You’re Invited: Celebrate Carl Nielsen’s 150th Birthday

Vivid chamber music, signature birthday cocktails, classical DJs and live conversations: On June 15, you are invited to a big birthday bash, celebrating Danish composer Carl Nielsen’s 150th birthday.

The festivities will take place at Subculture, New York, and are arranged by Dacapo Records and Naxos America in collaboration with The New York Philharmonic and The Consulate General of Denmark in New York. The evening features exclusive performances by musicians from the New York Philharmonic, the Nightingale String Quartet (Gramophone magazine’s Young Artist of the Year) and classical DJ Katrine Ring from Copenhagen.

Presented by WWFM’s award-winning host David Osenberg, this musical celebration of Denmark’s unruly national composer offers a diverse program, including a conversation with New York Philharmonic Music Director Alan Gilbert and a tailor-made musical journey through today’s best sounding Nielsen recordings, guided by Copenhagen DJ Katrine Ring. Everyone is welcome to join the celebration. Learn more and get tickets at Subculture’s website.

The June 15 celebration also marks the official launch of a special 4 CD box set edition of The Nielsen Project, the New York Philharmonic’s acclaimed concert and recording series featuring all of Carl Nielsen’s symphonies and concertos recorded in concert over the past five seasons. The box set will be available at a special birthday price this evening. The Nielsen project is one of the most prominent export initiatives of Danish culture in recent years and one of the largest recording projects for the New York Philharmonic. The Project is made in collaboration with the New York Philharmonic, Dacapo Records, Naxos America and the Danish Agency for Culture among others.

June 15, 2015

SubCulture
45 Bleecker Street
New York, NY 10012

Tickets
Violinist Niklas Walentin plays Carl Nielsen at Carnegie Hall

Another Nielsen celebration concert will take place at Carnegie Hall, where young Danish violinist star Niklas Walentin will perform four of Nielsen’s compositions.

At the young age of 21, Niklas Walentin is already one of Denmark’s remarkable classical musicians. Since childhood, he has performed as a soloist with numerous Danish and international orchestras and is known for his emotional style not often found among modern artists.

This April, Niklas Walentin won the Danish Music Critics Artist Award. He is also a three-time winner of the Carl Nielsen International Violin Competition, which has given Walentin a special connection to Carl Nielsen’s works. “Many musicians have, among all the great composers in the world, one they are especially fond of, one with whom they are especially productive. For me, Carl Nielsen is that composer,” says Walentin.

His tribute concert at Carnegie Hall will be commemorated by the release of his new recording, “Niklas Walentin Plays Carl Nielsen – Four Grand Works for Violin”. Walentin will be accompanied by award-winning concert pianist Ulrich Stærk.

June 4, 2015
Weill Recital Hall, Carnegie Hall
57th Street 7th Avenue
New York City

Tickets

Ensemble mise-en plays contemporary compositions by Hans Abrahamsen

In June, the New York-based contemporary music collective ensemble mise-en plays a portrait concert highlighting the work of the Danish composer Hans Abrahamsen. The concert will take place at Scandinavia House.

This is your chance to explore new Danish compositions such as Abrahamsen’s Kharon (2009), Traumlieder (2009), In Memoriam Luigi Nono (2012) and his Flowersong (2012), which premiering to the New York audience this evening.

Danish composer Hans Abrahamsen (b. 1952) was a key figure in the Danish New Simplicity movement which was a reaction to 1960s Modernism. Abrahamsen’s contemporary compositions are performed at Scandinavia House by ensemble mise-en who, with its talented young music performers, always aims to bring repertoires of challenging new sounds to their audiences.
Scandinavian Music Festival Fort Tryon Park

Outdoor summer festival with Scandinavian classics: From June 14 to June 28, The Scandinavia Music Festival will celebrate its 10th anniversary by a series of outdoor concerts.

The series of summer concerts will take place in Fort Tryon Park’s scenic and attractive venue, on Billings Lawn, below the Heather Gardens. A spot with a spectacular view of the Hudson River. During the concerts, the musicians will introduce the musical characteristics and history of the music, culture and traditions of Scandinavia.

