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# news of norway



## winter wonder

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dear reader,

For me the Vancouver Olympics brought back the emotions from the 1994 Lillehammer Olympics. At that time I was posted in San Francisco and on maternity leave with my second son. Through the TV screen I was drawn into the Lillehammer spirit, joining the huge numbers of Norwegians who cheered on the athletes. Being part of something much bigger than individual achievements and Olympic records filled me with joy and pride.



PHOTO BY BRENDAN BURDEN

In Vancouver, the emotional opening ceremony commemorating the death of the young athlete at a training run the previous day, but at the same time celebrating the joy of the Games, recaptured the "Lillehammer feeling." The next 17 days were full of excitement and cheering on the Norwegian athletes, but it was also about sharing the Olympic spirit with participating countries. The Canadians were generous hosts. When Norway got a medal, they greeted us with a big smile and sometimes a hug, demonstrating that the Games were about healthy patriotism and the shared feeling of Olympic history being made.

At the Vancouver Games we saw Norwegian Tora Berger win the women's 15K

individual biathlon, which was Norway's 100th gold medal in the history of the Winter Olympics. This makes Norway the most decorated country over the years. These were also the Games where the U.S. team dominated the slopes and the podium. These were the Games when the host country sighed in relief as freestyle skier Alexandre Bilodeau won the first Olympic gold for Canada on Canadian soil. And these were the Games when the host country, unexpectedly, in the final weekend surpassed both the U.S. and Germany for most gold medals overall.

When I walked the streets of Vancouver after the closing ceremony, cheering crowds poured into the streets, waving Canadian flags, high fiving and singing "O Canada." Somebody touched my backpack with the Norwegian Olympic team logo and shouted, "We love Norway." It made me smile and think that Norway and North America share some important values, that patriotism can be inclusive rather than exclusive. Clearly, Canada won the overall gold as a wonderful host nation!

In this edition of News of Norway you can read about the many winter wonders, be it Olympic achievements, skiing from cabin to cabin in the Norwegian mountains, or the sports of ice climbing and ski kiting. Norway is the cradle of skiing and the many Norwegian immigrants to the United States introduced winter sports in their local communities. In Canada, "Jackrabbit" Smith-Johannessen was instrumental in making cross-country skiing a popular sport. As a result, Canada today has the highest number of cross-country skiers in the world – next to Norway that is.

else berit eikeland  
norwegian ambassador to canada



LEFT: Marit Bjørgen (left) and Therese Johaug were team mates when the Norwegians won the 4x5K cross country relay at the Vancouver Olympic Games 2010. They celebrated by eating waffles at the Norwegian Seamen's Church.

OPPOSITE PAGE LEFT: Church staff and volunteers served 36,100 waffle hearts during the Olympics.

OPPOSITE PAGE RIGHT: Children celebrating another Norwegian medal outside of the Norwegian Seamen's Church.



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PHOTO BY SCANPIX

Olympic Games to Whistler in 1968, but didn't succeed at the time.

**K**ing Harald's relationship with Canada

goes all the way back to the Second World War. King Harald – then a young prince – was a refugee in the U.S. and used to visit the training camps for Norwegian pilots in Toronto, and later in Muskoka, a couple of times a year. This year he spent his first day at Whistler celebrating his 73rd birthday, receiving many congratulations from Norwegians both in Canada and at home in Norway.

**T**he King spoke about other Norwegians who had created special ties between Norway and Canada. When Canadian cross-country skier Sara Renner lost her pole at the Winter Olympics in Turin in 2006 and the Norwegian coach Bjørnar Håkonsmoen handed her a new pole, it was a beautiful example of Olympic camaraderie, the King said. The good sportsmanship was rewarded by Canadians, who started donating maple syrup to Norwegians in a show of appreciation. "It resulted in a couple of tons of syrup," King Harald said cheerfully. The most famous Norwegian athletes during the Olympics in Vancouver were probably the members of the curling team, because of their striking argyle pants. The King told CTV that the pants had half a million fans on Facebook and that he himself had received a pair. But he had no immediate plans to wear them.

## A pair of curling pants for King Harald

by kari mårjatta hoel and jo sletbæk

**B**oth King Harald and Queen Sonja love winter sports – both watching and participating in them – and they were the strongest supporters of the Norwegian team at the Vancouver Olympics, where they watched cross-country skiing events as well as biathlon, ski jumping, speed skating, curling, and alpine.

Queen Sonja went downhill skiing herself

in the mountains of Whistler and Blackcomb. "It was so beautiful," said Queen Sonja during an interview with the Canadian broadcaster CTV, in which she also revealed that she had learned a new word to describe the slopes: "corduroy." Queen Sonja spoke about the Norwegian origins of Whistler. In fact, the resort was founded by a Norwegian, Franz Wilhelmssen. He tried to get the Winter



PHOTOS BY INGE MØRLAND/THE NORWEGIAN SEAMEN'S CHURCH

## 36,100 Norwegian waffle hearts served in Vancouver

by kari mårjatta hoel

**D**id you know that the Norwegian Seamen's Church in Vancouver mixed 190 gallons of waffle batter to make 36,100 waffle hearts during the Olympics? The waffles and 217 gallons of coffee were served to more than 6,000 visitors, including Norway's ambassador to Canada, Else Berit Eikeland. "I love Norwegian waffles – the taste is like coming home. Thanks to the Seamen's Church, we Norwegians and other

visitors to the Winter Olympics had a piece of Norway right here in Vancouver," Ambassador Eikeland said.

The Norwegian Seamen's Church has operations in 50 cities around the world, and serves as a cultural, social, and spiritual meeting place for Norwegians abroad. At the 2010 Winter Olympics the church welcomed all Norwegians and Canadians in Whistler to their temporary facility at the Maurice Young

Millennium Place.

In its best tradition, *Sjømanskirken* established a home away from home with waffles, coffee, Norwegian newspapers, and TV. Also, two worship services were celebrated during the Olympics: one ecumenical service in collaboration with local churches in Whistler and one with Their Majesties King Harald V and Queen Sonja as guests of honor.



## how canadian skiing began

by else berit eikeland

**D**id you know that the Norwegian founding father of skiing in Canada, Jackrabbit Johannsen, got his nickname from the Cree First Nation?

Herman “Jackrabbit” Smith-Johannsen went with his family to Canada in 1907 and established himself in Quebec as a machinery salesman. In Norway, Jackrabbit had been known as one of the finest all-round skiers of his time, practicing jumping, cross country, Telemark, and downhill. He had skied with Norwegian Polar heroes Nansen and Amundsen. In North America, he continued practicing his passion, participating in races, building ski jumps, and blazing trails throughout eastern Canada and the U.S.

It is believed that the Cree, whom he met during one of his sales trips above North Bay in the province of Ontario, gave him the nickname Jackrabbit because they were impressed by his speed on skis compared to the snowshoes they were using at the time. The story goes that Jackrabbit persuaded the Cree to try skiing instead of snowshoeing.

Jackrabbit Johannsen is actually credited with being the founding father of skiing in Canada. According to his grandson, Peter Austin, he was “a strong believer in that everyone should enjoy the Canadian wealth of countryside.” He had a close relationship with his grandchildren, and passed on his passion of skiing and the outdoors to them just like he did to all of Canada. He also assisted in training the Canadian Olympic team. However, he was especially involved with teaching children the joys of skiing through youth ski clubs. To this very day, Cross Country Canada’s youth program is named after Jackrabbit.

