

Welcome to the 24th Annual
Leiv Eriksson International Festival
Explore — Discover — Celebrate
September 29 — October 9, 2011

To build a cultural bridge between the modern Nordic countries and the United States

Leiv Eriksson International Festival Headline Event!



Matti Hirvonen

Matti Hirvonen and Anna Hersey Concert

Saturday, Oct. 1 — 7:00 p.m.— Mindekirken

Born in Lapland in northern Sweden, Matti Hirvonen studied piano at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki and the Royal College of Music in Stockholm. He also studied in London. Hirvonen is a professor of accompaniment and chamber music at the Royal College of Music in Stockholm and a professor of vocal repertoire at the Royal College of Music in London. He regularly gives master classes in the art of Lieder for both singers and pianists. Since 2006, Hirvonen has been the artistic director of the song recital series “SOPRANOS” in the Museum of National Antiquities in Stockholm. He performs classical, contemporary and Scandinavian music at many music centers and festivals throughout the world.

Soprano Anna Hersey, a Minnesota native, has performed with the Palm Beach Opera, Florida Chamber Orchestra, Hispanic-American Lyric Theater, The Minnesota Opera, Theatre de la Jeune Lune, and Berkeley Repertory Theater and has received numerous awards. Hersey has performed in master classes with Renée Fleming, Dawn Upshaw, Håkan Hagegård, and Marianne Hirsti, among others. She holds a bachelor's degree from Iowa State University and master's degrees in vocal performance and musicology/ethnomusicology from the University of Minnesota. She pursued advanced performance studies at the Accademia Musicale Chigiana in Italy with Raina Kabaivanska. As a 2010-2011 Fulbright Scholar, Hersey studied with pianist Matti Hirvonen at the Kungliga Musikhögskolan (Royal College of Music) in Stockholm.

Tickets are \$20 per person. For further information, call (612) 874-0716.

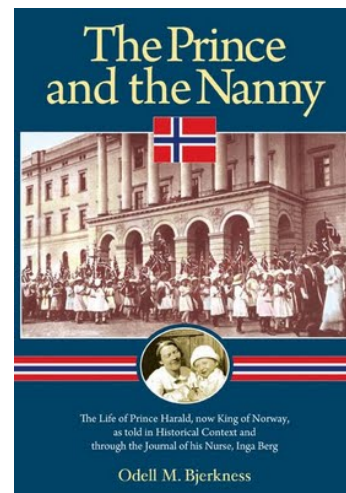


Anna Hersey

Thursday, Sept. 29 — 11:45 a.m. — Luncheon — Mindekirken

Selskaps fiskeboller i hvitsaus - \$18 per person - (Fish balls in a White Sauce for Special Guests) – hosted by the Norwegian Language and Culture Program at the Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church. For reservations, e-mail Mindekirken's Norwegian Language and Culture Program (NLCP) at norsk@mindekirken.org or mail \$18 per reservation to NLCP at Mindekirken, 924 E. 21st St, Minneapolis, MN 55404-2952 by Sept. 26.

The guest speaker is Odell Bjerkness who will present “Here Comes the King – Long Live the King!” The lecture will discuss King Harald V and his family in anticipation of the Midwest Royal Visit in October. Bjerkness’ address is based on his book, *The Prince and the Nanny*, which chronicles the life of Prince Harald, now King of Norway, as told in historical context and through the journal of his nurse, Inga Berg.



Eygló Bjarnadóttir

Sunday Oct. 2 – 11:00 a.m. — Festival Opening — Mindekirken

The Leiv Eriksson International Festival officially opens with the traditional Nordic flag presentation and a Nordic-inspired worship service with Rev. Eygló Bjarnadóttir as guest pastor. A native of Iceland, in 2002 she graduated from the University of Iceland with a divinity degree in theology and came to the United States with her family. Rev. Bjarnadóttir was ordained into ministry in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, St. Paul Synod, and she is a spiritual care professional with the Hazelden Foundation. She lives in Osceola, Wisc. with her husband and two sons. She has three older children and nine grandchildren living in Iceland, Norway and Austria. She will preach in English.

The Mindekirken Choir will sing, and the service is followed by an enticing coffee hour with foods representing all the Nordic countries.

Thursday, Oct. 6 — 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. — Bloomington

Nordmanns Forbundet Magazine Launch – *Norwegians Worldwide*

Join *Nordmanns Forbundet* (NF) for the launch of its new magazine, *Norwegians Worldwide*. The evening promises to entertain and educate. It begins at 5:30 p.m. with a social hour and appetizers and entertainment provided by the Twin Cities *Hardingfelelag*.

NF President Hallgrim Berg will kick off the evening and introduce the keynoter, Norwegian literary scholar, publisher and adventurer Frode Saugestad, a visiting fellow at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University. His topic is “Norwegian Explorers: Success Stories Then and Now,” which will discuss why Norwegian explorers, such as Nansen and Amundsen and those of today have experienced greater success than explorers from other countries. At 9:00 p.m., guests will be wowed by a multi-media presentation photographed and designed by Per Breiehagen, an internationally acclaimed Norwegian photographer based in Minneapolis.

