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*From Dawn to Dusk: Nordic Art from Sweden's Nationalmuseum
Opens February 19 at the National Nordic Museum in Seattle*

At a time when few international art exhibitions are travelling to America, the National Nordic Museum presents one of the West Coast's most important European art exhibitions in 2022

Seattle, WA—On February 19, the National Nordic Museum will premiere a landmark exhibition from one of Northern Europe's most important art museums "*From Dawn to Dusk: Nordic Art from Sweden's Nationalmuseum.*" The exhibition's 56 paintings, by the Nordic region's leading artists of the late 19th century, include works by Anders Zorn, August Strindberg, Bruno Liljefors, Carl Larsson, Hanna Hirsch-Pauli, Harriet Backer, Nils Kreuger, and Vilhelm Hammershøi, among others.

"This is an expansive look at one of the most popular periods in Nordic art with works by Denmark's, Norway's and Sweden's greatest artists," said Executive Director Eric Nelson. "We are most grateful to the Nationalmuseum for generously lending such extraordinary works."

The exhibition traces the final decades of the 19th century and beginning of 20th century, a period of dramatic development in art of the Nordic countries, through scenes of everyday life, portraits, and landscapes. Young artists tired of the conservative art scene in their respective countries and they travelled abroad, most of them to France and to Paris. Here, they could experience personal freedom and a modern, cosmopolitan art scene. In particular, the women artists encountered much better circumstances in Paris than at home in the Nordic countries. "In comparison to Stockholm, the [late 19th-century] Parisian art world was an endless field of prosperous opportunities, and at the time, Paris was the incontestable art capital of the world. Young artists became increasingly aware of the more liberal art world in Paris, adding fuel to their frustration with the conservative Academies in the North," said Carl-Johan Olsson, the Nationalmuseum's Curator of 19th-Century Painting.

Nordic artists synthesized contemporary ideas, practices, and styles that they encountered in Paris to depict the motifs of their home region. In the century that followed, the Nationalmuseum collected these pictures as exemplars of this history. "These treasured paintings transport visitors to a time when artistic influences from abroad ignited passions, inspired the creation of new pathways for artists to succeed, and ultimately, shaped new national schools of art. Importantly, *From Dawn to Dusk* reflects current scholarship and shares some recent acquisitions to the Nationalmuseum's collection that illustrate the profound contributions of Nordic women artists

to this revolutionary moment in art history,” said Leslie Anne Anderson, Director of Collections, Exhibitions, and Programs.

“From Dawn to Dusk: Nordic Art from Sweden’s Nationalmuseum” includes 56 paintings by Danish, Norwegian, and Swedish artists held in the collection of the Nationalmuseum in Stockholm, Sweden. It will be on view exclusively at the National Nordic Museum from February 19, 2022, to July 17, 2022, and accompanied by a full slate of exhibition-related lectures, concerts, and art classes.

Organized by the Nationalmuseum in Stockholm, Sweden, and the National Nordic Museum in Seattle, Washington, this exhibition was curated by the Nationalmuseum’s Curator Carl-Johan Olsson. The presentation at the National Nordic Museum—the exclusive North American venue for the exhibition—is coordinated by Leslie Anne Anderson, Director of Collections, Exhibitions, and Programs.

The National Nordic Museum’s presentation of *From Dawn to Dusk* has been made possible by Ann-Charlotte Gavel Adams, Peter and Sophia Ku in honor of Mrs. Viola Evelyn Greathouse, Maria Staaf and William Jones, The Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation, Scan Design Foundation, and the Robert Lehman Foundation.

National Nordic Museum’s 2022 Exhibitions

In addition to *From Dawn to Dusk*, the National Nordic Museum will present two more special exhibitions in the Barbro Osher Gallery this year. For further information, please see nordicmuseum.org/exhibitions.

Across the West and Toward the North: Norwegian and American Landscape Photography
August 6, 2022 – November 27, 2022

“Across the West and Toward the North: Norwegian and American Landscape Photography” provides a new examination of Norwegian and American landscape photography in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. At the present time of devastating climate change and political conflicts about the environment and energy consumption, this exhibition considers a historical moment when once remote wildernesses were first surveyed, developed, and photographed on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. Drawing from the University of Bergen’s Picture Collection in Bergen, Norway; the Norsk Folkemuseum in Oslo, Norway; and a private collection, the exhibition investigates how two countries responded to the tourism influx, infrastructure changes, exploitation of natural resources, and the resulting effects of mapping and exploration. The exhibition has been made possible in part by the Nysether Family Foundation.

Mygration
December 9, 2022 – March 5, 2023

The work of Sámi artist Tomas Colbengtson and Swedish artist Stina Folkebrant reflects explores issues of migration, herd mentality, time, and forgotten past. For the “Mygration” exhibition, December 2022 to March 2023, Colbengtson selected and printed archival photos of Sámi immigrants to Alaska in the 1890s, which are paired with Folkebrant’s large-scale paintings of the eight seasons of the mountain world, illustrating the Sámi concept of time and the life of the reindeer. The paintings are hung in a circle with the photographs at center, inviting the visitor to become immersed in a panoramic image. Additionally, the Museum has commissioned Folkebrant, a muralist, to create a work related to the exhibition’s theme on its campus. The exhibition has been made possible in part by Pacific Sámi Searvi and Krueger Sheet Metal.

More about the National Nordic Museum

The National Nordic Museum is the only museum in the United States that tells the story of 12,000 years of Nordic history and culture, across all five Nordic nations (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden) and the semi-autonomous regions of Greenland, Faroe Islands, and Åland and the indigenous region of Sápmi. The Museum is guided by a bold vision: Through the history we illuminate, the stories we tell, the connections we make, and the values we promote, we inspire our visitors to create a more vibrant, more just, more sustainable world.

Opened in 2018, the National Nordic Museum’s iconic building in Seattle has won numerous awards. The Museum hosts more than 100 events each year, including an acclaimed Nordic Lights Film Festival in February, concerts, lectures, classes about Nordic culture, book talks, and an open-air Christmas market, Julefest, every November.

About Nationalmuseum

Nationalmuseum is Sweden’s museum of art and design. The collection comprises paintings, sculptures, drawings and prints from 1500–1900 and applied arts, design and portraits from early Middle Ages up until present day. The collections include masterpieces by European artists such as Rembrandt, Rubens, Boucher, Goya, Renoir, Manet and Morisot, as well as important works by Swedish artists such as Carl Larsson and Anders Zorn. The collection of old master drawing is regarded as one of the most important in the world and includes master drawings by artists such as Raphael and Dürer.

The main museum building is located at Blasieholmen in the Stockholm city center and was opened to the public in 1866. The building reopened in October 2018 after a five years long renovation project. The renovation resulted in expanded exhibition space, new lighting, ventilation and climate control systems. The new displays include more than 5000 works of art.

Nationalmuseum is also a government authority with a mandate to preserve cultural heritage and promote art, interest in art and knowledge of art.