

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

CIRCOLO SCANDINAVO

ROMA



SKANDINAVISK FORENINGS KUNSTNERHUS

I ROM

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

More than a century and a half old Circolo Scandinavo in Rome is doing fine and looking for new challenges. On the traditional lines of activities there were more than ever, i.e. some 300, applications for the artists residences. Some 50 Nordic artists could be selected to live and work 1 or 2 months in Rome in our historically important premises in Trastevere next to Villa Farnesina.

The budget year 2015 went according to plans and budget. The financial statement does not show any deficit. The Board renewed the three year contract with the Director adjusting slightly also the salary. The Board initiated the first discussions with the Accademia Nazionale die Lincei to extend the lease of the premises. The lease was changed immediately to allow limited use of the terrace for commercial purposes, i.e. for financing the Circolo.

The Board started a strategy process with a seminar in October 2015 followed by a feasibility study by professor Paavo Hohti (financed by the Finnish ministry of culture and education) on the future alternatives of the Circolo Scandinavo. Three alternative are analyzed: To continue to perform the present activities with only slightly increased volumes and improved facilities, or to continue with present basic concept but extend to new areas such as master classes with local input and concerts and exhibitions for wider audiences. The third alternative would be to establish totally new Nordic Cultural Centre in Rome with new premises, increased staff and budget.

Circolo is at the moment dominantly financed by the Nordic Minister Council. The future of Circolo depends very much of the future financial support of the Minister Council and therefore the new strategy should be prepared in close cooperation with the NMC. As a first step Circolo's position in the NMC budget structure has been strengthened.

One of the constant challenges is the lack of private funding. If we in future can multiply our activities this question becomes even more burning. Since this is a joint Nordic project, also the private funding should be fairly distributed between the member countries.

I would like to thank the Board members and the Director for great commitment to the work for the success of the Circolo Scandinavo.



Pekka Korpinen
Chairman of the Board

Artist expectations and cultural exchange

*Ingeborg Stana (NO) Visual artist, Circolo Scandinavo's boardmember
Circolo Scandinavo, strategy meeting 29.10.2015*

Expectations for a stay at Circolo varies. The relationship between guests and hosts is often an important part of a residency program.

Sometimes the artists are quite involved in a community - with presentations, workshops and collaboration with other skandinavian and local artists. Other times the artists are quite isolated (artist's intention) with time to focus on their own work.

Often a residency experience is a beginning of a longer work/cooperation. The artist often come back to finish a project he or her started, to start a new work or to attend an exhibition, a panel or workshop.

The intention of the Circolo is to provide an opportunity for specialization and development in a stimulating international and italian context and link up with communities and networks based in Rome and Europa.

Artist-in-residence at Circolo gives time for reflection, research, presentation and production. It also provides an opportunity to explore their own practice in another community or environment, meet new people, use new materials and experience life in a new place



Camera scura via della Lungara – Petri Nuutinen Photoartist FI



EVENTS OF 2015

JAN

12.1 MARTINA STARTS WORKING

Martina Dahm, Designer. started working as an intern at Circolo, supported by Svenska Kulturfonden in Finland. The internship is from January - December 2015

17.1 MEET THE ARTIST

On the agenda: Finnish poetry, Norwegian literature, Norwegian music, stories about creating a TV-series in collaboration between Sweden and Italy and presentation of Swedish visual art.

Erkka Filander, Writer (FI)
Terje Holtet Larsen, Writer (NO)
Sven Lyder Kahrs, Composer (NO)
Kristina Svärd, Writer (SE)
Daniel Hoflund, Visual artist (SE)



FEB

1.2 APPLICATIONS OPEN

3.2 MAYA STARTS WORKING (3.2 - 12.5)

Maya Acharya, a Norwegian journalist and freelance illustrator worked at Circolo as a volunteer for 3 months during Spring 2015. Her main tasks were organising the membership of Circolo, creating new contacts for Circolo and promotions for the members.

14.2 MEET THE ARTIST

On the agenda: Norwegian music, Icelandic literature for children and Norwegian visual art including photographs and installations.