The festival is divided into a series of three concerts. On June 14, the Scandia String Orchestra will feature works by Carl Nielsen, Niels V. Gade and other Scandinavian composers. On June 21, The Scandia Brass Quintet will perform a repertoire of traditional and contemporary music from each of the five Scandinavian countries.

On June 28, two opera singers will perform a special performance for children based on H.C. Andersen’s fairy tale Clumay Hans. Read more about the children’s program further down in this newsletter.

June 14, 21 and 28 at 2 PM
Fort Tryon Park, Billing Lawn
99 Margaret Corbin Drive
New York 10040

FOR KIDS: H.C. Andersen Musical Performances

Fairy tales accompanied by flutes and opera singers: New York Scandia Symphony invites families to join their staging of two fun fairy tales by Hans Christian Andersen in the parks and playgrounds of New York.

On June 6, the story of “The Emperor’s New Clothes”, will be told accompanied by
musical arrangements of Carl Nielsen’s flute and harp music. During the performance, children in the audience will have the opportunity to try the harp and learn about the trombones, flutes and other instruments.

On June 28, the performance of “Clumsy Hans” will introduce children to the world of opera with arias and duets. It will be a joyful play with opera singers dressed as the confidence Hans and the princess, whose heart he is set on winning.

This will be a perfect summer activity for the entire family. Pack your picnic basket and enjoy these music performances and fairy tales under the open sky.

Saturday, June 6, 3PM
The Emperor’s New Clothes
Anne Loftus Playground
Broadway & Dyckman St.

Sunday, June 28, 2PM
Clumsy Hans
Billing Lawn in Fort Tryon Park
Near entrance at 190th st. and Fort Washington Ave.

---

Danish songstress Mø performs at Governors Ball

Girl Power, a punkish attitude and guaranteed stage diving: The 25-year-old Danish songstress Mø will be a great draw at upcoming Governors Ball in New York.

As a young girl, Karen Marie Ørsted (now known as Mø) was a huge Spice Girl fan. As a teenager, she started the provocative punk duo called MOR (Mother). Since 2009, she has been making music as Mø – which is a perfect combination of catchy Girl Power-pop and a more edgy sound with a rebellious attitude.

Mø has seen increasing popularity outside the Danish borders. Most recently, New York Times put Mø’s collaboration with the succesfull electronic duo Major Lazer, “Lean On”, in the top of their “Spotify’s Most Viral Tracks” list. You can see more of Mø and her collaboration with Major Lazor in their music video here.

To experience Mø live (and that should be quite an experience – Mø is famous and notorious for her stage diving) you should pay a visit to Governors Ball in New York, June 5.

June 5-7, 2015
Governors Ball New York
Randall’s Island Park, New York City

Tickets
Meet the Designers: Henrik Vibskov and Anne Sofie Madsen

Henrik Vibskov and Anne Sofie Madsen are considered among Denmark’s most fashion forward and avant-garde designers. On June 4, you can meet them and have a preview of their summer 2016 collection here in New York.

As a former Junior Designer at the House of Alexander McQueen, the young Danish designer...
Anne Sofie Madsen has the gift of combining the commercial approach with a strong couture look. Anne Sofie Madsen was educated only 6 years ago but as her final school project took the Danish fashion press with storm she quickly established herself as a name at the Danish and the International Fashion scene.

Henrik Vibskov is a solid fashion-name in and beyond Denmark. Not only is he known as an internationally renowned fashion designer, but also as an artist, with several solo-exhibitions on his track record, and as an entrepreneur, whose projects are always among the coolest new cultural initiatives in Copenhagen. Vibskov have also gained success as a designer outside of Denmark. Perhaps you know his Henrik Vibskov Boutique, which opened in New York in 2011?

