986, an IoL DipTrans (Spanish to English) in 2003, and Norway's government-authorized translator qualification in 2015; she is a member of the UK Translators Association. Since 2017, she has translated seventeen Norwegian fiction and non-fiction titles for publishers in the UK, US, and Canada. She has won two John Dryden awards for her translations of Hans Herbjørnsrud (2015 and 2025), and received NORLA's annual Translator's Award for her body of non-fiction work in 2020. She lives in Risør, on the southern coast of Norway, with her musician husband.

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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