Jackrabbit Johannsen was awarded the Order of Canada and later introduced into the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame. At the Canadian Museum of Civilizations, he is honored as a man “whose vision and action had a significant impact on Canada and its inhabitants.”

The founding father of cross-country skiing in Canada never quit practicing his greatest passion in life and skied until he was more than 100 years old. He lived to be 111, and was posthumously recognized as the oldest man alive on earth during the last month of his life. One might wonder whether skiing is the recipe for a long and active life.

## the show must go on

by urd milbury

**L**ong before the Olympics became the ultimate venue for ski entertainment, Norwegians like Stein Eriksen, Sigurd Rokne, and Trygve Berge performed ski stunts at shows across North America.

“We all worked the consumer shows back then, which helped a great deal in promoting the sport,” said the now 77-year-old Berge, who settled in Breckenridge, Colo., 50 years ago. Between 1953 and 1989, Berge gave more than 2,000 demonstrations at ski shows and acrobatic exhibitions in association with Colorado Ski Country USA. “We would ski and perform tricks on everything from plastic bristles to crushed ice. Those shows drew big crowds everywhere,” he said.

Some performances were more memorable than others. “At the Nixon inauguration there was a big parade down Pennsylvania Avenue, including a ski float. It had a hill which we took turns skiing, while singing and playing instruments. I sang and played the clarinet, Stein Eriksen sang, and Fritz Stammerger played the guitar while yodeling. He actually skied right off the hill of the float in mid-yodel and landed right in the street as we were passing Nixon,” Berge chuckled.

Before Berge took his ski showmanship on the road, he was a fiercely competitive alpine skier. “There have been so many exciting times in my life,” he said. Skiing in the [1956] Olympics [in Cortina, Italy], is number one, although I lost my ski, an incredible experience! Second to that, the Norwegian ski tournaments I competed in,” he said.

Berge and Rokne first came to Colorado when Stein Eriksen, who was director of skiing at Aspen, sponsored world-class skiers from the Norwegian alpine team to come to the United States and help with his ski school. It did not take Rokne and Berge long to see that Colorado had skiing possibilities beyond Aspen. While in Breckenridge, then a lumber town, they saw the potential in the surrounding mountains. By the spring of 1961, they had begun clearing the first slope. That first run opened in December of the same year and put Breckenridge on a rapid pace to become one of the largest ski areas in the United States. Berge, who was inducted into the Colorado Ski Hall of Fame in 1999, still lives in Breckenridge in the winter season, and goes skiing as often as he can.



Trygve Berge demonstrates his acrobatic prowess in Breckenridge, Co.



## norwegian roots of skiing in the u.s.

by urd milbury

Sondre Norheim, from Morgedal in Telemark, has often been called the father of modern skiing. Skiing in the United States is also said to have a Norwegian father – John “Snowshoe” Thompson. Thompson immigrated to the United States in 1837 at the age of 10. Upon hearing that the settlers east of the Sierra Nevada Mountains were cut off from civilization every winter, he made a pair of wooden skis based on childhood memory and set out to deliver their mail, and did so for 20 years. As he traveled, he saved the lives of several people who were snowbound in mountain cabins, becoming a legend.

In 1941, President Roosevelt authorized the formation of the Army’s 10th Mountain Division, America’s only World War II infantry unit organized exclusively for mountain warfare. One battalion, the 99th, was composed entirely of soldiers of Norwegian ancestry, planning for a potential allied launch via Norway.

Perhaps the most famous Norwegian skier to join the 10th division was Torger Tokle, a world record jumper who traveled the competitive east coast ski jumping circuit. In the three short years he competed he broke twenty-four hill records and won 42 of the 48 tournaments he entered, which earned him the nickname the “Babe Ruth of Skiing.” He died on the battlefield during the allied invasion of Italy, leading his men into action in the Apennine mountains. “Tokle was revered by his men for far more than his fame and skills, he was loved by his men and his fans alike for his sunny, friendly and humble personality. If he had lived on to continue his sport he would have been remembered as one of the pioneers and founders of ski sport in the United States today,” said Peter Shelton, author of “Climb to Conquer: The Untold Story of WWII’s 10th Mountain Division Ski Troops.”

Alf Engen settled in Salt Lake City in 1931. Although a ski jumper when he arrived in the U.S., he quickly mastered alpine skiing and is credited for developing the technique of powder skiing. He won 16 U.S. national titles in jumping, cross-country, downhill and slalom. Alf and his brothers made ski movies in the 1940s that helped popularize the sport, and he coached the 1948 U.S. Olympic Team to their first ever medals.

Stein Eriksen came to embody skiing for a whole generation during the most explosive growth years of downhill skiing. After winning the gold at the 1952 Olympic Winter Games in Oslo and three gold medals in the 1954 World Championship, he immigrated to the United States. He is recognized as the father of freestyle skiing. He settled in Deer Valley, Utah, where he is director of skiing. In 1982 he was inducted into the National Ski Hall of Fame.

## the new holmenkollen: oslo’s new silhouette

by silje ruud birkelid



PHOTO COURTESY OF JULIEN DE SMEDT ARCHITECTS

Norway’s best female ski jumper, Anette Sagen, had the honor of making the first official jump at the brand new Holmenkollen arena in March. “Jump, Anette, jump,” Oslo mayor Fabian Stang said when he declared the new facility open, cheering on 25-year-old Sagen.

“It’s a beautiful ski jump,” Sagen told Norwegian Broadcasting, after her 106.5 meter (349 feet) jump. Nineteen male jumpers followed Sagen. “This was really great, and so many people showed up to root for us,” she said.

Norway has always prided itself on being a big ski nation and Holmenkollen is one of the most important ski jumping arenas in the world. But the ski jump first built in 1892 no longer was a world-class jump, fit for the 21st century. Even though Holmenkollen has been upgraded 18 times through the years, the facility needed to be fully replaced. Following a competition with 104 entries in 2007, a 35-year-old architect from Belgium, Julien De Smedt, got the bid to draw a new Holmenkollen.

“It felt like a great pleasure, a great pride and a great loss ... like letting your teenager move out of the house,” De Smedt said, following the completion of the ski jump. In 2011 Oslo will host the World Ski Championships, where athletes will be jumping at what probably is the world’s most modern ski jump. But first, Holmenkollen will be the site of the 2010 World Cup (test event), to ensure that the arena is functioning well. The athletes will compete and test out the ski jump, while the audience will practice their collective cheer, and show the world that even though the ski jump is new the infamous roar *kollenbrølet* remains the same.

The new Holmenkollen meets all the new requirements for a modern ski jump. “JDS Architects had everything in mind when creating it. Holmenkollen is the Mecca of ski jumping and I feel honored to be its architect. But it also means a heavy load of responsibilities. Holmenkollen is the third most known sport facility in the world and it’s an epicenter of tourism for Norway. Norway could not arrange the World Championships in 2011 without a new jump,” the architect explained.