The event will be held at Minnesota Valley Country Club, 6300 Auto Club Road, Bloomington. Limited space. For further information, call: 612-280-8774 or email RSVP@Nordic-Home.com.

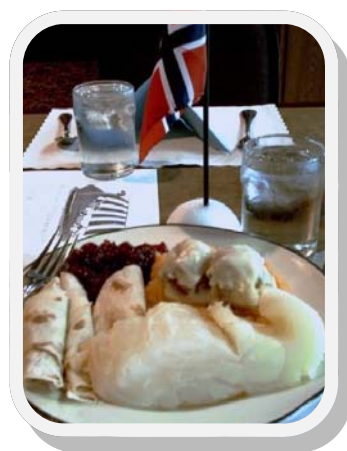
Saturday, Oct. 8 – 5:30 p.m. – Annual Icelandic Cod Dinner – Blaine

Enjoy a delightful cod dinner and hear keynoter Dr. Birgitta Wallace, PhD, an archaeologist, researcher and author of many publications relating to the Nordic movement to North America beginning in the 900s. She also worked with L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site in Canada. Dr. Wallace will give insight into Leif Erikson and the Vikings in North America. Tickets cost \$30 for adults and \$15 for children under 12. Reservations are required by Sept. 22.



Send checks payable to Icelandic American Association of Minnesota to Steingrimur Steinolfson, 2901 West 112th St, Bloomington, MN 55431. Call 952-881-3326 for more information. The event will be held at the Infinite Campus, Inc., 4321 – 109th Ave. N.E., Blaine, Minn.

Saturday, Oct. 8 – 2:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. – Norwegian Glee Club Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner – Edina



Meatballs and lutefisk galore! The event is held at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 4801 France Ave. So., Edina. Tickets are \$18 per person and must be ordered by Oct. 4.

Mail check to Norwegian Glee Club, P.O. Box 23053, Richfield, MN 55423-0053.

If you would like the tickets sent to you, please include a stamped, self addressed envelope. Indicate which seating you prefer. For more information, go to: www.norwegiangleeclub.org and click on the lutefisk dinner tab at the top of the page.

Oct. 9, — 11:00 a.m.— Worship Service and closing ceremony — Mindekirken

The Leiv Eriksson International Festival officially closes with a Nordic-inspired worship service with music provided by the Saana Ensemble, which is comprised of five native Finns who live in the Minneapolis/ St. Paul area. After many years of sweating at sauna parties, they combined their diverse musical talents in 2005 to perform Finnish music and stay connected to their Finnish roots. The service is followed by coffee and food representing all the Nordic countries.



Kari Burke-Romarheim

The guest preacher is Kari Burke-Romarheim, associate pastor for congregational life and growth at Bethel Lutheran Church, Hudson, Wisc. Pastor Kari, a

2008 graduate of Luther Seminary, is married to Vidar Romarheim and they have two sons, Andreas and Lukas. She was ordained and installed in 2008 at Bethel Highlands. Kari has studied and worked in Norway; she will preach in Norwegian.



Sunday, Oct. 9 – 5:00 p.m.— *Geitungen*

Danish American Center, Minneapolis

A Norwegian trio called *Geitungen* presents tunes that once were popular with party-goers in the hinterland of Rogaland County in western Norway. Its music includes tunes that were dance-floor favorites from yesteryear. The trio plays the tunes in the rhythmic fashion in which they were played then and there. The three musicians' fiddles, melodeon, mandolin, Hardanger fiddle and guitars combine to color the soundboard. The expression is straightforward and the music ranges from cozy, warm mazurka to hotheaded hopsars and plaintive waltzes, sometimes with elements of more contemporary popular music styles. With their capricious and compelling playing, *Geitungen* takes you back, far out to the poorly-lit dance floors of the more festive parts of rural Rogaland.



This lively event will take place at the Danish American Center, 3030 West River Parkway, Minneapolis, Minn. 55406. The cost is \$12 per person and includes a reception following the event with beverages and Scandinavian appetizers.

Mindekirken—The Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church 924 East 21st Street, Minneapolis Minn 55404
Block of E Franklin Ave. at 10th Ave South (handicap accessible) 612-874-0716 www.mindekirken.org

About the Festival

In 1987 under the leadership of Pastor John Mauritzen, *Mindekirken* (The Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church in Minneapolis) and members of the Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish communities established an annual festival to celebrate Nordic cultural roots in the United States. Over the years, the events have brought top-ranked Nordic talent to the Festival. This has helped us all explore the values and goals in today's Nordic countries and share them with other Nordic-Americans. It also has given the Nordic community an opportunity to share its heritage with all citizens.

The **Leiv Eriksson International Festival** is brought to you, in part, by the following Nordic organizations: American Swedish Institute, Danish American Center, The Edvard Grieg Society / Norway House, Finlandia Foundation, Icelandic American Association of Minnesota, Mindekirken, Nordmanns Forbundet and Sons of Norway; and by private donations.

