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**Nordic Museum teaming up with local and international partners  
to make May 2018 “Nordic Seattle” month**

*20+ events featuring Nordic music, literature, film, innovation and culture*

*From Danish punk rock to Strindberg and Sibelius, from digital innovation to Nordic crime fiction*

*March 15, 2018 / Seattle, WA* – The Nordic Museum is partnering with more than a dozen local and international organizations to turn the entire month of May 2018 into a “Nordic Seattle” celebration of Nordic arts, culture and innovation.

With more than 20 events ranging from experimental rock to classical music, film, theater, literature, technology and business, the Nordic Seattle series will extend from April 17 through June 1, at venues all across Seattle.

The Nordic Seattle series is designed to highlight and celebrate the May 5th grand opening of the Nordic Museum in its stunning new home on Market Street in the heart of the working waterfront of Seattle’s Ballard neighborhood. The new museum was designed by Seattle’s Mithun architects in collaboration with renowned Finnish architect Juhani Pallasmaa, featuring a soaring central fjord atrium with angular walls that narrow as visitors go deeper into the museum. The core exhibition, tracing 12,000 years of Nordic and Nordic-American history, was designed by Ralph Appelbaum Associates, the firm that helped create the new National Museum of African American History and Culture, the Newseum, and the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington DC.

“As we open our new museum, we want to reach out to the entire community with programs that demonstrate our expanded mission and showcase the incredible diversity of arts, culture and innovation that define the Nordic region today,” said Eric Nelson, CEO of the Nordic Museum. “We’re excited to be partnering with so many organizations across Seattle and beyond, to turn Seattle into a Nordic city for the month of May.”

“While 1 out of every 8 people in Washington state self-identify as having Nordic ancestry, we want our new museum to be a place for everyone,” Nelson said. “The new Museum will be a window into the past, present and future of the Nordic and Nordic-American experience and ideas.”

The Nordic Seattle series is made possible through partnership with organizations across Seattle and beyond. Key partners include radio station KEXP, Seattle Symphony, Seattle International Film Festival, Town Hall Seattle, Northwest Film Forum, Seattle Public Library, University of Washington, World Affairs Council, Elliott

Bay Book Company, Rainier Arts Center, and many others. Nordic Seattle is also supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers, the Nordic Culture Fund, and the embassies of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

The complete Nordic Seattle line-up includes eight music events, ranging from [Danish punk rock band Iceage](#) to Scandinavian-influenced singer-songwriter [Chelsea Wolfe](#) to Swedish jazz trumpeter [Oskar Stenmark](#), and more. The Nordic Seattle month also features five literary events, a series of nearly a dozen films at the Seattle International Film Festival, live theater, family and children's events, and a major technology and innovation conference.

The first event in the series will be a conversation with Norwegian author Åsne Seierstad, about her latest book *Two Sisters*, presented in conjunction with Town Hall Seattle and the Rainier Arts Center on April 17. The series will conclude with a performance of Jean Sibelius's *Kullervo* by the Seattle Symphony, led by Danish conductor Thomas Dausgaard, on May 31, and a performance of August Strindberg's *Miss Julie* by San Francisco's Cutting Ball Theater on June 1.

The series includes a one-day Nordic Tech and Innovation Conference, presented by Ericsson, featuring presentations and panel discussions by technology leaders from the Nordic region, including Fredrik Cassel, general partner, Creandum; Kristin Skogen Lund, CEO, Confederation of Norwegian Employers; Birger Steen, former CEO, Parallels; and Hilde Tonne, CIO, Ramboll Group. Tickets are \$50, and can be reserved at <http://nordicmuseum.org/events/innovationconference>.

A full schedule and description of the events is available at [www.nordicmuseum.org/nordic-seattle](http://www.nordicmuseum.org/nordic-seattle), along with information on how to buy tickets for individual events.

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### **About the Nordic Museum**

Recently relocated to a stunning new facility in the heart of Seattle's Ballard neighborhood, the Nordic Museum is the only museum in the United States that showcases the impact and influence of Nordic values and innovation in contemporary society and tells the story of 12,000 years of Nordic history and culture, across all five Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. The Museum's mission is to share Nordic culture with people of all ages and backgrounds by exhibiting art and objects, preserving collections, providing educational and cultural experiences and serving as a community gathering place. The Nordic Museum presents a wide range of vibrant programs including contemporary art exhibitions, outstanding concerts, lectures, and films and a variety of special events throughout the year.

*While the Nordic Museum continues to present a wide range of community programs, the Museum itself is temporarily closed to make the transition to its new home on Market Street. The Nordic Museum will reopen at 2655 NW Market Street, Seattle, 98107 on May 5, 2018.*