Critics have claimed that the new Holmenkollen has a beautiful and extravagant design and architecture. It has been called dynamic, powerful, and elegant. The old white icon has been replaced with steel-gray, semi-translucent “walls” that follow the hill’s curved shape both inside and out. The mesh facade is woven together with flexible threads that let the wind play with the materials, creating a faint flickering effect.

“Norway is somehow the ski jumping nation. There’s always some

news about some jump that occurred somewhere. I think that the project will help embrace the discipline in the media and certainly renew its public appeal,” De Smedt said. “Holmenkollen is one of the hardest hills to jump and that is part of the myth around it. It might not be where you jump the longest but it’s certainly a more adventurous and technically challenging environment. I think the fact that the building will at least be the longest cantilever in the world gives it a ‘wow’ effect that will be noticed worldwide. This simplicity is very apparent in the built work and I believe will both attract attention and help focus on the discipline of ski jumping itself.”



PHOTO BY SCANPIX GORM KALLESTAD

Anette Sagen jumped 349 feet at Holmenkollen when the brand new ski jump opened in March, 2010.



# Ice Climbing and Ski Kiting – Hot Winter Sports

by ida marie skeie

PHOTO BY ØYSTEIN CHRISTIANSEN

Some say that Norwegians are born with skis on their feet. These days, more and more Norwegians are born with a snowboard and a snow kite, or crampons and an ice axe.

“If you are a real mountaineer, you also pursue ice climbing,” said Andreas Spak, a professional ice climber. He lives and breathes for the mountains in Rjukan, Norway, which, with more than 170 seasonally frozen waterfalls, is considered one of Europe’s best areas for ice climbing.

“If you are looking for a wonderful nature experience that will take your breath away, put on a helmet and crampons and get the ice axe ready to conquer a new element,” Spak said. He explained that ice climbing is a lot like rock climbing but it is done on the steep walls of frozen waterfalls. The activity resulted from rock climbers’ need to test equipment for navigating icy and slippery mountainsides. “It is all about reading the ice and working yourself upwards.”

Waterfall climbing was introduced to Norwegians as early as in the late 1970s by American rock climbers Henry Barber and Rob Taylor, and has since grown significantly, and been more noticeable in recent years. In order to be able to make a living from his passion Spak works as a guide, offering ice climbing experiences for both beginners and advanced enthusiasts. “Each season we have between 2 to 3,000 adventurers ranging from 12 to 60 years old, who want to explore the world of ice climbing. In fact, the sport is being pursued mostly by girls,” Spak said. A reason for Norway as a popular destination is the long season and the amount of frozen waterfalls possible to conquer.

If frozen waterfalls are not your thing, then maybe horizontal or gently sloping mountain plateaus covered with fresh powder snow are

worth considering. Snow kiting, or ski kiting as it is sometimes called, is one of the latest chases for a kick of adrenaline in Norway. A kite is a large, highly controllable foil that will blast kite pilots along with just the power of the wind. Marta Fretheim is a 24-year-old Norwegian who has been snow kiting for five years. It is not hard to understand her passion when describing snow kiting: “It is all about jumping, flying down the mountainsides, and cruising in the light snow.”

**Marta Fretheim, 24, is a professional kiter, she snow kites during the winter and water kites in the summer. Here she is cruising on the plateaus of Hardangervidda.**

Fretheim has also done water kiting, but she claims that snow kiting is much easier: “It is easy to stay balanced on snow and it takes less wind to carry you forward. What is so great about it is that the sport is suited for most people, from 12 to 50 years of age. You might think that physical strength is important, but no worries, because the wind will carry you,” she said.

The exotic sport is growing in popularity, and according to professionals, Norway has some of the world’s best conditions for it. Flat and barren landscapes where you can go along with the wind are referred to as *vidda* in Norwegian, and one of the great spots is *Hardangervidda*, an expansive area in the Norwegian mountains.



PHOTO BY ØYNGVE ASKINNOVATION NORWAY

“If you are looking for a wonderful nature experience that will take your breath away, put on a helmet and crampons and get the ice axe ready to conquer a new element,” ice climber Andreas Spak stated.

For more information about adventurous winter activities in Norway, please see:

[www.rjukanadventure.no](http://www.rjukanadventure.no)

[www.fjordnorway.com](http://www.fjordnorway.com)

[www.visitvoss.no/en](http://www.visitvoss.no/en)

[www.visitnorway.com](http://www.visitnorway.com)



PHOTOS BY GARY NEPTUNE

# Thrilling Tracks

by silje ruud birkelid

“We love the many miles of tracks that we can ski in Norway, and also the endless unmarked and untracked terrain for a really wild experience,” said Gary Neptune from Boulder, Colorado. He is one of 258 American members of *Den Norske Turistforeningen* – the Norwegian Trekking Association (NTA).

NTA was founded in 1868 and aims to promote trekking and improve conditions for all who enjoy the country’s broad range of outdoor attractions. More than 220,000 Norwegians are members of the association, which lets people use its cabins throughout the mountains of Norway. “The scenery is magical from the sharp peaks to the mountain plateaus,” Neptune boasted.

One of the most popular NTA activities is skiing or hiking “cabin to cabin,” trekking during the day and sleeping in a different cabin each night. The routes were developed in part from older thoroughfares and local footpaths and in part in response to the needs of trekkers, as ensured by the public right of access. The trails are marked with red Ts.

There are 460 cabins to choose from, and they come in three different types: self-service cabins, no-service cabins, and staffed lodges. The self-service cabins are equipped with all the things that trekkers need for cooking and sleeping: firewood, gas, kitchen utensils, table linens, and bunks with sheets, blankets, and pillows. They are also stocked with canned food, soup packets, crisp bread, cof-

fee, and tea. The no-service cabins usually have the same equipment as self-service cabins, but without food. The staffed lodges serve breakfast and dinner.

“The cabins couldn’t be nicer whether staffed or self-catered, and we love their rustic nature. There is nothing better than a warm fire in a comfortable room after a day out in the weather,” Neptune said.

Gary Neptune and his wife, Bibi Gottschall, have made a number of trips during the 10 years they have been members of the NTA. “We did a complete NTA trip called ‘Pearls of Rondane’ last spring. That was our best trip. We enjoyed meeting Norwegians and other nationalities on the trail. The weather was often poor during that trip, but with the very competent NTA guides we felt quite comfortable venturing out. If we had been on our own we would not have skied every day.”

Bibi Gottschall also did a Norwegian Trekking Association trip in the mountains of *Jotunheimen* in the summer of 2009, and the couple booked a “Top Touring” trip in *Jotunheimen* the winter of 2010. “When skiing in Norway my wife and I are constantly reminded of the rich ski history that is so much a part of Norway. The ski culture adds a great deal to our experience. There is no lack of inspiration,” Neptune said.