Sven Lyder Kahrs, Composer (NO)
Kristín Helga Gunnardóttir, Writer (IS)
Janne Talstad, Visual artist (NO)



MARCH

2.3 BOARD MEETING

Last meeting of the Board with Anders Bjurner as Chairman

3.3 GENERAL ASSEMBLY & ELECTIONS OF THE NEW BOARD

Circolo Scandinavo held its General Assembly and a new board of directors was elected for the next two years. There were 10 candidates for the five seats on the board and 2 substitute members seats. 104 members voted (a record number) and the result was as follows:



66 votes - Ingeborg Stana, Visual artist, Norway
58 votes - Pekka Korpinen, Deputy Mayor, fil.dr. Finland
50 votes - Janne Giese, Film director, Denmark
49 votes - Hans Lepp, Cultural director, Sweden
49 votes - Juha Ruusuvuori, writer, Finland
41 votes - Jens Gehl, Lawyer, Denmark
24 votes - Tarja Cronberg, Ph.D., Finland
23 votes - Katarina Agorelius, Singer, Sweden
15 votes - Gisle Harr, Visual artist, Norway
10 votes - Peter Brandt, Visual artist, Denmark

After the General Assembly, the new board elected **Pekka Korpinen** as the president of the board. Pekka Korpinen is a Finnish-born honorary scholar based in Rome. He is a published writer who's career includes serving as deputy mayor of Helsinki and as executive director of the World Bank. He has extensive experience of several boards of firms, museums and associations and is an active art collector.

Kolbrun Halldórsdóttir was elected as the vice president. As well as being a well-established theatre director, Halldórsdóttir is also a prominent politician, having worked as a member of the Icelandic parliament and as a former minister for both the Environment and Nordic Cooperation. She has also served as a member of the Icelandic Delegation to the Nordic Council.

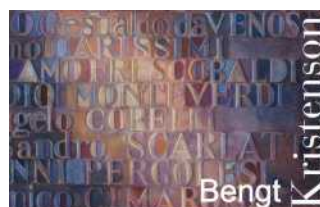
In addition the members stated above, The Nordic Embassies in Rome, The Nordic Institutes in Rome and the Nordic Council of Artists all appoint one representative each to sit on the Board for two years.

The new board members are:

Ylva Gabrielsson Counsellor, Swedish Embassy - Representing the Nordic Embassies in Rome, Prof. Dr. Phil. **Marianne Pade** Director of the Danish Institute in Rome - Representing the Nordic Institutes in Rome, **Kolbrún Halldórsdóttir** President of The Federation of Icelandic Artists, BÍL - Representing the Nordic Council of Artists, **Ingeborg Stana**, Visual artist, Norway, **Pekka Korpinen**, Deputy Mayor, fil.dr. Finland, **Janne Giese**, Film director, Denmark, **Hans Lepp**, Cultural director, Sweden, **Juha Ruusuvaori**, Writer, Finland and the substitute members are: **Jens Gehl**, Lawyer, Denmark and **Tarja Cronberg**, Ph.D., Finland

12.3-27.09 **VIBRAZIONI DAL NORD AL SUD** - **BENGT KRISTENSON**

An exhibition of the works of the Swedish artist Bengt Kristensons (1920-2004) and former member of Circolo Scandinavo was held at GNAM (Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna). Circolo was a collaborator of the exhibition. Together with the Artists-in-residence, we participated in the opening of the exhibition and the celebration afterwards at the Swedish Institute in Rome.



14.3 **MEET THE ARTIST**

On the agenda: Finnish-Swedish literature, Finnish contemporary and free jazz improvisation on saxophone and Norwegian visual art.

Fredrik Lång, Writer (FI)
Esa Pietilä, Composer (FI)
Janne Talstad, Visual artist (NO)

17.3 **GUIDED TOUR FOR ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE AT MAXXI**

The Artists-in-residence of March (Janne Talstad, Kristina Svärd, Fredrik Lång and Esa Pietilä) visited MAXXI together with the Director and intern, where the group was guided by the MAXXI's Art Director Hou Hanru at the ongoing main exhibitions.



19.3 STUDENTS FROM IST. COMP. REGINA MARGERITA VISITING

A class of 8-year-old students from the School here in Trastevere Circolo with their teachers visited. The rooftop was of particular interest but the students were also curious about the artists and the art collection of Circolo.

