



LES MÉTAMORPHOSES DE
**LA NOIRCEUR
DANS LE NORD**

Une manifestation scientifique et artistique internationale
à la Maison nordique de
REYKJAVÍK, LES 26, 27 ET 28 FÉVRIER 2015

THE DYNAMICS OF
**DARKNESS
IN THE
NORTH**

A scientific and artistic multidisciplinary international event
at the Nordic House
REYKJAVÍK, FEBRUARY 26TH, 27TH AND 28TH 2015

HREYFIAFL
**MYRKURS
Í NORÐRINU**

Þverfaglegur lista-og fræðiviðburður
Norræna húsið
REYKJAVÍK, 26-28. FEBRÚAR, 2015

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INTERNATIONAL
YEAR OF LIGHT
2015

UQAM
Université du Québec à Montréal



LISTAHÁSKÓLI ÍSLANDS
Iceland Academy of the Arts

Imaginaire | Nord
LABORATOIRE INTERNATIONAL DE RECHERCHE MULTIDISCIPLINAIRE
CORPUS DE RECHERCHES DU NORD
CENTRE FOR RESEARCH ON THE NORTH AND THE ARCTIC

SCRILCO
CENTRE DE RECHERCHE
INTERUNIVERSITAIRE
SUR LA LITTÉRATURE ET LA
CULTURE QUÉBÉCOISES

EMBASSADE DU CANADA EN ISLANDE
THE OFFICE OF CANADA TO ICELAND



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH, 2015

AT THE NORDIC HOUSE

17h30 REGISTRATION

18h00 COCKTAIL RECEPTION

19h00 OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

Welcoming speeches from the organizers

Gunnar Thór Jóhannesson
Associate Professor, University of Iceland

Daniel Chartier
Research Chair on Images of the North, Winter and the Arctic, Université du Québec à Montréal

Hulda Stefánsdóttir
Professor, Iceland Academy of the Arts

Formal opening

Fríða Björk Ingadóttir
Rector, Iceland Academy of the Arts

Hilmar Bragi Janusson
Dean, School of Engineering and Environmental Sciences, University of Iceland

Keynote introductions

Chair: Katrín Anna Lund and Stewart Wheeler

Tim Edensor (Manchester Metropolitan University, United Kingdom)

Tiffany Ayalik (Canada)

Haraldur Jónsson (Iceland)

Closing

Stewart Wheeler
Ambassador for Canada in Iceland

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 27TH, 2015

AT THE NORDIC HOUSE AND THE UNIVERSITY
OF ICELAND'S ASKJA AND ODDI CAMPUSES

During all day, the artworks of Paul Landon, Toby Heys, Solveig Thoroddsen, Niilo Rinne, Veronika Geiger and Hlynur Helgason will be exhibited in different rooms of the Nordic House.

8h30-9h30 REGISTRATION (The Nordic House)

9h00-10h00 1 – KEYNOTE CONFERENCE (The Nordic House, Main hall)

Chair: Katrín Anna Lund

Tim Edensor (Manchester Metropolitan University, United Kingdom), "Living with Northern Light and Dark"

10h00-10h30 COFFEE BREAK (The Nordic House)

10h30-12h30 2A – LIGHTING THE DARK (The Nordic House, Main hall)

Chair: Edward H. Huijbens

Daniel Chartier (Université du Québec à Montréal), "The Winter Night is a Black Screen. Lighting in Montréal Public Spaces as Urban Entertainment"

María Lovísa Ámundadóttir (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne) and **Siobhan Rockcastle** (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne), "Mapping the Dynamics of Shadow. The Architecture of Natural Light"

Snævarr Guðmundsson (South East Iceland Nature Center), "Quality of Darkness. Mapping the Light Pollution of Reykjavík and in Iceland"

Anne Salmela (Finland) and **Anna Turunen** (Finland), "The Light Castle"

10h30-12h00 2B – DARKNESS AS A CULTURAL CONSTRUCT (The Nordic House, Cellar)

Chair: Hulda Stefánsdóttir

Jóhannes Dagsson (Iceland Academy of the Arts), "Comparison in/of Darkness"

Patrick Huse (Norway), "Cloudy, Dark and Moody. A Long Gloomy Tradition of Northern Landscape Painting"

