



The REYKJAVÍK GRAPEVINE

YOUR FREE COPY

THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO LIFE, TRAVEL & ENTERTAINMENT IN ICELAND

Issue Nº 4 - April 3 - May 7 - 2009

+ COMPLETE CITY LISTINGS - INSIDE!

DROWNING IN DEBT

Haukur Már Helgason Explores
The Re-Colonization
Of The Icelandic Nation

www.grapevine.is

+ The Unbearable Hildurness Of Being

Your Complete Guide To
Iceland's Emergency Elections!

Corpsepants!

Opinions!

Reviews!

Advertising!

By the time they turn 30, most Icelanders have taken student loans, a real-estate loan, a 'car-loan', traveled on VISA, and raised a baby on overdraft. We all seem to be counting on cover-star Dalí (3), and his kindergarten pals to eventually foot the bill. PG. 8.

Haukur's 4th Editorial!

I'm not gonna lie to you – this fourth editorial of mine will be a bland, run-of-the-mill one. See, my brain stopped working a few hours back – I've been up for the longest time translating political banter and cliché terminologies for THE GRAPEVINE'S ALL-ENCOMPASSING GUIDE TO THE 2009 ICELANDIC PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS. We thought we'd service our local, English-speaking readership by providing all the information they need to make an informed decision of whom to vote for in the upcoming elections.

It was quite the task. We rang up all the political parties (there's like... eight of them running now) and asked 'em to send us a brief description of their agendas and ideologies, as well as answering ten select questions we posed. The idea was to give the parties an opportunity to present themselves exactly the way they wished while answering some key questions; to give them an open platform to speak to their voters and others interested in Icelandic politics.

When they finally turned in the requested materials, we needed to translate it all into English; a very lengthy endeavour that revealed to me for once and all just how much of what our politicians utter is comprised of utterly meaningless drivel that they seem to spew by pure force of habit.

You know what I'm talking about, right? They've got all these crazy words and phrases they use all the time that don't really mean anything at all. If you stick your head in them long enough, for instance while translating them, your mind will eventually melt into a soft mush – sorta like mine did a few hours back. Where was I?

So, we created this awesome guide to the upcoming elections, spent a lot of time working on it and stressing about

it, making sure everyone was fairly and accurately represented. It looked good, too. And then, due to some unforeseen complications we... ehm... couldn't fit it anywhere. There was just no room. Not enough pages. Fuck.

Enter THE INTERNET and its magical powers and endless supply of blank electro-pages. We decided to make a special section on our web site, www.grapevine.is, dedicated to the elections, where all the material we've accumulated and strived over may be found in its entirety. So go there and read it now, please. We know you carry your laptop everywhere, and you do need to actively participate in the democratic process. So go there. Read stuff, enlighten yourself, learn what our future rulers have to say for themselves. Please. We worked real hard.

Anyway, I assume you've been on the Internet now and read the entire election section. Good work! You must now immediately turn your attention to Haukur Már Helgason's stunning article on the current re-colonization of the Icelandic nation, and what that process entails. Pay close attention: it has some very chilling information that you need to know, and it also happens to feature some of the best writing we've ever run, in my humble opinion.

BTW: Jamming is brilliant!



Cover



Cover photo by:
Baldur Kristjánsson
baldurkristjans.is

Art Direction:
Jóhannes Kjartansson
& Hörður Kristbjörnsson

On Cover
Dalí

Thanks to:
Inga María & Bóas

Masthead

THE REYKJAVÍK GRAPEVINE
Hafnarstræti 15, 101 Reykjavík
www.grapevine.is
grapevine@grapevine.is
Published by Fróken ehf.

EDITORIAL:
+354 540 3600 / editor@grapevine.is
ADVERTISING:
+354 540 3605 / ads@grapevine.is
PUBLISHER:
+354 540 3601 / publisher@grapevine.is

PUBLISHER:
Hilmar Steinn Grétarsson
hilmar@grapevine.is
EDITOR:
Haukur S Magnússon
haukur@grapevine.is

Printed by Landsprent ehf. in 30.000 copies.

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS:
Sigurður Kjartan Kristinnsson
sigurdur@grapevine.is
Florian Zühlke / florian@grapevine.is
Sindri Eldon
Jói Kjartan & Síggi Eggertsson
Valur Gunnarsson
Dr. Gunni
Lana Vogestad
Haukur Már Helgason
EDITORIAL INTERNS:
Ragnar Jón Hrólfsson / ragnar@grapevine.is
Frída Brá Pálsdóttir / frida@grapevine.is
Catharine Fulton / catharine@grapevine.is

ART DIRECTOR:
Hörður Kristbjörnsson
hoddi@grapevine.is

DESIGN:
Jóhannes Kjartansson / layout@grapevine.is

PHOTOGRAPHER:
Jóhannes Kjartansson / www.joi.is

MARKETING DIRECTOR:
Jón Trausti Sigurðarson
jontrausti@grapevine.is
SALES DIRECTOR:
Aðalsteinn Jörundsson
adalsteinn@grapevine.is
Guðmundur Rúnar Svansson
grs@grapevine.is
DISTRIBUTION:
Samúel Bjarnason
distribution@grapevine.is
PROOFREADER:
Jim Rice

PRESS RELEASES:
listings@grapevine.is
SUBMISSIONS INQUIRIES:
editor@grapevine.is
SUBSCRIPTION INQUIRIES:
+354 540 3605 / subscribe@grapevine.is
GENERAL INQUIRIES: grapevine@grapevine.is

FOUNDERS:
Hilmar Steinn Grétarsson,
Hörður Kristbjörnsson,
Jón Trausti Sigurðarson,
Oddur Óskar Kjartansson,
Valur Gunnarsson

The Reykjavík Grapevine is published 18 times a year by Fróken Ltd. Monthly from November through April, and fortnightly from May til October. Nothing in this magazine may be reproduced in whole or in part without the written permission of the publishers. The Reykjavík Grapevine is distributed around Reykjavík, Akureyri, Egilsstaðir, Selfoss, Keflavík, Ísafjörður and at key locations along road #1, and all major tourist attractions and tourist information centres in the country.

