

What do Curators do?

19–20
October 2023

Malmö and
Wanås

The Swedish Curators' Association invites you to the second conversation with Baltic and Nordic counterparts in Malmö and Wanås. We will be joined by colleagues from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, and Lithuania, to explore several facets of what curators do – from education, interventions in public space and residencies to printed matter and exhibitions.

Moreover, the first-ever report on the working conditions for curators in Sweden will be presented.

Through this sharing of experiences and facts, we will not only expand our collegial network, but we will also gain a deeper understanding of similarities and differences in working methods and structures as well as an understanding of history and context to enhance and cultivate curatorial work.

The Nordic-Baltic network's key issue is to delve into significant and innovative curatorial methods and tend to the concerns of curators to create a space of reflection and a deeper understanding of the curatorial profession among the public. This encounter will focus on the working conditions for curators in the respective countries, challenges in operating in the northern context, and how to build sustainable relationships across the Nordic and Baltic countries. The encounter invites both independent curators and curators affiliated with institutions.

The event will take place at **Malmö Art Museum, My new museum?, Södergatan 28, Malmö**

The main program of talks on 19 October at Malmö Art Museum will be open to the public.

RSVP is required for the field trip and workshop.
RSVP to: info@svenskcurationforening.se

Thursday 19 October

- 10:15 Site visit to Signal
- 11:30 Site visit to Skånes Konstförening
- 12:15 Site visit to Lilith
- Lunch and afternoon on your own
- 17:30–19:00 Evening program at Malmö Konstmuseum

Participants: Anders Härm, Anna Johansson, Egija Inzule, Giovanna Esposito Yussif, Hanna Styrnisdóttir, Joanna Warsza, Jonatan Habib Engqvist, Karin Bähler Lavér, Lotte Løvholm, Marianna Garin and Sona Stepanyan.

Friday 20 October

- 08:15 Site visit to Wanås with Milena Høgsberg. Bus departs from Mayfair Hotel Tunneln.
- 11:30 Soup lunch at Wanås
- 13:30 Return to Malmö
- 15:00 Drinks and joint guided tour at Moderna Museet with Andreas Nilsson & Elisabeth Millqvist.



MY NEW MUSEUM? | Malmö Konstmuseum | KULTURRÅDET

The event is realised with funds from Region Skåne, Nordic Culture Point, and the Swedish Arts Council.

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Anders Härm (1977), Phd, is currently a curator at the KUMU Art Museum in Tallinn, the assistant professor and the Head of the Curatorial Studies MA Program at the Estonian Academy of Arts. Previously he has been active as a curator at the Tallinna Kunstihoone (Tallinn Art Hall) from 2002–2012 and as the establisher and the head of Museum of Contemporary Art in Estonia (EKKM) in Tallinn (est. 2007, artistic director 2010-2015) He has been the curator of the Estonian Pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale in 2000 and at the Art Biennale in 2003. He is the establisher of NU Performance Festival in Tallinn (2005) and the author of the books *Diary of A Semionaut* (2009), *Three Patriotic Speeches* (2013) and *Disobedient Bodies. Radical Performative Practices in Art and Culture of the 20th and 21st Centuries* (to be published in 2023).



Giovanna Esposito Yussif is a curator and researcher with a background in art history, museology, and critical theory. Giovanna has a long-standing commitment to non-dominant praxes, dissentient imaginations, epistemic plurality and epistemologies in resistance. She is artistic director of the Museum of Impossible Forms (2021–), a cultural center located in Kontula, East Helsinki, and the coming together of communities of art and cultural workers working to build anti-colonial, anti-patriarchal, and non-fascist commitments and futures. Giovanna curated the Pavilion of Finland at the 58th Venice Biennale with the Miracle Workers Collective (2019), was co-artistic of Drifts Festival (Ghosts, 2022, and Ungoverned Lives, 2023), curated M_itä biennale 2023, and co-curated Helsinki Biennial 2023. She has collaborated with diverse institutions and actively contributes to diverse networks, boards, and juries.



Anna Johansson is an art historian, curator at Malmö Konstmuseum and a Board Member at The Swedish Curators' Association.



Hanna Styrnisdóttir is a curator based in Iceland and Professor of the MA in Curatorial Practice at the Iceland University of the Arts. Hanna holds a Postgraduate Certificate in Critical Studies from Malmö Art Academy / Lund University; an MA in Fine Art: Sculpture from Chelsea College of Art / University of the Arts London; and a BFA in Fine Arts from Parsons School of Design / The New School. She was Artistic Director of the Reykjavík Arts Festival from 2012 through 2016, curating four editions of the then annual festival, in collaboration with thirty key arts institutions and festivals in Iceland and internationally every year. During her appointment she emphasized new collaborative work and commissions with a focus on the works of women artists, censorship and rights struggle in the arts in general, inclusivity, the reimagining of public spaces, artistic processes and audiences' experiences. In 2007, Hanna was the curator of Steingrímur Eyfjörd's *The Golden Plover Has Arrived* for the Icelandic Pavilion at the 54th Venice Biennale.