Danielle Vogel (Brown University / Wesleyan University, United States) and **Souvankham Thammavongsa** (Canada), "Darkness as Matter. A Panel on the Poetics of Light in Language"

10h30-12h30 2C – DARK TRAVELS / DARK HISTORIES (The Nordic House, Meeting room)

Chair: Kristín Loftsdóttir

Batia Stolar (Lakehead University, Canada), "Nighttime Projections. Ciril Jazbec's 'Magical' Light Show"

Gabrielle Girard-Lacasse (Université du Québec à Montréal), "Darkness in the Great North of Québec. A Geopotic Reading of Night in *Tayara's Island*, a Travelogue by Jean Désy"

Auður Aðalsteinsdóttir (University of Iceland), "Under a Dark Cloud of Ash and Smoke"

Sørine Steenholdt (University of Greenland), "Dark Histories in Literature"

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 27TH, 2015

AT THE NORDIC HOUSE AND THE UNIVERSITY
OF ICELAND'S ASKJA AND ODDI CAMPUSES

12h30-13h30 LUNCHBREAK

(The Nordic House, Cellar)

13h30-15h30 3A – WORKING WITH DARKNESS

(The Nordic House, Main hall)

Chair: Hulda Stefánsdóttir

Elizabeth McTernan (Germany), “TRUE NORTH. An Action with a Concrete Ship and a Compass Under a Cloak of Darkness”

Pierre Tremblay (Ryerson University, Canada), “Meta Incognita Winter Solstice”

Paul Davis (Canada), “-40°C, documentary film, French, English subtitles”

Elísabet Indra Ragnarsdóttir (Iceland) and **Þorgerður E. Sigurðardóttir** (Iceland), “Listening to Darkness. Audiowork”

13h30-15h30 3B – AESTHETIC EXPERIENCES OF THE DARK

(The Nordic House, Cellar)

Chair: Jóhannes Dagsson

Nina J. Morris (University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom), “In the Still of the Night”

Katherine Pickering (University of British Columbia, Canada), “Night Vision. Darkness and Contemporary Abstract Painting”

Elsa Brander, (Aalborg University, Denmark), “Light Into Darkness. Visualizing the Northern Lights in the Work of Harald Moltke”

Paivi Maria Pihlaja (University of Helsinki, Finland), “‘Like a Flame of the Northern Lights’. Polar Imagery of Light and Shadow in Nineteenth-Century Finnish Writings”

13h30-15h30 3C – ILLUMINATING DARKNESS

(The Nordic House, Meeting room)

Chair: Sigurjón B. Hafsteinsson

Rósa Dögg Þorsteinsdóttir (The Illuminating Engineering Society of Iceland), “Light and Dark”

Ingunn Jónsdóttir (Iceland), “50 Lux Max. The Prevalence of Darkness, Black Box Aesthetics, and Point-Lighting in Icelandic Museum Exhibitions”

Marcos Zotes (UNSTABLE Research Laboratory, Iceland), “Unstable Spaces”

Anders V. Munch (University of Southern Denmark), “Myths of Scandinavian Twilight. Interior Light Designs by Poul Henningsen and Verner Panton”

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 27TH, 2015

**AT THE NORDIC HOUSE AND THE UNIVERSITY
OF ICELAND'S ASKJA AND ODDI CAMPUSES**

13h30-15h30 3D – DARKNESS AND SOCIETY

(Askja campus, Room 132)

Chair: Daniel Chartier

Panu Savolainen (University of Turku, Finland), “At the Roots of the Artificial Public Lighting. An Example from Early Modern Sweden”

Markus Hanakam (University of Applied Arts Vienna, Austria) and **Roswitha Schuller** (Austria), “Bright Darkness. Darkness as a Medium of Mood in Leisure and Consumer Spaces”

Christiane Lahaie (Université de Sherbrooke, Québec), “White Nights and Mental Disorder in *Insomnia* (1997) by Erik Skjoldbjærg and its Remake (2002) by Christopher Nolan”

Diego Gómez Venegas (University of Chile) and **Bárbara Echaíz Bielitz** (University of Chile), “Remoteness of Light”

**13h30-15h30 3E – HERA — ARCTIC ENCOUNTERS. DARK ECOLOGY : BRIDGING ART AND
SCIENCE IN ARCTIC DARKNESS**

(Oddi campus, Room 201)