APRIL

1.4 DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS

We received 303 applications, a record for Circolo.

1 from the Faroe Islands

30 Iceland

41 Denmark

59 Finland

62 Sweden

110 Norway

13 in Film

29 Performing Arts

28 Music

72 Literature

161 Visual Arts

16-19.4 NORDIC FILM FEST

The Nordic Film Fest was organized in collaboration with the Nordic embassies in Rome and the embassy of Iceland in Paris. Circolo had a special event in the festival's program or two days where visual art, documentary and short films was shown by current and former Artists-in-residence 2014-2015 such as Elina Oikari (FI), Gisle Martens Meyer (NO), Petri Nuutinen (FI), Lowri Rees (NO), Janne Talstad (NO), KirsiMarja Metsähuone (FI), Ilkka Volanen (FI), Daniel Hoflund (SE).



21.4 MEET THE ARTIST

On the agenda: Finnish and Norwegian films, Danish literature and Finnish photo art.

Lowri Rees, Director (NO)

Lotte Thrane, Writer (DK)

Petri Nuutinen, Photoartist (FI)

Elina Oikari, Director (FI)



28.4 SELECTION MEETING (Air 2015-2016)

A selection committee of Circolo met to evaluate the applications received for the Residency program 2015-2016.

29.4 **BOARD MEETING** (New Board)

The new board with Chairman Pekka Korpinen had their first official Board meeting. Present were: Pekka Korpinen (Chairman), Janne Giese, Ingeborg Stana, Juha Ruusuvuori, Jens Gehl (substitute member), Kolbrún Halldórsdóttir (Vice-Chairman and representative for the Nordic Council of Artists), Marianne Pade (representative for the Nordic Institutes in Rome), Ylva Gabriëlsson (representative for the Nordic embassies in Rome), Ingo Arnason (Director of Circolo Scandinavo) and Martina Dahm (Intern).



MAY

9.5 **OPEN HOUSE ROMA**

Circolo participated in the Open House event in Rome where non-public associations, organizations and buildings were opened up to the public for a weekend. Circolo was open to the public on Saturday 9th May and the Director Ingo Arnason gave a presentation of our activities and history and Madeleine Wulffson talked about the building and the surrounding on the terrace. Around 250 persons visited Circolo during that day.



16.5 **MEET THE ARTIST**

On the agenda: Danish visual art and performances, Norwegian visual art, Danish saxophone performance and Danish film.

Doris Bloom, Visual artist (DK)
Are Blytt, Visual artist (NO)
Pia Boda, Composer (DK)
Cæcilia Holbek Trier, Director (DK)



23.5 **Group of Norwegians** with Tiramisu, Norwegian travel agency organized a cultural event and a presentation of our activities and history on the rooftop for around 50 persons.

29.5 **NORWEGIAN ARCHITECT STUDENTS FROM THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN VISTING**

A group of Norwegian architect students from The School of Architecture and Design visited Circolo Scandinavo for a short guided tour and toast on the rooftop and a presentation of our activities and history.

JUNE

IL MESE DELLA CULTURA INTERNAZIONALE

Circolo Scandinavo participated in the event *il mese della Cultura Internazionale* (The month of the International Culture) organised by the City of Rome in June. Its main purpose was to promote international cultural events from various cultural institutes and embassies in Rome.



20.6 OPEN GARDEN

Circolo participated in **Open Garden** where guided tours were organised in different gardens and green spaces of institutes in Rome. Circolo's rooftop terrace was visited and the Director gave a presentation of our activities and history.



25.6 CONCERT & SALOTTO with Laude Illustre

Circolo organized a concert with the Artists-in-residence of June, which forms the group Laude Illustre. They performed Italian Lauda songs from Laudario de Cortona and Laudario Firenze in combination with traditional Norwegian folk music and Danish medieval church paintings. Before the concert, there was also a presentation of the group and the medieval instruments used.