You may not like it, but at least it's not sponsored. (No articles in the Reykjavík Grapevine are pay-for articles. The opinions expressed are the writers' own, not the advertisers'.



ICELAND :: FILM – Berlin – Copenhagen – Reykjavík
Icelandic Filmmaking 1904-2008



MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS – EDDAS AND SAGAS
The Ancient Vellums on Display



A LOOK INTO NATURE
The Story of the Icelandic Museum of Natural History

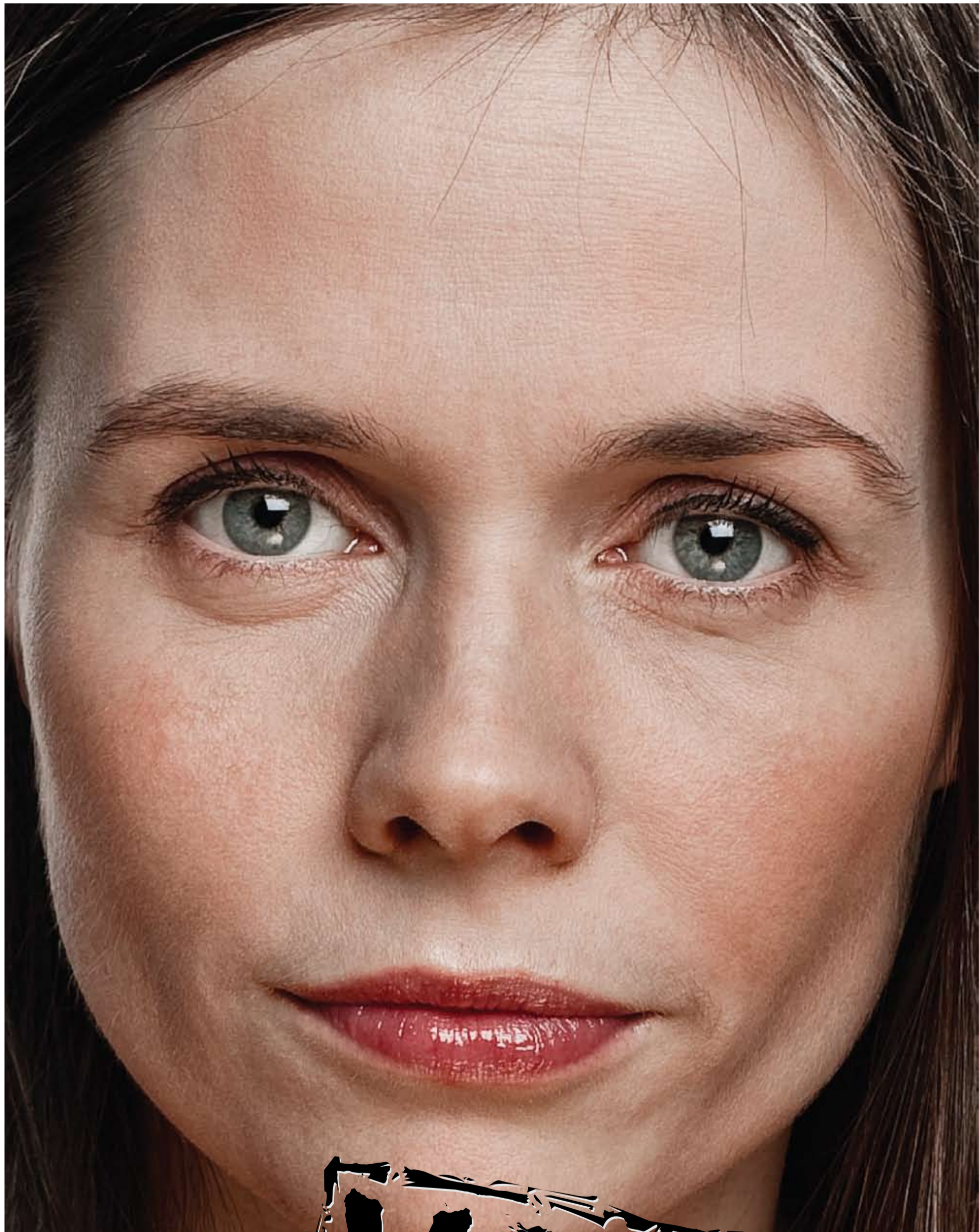


EXHIBITIONS - GUIDED TOURS
CAFETERIA - CULTURE SHOP

The Culture House – Þjóðmenningarhúsið
National Centre for Cultural Heritage
Hverfisgata 15 • 101 Reykjavík (City Centre)
Tel: 545 1400 • www.thjodmenning.is

Open daily between 11 am and 5 pm
Free guided tour of THE MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS exhibition Mon and Fri at 3:30 pm.