Chair: Kristinn Schram

Berit Kristofersen (University of Tromsø, Norway) and **Britt Kramvig** (University of Tromsø, Norway), “Dark Ecology. Bridging Art and Science in Arctic Darkness” followed by “Narrating the Oil Fairy-Tale in the Norwegian North. From Conquering Darkness to the Light Goddess of Sanna. Encountering Different Natures”

Kristín Loftsdóttir (University of Iceland), “Going Into Darkness. Exploring Exotic Iceland”

Katrín Anna Lund (University of Iceland) and **Gunnar Thór Jóhannesson** (University of Iceland), “Journey Into the Dark. Encountering Aurora Borealis”

15h30-16h00 COFFEE BREAK

(The Nordic House)

16h00-17h00 4 – KEYNOTE CONFERENCE

(The Nordic House, Main hall)

Chair: Stewart Wheeler

Tiffany Ayalik (Canada), “Harnessing the Dark. A Look at Inuit Inspiration”

17h00-18h30 HAPPY HOUR

(Stúdentakjallarinn / The student cellar pub)

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28TH, 2015

**AT THE NORDIC HOUSE AND
THE UNIVERSITY OF ICELAND'S ODDI CAMPUS**

During all day, the artworks of Paul Landon, Toby Heys, Solveig Thoroddsen, Niilo Rinne, Veronika Geiger and Hlynur Helgason will be exhibited in different rooms of the Nordic House.

8h45-9h30 COFFEE (The Nordic House)

9h30-10h30 5 – KEYNOTE CONFERENCE (The Nordic House, Main hall)

Chair: Ólöf Gerður Sigfúsdóttir

Haraldur Jónsson (Iceland), “Dark Matters”

10h30-10h45 BREAK

10h45-12h15 6A – DARKNESS IN THE NORTH (The Nordic House, Main hall)

Chair: Þorvarður Árnason

Gaëlle Reneteaud (Paris-Sorbonne University—Paris IV, France), “Light and Darkness, the Paradox of Xavier Marmier’s Northern Speech”

Adina Ruiu (Université de Montréal, Québec, and Écoles des hautes études en sciences sociales, France), “Nous marchons plus que jamais dans une nuit obscure’. Jesuit Digressions in and on the Canadian Night”

Avril Maddrell (University of the West of England, Bristol) “Gendered Discourses of Northern Lights Tourism, Associated Landscapes and Activities”

10h45-12h15 6B – DARKNESS IN LANGUAGE AND STORYTELLING (The Nordic House, Staff room)

Chair : Sigurjón B. Hafsteinsson

Luiza Gabysheva (North-Eastern Federal University, Russia), “The Concept of Darkness in the Yakut Language and Folklore”

Denis Chouinard (École des médias de l’Université du Québec à Montréal), “It Ain’t Nothing / Ce n’est pas rien. Obscurity and Cinema”

Aðalheiður Guðmundsdóttir (University of Iceland), “Winter Darkness in Icelandic Fairy Tales”

10h45-12h15 6C – COLOURS OF DARKNESS AND NIGHT PERFORMANCES (Oddi campus, Room 202)

Chair: Britt Kramvig

Patricia Allmer (University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom), “Northern Light, Gothic Darkness. The Later Work of Mimi Parent”

Caroline Donat (Université du Québec à Montréal), “The Colours of Human Darkness. Murder’s Representation in Québec Novels *Kamouraska* and *Neige Noire*”

Oksana Dobzhanskaya (Arctic State Institute of Culture and Art, Russia) and **Vera Nikiforova** (Laboratory of Complex Geo-Cultural Studies of Arctic, Russia), “‘Winter’ Sacred Practice. Night Performing of Olonkho”

12h15-12h45 LUNCHBREAK (The Nordic House)

12h45-13h30 GUIDED TOUR AROUND THE ART EXHIBITION (The Nordic House)

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28TH, 2015

**AT THE NORDIC HOUSE AND
THE UNIVERSITY OF ICELAND'S ODDI CAMPUS**

13h30-15h30 7A – TOURISM IN THE DARK

(The Nordic House, Main hall)

Chair: Gunnar Þór Jóhannesson

Alain Grenier (Université du Québec à Montréal) and **Ari Virtanen** (Université du Québec à Montréal), "Lights and Shadows as Resources in Tourism. The Case of Polar Destinations"