On June 4, you can meet these two grand names of the Danish fashion industry. Also, you can get an exclusive sneak-peak at their pre-spring/summer 2016 collections. Sign up for the event by emailing this address: hv_asm@modepublicrelations.com

June 4, 5 – 9PM
Henrik Vibskov Boutique
436 Broome Street
10013 New York

ART

Playful Art Exhibition by Jeppe Hein in Brooklyn Bridge Park

The exhibition “Please Touch the Art” by internationally renowned Danish artist Jeppe Hein is now open to the public in Brooklyn Bridge Park.

Walls of water fountains, twisted benches and a maze of mirrors: The grand-scale Jeppe Hein exhibition in Brooklyn Bridge Park is commissioned by The New York Public Art Fund, which is behind several major art projects in New York, incl. “New York Waterfalls” by Olafur Eliasson in 2008. The installations in Brooklyn Bridge Park are the most comprehensive exhibition of Jeppe Hein’s work ever presented in the U.S.

Since the opening in May, dozens of kids have joyfully been drenched by running and jumping through the water fountains of the exhibitions. Park visitors sit, lie and climb the twisted benches. And the mirror labyrinth, with its spectacular view of the Manhattan skyline, is extensively used as a spot for mobile photoshoots. When you walk through Brooklyn Bridge Park, it is clear that Jeppe Hein’s installations successfully encourage adults as well as children to engage with it in the most playful ways.

The New York Times and Times Out Magazine agree that the Please Touch the Art exhibition is a must-visit show this summer. The exhibition is open until April 17, 2016.

May 17, 2015 – April 17, 2016
Please Touch The Art
Brooklyn Bridge Park
New York, NY
4 Danish artist residencies in New York

The lively art scene of New York is undoubtedly an inspiring arena for many visual artists. Once again this month, a number of interesting, Danish artists have shown talent enough to get themselves into residency programs at New York’s contemporary art studios.

Here is a brief update of some of the upcoming Danish artists currently on a New York residency program:

In a factory building in Bushwick, you can find the International Studio & Curatorial Program (ISCP). Currently, Danish artists Rikke Benborg and Hannah Heilmann are working in the studios of ISCP. Rikke Benborg works on the costumes for her next video-project. Her films take place in beautiful dreamlike settings and often star slightly uncomfortable female characters. In a studio down the hall, Hannah Heilmann works with a quite different range of materials. Such as soap, radios and contact lenses. She engages and explores her materials on a user-level, rather than from the position of the expert. This gives her the opportunity to explore the fluid hierarchies, she finds between social and technical relationships.

Another artist residence space is Residency Unlimited in Brooklyn where Danish artists Søren Engsted and Ursula Nistrup are currently working. Ursula Nistrup makes installations that focus on the way different materials communicate to us. How do our senses experience the acoustics, sounds and light in a room? Søren Engsted has an interest for objects rather than materials. His art often centers on objects, everyday objects as well as objects from the art history, as he uses to investigate the borders between different kinds of art. Which objects can be art?

If you want to learn more about the Danish New York residencies, you can find their profiles on ISCP’s website and Residency Unlimited’s website.

All four residencies of the Danish artists are supported by the Danish Art Foundation.

Nordic Photo Art at Sous Les Etoiles Gallery

Until June 20, Sous Les Etoiles Gallery in New York will show works by Scandinavian photographers Susanne Wellm and Eeva Hannula.

Susanne Wellm is a Danish artist who mixes personal archive material, printmaking and film still photography to create pictures on the border of the real and imagined. In her series, “Inner Landscapes”, Wellm manipulates her photos to highlight the potential stories of the everyday world. She creates new images from well-known sceneries, which can make us experience our world from a different perspective.

Susanne Wellm (b. 1965) is originally a printmaker, educated at the Danish School of Arts and Crafts at the Institute for Unica. She lives and works in Copenhagen. Her work includes various photographic techniques, such as Polaroid, Super 8 film, digital photography and collage.

The exhibition runs until June 20, 2015
Contemporary Nordic Print Exhibition

Danish artist and printmaker Svend-Allan Sørensen cuts out puns and visual poems in wood. He then adds some paint, a sprinkle of humor and turns it into graphic prints with subtle messages.