PHOTO BY JEFF BOUGH/ SPEED SKATING CANADA



**Kristina Groves**  
speed skating



With a total of four medals from the 2006 and 2010 Olympic Games in Turin and Vancouver, Kristina Groves became Canada's most decorated long-track speed skater. Born to a Norwegian mother, Groves feels a strong connection to Norway. Her childhood was influenced by Norwegian culture, food, traditions, and travel to Norway. She often goes to Norway to compete and practice skating. "Norway is a big part of who I am," she said. Groves has a bachelor's degree in kinesiology and is involved in charitable organizations such as A Right to Play and Clean Air Champions. **Vancouver merits: two bronze medals from the 1,500- and the 3,000-meter events.**

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NORWEGIAN SKI ASSOCIATION



**Aksel Lund Svindal**  
alpine skiing



Aksel Lund Svindal started to ski when he was 3 years old. In 2007, Aksel had an accident on the Golden Eagle jump at the downhill course in Beaver Creek, Colorado. The fall injured him badly and put him out for a whole season, but Aksel worked hard to get back into shape. After almost a year away from skiing he came back to the World Cup in Beaver Creek on the same mountain where he had crashed ... and he took home the gold medal. **Vancouver merits: One gold medal in super-G, silver medal in downhill, and bronze medal in giant slalom.**

PHOTO BY NORWEGIAN CURLING ASSOCIATION



**Norwegian Curling Team**  
curling



The Norwegian curling team got lots of attention in Vancouver because of its clown-like argyle pants. But the funny-looking outfits weren't the only reason to watch. The team played extremely well throughout the tournament before succumbing to their superior in the final: the host nation of Canada. "Sometimes the pieces just fall into place, and that happened with this team. They have a good chemistry and play really well together. Here we have something to build on for the future," said Paal Trulsen, a former Olympic gold medal winner, who now manages the team. **Vancouver merits: silver medal in curling.**

# Vancouver Oly

PHOTO COURTESY OF RED BULL



**Shaun White**  
snowboard



Shaun White was born in San Diego, Calif. His family loved to go skiing, so weekends were often spent road-tripping to mountains. White was fearless on skis and in an attempt to slow him down, his mother put him on a snowboard, but that just encouraged him to go faster. White entered his first competition when he was 7 years old and turned professional at age 13. He is famous for his tricks in the halfpipe. "I think it's what I was built to do. It's fun and I'm glad and I feel fortunate to have found a calling like this, something that I'm good at. I definitely can't imagine my life without the sport," Shaun White told NBC. **Vancouver merits: Gold medal in halfpipe.**

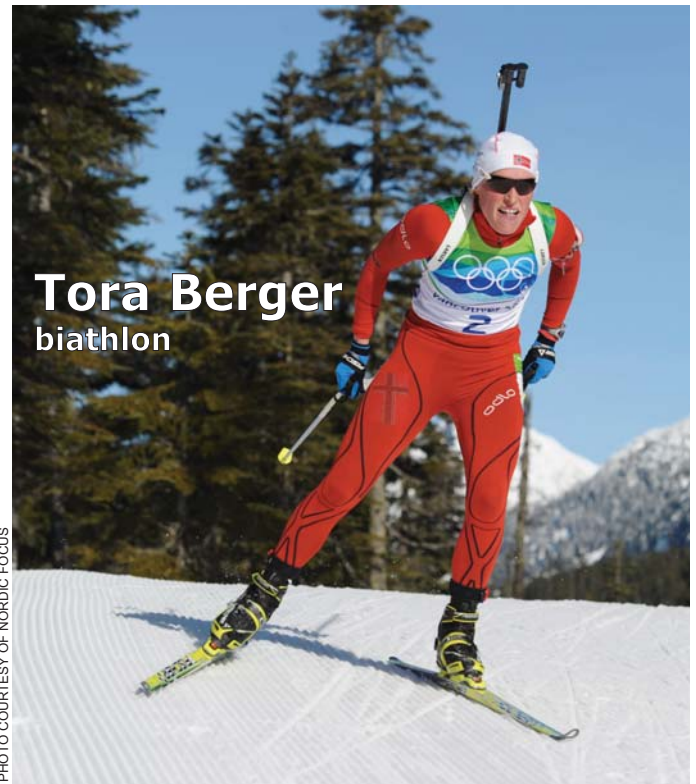
## Alexandre Bilodeau freestyle



PHOTO BY WWW.VANCOUVER2010.COM



Bilodeau became the first Canadian ever to win an Olympic gold medal on Canadian soil during the games in Vancouver. His brother Frédéric, who has cerebral palsy, attended the event, and was one of the biggest fans in the crowd. When CTV asked Bilodeau of the importance of having his brother attending the event he said, "My brother has been an inspiration for me. Growing up with a brother that's handicapped, you learn so much." Bilodeau's first Olympic medal was followed by the decision to contribute to charity. He made a donation to the Canadian Association of Pediatric Health Centres in support of research into cerebral palsy. **Vancouver merits: gold in freestyle moguls.**



## Tora Berger biathlon

PHOTO COURTESY OF NORDIC FOCUS



Growing up in the mountains of Lesja in Norway, Berger has five biathlon gold medals from World Cups. In the Winter Olympics in Vancouver she became the first Norwegian woman to win an Olympic gold medal in biathlon when she won the women's 15K individual. That medal also made Norway the first nation ever to win 100 gold medals at the Winter Olympic Games. "I felt like a queen," Tora told NRK. **Vancouver merits: Gold medal in 15K.**

# mpians 2010

## Marit Bjørgen cross country



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NORWEGIAN SKI ASSOCIATION



Born and raised in Rognes, a small place in Norway with only 200 inhabitants, Marit Bjørgen had a very active childhood. She debuted as a cross-country skier in the world cup in Engelberg, Switzerland when she was 19 years old. At 29, she brought home five medals from the Winter Olympics in Vancouver, more than any other individual athlete. That makes Bjørgen the second Norwegian athlete of all time and the first since 1924 to win five medals in a single Olympics. "I dreamt of one gold, and now I have three. I'm just flying," Bjørgen told NBC. **Vancouver merits: Three gold medals in 4x5K relay, mass start sprint classic, and 15K pursuit. One silver medal in 30K classic and a bronze medal in 10K free. Bjørgen is pictured on the cover of News of Norway.**



## Lindsey Vonn alpine skiing

PHOTO COURTESY OF RED BULL



Born and raised in Minnesota with a grandfather and father who were competitive skiers Vonn started skiing at age 3. She entered her first race when she was 7 years old and won her first international competition at 14. Lindsey has achieved a lot, but she has also had many setbacks. Her career has been halted at times by ugly falls and injuries, but the setbacks only encourage her to work harder. "If you work hard, it will pay off in the end," said Vonn. **Vancouver merits: Gold medal in downhill and bronze medal in super-G.**

# Q&A with Congressman Keith Ellison



PHOTO COURTESY OF CONGRESSMAN KEITH ELLISON'S OFFICE

**Congressman Keith Ellison (D-MN) is a member of the Friends of Norway Caucus in Congress – a forum for dialogue and exchange of views between the United States and Norwegian politicians on issues, interests, priorities, and policies, between Norway and the United States, and globally.**

## **How did you find out about the Friends of Norway Caucus?**

**M**innesota has nearly 1.5 million Norwegian Americans who have proudly called it their home for generations. About 70 percent of the 5th Congressional District is comprised of folks with Norwegian, Swedish, and German heritage. Naturally, I assumed there must be a Norwegian Caucus in the Congress. And if there wasn't — I would start one! As it turns out, I found out about the Friends of Norway Caucus from my constituents.

