

# **DAHS 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference, Preliminary Program:**

**Thursday, 7-8:30pm:**

**Keynote Speech on Danish Culinary Fusion by Danish chef Trine Hahnemann**

## **Session I (Friday, 8:15-9:15am)**

### **Panel 1A: Cultural Exchange I**

Nete Schmidt, UW-Madison: Integration Challenges and Langkær Gymnasium

*This presentation explores Danish immigration issues and challenges through the last century and concludes with a discussion of recent, novel attempts at creating integration and cultural awareness in a Danish junior college with a large percentage of “other ethnic Danes.”*

Julie Allen, Brigham Young University: The Role of Migrant Churches in Danish Integration

*This presentation looks at how non-Danish language Christian churches, known as migrant churches, facilitate the social integration and cultural adaptation of African immigrant women.*

### **Panel 1B: Danish Success Stories I**

Jens Vange, Allliance: Intervention + Reinvention. Rethinking Airport Amenities

*This presentation outlines a practical approach to cultural fusion by reporting on airport restroom design initiatives that deploy physical, technological, and sensory strategies to accommodate a range of human needs.*

### **Panel 1C: Danish Hygge I**

Poul Houe, UMN: Hygge & Lykke. Good Old Danish Enclosures or Gates to a Brave New World?

*This presentation explores the relationship between coziness and happiness in Denmark, interrogating what this fusion suggests about Danish society and values.*

## **Session II (Friday, 9:30-10:30am)**

### **Panel 2A: Cultural Exchange II**

Ethelene Whitmire, UW-Madison: A Promise of Renewal. African-Americans in Denmark

*This presentation examines the experiences of African Americans who studied, visited, lived and performed in twentieth-century Denmark, where the lack of racial discrimination created an atmosphere conducive to their productivity.*

### **Panel 2B: Danish Success Stories II**

Scott Swanson, The Danish Home: Culturally Centered Senior Communities

*This presentation will center on the Danish influence in the Chicago-based senior community the Danish Home, as evidenced through traditions, hygge, and inclusiveness, while reflecting on how American society views senior communities and aging.*

### **Panel 2C: Danish Hygge II**

Hanna Broadbridge, Edward Broadbridge, and Joy Ibsen: Fusing Danish Characteristics: Hygge, Lighed, and Fornuft

*This presentation analyzes three key Danish characteristics of hygge (well-being), lighed (equality), and fornøft (reason), using Danish songs to illustrate each one.*

### **Session III (Friday, 11am-noon)**

#### **Panel 3A: Cultural Exchange III**

Nick Kofod Mogensen, University of Copenhagen: Danish and/or American

*This presentation analyzes Danish perceptions of Danish American culture, particularly as represented in the media and from the author's personal experience.*

Sarah Reed, University of Wisconsin-Madison: "The important fact is that I always *felt* Danish": Preserving Ethnic Memory in Virginia Sørensen's Mormon Novels

*This paper describes the particularities and peculiarities of the Danish American Mormon experience as explored in Virginia Sørensen's novel Kingdom Come.*

#### **Panel 3B: Danish Success Stories III**

Matt Horton, O&H Bakery: The Story of a Delicious Danish Dynasty

*This presentation tells the story of the founding and evolution of O&H Danish Bakery from a local bakery to meeting the demands of Trader Joe's and a national market.*

#### **Panel 3C: Food Fusion Workshop**

Trine Hahnemann: Creating Danish Food Fusion

*This workshop with the keynote speaker will focus on the process of creating Danish food that draws on traditional Danish culinary traditions and new impulses from the rest of the world.*

**Friday, noon-1:30pm          Fusion Frokost featuring speaker Carol "Orange" Schroeder  
Menu inspired by Danish chef Trine Hahnemann**

### **Session IV (Friday, 1:30-2:30)**

#### **Panel 4A: Cultural Exchange IV**

Morten Høi Jensen: A Difficult Death: The Life and Work of Jens Peter Jacobsen

*This presentation explores the author's quest to explain the life and work of the celebrated nineteenth-century Danish poet J.P. Jacobsen in his new biography.*