LAUDE ILLUSTRÉ

Agnethé Christensen – voice, kantele, gusli
Gro Siri Johansen – voice, bells
Elizabeth Gaver – fidel, rebec, voice
Björn Ross – visuals

JULY

9.7 IPERBOREA

A presentation of Nordic literature was organized at Circolo by Iperborea, the biggest publisher company of Nordic literature in Italy for bookshops manager in Rome. A collection of Nordic books by CS Artists-in-residence were also available at the event.

15.7 MEET THE ARTIST

On the agenda: Swedish screenwriting, Swedish visual and photo art, Swedish music and Norwegian photo art.

Kristina Svärd, Screenwriter (SE)
Mari Lagerquist, Visual artist (SE)
Jonas Forssell, Composer (SE)
Geir Egil Bergjord, Visual artist (NO)



17.5 NORDIC EVENT at FontanonEstate

In collaboration with the summer event FontanonEstate, Circolo organized a Nordic Arts evening where Visual art was projected at the Fontanone del Gianicolo. The Visual art was by Ilkka Volanen (FI), Gisle Martens Meyer (NO) and Kristna Svärd (SE)
<http://www.fontanonestate.it/>

SEPT

10.9 MEET THE ARTIST

On the agenda: Finnish composed music, Swedish visual art made from findings on streets, Norwegian aquarelle painting and Norwegian visual art.

Eero Hämeenniemi, Composer (FI)
Ninna Berger, Visual artist (SE)
Kjersti Eliassen, Visual artist (SE)
Jone Kvie, Visual artist (NO/SE)



18.9 GROUP FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND MODERNISATION VISITING

A group from the archives of the Norwegian Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation visited Circolo and were guided around the residency and had a presentation of our activities and history.

23.9 SWEDISH ARCHITECT STUDENTS VISITING

A group of architect students staying at the Swedish Institute visited Circolo and were guided around the residency and had a presentation of our activities and history.

OCT

7.10 **Book presentation: ROMA - FONTENENES BY** with Hugo Flaten
Norwegian Writer Hugo Flaten presented his book Roma - Fontenenes by that is about fountains and water in Rome.

15.10 MEET THE ARTIST

On the agenda: Icelandic poetry and plays, Danish literature, Finnish-Swedish literature and poetry and Norwegian aquarelle painting.

Salka Gudmundsdottír, Playwriter (IS)
Henrik Marstal, Musician and Writer (DK),
Jørgen Munck Rasmussen, Writer (DK)
Mårten Westö, Writer (FI)
Kjersti Eliassen, Visual artist (NO)



22.10 ICELANDIC FREEMASONS VISITING

A group of wives from The Icelandic Order of Freemasons visited Circolo and were guided around the residency and a presentation of our activities and history.

29.10 STRATEGY MEETING

The Board had a Strategy meeting at Circolo, planning for the future of Circolo.

30.10 BOARD MEETING

The Board had their second Board meeting



30.10 MINISTRY OF AGRIC. AND LABOUR FROM ICELAND VISITING
Ministry of Agriculture and Labour from Iceland (70 persons)visited Circolo and had a little reception on the rooftop and a presentation of our activities and history.

NOV

12.11 MEET THE ARTIST

On the agenda: Swedish poetry, Swedish visual art, Finnish textile design, Finnish-Swedish literature and Danish film.

Eva Ström, Writer (SE)
Ninna Berger, Visual artist (SE)
Johanna Gullichsen, Textile designer (FI)
Milena Parland, Writer (FI)
Lone Falster, Film director (DK)



14.11 DANISH GROUP VISITING

A group of around 35 Danes from Romselskabet S.P.Q.R. came to visit Circolo and had a reception and a presentation of our activities and history.

DEC

6.12 FINNISH INDEPENDENCY AND CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

The association of Finns in Rome had their annual Christmas celebration gathering.

10.12 MEET THE ARTIST

On the agenda: Norwegian and Swedish visual art, Swedish literature, Danish film and Norwegian contemporary classical music.