## **Why did you join the Friends of Norway Caucus?**

**I**t was a natural choice since many Minnesotans are inextricably bound to their Norwegian heritage. Additionally, Norway has long been a facilitator of peace and diplomacy — two causes about which I care deeply. Norway also sets a great example of how a country can sustain both a vibrant economy and a high quality of life for all of its citizens.

## **What are the areas of concern to your constituents in regards to Norway? In what ways do they wish to have links to Norway?**

**M**y constituents are passionate about environmental issues, and Norway is on the cutting edge of green energy research and climate change advocacy. Norwegians and Minnesotans agree that climate change is a global challenge.

I wish to strengthen the relationships I made on my first visit to Norway in 2007. That trip was an enlightening experience because it reinforced the many new opportunities to strengthen the bond between Minnesota and Norway — economically, socially, and politically.

## **In what areas do you think Norway and the U.S. should cooperate?**

**W**e should cooperate in efforts to build dialogue and strengthen diplomacy with other countries around the world. We should also cooperate in developing our respective green energy industries.

## **Who is your favorite Norwegian politician?**

**I** admire Gro Harlem Brundtland, former prime minister of Norway. In addition to mastering Norwegian politics, Mrs. Brundtland is also a diplomat, physician, and an international leader in sustainable development and public health. She is now making great strides in the fight to stop climate change.

## **Why do your constituents of Norwegian ancestry care about Norway now that they live in America?**

**M**innesotans hold their heritage, with its rich culture and traditions, close to their hearts. Most Minnesotans share common progressive values with their Norwegian kin, tirelessly striving for a peaceful global community. Many still have relatives who live in Norway and they wish to preserve family ties.

There are also connections to Norway through our educational institutions such as Augsburg College in Minneapolis, which was the first seminary founded by the Norwegian Lutheran Church in America. Another prominent connection is the Sons of Norway organization in Minneapolis, which helps promote and preserve Norwegian heritage and culture. Minnesotans are enriched by their connection to Norway.



PHOTO BY ERIK HOFTUN

Norwegian 10K cross country winner Mattis Eriksen (middle) was guided by Ine Wigernæs. The Embassy's Counselor of Communications Jannicke Jaeger at right.

# Ski for Light 2010

**Each year the Norwegian Embassy sends a representative to the annual Ski for Light event. The Embassy's Counselor of Communications Jannicke Jaeger reports from Utah:**

This year it was finally my turn to attend Ski for Light, the event whose mission is "to enhance the quality of life and independence of visually or mobility-impaired adults through a program of cross-country skiing." I discovered that it is also a fantastic people-to-people collaboration founded on a mutual love of skiing.

This year Ski for Light took place at the former Olympic ski venue in Soldier Hollow, Utah, from January 31 to February 7. For my husband and me, it was a rare weekend without the kids, and it turned out that we were in for an unforgettable experience. The vision of Erling Stordahl, the founder of *Ridderrennet* in Norway, has truly been achieved! Skiing can break barriers, both physical and mental, and Ski for Light, the U.S. offspring of *Ridderrennet*, creates a unique platform for cultural exchange between Norway and the United States.

Many of the participants we met had been to *Ridderrennet* and formed friendships with skiers, guides, and organizers from different states and countries. Norway had a large delegation. Veterans as

well as newcomers were thrilled to be back in the U.S. for a week of skiing, together with participants from Canada, Denmark, New Zealand, and the U.K.

The attending Norwegian ski officials were very pleased with how Ski for Light has grown in the United States since its inception 35 years ago. One official told me how Stordahl had sought the assistance of the late King Olav V to convince the Olympic committee that it was high time to organize the Para Olympics.

We arrived at the end of the week for the 5K and 10K races on Saturday, February 6. Standing in the crowd at the start area, we could sense the anxiousness and eagerness to fulfil a goal and a dream, and it was amazing to witness the joy and satisfaction of the skiers and their guides as they crossed the finish line.

Some of the participants, like the Norwegian 10K winner Mattis Eriksen, guided by Ine Wigernæs, were fiercely competitive, while the general attitude among participants was to give it all you got and have fun getting there. The evening program at the hotel in Provo was equally energetic and fun, including the cultural show put on by the Norwegians. I believe the song "Ski for Light in Utah" written to the tune of "Hotel California" by The Eagles sums up very well what the week was all about.

THE SONG:

## "Ski for Light in Utah"

Melody: Hotel California (Felder Henley & Frey). Lyrics: Ine Wigernæs

One a lone desert ski track  
- cool wind in my hair  
Bad smell of my ski boots  
- rising up in the air  
We are gathered in Heber  
- for the Ski for Light  
Hills are heavy and the turns are sharp  
- we are partying all night

Guides're in the ski track  
- makes me wanna' yell  
I am thinking to myself  
- this could be heaven and this could be hell  
But she picked up my ski gear  
- and showed me the way  
There were voices down the 5k loop  
- and I heard them say

CHORUS:

*Welcome to the Ski for light in Utah  
Such a lovely place - and some lovely days  
Plenty of sweat at the Ski for light in Utah  
Because every year - you can find it here*

Some people are flying  
- some fall hard on the ice  
Some skiers look funny  
- and some skiers look nice  
But we all have in common  
- the joy and the sweat  
Some turns to remember  
- some turns to forget

The ski tracks are perfect  
- Wasatch sky is blue  
We haven't had the spirit here  
- since the Olympics 2002  
And all participants  
-travelling from far away  
There's reception down the corridor  
- and I hear them say

CHORUS

We all get here by school bus  
- not a Mercedes Benz  
But here is the main point:  
- we're making good friends  
We're incredibly grateful  
- for all we receive  
Even though that we are checking out  
- we don't want to leave

CHORUS

Read more: [www.sfl.org](http://www.sfl.org)



PHOTO COURTESY OF THORBJØRG HAUGEN

# Eat, Ski, and Shoot

by silje ruud birkelid

**C**hef Thorbjørg Haugen cooked up a storm for the Norwegian biathlon athletes in the Vancouver Winter Olympics. Her fuel helped the team ski fast and shoot well, securing two individual gold medals, two silver medals, and the coveted gold medal in the men's 4 x 7.5K biathlon relay.

"They were busy days, but mostly just enjoyable," Haugen said of her time spent preparing food in Vancouver. As the team's chef, Haugen makes breakfast, lunch, and dinner for about 30 hungry biathlon athletes and their support team — not only for a few weeks of competition, but up to 250 days a year.

Haugen has been a chef for the athletes since 1994, and this was her second Olympic Games. She has travelled around the world with the athletes and with her delicious food and good mood she has become a highly valued member of the team. The athletes call her *tante kokk*, which is Norwegian for "auntie chef."

**A**untie chef also manages her own restaurant in Sirdal, Norway, where she lives. She has written a cook book called, "*Mat midt i blinken*," which means, "Food just right." It consists of recipes of dishes she serves for Norway's Olympic athletes.

The Norwegian biathletes have a strong diet to keep them energized during competition. It was designed by nutritionists from *Olympiatoppen*, an organization with an operational responsibility to develop Norwegian elite sports, but Haugen feels that it is important that athletes choose their own food. She employs nutritionists' advice when composing her homemade Norwegian fare. The results are tasty dishes that the top-level biathlon athletes really enjoy. "The athletes travel a lot, so when they have the chance they want to eat Norwegian food. For lunch they usually want me to make them porridge, a typically Norwegian dish, which is good because it contains a lot of carbohydrates," the Olympic chef explained.