Kim Simonsen, University of Amsterdam: The Antiquitates Americanae Ripples. Carl Christian Rafn, the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries, and its American Network  
*This presentation examines the transnational development of nationalist thinking in Denmark and the U.S. through the circulation of texts via a network of early 19<sup>th</sup> century scholars, including the Dane Carl Christian Rafn and the American Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.*  
Danish Literature and Art I

#### **Panel 4B: Danish Success Stories IV**

Otto Christensen: To the Edge of the World. Jens Munk and the Danish Search for the Northwest Passage, 1619-20  
*This presentation highlights an early example of Danish American fusion, telling the story of the explorer Jens Munk's attempts to find the Northwest Passage in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.*

#### **Panel 4C: Danish Heritage I**

Laurie Kay Sommers, Partners for Sacred Places: Engaging Artists and Communities to Preserve Danish Churches in the Midwest  
*This presentation will introduce a new project to document and support the documentation and preservation of Nordic churches in six Midwestern states [ND, SD, IA, MN, WI, MI], through a database and locally-run repair/restoration projects.*

### **Session V (Friday, 2:45-3:45)**

#### **Panel 5A: Danish Literature and Culture I**

Troy Wellington Smith, UC-Berkeley: "All Sickness is not unto Death": Kierkegaardian Riffs in Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*  
*This presentation illustrates the fusion of the Danish philosopher's ideas with the African-American author's literary and musical innovations.*

Ivan Z. Sørensen: Isak Dinesen and Hannah Arendt: The Storyteller and the Political Activist  
*This presentation examines how the German political thinker Arendt adopted literary strategies from the Danish author Karen Blixen.*

#### **Panel 5B: Danish Success Stories V**

Rebild National Park Society/Danish Pioneer Roundtable  
*This roundtable will showcase the history of two of the most important institutions of Danish American cultural preservation and fusion.*

#### **Panel 5C: Danish Heritage II**

Tova Brandt and Kara McKeever, Museum of Danish America: Museum Storytelling. Fusing Past and Present, Physical and Abstract

*This presentation draws on the exhibits prepared by the Museum of Danish America to reveal the fusion of strategies, sources, and media that underlie successful museum storytelling.*

### **3:45-4:30 Coffee Break with North American Danish Kringle Competition**

#### **Session VI (Friday, 4:30-5:30)**

##### **Panel 6A: Danish Literature and Culture II**

Claus Elholm Andersen, UW-Madison: *The Story of 1864*, the Mini-Series

*This presentation explores the fusion of Danish historiography and American-style television production in the miniseries "1864."*

Johs. Nørregaard Frandsen, Hans Christian Andersen Center: *The Jutland Heath as a Danish-American literary landscape and the construction of Rebild Bakker*: Hans Christian Andersen, St. St. Blicher, Jeppe Aakjær

*This presentation demonstrates how mid-19<sup>th</sup> century Danish writers like Hans Christian Andersen and St. St. Blicher created an image of the Jutland heath as an exotic and wild place. After the heath began to be cultivated around 1870, other poets and artists, including Jeppe Aakjær, helped to defend the heath, preparing the way for Max Henius' purchase of Rebild Bakker.*

##### **Panel 6B: Spotlight on Danish Immigration (75-minute panel)**

Ole Sønnichsen, Lars Feldballe Petersen, Nils Jensen, and John Mark Nielsen: *The Pursuit of Happiness* Film Project

*This panel introduces the film project "The Pursuit of Happiness," a series of new television films about Danish immigration to the U.S. based on Ole Sønnichsen's two-volume work Rejsen til Amerika [The Voyage to America].*

##### **Panel 6C: Danish Heritage III**

Cindy Larsen Adams: *Immigration from Ærø: How Many Hans Hansens Were There?*

*This presentation chronicles the flow of Danish migration from the island of Ærø to Shelby and Audubon Counties in Iowa between 1870 and 1920.*

##### **Friday Evening: An Evening of Danish Song (Glenn Henriksen, Hanna Broadbridge, Edward Broadbridge, and Joy Ibsen)**

*This special event will feature a sing-along session of favorite Danish hymns and popular music from the past which are currently enjoyed in Denmark and in the United States, with introductions to a few new songs, along with expert commentary and an akvavit tasting.*