VOTER



VINSTRI GRÆN
www.vg.is

Katrín Jakobsdóttir, 1. sæti Reykjavíkurborgarlisti norður

LETTERS

Sour Grapes and Stuff

SAY YOUR PIECE, VOICE YOUR OPINION, SEND YOUR LETTERS TO LETTERS@GRAPEVINE.IS

Warning: An incurable fatal venereal disease is permitted entry into the general population, a disease with virtually no symptoms, and an incubation period of many years. The stigma of this disease is such that the media decides to minimize mention of the topic. As a result, the public are ill-informed of the consequences of promiscuity, the primary cause of spread. Now, 25 years after its discovery, promiscuity is still "fashionable" and pornography is rampant. I can't see how the consequences of this can be considered anything less than the decimation of mankind, i.e., mass death preceded by mass dementia. There are at present about 100 million AIDS orphans in Africa, where the virus originated. What is happening in Africa will happen across the globe. What's going to stop it? There's no cure on the horizon, and the media seems to think that ignoring it will make it go away. How does an "intelligent" society justify this imminent holocaust? And when blame is cast, whose decision was it to ignore all medical warnings and release this plague upon the children of man? Because history will call this "The Time of the Great Dying".

Afraid of the truth?

310-593-1297 - Stefan Lazarus [via a crazy looking postcard]

Dear Stefan,

If this is indeed the truth, then YES, WE ARE AFRAID OF THE TRUTH! Happy now, you goddamn killjoy?

Dear Sir or Madam,

below is the story of one of the refugees, that was supposed to be sent to Greece last Friday (March 27). It would be great, if you could publish it. If you need more information or want to get in touch with the refugees personally, you can contact me at any time. Thank you very much!

Kind regards
Anna Reitbauer

My name is Nour Al-din Alazzawi, I am 19 years old and I am from Iraq/Baghdad. I left my home-country in 2006, because my father got killed by terrorist, for working as a translator for America in Baghdad greenzone. Because I also worked with the Americans, they threaten my life and tried to kill me. That is why me and my family fled from our country to Syria, where we stayed around 2 years. Me, my sister and my brother decided to go to our older brother in Belgium. We had to go through Greece, where

we were finger-printed, put managed to go to Belgium. From there we were sent back to Greece, because of the Dublin agreement. In Greece we did not get anything - we have not been treated like humans. Because of the unacceptable situation in Greece I sent my sister back to Syria to my mother. After some time, I got a permit to stay in Greece for six months. I tried to find work so me and my brother would survive. When I went to extend my permit they told me

I had to leave the country within 30 days, because I did not have any papers in Greece. That is when I decided to go to Canada, because it is not a Schengen-country and the possibility that I could stay and live there were higher than in Europe. My plan was to go through Iceland, but here they stopped me and I had to apply for asylum, so I would not be sent back to Greece. I have been here for 7 months now, not knowing what is going to happen. Last Thursday the police picked me up and put me in jail, where I was told, that I was going to be deported to Greece on Friday. I had to sign a paper which was written entirely in Icelandic. I was told, that I can appeal to this decision within 15 days, but I would have to do this from Greece, which would be impossible and hopeless. Luckily the deportation was stopped. Now I am here and I do not know what is going to happen. I do not want to go back to my country and I ask of everybody who believes in humanity to help me to stay here. What you just read is only a small part of my story. What I am asking for, is just a simple life in peace and without the fear of being sent back.

Yours sincerely
Nour Al-din Alazzawi

Dear Anna and Nour,
thank you for the letter. Us at the Grapevine sincerely hope your issues will be resolved in an adequate manner. The treatment you have been subject to by European and Icelandic authorities is simply unacceptable by any standard. As an Icelandic citizen, I take offense at being represented by institutions like the current Directorate of Immigration and will be sure to make note of that in the coming elections. Again, this is simply unacceptable.

Stuff We Liked In March

- Hüsker Dü
- The daily updated news at Grapevine.is, courtesy of Paul Nikolov
- DesignMarch
- The Retro Stefson DJ-set at Karamba
- Karamba in general
- Our Twitter feed (twitter.com/rvkgrapevine)
- P.Diddy's Twitter page, people!
- New South Park
- Knowing Jonathan Richman was on his way
- Our March issue. Especially the cover
- Sudden Weather Change's listening party
- Ragnar Jón Hrólfsson. We've been liking him since December, at least.
- The band Wavves (read Sindri Eldon's review in the music section)
- All the awesome material we were sent for this issue
- Being annoyed that we couldn't fit it all the awesome material in this issue (but the May issues will be killer!)
- Bob Dylan's "Tangled Up in Blue"
- Scoring an awesome new intern from Canada [via Finland]
- Hating on Pizza Pronto. Their pizza really, really sucks.
- Classic John Carpenter flick "The Thing"
- That crazy dance exhibit at Sundhöllin



THE CENTRE // THE OFFICIAL TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE IN REYKJAVÍK

All you need

for a great holiday

City Centre Booking Service // Bus Tours and Activities
Hotels and Guesthouses // Car Rentals // Horse Riding
Whale Watching // Internet and Phone Centre

VAT Cash Refund – Money Exchange



Iceland's Largest Booking Service

FREE
BOOKING SERVICE

Simply the most comprehensive Booking Services in the City specialized in customizing and developing travel packages to suit your interests and needs.