**E**ven though Haugen cooks Norwegian dishes she usually does not bring food from Norway when she cooks abroad, except for Norwegian goat cheese. She feels it is important to cook with ingredients the country she is visiting provides. "Canada has wonderful ingredients! The athletes wanted me to make them home made jam the other day and with the frozen berries I got here in Vancouver, it tasted very good."

It's important that the athletes consume as many carbohydrates as possible, so they eat a lot of pasta and bread. For lunch, Thorbjørg also serves them salmon and scrambled eggs and typical cold cuts to spread on Norwegian sandwiches.

**N**orwegian meatballs are popular for dinner. The athletes also enjoy a casserole that Haugen invented. When it comes to sweets, the athletes eat what they want and the chef sometimes makes them *rosinboller*, or sweet buns with raisins. She has to roll about 130 to 140 buns. "The athletes eat a lot when they exercise during practice," she said.

## Bjørndalen Salad

Olympic chef Thorbjørg Haugen in photo at left is flanked from left to right by biathletes Ole Einar Bjørndalen, Halvard Hanevold, and Emil Hegle Svendsen. One dish from Haugen's cookbook is named after Bjørndalen, who has won six Olympic gold medals (one gold and one silver in Vancouver). The Bjørndalen Salad contains many of the important ingredients that an Olympic athlete needs. And according to Bjørndalen: "The salad is just perfect."

### Ingredients (serves two people)

- 2 ounces of sliced salami (May be substituted with bacon)
- 1 handful pasta
- 1 plum tomato
- 1 avocado
- 2 ounces of arugula
- 10 sugar peas
- 1 tablespoon of olive oil
- Juice of half a lemon
- Salt and pepper

### Preparation

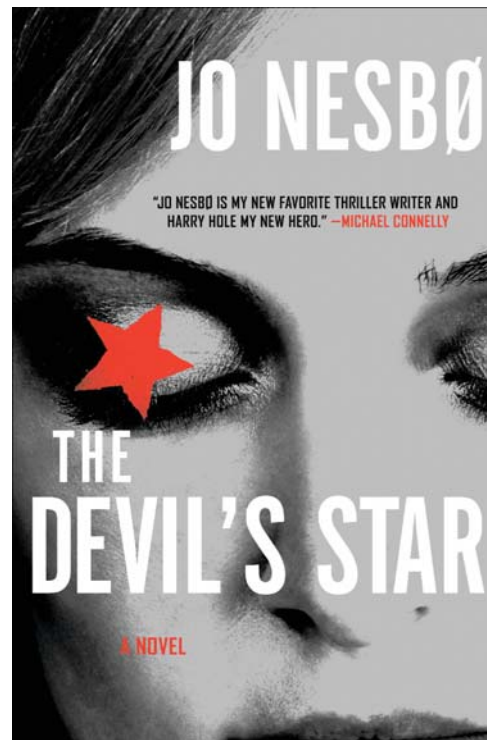
1. Cut the salami into shreds and fry until crispy.
2. Boil the pasta and rinse under cold water.
3. Cut the plum tomato in pieces.
4. Mince the avocado into small pieces.
5. Arrange all the ingredients on a platter.
6. Mix olive oil, lemon juice, salt, and pepper and pour over the salad.
7. Sprinkle the salami over the salad.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THORBJØRG HAUGEN



**The Devil's Star** by Jo Nesbø  
 Translated by Don Bartlett  
 Published by Harper Collins  
 March, 2010  
 \$25.99



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HARPER COLLINS

## Jo Nesbø's Third Thriller Released in the U.S.

by gashar dehaghani

Norwegian musician, economist, and writer Jo Nesbø's third book, "The Devil's Star," was released in the United States in March, 2010.

Nesbø's writing style is often compared to that of Stieg Larsson (the Swedish author of "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" and two other books in the trilogy), and his critically acclaimed books offer a fast pace with twists and turns and a dark yet intriguing insight into the criminal mind.

Nesbø's first book translated into English, "Nemesis," was this year nominated for an Edgars Award in the "best novel" category. The Edgars will celebrate the best mystery novelist of 2009 in New York on April 29. Jo Nesbø has been reviewed in publications all across the U.S., from the New York Times Book Review to the San Diego Union-Tribune. He has received praise from crime fiction authors such as Michael Connelly, who said: "Jo Nesbø is my new favorite thriller writer and Harry Hole my new hero."

In connection with Jo Nesbø's latest book launch in the United States, News of Norway asked the author a few questions about his work as a writer:

### Who is your favorite writer?

"It's impossible to pick one. Knut Hamsun, Ernest Hemingway, Vladimir Nabokov, Henrik Ibsen, and Charles Bukowski."

### Who would you say has influenced you the most in your writing?

"Ernest Hemingway. Not because I write like him, but because I tried at a young age to copy him, and that's when I found out that you can't. That you have to find and use your own style, your own voice, that it's impossible to hide behind someone else."

### What do you think about the translation of your books?

"I think Don Bartlett is doing a great job. So if you don't like the books, it's not his fault."

### Why do you think your books are so popular in the U.S.?

"I really don't know. I could of course suggest that it has to do with the Americans being bright and competent readers."

### What is in your opinion the biggest difference between Scandinavian and American crime fiction?

"The spelling of the names and the letter ø. The way I see it, the differences are bigger between individual writers than between nations."

For a complete and updated calendar of events please visit [www.norway.org](http://www.norway.org)



## chicago



### exhibit

#### Snøhetta Exhibit

CHICAGO, IL, opens May 19  
Innovative, award-winning, and environmentally conscious architectural firm Snøhetta will be featured in an exhibit at the Illinois Institute of Technology, Crown Hall  
**Info:** [www.iit.edu/arch](http://www.iit.edu/arch)

## washington dc

### music

#### Kings of Convenience

WASHINGTON D.C., June 6  
Kings of Convenience is an indie pop duo from Bergen, Norway, known for their delicate voices, and subtle guitar tunes. The duo performs at the 9:30 Club.  
**Info:** [www.930.com](http://www.930.com)  
(202) 265-0930

## new york

### exhibits

#### Why Design Now?

NEW YORK, NY, May 14, 2010 - January 9, 2011  
Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum National Design Triennial: Why Design Now?  
Inaugurated in 2000, the Triennial program seeks out and presents the most innovative designs at the center of contemporary culture. In this fourth exhibition in the series, the National Design Triennial will explore the work of designers, amongst them several Norwegian, addressing human and environmental problems across many fields of the design practice, from architecture and products to fashion, graphics, new media, and landscapes.  
**Info:** [www.cooperhewitt.org](http://www.cooperhewitt.org)  
(212) 849-8400

#### ICFF - International Contemporary Furniture Fair

NEW YORK, NY, May 18  
More than 500 exhibitors will display contemporary furniture, seating, carpet and flooring, lighting, outdoor furniture, materials, wall coverings, accessories, textiles, and kitchen and bath for residential and commercial interiors. This assemblage of national and inter-

national exhibitors affords the chance to experience the most selective scope of the globe's finest, most creative, individual, and original avant-garde home and contract products - handily and temptingly showcased in one venue. Three Norwegian furniture designers will display their work.  
**Info:** [www.icff.com](http://www.icff.com)