Þorvarður Árnason (University of Iceland's Hornafjörður Regional Research Centre), "Perceiving Dynamically in the Dark. Confessions of an Aurora Hunter"

Collectif de recherche Renoir (Laboratoire Dynamiques Rurales, France), "The Role of the Night and the Northern Lights in the Production of a New Touristic Imaginary of the North"

Mary McDonald-Rissanen (University of Tampere, Finland), "Moving Through the Darkness in Atlantic Canada"

13h30-15h30 7B – DARKNESS AND THE HUMAN BODY

(The Nordic House, Staff room)

Chair: Sigurjón B. Hafsteinsson

María Lovísa Ámundadóttir (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne), "Implications of the Interplay Between Light and Dark for Human Health in the Built Environment"

Carmen Braden (University of Calgary, Canada), "Ice-Songs. The Sonic Quality of Darkness and Light in Canadian Sub-Arctic Ice"

Nancy Campbell (University of Oxford, United Kingdom), "Sleepless in the Darkness. I Read Their Letters Home..."

Judy Spark (Robert Gordon University, United Kingdom), "Beyond Edges. Darkness and the Fluxing Field"

13h30-15h30 7C – DARKNESS AND THE SPIRITUAL

(Oddi campus, Room 202)

Chair: Aðalheiður Guðmundsdóttir

Neil Price (Uppsala University, Sweden), "Death in the Dark. Nocturnal Funerals in the Viking Age"

Monique Durand (Cégep de Sept-Îles, Québec), "The Blue Hour or the Mystique of the North"

Guy Bordin (Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales, France), "Inuit's Perception of Darkness. A Singular Feature"

Karlotta J. Blöndal (Iceland), "Voiced Darkness"

15h30-16h00 COFFEE AND CLOSURE

(The Nordic House)

WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF LIGHT

THIS CONFERENCE IS CO-ORGANIZED BY THE **UNIVERSITY OF ICELAND**, THE **INTERNATIONAL LABORATORY FOR THE COMPARATIVE MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDY OF REPRESENTATIONS OF THE NORTH** AT THE UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC À MONTRÉAL AND THE **ICELAND ACADEMY OF THE ARTS**.

We thank for their support the Reykjavík's Nordic House, the Chaire de recherche sur l'imaginaire du Nord, de l'hiver et de l'Arctique, the Arctic Encounters Research Project, the Embassy of Canada to Iceland, the Centre de recherche interuniversitaire sur la littérature et la culture québécoises, the Mountaineers of Iceland, TRI and Landsbankinn.

DANS LE CADRE DE L'ANNÉE INTERNATIONALE DE LA LUMIÈRE

CE COLLOQUE EST CO-ORGANISÉ PAR L'**UNIVERSITÉ D'ISLANDE**, LE **LABORATOIRE INTERNATIONAL D'ÉTUDE MULTIDISCIPLINAIRE COMPARÉE DES REPRÉSENTATIONS DU NORD** DE L'UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC À MONTRÉAL ET L'**ACADÉMIE ISLANDAISE DES ARTS**.

Nous remercions de leur appui la Maison nordique de Reykjavík, la Chaire de recherche sur l'imaginaire du Nord, de l'hiver et de l'Arctique, l'Arctic Encounters Research Project, l'Ambassade du Canada en Islande, le Centre de recherche interuniversitaire sur la littérature et la culture québécoises, les Mountaineers of Iceland, TRI et Landsbankinn.

Comité scientifique / Scientific Committee: Daniel Chartier (Université du Québec à Montréal), Sigurjón Baldur Hafsteinsson (University of Iceland), Gunnar Thór Jóhannesson (University of Iceland), Puríður Helga Kristjánsdóttir (The Nordic House), Katrín Anna Lund (University of Iceland), Ólöf Gerður Sigfúsdóttir (Iceland Academy of the Arts), Karen Möller Sívertsen (University of Iceland), and Hulda Stefánsdóttir (Iceland Academy of the Arts).

Imaginaire | Nord

This conference is the 10th International Conference organized by the International Laboratory for the Comparative Multidisciplinary Study of Representations of the North of the Université du Québec à Montréal.

Ce colloque est le 10^e colloque international organisé par le Laboratoire international d'étude multidisciplinaire comparée des représentations du Nord de l'Université du Québec à Montréal.

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