We can arrange your accommodation, transfers, tours, flights and car hire based on your requirements.



Reykjavík Welcome Card

Enjoy the Thermal Pools, Museums, Public Transport and discounts.



24 / 48 / 72 hour cards - Great Value For Money

Sold at the Centre and most Reykjavík hotels.

www.visitreykjavik.is



Adalstraeti 2 · 101 Reykjavík · Tel +354 590 1550 · info@visitreykjavik.is

Hressingarskálinn

Hressingarskálinn (Hressó) is a Classical Bistro, located in the heart of the city at Austurstræti 20.

Food is served from 10 until 22 every day. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, after the kitchen closes Hressó heats up with live music. Weekends, DJs keep the party going until morning, with no cover charge.





ICELANDIC DESIGN



SNOW GUARD

RAGNAR

A MEN'S JACKET SPECIALLY DESIGNED WITH SNOWBOARD AND SKIING IN MIND. PACKED WITH FEATURES THAT WILL PROTECT YOU FROM THE WEATHER AND GIVE YOU MAXIMUM COMFORT.

ALSO AVAILABLE FOR WOMEN, RAGNHILDUR AND UNISEX PANTS, RAFN.

PRICE: 33.990 ISK
COLORS: BROWN CHECK AND CHAROCAL CHECK

WWW.CINTAMANI.IS



DRESS CODE ICELAND

CINTAMANI AUSTURHRAUNI 3
210 GARÐABÆ, S. 533 3800

CINTAMANI CENTER LAUGAVEGI 11
101 REYKJAVIK, S. 517 8088

HISTORY LESSON



BY DR. GUNNI

Reykjavík, late '50s. Once rock 'n' roll had arrived fresh and powerful, the kids born around 1940 fell flat for it. Their foreign role models were swank rock and pop singers, not beat groups as later in the '60s. Therefore not many groups were formed in Iceland yet. Instead, young and unknown singers got to perform with big established bands, such as The KK Sextet. Sometimes the up-and-comers sang a few tunes at dances, other times special shows were staged where up to twenty young singers got to sing a song each. The best of those kids kept at it and some even put out records.

Eighteen-year-old Þorsteinn Eggertsson was so convincing in his rock and roll fury that Haukur Morthens dubbed him "The Icelandic Elvis". Eggertsson kept it real, steered clear of any sappy shit, sticking to rock and roll exclusively while fostering serious lyrical ambitions. Coming from Keflavík, right by the US Army base, he had learned English better than most of his fellow countrymen. Later he was quoted in an interview saying: "The radio signal was bleary back then and one didn't hear but a bit of what Elvis was singing. The other kids repeated his lyrics just like parrots, in a pigeon language, which I found disgraceful. Instead I started to make my own lyrics in Icelandic to sing to those rock songs."

Eggertsson's rock fury unfortunately never materialised on record, but during the '60s and '70s he was Iceland's major rock lyricist and has written some great lyrics, often in deep disdain of the ruling cultural elite.

Another young rock dude was chummy Stefán Jónsson. His first claim to fame was being part of the SAS Trío. They did an Icelandic cover version of The Coasters' "Charlie Brown", which was released by Stjórnhljómplötur (Star Records), a short lived record label that specialised in singles by young singers.

As the '50s turned into the '60s, a new musical generation was gaining ground. The older dudes that had grown up on jazz gave way for the young dudes that "understood" rock 'n' roll. The women were not big participants in the revolution yet. During the summer of 1960, new bands featuring rock-thirsty teenagers blossomed. Bands such as Junior, Eron, Uranus and Falcon played where and whenever they could, but Plútó soon became the premier band. The band had to change its name when a silver crafting company, also named Plútó, complained. The band choose Lúðó, and added "og Stefán", probably echoing Cliff Richards and the Shadows, who were all the rage by then. Stefán Jónsson sang for Lúðó og Stefán, and in the early sixties they were Iceland's hottest band.

The band could in part thank their manager Guðlaugur Bergmann for the popularity. He later became a big shot in the Icelandic fashion world when he opened fashion store Karnabær (named after Carnaby street in London), and as a band manager he was very inventive. For instance he advertised that the band would play "Gagarin-rock" and "Horror-rock". The band had no clue when they read those ads in the papers. When they asked, Guðlaugur answered: "You just try to jam some outer space kind of music!" As for "Horror-rock" – "You just put nylon socks on your heads!"

Lúðó og Stefán are still operating and have released many, many records. They played at Sigur Rós's end of tour party in 2008 and totally lifted the roof off the house with their eternally cool rock 'n' roll music.

By Dr. Gunní, based on his 2000 book *Eru ekki allir í stuði? (Rock in Iceland)*. A revised edition of the book is forthcoming in 2010.

POLITICS BY HAUKUR S MAGNÚSSON

COMPLETE GUIDE TO 2009 ENERGY ELECTIONS

All you need to know in one handy page!



Grapevine's questions to the parties:
 1) Briefly describe the party's general agenda using one sentence.
 2) There have been loud calls for renewal in the ranks of Icelandic MPs and politicians lately? How has your party responded to these requests?
 3) What is your party's financial agenda? What are you going to do about the króna?
 4) How does the party plan to help Icelandic companies?
 5) How does the party plan to help Icelandic homes?
 6) How can Iceland regain trustworthiness in the eyes of foreign investors and creditors? How can Iceland prevent becoming the global laughing stock?
 7) What is your party's stance on the European Union?
 8) Who is responsible for the Icelandic economic collapse and the problems it has caused now? Does your party share any of the responsibility?
 9) What is your party's stance on constitutional change? Should we assemble a constitutional parliament, or are there other ways?
 10) It is given that the Icelandic state needs to initiate many cutbacks in the near future. Where should those be imposed, in your opinion, and where are any fields that should be "exempt" from such cutbacks?