#### Scott-Amundsen: A Race to the End of the Earth



PHOTO BY HARALD KIPPENES

NEW YORK, NY, opens May 29  
Race to the End of the Earth will recount one of the most stirring tales of Antarctic exploration: the contest to reach the South Pole in 1911-1912. The exhibit will focus on the challenges that the two competing explorer — Norwegian Roald Amundsen and British Royal Navy Captain Robert Falcon Scott — had to face as they undertook their 1,800-mile journeys from the edge of the Ross Ice Shelf to the South Pole and back. (Camp Amundsen in photo above)  
**Info:** [www.amnh.org](http://www.amnh.org)

### lecture

#### Indigenous Influences in the History of Polar Exploration

NEW YORK, NY, June 7  
Norwegian Explorers Harald Kippenes and John Houston, first American unsupported and unassisted to the North Pole, give a lecture on the influence of Indigenous techniques and knowledge in polar exploration from Amundsen's South Pole expedition to modern expeditions. The event will take place at the Explorers Club in NY.  
**Info:** [www.explorers.org](http://www.explorers.org)

## minnesota

### festival

#### Ibsen festival

LANESBORO, MN, April 16-18  
Named for the acclaimed "Father of Modern Drama" — Henrik Ibsen — the Festival is a celebration of Scandinavian theatre, visual art, music and dance, centered around the opening of Commonwealth Theatre's annual Ibsen production.  
**Info:** [www.commonwealththeatre.org](http://www.commonwealththeatre.org)  
(800) 657-7025

## texas

### music

#### Per Brevig conducting East Texas Symphony Orchestra

TYLER, TX, April 24, at 7:30 pm  
Per Brevig will conduct East Texas Symphony Orchestra in a program of Tchaikovsky: 5th Symphony, Liszt: Les Preludes and Strauss: Horn Concerto at the Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center, University of Texas.  
**Info:** [www.cowancenter.org](http://www.cowancenter.org)

#### An Evening with Edward Grieg

DALLAS, TX, April 24  
Knut Erik Jensen from Norway Society with Gunnar Engen is playing a full Grieg concert. The show will consist of music from Grieg's carrier in tones and words. At University of Dallas.  
**Info:** [www.knuterikjensen.com](http://www.knuterikjensen.com)

### exhibit

#### Paintings by Kjell Pahr-Iversens

HOUSTON, TX, April 30 - June 30  
Kjell Pahr-Iversen is one of Norway's most renowned contemporary artists. The artist is very concerned about light and uses a painting technique that makes his pictures have a special glow. The paintings show a desire to express the joy of life. At Gremillion & Co Fine Art.  
**Info:** [www.gremillion.com](http://www.gremillion.com)

## california

### symposium

#### The Peder Sæther Symposium

BERKLEY, CA, April 15, 4 pm  
The Peder Sæther Symposium represents an ongoing collaboration between the governments of Norway and Sweden and UC Berkeley. The goal of the symposium is to promote understanding of political, economic, and cultural issues. This year's symposium is titled, After Copenhagen: What can be done to meet the economic and environmental challenges.  
**Info:** <http://events.berkeley.edu/ind ex.php/calendar/sn>

### festival

#### Norway Day Festival

SAN FRANCISCO, CA, May 1-2  
With over 50,000 Norwegians and descendents living in the Bay Area, the festival is a way to celebrate their heritage and to take pride in Norway's part of the Bay Area's cultural diversity. The Norway Day Festival, celebrated every year in San Francisco, is one of the largest and festivals of its kind in the U.S.  
**Info:** [www.norwayday.org](http://www.norwayday.org)

## theater

#### Ibsen's "John Gabriel Borkman"

BERKLEY, CA, April - May 9  
The play by Henrik Ibsen, explores the sacrifices made in the pursuit of power and success.  
**Info:** [www.auroratheatre.org](http://www.auroratheatre.org)  
(510) 843-482

## canada



### film

#### Sprockets Children's Film Festival

TORONTO, ON, April 17-23  
**Twigson** — "Knerter" directed by Åsleik Engmark. **Ploddy the Police Car** — "Pelle Politibil" directed by R. Sivertsen. **Bawke** directed by Hisham Zaman  
**Info:** [www.sprockets.ca](http://www.sprockets.ca)

#### Atlantic Film Festival

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, April 20-24  
Viewfinders International Film Festival for Youth  
**Info:** (902) 422-6967  
[www.atlanticfilm.com](http://www.atlanticfilm.com)

#### 2010 DOXA Documentary Film Festival

VANCOUVER, B.C., May 7-16  
**Suddenly Sami** directed by Ellen-Astri Lundby  
Tuesday, May 11 at 3:30 pm  
Pacific Cinematheque  
1131 Howe Street (at Helmcken)  
**Info:** <http://www.nfi.no/english/norwegianfilms/show.html?id=990>  
**Nemesis** directed by Erland E. Mo  
Wednesday, May 12 at 8:30pm  
Pacific Cinematheque  
1131 Howe Street (at Helmcken)  
**Info:** <http://www.nfi.no/english/norwegianfilms/show.html?id=825>

### performing arts

#### Karius & Baktus

MONTRÉAL, QUEBECK, April 21-25  
Théâtre bilingue de Montréal will produce the beloved children's tale *Karius and Baktus* at the Blue Metropolis Literary Festival.  
**Info:** [www.bluemetropolis.org](http://www.bluemetropolis.org)

#### The Emotion Organ, Amanda Steggell

TORONTO, ON, June 25-30  
This multimedia performance artist will be coming to ON Fire! Festival organized by the Ontario Media Arts Network. The Emotion Organ is an interactive piece which will attract the interest of the curious minds of any age.  
**Info:** [www.mano-ramo.ca](http://www.mano-ramo.ca)

### music

**Zach and Wallumrød-Dans les arbres**  
VICTORIA/VILLJONQUIÈRE, QUEBECK, May 20, May 22

# norway comes to washington

norway comes to washington 2010 is a series of cultural events, including concerts, opera, art and science exhibits, film and literature.

The French Norwegian Quartet Dans les arbres will tour Canada in May at contemporary Music festivals, Festival des musiques de creation in Jonquière and FIMAV in Victoriaville, both in Quebec. The tour may include a concert in Toronto May 19, TBC.

Info: [www.danslesarbres.net](http://www.danslesarbres.net)

## Susanna and the Magical Orchestra

VANCOUVER, B.C., June 25  
Susanna and her band will be featured at this year's International Jazz Festival in Vancouver, at Performance Works. The festival appearance will extend to other festivals during the Canadian Summer Circus; Victoria Jazz Festival and Montréal International Jazz Festival.

Info: [www.coastaljazz.ca](http://www.coastaljazz.ca)

## Huntsville

VANCOUVER/VICTORIA, B.C., June  
The band Huntsville will be part of the Victoria International Jazz Festival programming and the Vancouver International Program.