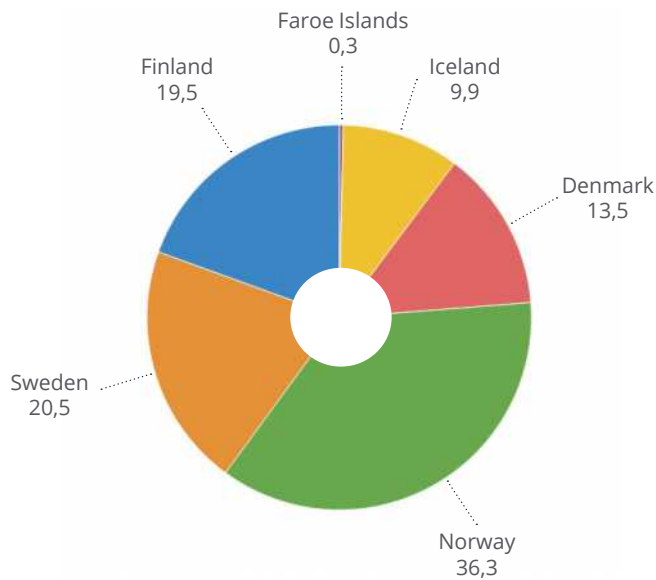
Lone Falster, Film director (DK)
Kenneth Varpe, Visual artist (NO)
Ninna Berger, Visual artist (SE)
Eskil Fagerström, Writer (SE)
Martin Rane Bauck, Composer (SE)



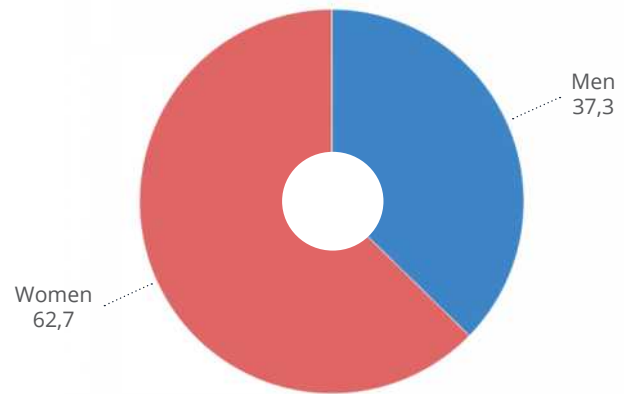


STATISTICS OF APPLICATIONS FOR RESIDENCY PROGRAM 2015-2016

APPLICATION BY COUNTRY (%)

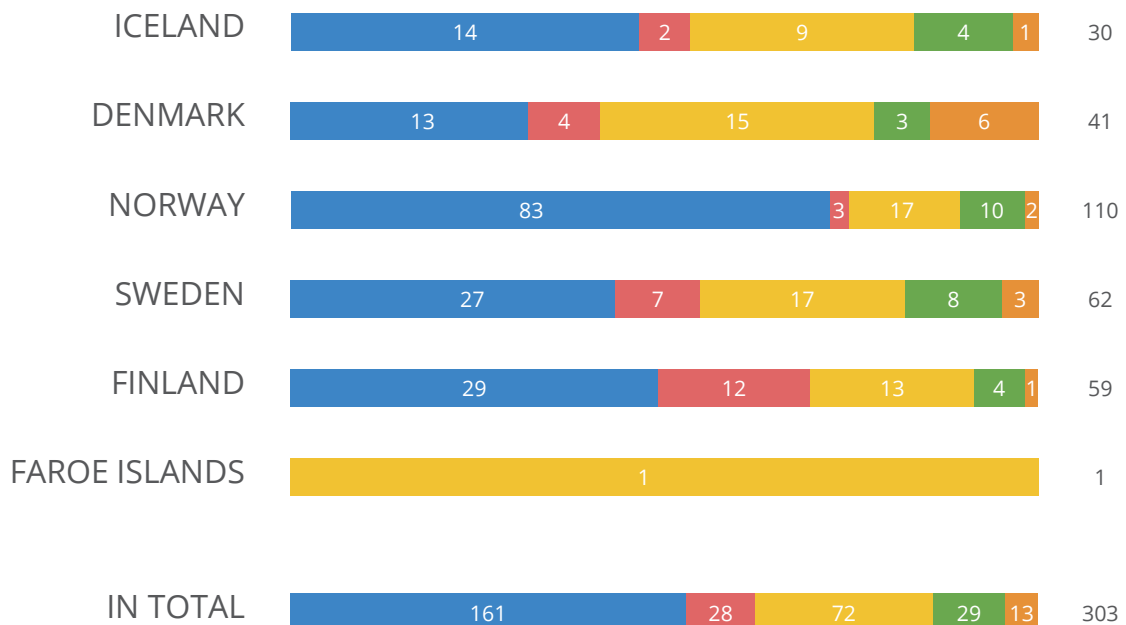


APPLICATION BY GENDER (%)