THE PROGRESSIVE PARTY – FRAMSKÖRNFLOKKURINN
 The Progressive Party is a liberal socialist party constantly fighting for social justice and finding solutions to its many shared problems, based on co-operation and equality. The Progressive policy puts people and their welfare upfront.
 We need to create responsibility towards citizens on the core values of democracy, personal freedom, equality and social responsibility.

We fight for human rights, respect for individuals and the family. We respect favoritism and discrimination based, for example, on ethnicity, gender, sexual preference, religion, language, nationality or political views. We will always defend freedom of opinion, expression, religion and the sanctity of private life.
 We value humans over wealth and think that all human beings should share the same basic rights to an education, personal growth and basic standards of living, regardless of their origin, health and economic stature.

We wish to reinforce human capital by providing every individual with stimulation and a chance to mature and grow in both work and leisure. We aim for a society of tolerance and open-mindedness, for which every aspect of our community and the individuals therein may blossom.
 We wish the nation to have the highest determining power over its own issues, and for those in government to rely only within their commission. We work diligently for a fair society, open government and basic standards of living.

We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 We aim for a reasonable and sustainable exploitation of the earth's resources that does not interfere with the interests of future generations. We believe that all local resources should be subject to the unconditional governance of Icelanders.

We believe it is every person's basic right to choose his or her own place of residence. Good transportation, telecommunications, varied employment opportunities and a diverse selection of education, culture and healthcare are all key factors in equalizing circumstances. We build upon a liberal ideology and thus believe the best way of co-operation is through freedom and honesty.

THE PROGRESSIVE PARTY'S
 1) The Progressive Party is a liberal socialist party constantly fighting for social justice and finding solutions to its many shared problems, based on co-operation and equality. The Progressive policy puts people and their welfare upfront.
 2) There have been loud calls for renewal in the ranks of Icelandic MPs and politicians lately? How has your party responded to these requests?
 3) What is your party's financial agenda? What are you going to do about the króna?
 4) How does the party plan to help Icelandic companies?
 5) How does the party plan to help Icelandic homes?
 6) How can Iceland regain trustworthiness in the eyes of foreign investors and creditors? How can Iceland prevent becoming the global laughing stock?
 7) What is your party's stance on the European Union?
 8) Who is responsible for the Icelandic economic collapse and the problems it has caused now? Does your party share any of the responsibility?
 9) What is your party's stance on constitutional change? Should we assemble a constitutional parliament, or are there other ways?
 10) It is given that the Icelandic state needs to initiate many cutbacks in the near future. Where should those be imposed, in your opinion, and where are any fields that should be "exempt" from such cutbacks?

3) We wish to permanently solve the inflation and currency restraint by negotiating with the foreign creditors' write-offs of debts and the index number without the need for a referendum. We eventually join the stability pact and the euro zone.
 4) We will lower the households' debt part of foreign creditors' write-offs of debts and the index number without the need for a referendum. We eventually join the stability pact and the euro zone.
 5) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 6) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 7) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 8) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 9) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

5) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 6) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 7) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 8) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 9) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

6) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 7) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 8) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 9) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

7) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 8) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 9) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

8) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 9) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

9) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

2) The Independent Party holds priorities for the party list in all voting districts. The thousands of voters who participated have secured great renewal of the party lists.
 3) The need for stability and a competitive economic environment has been the main justification for joining the European Union (EU) and taking up the Euro, even though EU membership would likely be detrimental to the fishing industry and agriculture, as well as having other significant drawbacks.
 4) Broad discussion has taken place within the Independence Party about the pros and cons of Iceland joining the EU. The conclusion is that, according to the Independence Party, if the Parliament or government decides upon an application for EU membership, a decision should be held about that decision based on defined goals and conditions. At any rate, national elections should follow from any possible results of membership negotiations.
 4) Icelanders should not accept unemployment in the country. We must immediately be on the offensive. We will secure up to twenty thousand new jobs in our term in office, as well as protecting already existing jobs. We will do this by:
 - Completing the reorganization of the fiscal system within three months. One of the most pressing issues for the Icelandic labour market is the need for effective banking system.
 - Immediately lifting restraints on foreign exchange and preventing the regression of Icelandic society by decades.
 - Stopping the move towards centralized government and nationalization, a system the current leftist governments sadly seem to consider natural.
 - Rejecting all new taxes for the labour market and individuals. They will be overburdened by higher taxes.
 - Creating consensus about the harnessing of our resources and starting immediately the building up of the high-tech sectors, such as databases, aluminium smelters and other high-tech businesses.
 - Affecting temporary changes in the tax system to stimulate job creation and development, which will be especially beneficial to new innovative businesses.
 5) In this country, a long tradition exists of families investing in their own homes. Radical measures need to be taken to prevent the loss of homes by individuals and due to temporary financial problems. To achieve this, we will do the following:
 - Allow homeowners to be able to lower their monthly payments by up to 50% for three years as well as to extend their period of lending. The goal is to adjust the monthly payment to people's financial ability and increase the flexibility of regular instalments. To respond to the altered circumstances in the economy, a decreasing of loan's capital will be considered.
 - We aim to convert fixed price loans into unfixed loans when inflation and interest rates have been stabilized.
 All the government's ideas about high- and middle income taxes are rejected, as the victims of these are most often big families with large financial responsibilities.
 - The fixed interest rate of the Central Bank of Iceland will be decreased and reach 5-6% towards the end of this year. The Icelandic labour market and homes cannot tolerate this high interest rate.
 6) No answer provided.
 7) The Independence Party holds that Iceland's interests are best secured by remaining outside of the EU while conducting a close healthy relationship with it based on the contract of the European Economic Area, which opens up the internal market of the EU. A complete membership would threaten to take control over Iceland's biggest national resources, such as the fisheries. The Independence Party also emphasizes greatly that it will ultimately be the Icelandic nation, the people, who decide if membership talks with the EU commence, and a second vote will be conducted about the result of possible membership.
 8) A host of external factors caused the crisis and the fall of the banks. Interesting factors caused the crisis and the fall of the banks. Interesting factors caused the crisis and the fall of the banks. Interesting factors caused the crisis and the fall of the banks.

3) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 4) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 5) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 6) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 7) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 8) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 9) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

4) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 5) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 6) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 7) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 8) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 9) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

5) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 6) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 7) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 8) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 9) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

6) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 7) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 8) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 9) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

7) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 8) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 9) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

8) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 9) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

9) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.
 10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

10) We wish to build the nation's economy on a free-market basis of private enterprise and co-operative enterprise, so that the enterprise of individuals and collectives may fully prosper. We wish to see the national economy as a whole, and that other nations on mutual tasks. We want our international interactions to be based on the acknowledgement of each nation's right to independence and self-determination.

coast guard as security measures for Icelanders in the future. Military training should be put aside in current tribulation. Cutbacks alone are not an option. Creating new jobs with all means possible is essential and thus increases the nation's income.
IFOR ICELANDIC AUTONOMY – LISTI FULVÆLDISINNNA
 Democracy, sovereignty and ethics
 We wish to reconstruct and empower democracy by running a group of free men and women for parliament, people that will let their work do the talking and move the decision making process out of the parties' headquarters and into the parliament itself. The List wishes to safeguard the sovereignty, independence and national freedom of Iceland. We wish to protect and free trade and we believe it is important that Icelanders themselves govern their right to negotiate with other nations. We outright reject joining the European Union.
 We wish to reconsider Iceland's governmental structure with a new constitution that will empower voters and better ensure the separation of legislative and executive powers. We want Alþingi to maintain the unconditional legislative powers with the executive and judicial powers. We wish to ensure that Iceland's resources remain the nation's property.
 The List feels it is urgent to reinforce our executive system with new laws and regulations, where national interest, professionalism and transparency will be key. In these matters we feel it is urgent to build up a new Icelandic legal framework.
 We wish to reconstruct the nation's interests, maintaining discipline and ethical governance and using the best local and international experts to do this.
 Regarding the finances of households and companies, we feel it is urgent to permanently ensure normal interest rates, to circulate capital and reinvest price indexation. We feel we need to establish a fund that, like the "krepka" fund of the mid-20th century, temporarily overrules the assets of devalued households.
 The List feels it is unrealistic to expect Icelandic taxpayers to carry the debts of individuals and companies.
 The List is a spokesperson for thriftiness and economy in state finances, and feels it is important to meet hardships in running the state by revising spending policies in certain fields.
 10) Any deficit will be met by reconsidering our taxation system, by increasing taxation steps, a high-income tax and changes to the VAT system, for example, rather than cutting back on health and welfare. The IMF will not be allowed to take control of the country.

THE DEMOCRACY MOVEMENT – LYFRDEMISREYTINGIN
 Most political scientists agree that democracy now needs to seek its roots and that the current representative system is outdated that does not suit the needs of the modern information society. The Icelandic representative democracy has evolved into party rule, a cesspool of corruption. In the backrooms of Alþingi, MPs are encouraged to obey the party lines, which are often laid out in the boardrooms of corporations that eventually profit off the parliament's decisions.
 After elections, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no way of knowing what the regime is going to look like. Campaign promises amount to nothing in light of the MP tradeoffs for the various ministries and power. Individuals that get selected with a wind up votes behind them at the party convention can be handed up as PM. The nation did not vote him, and most of us cannot trust him for our survival and future. But due to the system's structure, we have no

DAY TOURS

WE'LL TAKE YOU TO ALL THE MOST EXCITING PLACES IN ICELAND

SPECIAL APRIL OFFER

PRICE
12.300 ISK

FULL PRICE:
15.400 ISK

 All Year

09-19

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

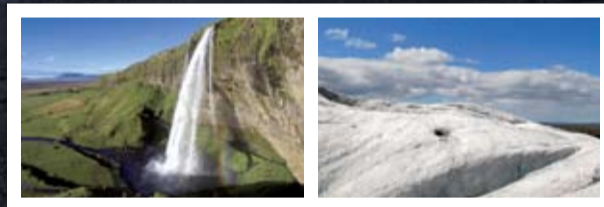


RE-15 - 09:00

South Shore Adventure

This tour is ideal for nature lovers of all kinds. You will have an opportunity to stand behind the plummeting Seljalandsfoss waterfall, walk up to the Skógafoss waterfall and gaze at Mýrdalsjökull glacier and Reynisdrangar rock formations.