Info: [www.coastaljazz.ca](http://www.coastaljazz.ca)

## exhibits

### Snøhetta Exhibit

CAMBRIDGE, ON, June 17-August 14  
This touring exhibit of the Oslo/New York based architecture firm Snøhetta will be shown at Riverside Galleries just outside Toronto. The exhibit features major works by Snøhetta, which recently won a competition to build the new library at Ryerson University in Toronto and a theatre at Queens University in Kingston, Ontario.

Info: [www.cambridgegalleries.ca](http://www.cambridgegalleries.ca)  
(519) 621-0460

### Contructions: Contemporary Norwegian design & craft

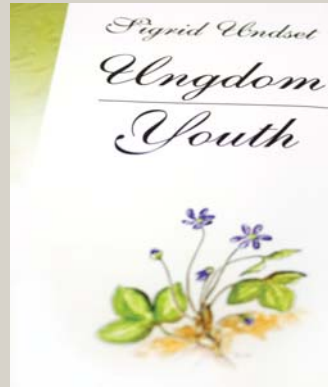


TORONTO, ON, November 19, 2010 - January 23, 2011  
Shown at Design Exchange (DX)  
234 Bay St., Toronto Dominion Centre.

Info: [www.dx.org](http://www.dx.org)

## literature

### Sigrid Undset Poetry Reading



BETHESDA, MD, April 21  
A poetry reading from the book release "Youth" by Nobel laureate in literature, Sigrid Undset (1882-1949) will be held at the Writer's Center. Preceded by a reception.

Info: [www.writer.org](http://www.writer.org)  
(301) 654-8664

**Reading of Ibsen's "A Doll House" & Cecile Løveid's "Seagull Eaters"**  
BETHESDA, MD, September 21  
Washington Writers Club  
Info: [www.writer.org](http://www.writer.org)  
(301) 654-8664

## music

**Nordic Jazz: Opsvik Band**  
WASHINGTON D.C., June 17  
The rooftop at House of Sweden, 2900 K Street NW,  
Info: [www.houseofsweden.com](http://www.houseofsweden.com)  
(202) 536-1500

**Nordic Jazz: Opsvik Band**  
WASHINGTON D.C., June 18  
The Embassy of Finland, 3301 Massachusetts Ave. N.W.  
Info: [www.finland.org](http://www.finland.org)  
(202) 298-5800

**Jazz in the Garden: Bjørn Solli Quartet**  
WASHINGTON D.C., August 6  
National Gallery of Art Sculpture Garden. (outdoors)  
Info: [www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov)  
(202) 737-4215

**Jazz in the Garden: Carsten Boe Trio**  
WASHINGTON D.C., August 13  
National Gallery of Art Sculpture Garden. (outdoors)  
Info: [www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov)  
(202) 737-4215

### Norwegian Children's Opera Max and Moritz: A Cartoon Opera in Seven Pranks

WASHINGTON D.C., Oct 3, 6:30 pm  
In cooperation with New York Opera Society: World premiere performance of the opera Max and Moritz: A Cartoon Opera in Seven Pranks, by renowned Norwegian composer Gisle Kverndokk. At the National Gallery of Art.

Info: [www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov)  
(202) 737-4215

### Contemporary Norwegian Music: Valen, Egge Mortensen, Wallen, NGA's Orchestra

WASHINGTON D.C., Oct 6, 12:10 pm  
Hakon Austbø, pianist. Music by Egge, Mortensen, Vallen, and Wallin. At National Gallery of Art.

Info: [www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov)  
(202) 737-4215

### Alexandria Symphony plays Grieg's A-moll-concert



PHOTO BY JØRG WIJESNER

WASHINGTON D.C., October 2  
Steffen Horn on piano. Details TBD

**Nordic Voices**  
WASHINGTON D.C., Oct 10, 6:30 pm  
Music by Thoresen and other Norwegian composers. At the National Gallery of Art.

Info: [www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov)  
(202) 737-4215

## exhibits

### Norse Soul: The legacy of Edvard Munch, social democracy, old myths, anarchy and death longings

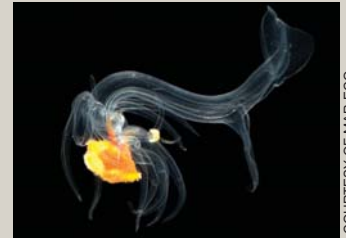


BY EIVIND LAURITZEN

WASHINGTON D.C. Jun 15-Oct 17  
Norwegian contemporary art from the 1930's until today represented through a broad selection of works taken from only four artists: Arne Ekeland (1908-94), Marianne Heske (b. 1946), Bjarne Melgaard

(b. 1967) and Marthe Thorshaug (b. 1977) at the Katzen Art Center.  
Info: [www.american.edu/cas/katzen](http://www.american.edu/cas/katzen)  
(202) 885-1300

### Deeper Than Light



COURTESY OF MARECO

WASHINGTON D.C., through May 23  
A group of scientists wondered what kind of creatures they would find in the depths of the Atlantic Ocean, at 12,000 feet below sea level. Their amazing findings can be seen in the exhibit Deeper Than Light at Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History.

Info: [www.mnh.si.edu/exhibits/ocean\\_hall](http://www.mnh.si.edu/exhibits/ocean_hall)

### Edvard Munch: Master Prints



COURTESY OF NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

WASHINGTON D.C. Jul 31-Oct 31  
An exhibit that brings together sixty of Munch's rare color prints and hand-colored variations of these prints. At the National Gallery of Art.

Info: [www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov)  
(202) 737-4215

## film

**NGA Film: Norwegian Film Series**  
WASHINGTON D.C., Weekends from October 2 - mid-November  
Two Norwegian film series:  
**Figures in a landscape: Norway and the cinema,** and **Edith Calmar: Cinema Pioneer.**  
Info: [www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov)  
(202) 737-4215

news of norway  
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2720 34th. St., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NORWEGIAN SKI ASSOCIATION

Marit Bjørgen brought home three gold medals, one silver and one bronze medal from the Winter Olympics in Vancouver 2010, more than any other individual athlete.



News of Norway is printed on forest-friendly paper. Number of trees saved: 12.39; total energy saved: 8,776,250 BTUs; greenhouse gas reduction: 1,147 lbs.; wastewater reduction: 5,263 gallons; solid waste reduction: 582 lbs.

# news of norway

# 1 | 2010

## inside:



PHOTO BY SCANPIX

King Harald and Queen Sonja were in Vancouver to watch the Norwegian athletes compete in the Winter Olympics. And Queen Sonja also went skiing herself in Whistler.

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“We love the many miles of tracks that we can ski in Norway,” said Gary Neptune from Boulder, Colo, a member of *Den Norske Turistforeningen* – the Norwegian Trekking Association.

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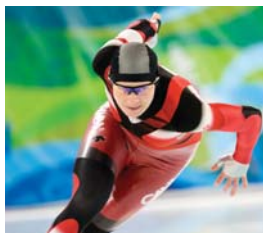


PHOTO BY JEFF BOUGH/SPA

Speed skater Katrina Groves, a Canadian born to a Norwegian mother, is one of 8 featured athletes to take home medals from the Winter Olympics.

[page 8-9](#)



Norwegian ski pioneers like Herman “Jackrabbitt” Johannsen in Canada and Trygve Berge in Colorado, helped to develop and promote the sport of skiing in North America.

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