In 2014, Sørensen won the Norwegian Queen Sonja Print Award for his contemporary take on the art of printmaking. Now, his artwork is being shown at a Contemporary Nordic Print exhibition among graphics of other Scandinavian artists and printmakers linked to the award: Tiina Kivinen, H.M. Queen Sonja of Norway, Kjell Nupen and Ørnulf Opdahl.

If you want a glimpse into upcoming print artists and new Nordic graphic art, this might be a good place to start.

April 17 – August 1, 2015

Prize Prints: The Queen Sonja Print Award
Scandinavia House
58 Park Avenue 38th Street
New York, NY 10016
Admission is free

FILMS

Thomas Vinterberg “Far from the Madding Crowd” movie release

If you are in the mood for a classic romantic drama, you should go see Danish director Thomas Vinterberg’s new take on a classical piece of cinema history starring Carey Mulligan:

In Victorian England, the independent and headstrong Bathsheba Everdene attracts three very different suitors: Gabriel Oak, a sheep farmer, Frank Troy, a reckless Sergeant, and William Boldwood, a prosperous and mature bachelor. The film is based on Thomas Hardy’s classic love story from 1875.

Thomas Vinterberg is known for having co-founded, along with Lars von Trier, the Dogme 95 movement in filmmaking, which established rules for simplifying movie production. Most
recently, he had great success with his film The Hunt, which was nominated for an Academy Award for the Best Foreign Film.

Thomas Vintersberg’s Far from Madding Crowd is currently screening in theaters across New York City.

Check out the trailer on youtube.

---

**LITTERATURE**

*Walks in My New York - Book Release*

New York City seen through the eyes of a Danish architect and artist:
For many years, Danish Mikael Olrik has tried to capture his experience of New York City through watercolors, photographs and texts. Now, his works are released as a book published by The History Press.

Mikael Olrik describes New York as a living organism full of surprises. His book invites you to join him on a personal stroll through New York City. From landmarks and park scenes in Manhattan to the streets of Williamsburg. Through multiple media platforms, he gives you a broad view of an architect, the specificity of an artist, and a collection of maps, photographs and personal texts.

By exploring New York City from another person’s (even a Dane’s) perspective, you might discover something new about the city, you know so well.

Walks In My New York
By Mikael Olrik
The History Press
Now available wherever books are sold

---

**A HINT OF DANISH SUMMER**

*Koldskål: A recipe of Danish Summer for your White Nights*
In Denmark, it isn't summer without the traditional Danish buttermilk soup. Danes calls it "koldskål", which translated means cold bowl. This buttermilk and plain yogurt-based soup is a refreshing and cooling desert (or just snack) and among Danes, it is very popular. You can buy it everywhere in Denmark when the weather is getting warmer – the higher temperature, the higher is the "koldskål" sale rates. Many Danes also choose to make the Danish buttermilk soup themselves for a better taste. It is quite simple and can be prepared in about 15 minutes:

**Danish Cold Buttermilk Soup (Koldskål):**

2 liter (1/2 gal)

**Ingredients:**

- 4 egg yolks
- 1 liter (1/4 gal) plain yogurt
- 1 liter (1/4 gal) buttermilk
- 2 tbsp cane sugar
- 1 vanilla bean + 1 tbsp sugar
- 1 tbsp lemon juice

**Instructions:**

- Use a hand mixer to whisk the egg yolks and sugar into a light and fluffy mixture
- Scrape out the vanilla seeds from the vanilla bean and mix it with one tablespoon of sugar
- Whisk the vanilla seed together with the egg yolks
- Whisk the yogurt with the egg yolks. Add the yogurt in 3-4 steps and whisk well in between each step
- Finally add the buttermilk and mix it well together. Flavor with lemon juice
- Keep the buttermilk and soup in the fridge. You can leave the empty vanilla beans in the bowl – it still has much great flavor
- Serve the "koldskål" with fresh strawberries or other delicious toppings of your choice

Read more

Get the newsletter as PDF

If you would like to view the June newsletter as a pdf-file, click the link below

PDF here