Book now on www.re.is 



EXPO - www.expo.is

flybus+

Perfect end to your holiday in Iceland. Fast, frequent and on schedule every day of the week.

Further information on www.flybus.is



PRICE
2.200 ISK


Transfer from most hotels and guesthouses in Reykjavík to Keflavík Airport.

MORE TOURS AVAILABLE IN OUR BROCHURES

AND ON OUR WEBSITE WWW.RE.IS



Reykjavik Excursions
KYNNISFERÐIR

BSÍ Bus Terminal / 101 Reykjavík /  +354 580 5400 / main@re.is / www.re.is

The End of Neo-liberal Neverland

THE MEANING OF SUCCESS

'How to succeed in Modern Business: Lessons from the Icelandic Voyage' is the title of an address given by Iceland's president Ólafur R. Grímsson to British business leaders in London's Walbrook Club in 2005. In his lecture, the President enumerated 13 national characteristics to explain 'our', that is Icelanders', 'success' in finance: "Eighth on my list is the heritage of discovery and exploration, fostered by the medieval Viking sagas that have been told and retold to every Icelandic child," he said. "This is a tradition that gives honour to those who venture into unknown lands, who dare to journey to foreign fields, interpreting modern business ventures as an extension of the Viking spirit, applauding the successful entrepreneurs as heirs of this proud tradition."

President Grímsson was not the first to mythologize Iceland's rapid implementation of global capitalism with Viking references. In the late 1970's and early 80's, a handful of young men, members of the so-called Locomotive group [Eimreiðin], made themselves busy importing Milton Friedman's free market ideology. Davíð Oddsson was a prominent member of this group. He would later implement Friedman's ideology as the Independence Party leader, Prime Minister (1991-2004) and, since 2005, chairperson of the Central Bank. Milton Friedman's dogma is now well known: privatize, deregulate, then look away. In *The Shock Doctrine*, Naomi Klein has exposed to us how Friedman's disciples went about doing this, by using the disorientation caused by traumatic events, such as natural catastrophes or economic depression, to push through programmes that otherwise would never have been democratically approved. A lesser known proponent of 'more radical capitalism' is Milton Friedman's son, the self-professed 'anarcho-capitalist' David Friedman. In 1979, Friedman Jr. published an article entitled 'Private Creation and Enforcement of Law: A Historical Case'. The historical case in question is medieval Iceland, when law was not upheld by a state, but by individuals: "Medieval Icelandic institutions [...] might almost have been invented by a mad economist to test the lengths to which market systems could supplant government in its most fundamental functions," wrote the young Friedman. In such a society, he goes on, seats in parliament are a commodity and justice is upheld by the threat of thralldom as punishment for any offence. The Old Norse term 'thralldom' is a bit of an obscurity in modern English. Its modern Icelandic variant – Þrældómur – is transparent enough; it just means slavery.

In 1979, the Locomotive group invited David Friedman to Iceland for a seminar about his thesis on the benefits of slavery. The lecture was then translated by the future Viking executive Hreinn Loftsson and published in the Locomotive's magazine, *Freedom* [Frelsid].

LIFE IN DEBT

Iceland's three publicly owned banks were privatized in the early 2000's and the republic thrown into the deal, as mortgage. This mortgage was considered solid, the rising (now 18%) local interest rates luring, and the banks accumulated enormous assets. The banks grew ten times bigger than Iceland's economy. When international bankers started having doubts, the Icelanders reached for European private savings with 'ingenious' schemes, as Sigurjón Árnason, the manager of Landsbanki bank, called their Icesave offer: "The only thing I have to do is look each day and see how much money came in," he says, laughing, in a 2006 interview, "picks up the phone and a moment later says: '50 million pounds came in, just last Friday!'" Our beloved Vikings took the money and ran, and left the Icelandic state with a foreign debt of € 20 billion. Divided between the country's 300 thousand inhabitants, that is € 70 thousand per person.

Icelanders, however, are already familiar with debt. Home ownership is public policy, sinking most people in debt in their early 20's. Before

turning 30, most have taken student loans, a real-estate loan, a 'car-loan', travelled on VISA, and raised a baby on overdraft. Since the country has its own currency, the Króna (ISK), there isn't much difference between this system of debt and so-called 'truck systems', where a labourer buys goods from the company he works for. His work and his consumption are noted in a single book of debit and credit, while the worker sees little or no 'real' money. Young people took their parents' advice and borrowed up to 100% of the heavily inflated, London-priced real estate. Now many of them are stuck. The real estate market has now collapsed, making the highly leveraged apartments impossible to sell. Since the loans are linked to the local retail price index, in times of inflation the homeowners' debt grows: a young woman who borrowed 24 million ISK to buy an apartment five years ago, and has duly paid her rising monthly payments since, now owes the bank 30 million ISK for that same loan. The technical term for this is 'price-insurance' but colloquially it is known as 'the Hell-machine'. When you travel to Iceland, the Martian landscapes between the airport and Reykjavík may look a lot like lava, but don't be fooled: it's hardened debt.

'THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS NON-FICTION'

Most of the country's citizens live in debt but precise statistics are hard to find. Thatcher's dictum 'There is no such thing as society' was taken very seriously by policy makers under Oddsson's rule, and institutes that had the role of providing social data were disciplined and silenced, or simply shut down. When the National Economic Institute repeatedly published unsuitable information, Oddsson passed law through the Parliament to abolish the institute. That was in the late 1990's. He then redirected the institute's role to the Central Bank and years later appointed himself as Central Bank manager. This is why key figures, such as the international Gini index, meant to measure equality of wealth distribution, do not exist for Iceland.