Egija Inzule is curator and director of NAC, a department of Vilnius Academy of Arts in Nida, Lithuania. Reflecting the hybrid character of NAC, a site for art education and research, artists residencies, exhibitions, commissions and events, Inzule works on initiating long-term productions that look at historical, geopolitical and sociopolitical entanglements of the Curonian Spit with a focus on the agency of NAC in this context. Together with Jurga Daubaraitė and Jonas Žukauskas, she works on the project Neringa Forest Architecture, is co-curator of the Children's Forest Pavilion at 18th International Architecture Exhibition La Biennale di Venezia 2023, and is COOP tutor at the Dutch Art Institute. Prior to NAC, Inzule has worked as curator in the teams of castillo/corrales, Paris; Istituto Svizzero di Roma; and Shedhalle, Zurich. She is currently based between Zurich, Riga and Nida.

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Joanna Warsza is an interdependent curator, editor, art writer and educator, and the program director of CuratorLab at Konstfack University of Arts in Stockholm (2014–2024). She co-curated the Polish Pavilion at the 59th Venice Biennale in 2022, with the work of Małgorzata Mirga-Tas, the first Roma artist in any national pavilion. She has curated numerous biennials, city projects, exhibitions, and conferences, such as the 7th Berlin Biennale (as associate curator) or Gothenburg Biennale 2013. As an educator at CuratorLab, Warsza set up a platform which explores various approaches to engagement and curatorial practices beyond exhibition making, incorporating advocacy, dramaturgy, the editorial and an emphasis on our interdependence in relation to individual power and creativity. Originally from Warsaw, she lives in Berlin.



Jonatan Habib Engqvist is a curator, author and occasional teacher. He is the Co-editor of *Ord&Bild*, curator of experimental projects and exhibitions on 4 continents including international biennales and festivals including Art D-0 ARK Underground, VR Pavilion at 58th Venice Biennale, Cycle Music&Art Festival Berlin/Reykjavík, Survival Kit Riga, Sinopale in Turkey, Momentum biennale in Moss, Norway, and Reykjavík Arts Festival. He was founding director of Curatorial Residency in Stockholm, previously manager of visual art at Iaspis, curator at Moderna Museet and employed at Royal Institute of Art, Stockholm. His writing has been published widely in several languages around the world.



Karin Bähler Lavér, currently residing in Malmö, curates exhibitions and facilitates conversations. She takes particular interest in art's capacity to forge new modes of being-in-common, ways of worlding and cultivating the political imaginary. She runs the ambulating curatorial and editorial platform Skēnē.

Together with Asrin Haidari and Emily Fahlén she curated the 2020 Luleå Biennial: *Time on Earth*. Her most recent exhibitions are *Bildningar* with Emanuel Almborg at MINT konsthall, Stockholm, and *Long Time Listener, First Time Caller* with Susanna Jablonski at Kalmar konstmuseum (both 2021). She holds an MA in Cultural studies and critical theory from Malmö university.

She is a founding member of the Swedish Curator's Association (vice-chair 2021–22, current board member).



Lotte Løvholm is an independent curator and editor who runs the art space Collega in Copenhagen. With a background in critical theory, she is interested in how art relates to contemporary culture and cultural history. One of her notable contributions is the interview series Living Archives/Levende arkiver at *Bastard Performance Art Journal*. Lotte Løvholm has collaborated with various institutions and organisations, including Kunsthall Aarhus, Malmö Konstmuseum, Kunsthall Charlottenborg, ARoS Aarhus Art Museum and 1.1 Basel. She values collaboration and an openness to adapt, leading to new perspectives and richer approaches to curating and presenting art. Lotte's practice moves between intense periods of digging in archives and more extroverted activities like hosting openings, performances, dinners and moderating talks and interviews. She values long-term work relationships and the friendships they bring.

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Marianna Garin is an independent art curator, consultant, researcher, and writer. She lives and works between Sweden and Berlin. Her practice revolves around exploring and conceptualizing public space by examining the complexity of urban environments and making art an integral part of the collective transformation of public space. She is involved in public realm commissions as well as consultancy for art in new architecture and urban planning for various institutions. Her chairmanship of the recently founded Swedish Curators' Association brings about an active engagement in cultural politics and the role of the curator, complimenting her previous role as lecturer at the curatorial program at Universidad Torcuato Di Tella in Buenos Aires. Marianna has worked and curated exhibitions for a wide number of Swedish institutions such as Kalmar Konstmuseum, Bonniers Konsthall, Gävle Art Centre, IASPIS-International Artists Studio Program, Lunds Konsthall, Moderna Museet and for the Nordic Pavilion at the Venice Biennale, some of which have showed internationally in the UK, Italy, the United States and Argentina. She is a frequent contributor to magazines and journals, artist monographs, and catalogues.



Sona Stepanyan is a curator based in Stockholm and currently collaborating with Mint Konsthall and The Swedish Curators' Association. From 2016–2018 Stepanyan held a position of curator at Armenia Art Foundation and previously worked at Garage Museum of Contemporary Art. Stepanyan is among the 2017 finalists of the 9th edition of Premio di Lorenzo Bonaldi per L'Arte, organized by GAMeC Museum. Her latest exhibitions include *Continuous Line that Binds us to each other* (Firetti Contemporary, Verona 2022); *The First Festival of Manuports* (Kunsthalle Kohta, Helsinki, 2021); *The Restless Echo of Tomorrow* (Fundació Antoni Tàpies, Barcelona, 2020).