ART FIELD BY COUNTRY

■ Visual art
 ■ Music
 ■ Literature
 ■ Performing arts
 ■ Film

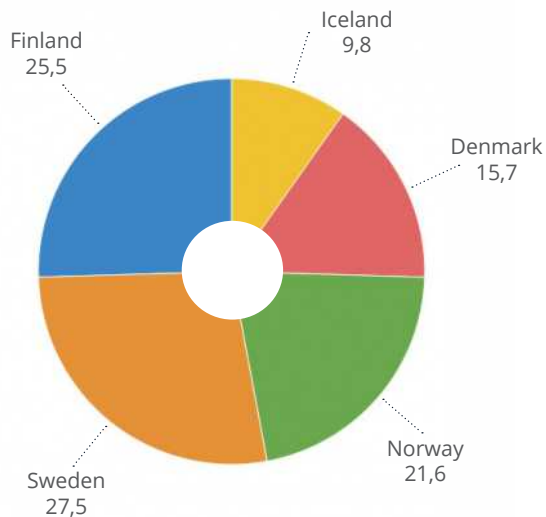




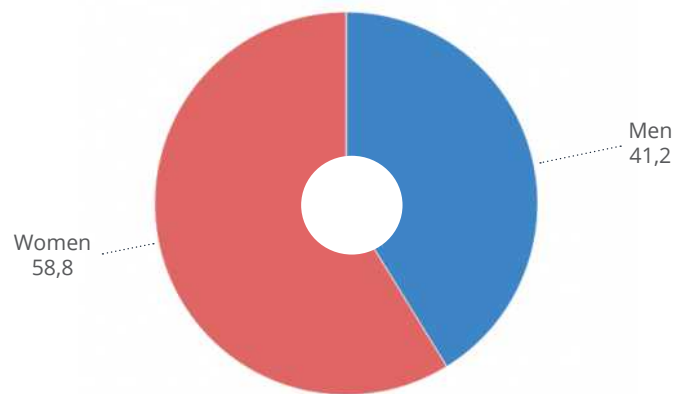
STATISTICS OF ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

FOR RESIDENCY PROGRAM 2015-2016

ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE
BY COUNTRY (%)