#### **Session VII (Saturday, 8:30-9:30am)**

##### **Panel 7A: New Translations of Danish Literature I**

Peer Aarestrup: Rediscovering the Golden Age Poet Emil Aarestrup in Times of Great Change  
*This presentation introduces the unjustly forgotten Danish Golden Age poet Emil Aarestrup by means of a historical-biographical sketch and performance of some new translations of his poetry.*

### **Panel 7B: Danish Spirituality I**

Michael Schelde, Grundtvig Study Center: Fusing Ecology and Theology in the U.S. and Scandinavia

*This presentation considers two ways of coping with man's relationship to nature and the environment, from the perspective our lives and the perspective of the universe.*

Deidre Green, Hong Library: The Sin of Selflessness: Kierkegaard, Niebuhr, and Saiving  
*This presentation illustrates how Søren Kierkegaard's views of feminine and masculine forms of despair, Christian love, and authentic selfhood illuminates feminist theologian Valerie Saiving's critique of Reinhold Niebuhr's doctrine of sin.*

### **Panel 7C: Denmark in Focus I**

Benny Nybo, North Atlantic House: A Preview of *North Atlantic Reflections*

*This presentation offers a glimpse of the 600 pictures (out of 45.000) included in North Atlantic Reflections, which each conference attendee will receive as a gift. It includes amazing photographs of beautiful Danish landscapes, astonishing glaciers and icebergs in Greenland, geysers in Iceland, and horses in Faroese Islands. This presentation will also tell the story of the book's connections with the North Atlantic House and Icelandic sagas.*

## **Session VIII (Saturday, 9:45-10:45am)**

### **Panel 8A: New Translations of Danish Literature II**

Michael Goldman, Danish Literary Translator: Tales from the Translator's Desk

*This presentation features background stories and excerpts from Goldman's translations of Benny Andersen, Cecil Bødker, Knud Sørensen, Knud Sønderby, and Marianne Koluda Hansen.*

### **Panel 8B: Danish Spirituality II**

Hanna Broadbridge, Edward Broadbridge, and Joy Ibsen: An Infusion of Grundtvig

*This workshop explores the fusion of the sacred and the secular in Denmark in the work of the poet-pastor N.F.S. Grundtvig, both in his own time and in Denmark and the U.S. today.*

### **Panel 8C: Denmark in Focus II**

Charles Peterson, North Park University: The Secret to Danish Happiness

*This presentation explores the reasons behind Denmark's ranking as one of the happiest countries in the world for the past several years and considers what America can learn from this.*

Delane Ingalls Vanada, UNC Charlotte: Danish Creativity and Resilience in the Face of Adversity

*This presentation looks at Danish family and culture as a model for supporting innovation and a balance of creative, critical, and practical skills as well as the dispositions so needed in every area of life, including education.*

### **Session IX (Saturday, 11am-noon)**

#### **Panel 9A: Danish Literature, Translations, and Cultural History: Meet the Authors!**

Q&A and book signings with Peer Aarestrup, Benny Nybo, Michael Goldman, Morten Høi Jensen, Julie Allen, Joy Ibsen, and Trine Hahnemann

*Conference attendees will have the chance to meet several of the authors who have presented at the conference and to get copies of their books signed by the authors.*

#### **Panel 9B: Danish Spirituality III**

Bob Olsen, Houston: Language Usage in Non-Lutheran Danish Immigrant Religions

*This presentation documents the patterns of language preservation within various non-Lutheran Danish immigrant religious communities in the United States.*

Tina Langholm Larsen, Aarhus University: Grundtvigian Danes at the intersection of Denmark and America 1887-1900

*This paper looks at how the Dansk Folkesamfund (Danish People's Society) failed in its goal of functioning as an ethnic fortress because of conflict between its dual goals of promoting a Danish identity and encouraging loyalty to America.*

#### **Panel 9C: Danish America in Focus III**

Sune Frederiksen: Danish American Cultural Exchange in Kentucky and North Carolina

*This presentation showcases the history of cultural exchanges between Denmark and the U.S., particularly in the areas of folk music, dance, and gymnastics in Kentucky and North Carolina.*

**Saturday, noon-5pm Danish Chicagoland Excursions**

**Saturday, 6-7pm Friends of the Bodtkers-sponsored Reception**

**Saturday, 7-10pm: Gala Dinner with Remarks by the Danish Ambassador and a Danish American Dance Performance by the Folk Circle of Berea, KY**