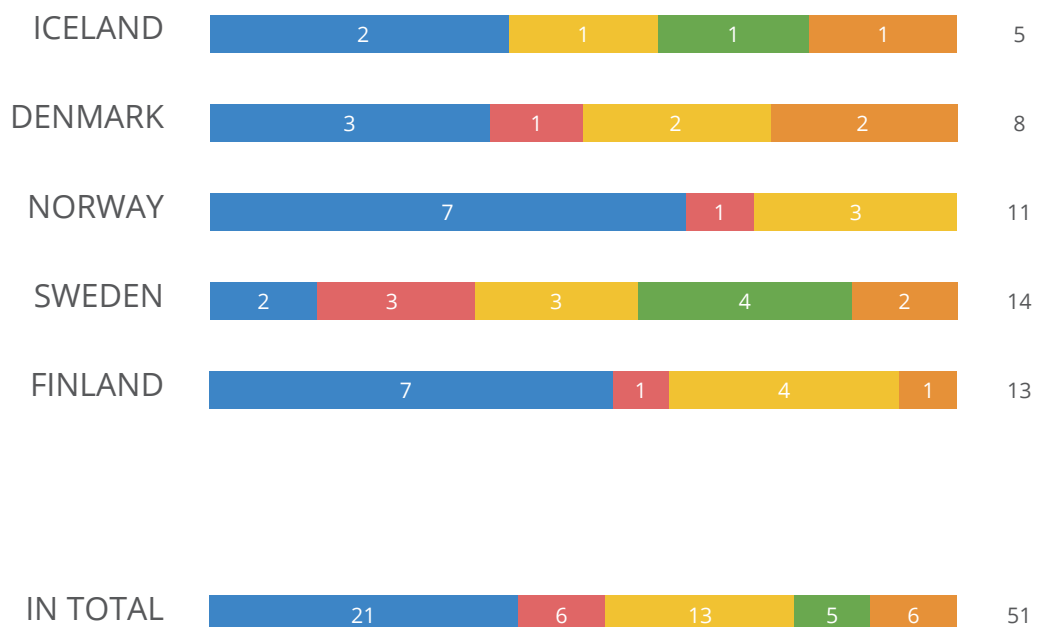


ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE
BY GENDER (%)



ART FIELD BY COUNTRY

■ Visual art
 ■ Music
 ■ Literature
 ■ Performing arts
 ■ Film

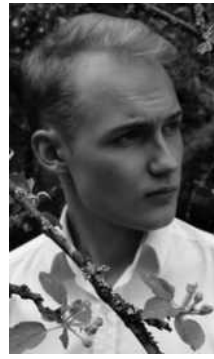


ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE 2015

JANUARY



TERJE HOLTET LARSEN
Writer | Norway



ERKKA FILANDER
Writer | Finland



KRISTINA SVÅRD
Writer | Sweden



SVEN LYDER KAHRS
Composer | Norway



DANIEL HOFLUND
Visual artists | Sweden

February



FREDRIK LÅNG
Writer | Finland



JANNE TALSTAD
Visual artist | Norway



SVEN LYDER KAHRS
Composer | Norway



DANIEL HOFLUND
Visual artists | Sweden



KRISTÍN HELGA GUNNARSDÓTTÍR
Writer | Iceland

MARCH



FREDRIK LÅNG
Writer | Finland



JANNE TALSTAD
Visual artist | Norway



KRISTINA SVÄRD
Writer | Sweden



ESA PIETILÄ
Composer | Finland

APRIL



MAGNUS FLORIN
Writer | Sweden



PETRI NUUTINEN
Photoartist | Finland



LOWRI REES
Director | Norway



LOTTE THRANE
Writer | Denmark



ELINA OIKARI
Film director | Finland

MAY



DORIS BLOOM
Visual artist | Denmark



PIA BODA
Composer | Denmark



ARE BLYTT
Visual artist | Norway



CÆCILIA HOLBEK TRIER
Director | Denmark

JUNE



GRO SIRI OGNØY JOHANSEN
Musician | Norway



ELIZABETH GAVER
Musician | Norway



AGNETHE CHRISTENSEN
Musician | Denmark



BJÖRN ROSS
Visual artist | Sweden/Denmark



DORIS BLOOM
Visual artist | Denmark

JULY



KRISTINA SVÅRD
Screenwriter | Sweden



GEIR EGIL BERGJORD
Visual artist | Norway



MARI LAGERQUIST
Visual artist | Sweden



JONAS FORSELL
Composer | Sweden

SEPTEMBER



JONE KVIE
Visual artist | Norway/Sweden



NINNA BERGER
Visual artist | Sweden



EERO HÄMEENNIEMI
Composer | Finland



KJERSTI ELIASSEN
Visual artist | Norway

OKTOBER



KJERSTI ELIASSEN
Visual artist | Norway



HENRIK MARSTAL
Musician & Writer | Denmark



SALKA GUDMUNDSDÓTTÍR
Playwriter | Iceland



MÅRTEN WESTÖ
Writer | Finland



JØRGEN MUNCK RASMUSSEN
Writer | Denmark

November



LONE FALSTER
Film director | Denmark



EVA STRÖM
Writer | Sweden



NINNA BERGER
Visual artist | Sweden



JOHANNA GULLICHSEN
Textile designer | Finland



MILENA PARLAND
Writer | Finland

DECEMBER



MARTIN RANE BAUCK
Composer | Norway



KENNETH VARPE
Visual artist | Norway



NINNA BERGER
Visual artist | Sweden



ESKIL FAGERSTÖM
Writer | Sweden



LONE FALSTER
Film director | Denmark



norden

Nordisk ministerråd



SVENSKA KULTUR
FONDEN