Our beloved Vikings took the money and ran, and left the Icelandic state with a foreign debt of € 20 billion. Divided between the country's 300 thousand inhabitants, that is € 70 thousand per person.

For a few years, from mass privatization in the early 2000's until October 2008, Reykjavík cafés would present you with laid-back high school students chatting mainly about currency rates and the benefits of short-selling. But this small linguistic community seems to uphold only one line of thought at a time. Non-financial vocabularies were left to wither. 'The ever-present danger of perishing would not permit of a language restricted to gesture,' said Rousseau on the origin of language in the North: 'And, the first words among them were not love me, but help me.' Admittedly, there is no Icelandic word for 'gesture', which helps explain awkward moments in foreign relations. The local term for 'hegemony' [forræði] also covers 'administration' and 'child custody'. The recently coined translation for 'structure' [formgerð] still feels forced. This conceptual lack is supported by official linguistic policies, which have aimed at 'purification' since the 19th century. When dis-

cussing politics, people take refuge in metaphors of fishing and farming. On BBC's *Hard Talk* ex-PM Geir Haarde repeated the prevalent meteorological analysis of last autumn's events: "We were in the middle of a hurricane. A global financial hurricane. Our banking system and the resources of our government were not big enough to withstand the wind. That came from that hurricane." Ask not which way the wind blows – it blows at thee.

All media in the country, state-run or private, is edited by members of the Independence party. Media policy has been in line with party policy, the most crucial element of which is optimism. Davíð Oddsson, who started his career as a radio entertainer, is also a published author of short stories and poetry. In 1983, *Freedom* magazine printed Oddsson's admiring article about poet Tómas Guðmundsson where he compares the poet with Winston Churchill, in terms of their unwavering optimism. In the recession of 1933, Guðmundsson published a popular collection of romantic poetry about Reykjavík, entitled *Beautiful World*. 'It can be assumed,' writes Oddsson, 'that to many this question must have sounded peculiar, whether they did not find the world beautiful. But Guðmundsson did not ask. He announced this to his nation.'

The poetic announcement sheds light on Oddsson's political theory and policymaking, as well as a peculiar sort of journalism. As national dogma, this optimism verges on the totalitarian. In October 2008, when 'the perfect storm' set in, as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) called it, that is when all of Iceland's banks were bailed out from bankruptcy by the state, the newspapers were busy doing other things. *Morgunblaðið*, which originated as the Independence Party's own organ, ran the front-page headline 'The intrinsic power of our Nation' underneath a photograph of a waterfall (Sep 27). 'What will 'our girls' do?' the front page then asked its readers (Sep 28) referring to female soccer. When the events could no longer be evaded, editors bypassed the news and went straight to problem-solving: 'Want to strengthen the banks' (Sep 29) – and whitewashing: 'It was unavoidable' (Sep 30). A day later 'Want to honour equality' is accompanied by 'We know as little as the public'. October 3, *Morgunblaðið* scoops: 'Economic uncertainty' – oh, no! – but helps the country heal for the next few days: 'Only to a safe haven', 'Good conversation is good fortune' and 'The public's savings are safe' (Oct 6). These are the actual main front-page headlines running while two of the country's three banks were nationalized – to the world's attention. The third nationalization did make it to the front page, as: 'Kaupþing bank admits defeat' (Oct 9). Smaller catastrophes, which abounded, received no mention. In a radically capitalist state, negativity is too risky, true words too dear. This is media as a police force, doing crowd-control, with a poetic touch. 'There is nothing to see here, move away,' these front pages say, while dispersing the crowds.

MOTHERLESS ICELAND

Yet another term non-existent in Icelandic is 'strategy'. During 'the blessed war', as older people fondly remember World War II, Iceland began to leave pre-industrial poverty behind: this spot in the Atlantic was strategically important and so was its fish. In 1944, Iceland the colony declared independence from Denmark's modest empire and became Iceland the Republic. This proudly independent country was however already occupied by US forces, and would be until 2006, when the Bush administration found some better things to do with the two remaining fighter-jets. While the US dollar is supported by 300 million citizens, industry and military intervention, the Icelandic Króna is used by 300 thousand people, whose main export remains cod. Disillusion hit mere days before the banks collapsed: On September 24th 2008, the US Federal Reserve announced it would make currency exchange deals with the Central banks in Sweden, Norway and Denmark, to support them through the global recession – but not Iceland. As the Nordic

countries like to see themselves as one community, this signal was unambiguous: sink, Iceland, sink.

And sink it did. The country's first response was to take offence, and in an episode that reveals a sublime combination of the cartoonish and the Shakespearean, Davíð Oddsson announced that Russia would lend Iceland all the money it needed. Russia did not agree – and instant-mix articles about the deep ties and common history of the two countries stopped appearing as suddenly as they had commenced. Iceland was falling, but in the manner of a cartoon character who runs off a cliff and then stops in midair: it's easy enough to stand on nothing, as long as you don't look down and realise. Sheer optimism may hold you for a breathless moment – then you fall.

REVOLUTION

The original version of this article, published in Italy's *Il Manifesto* October 2008, concluded that these events were 'already revolutionary in measure'. The editors of *The London Review of Books* edited the revolution thing out before publishing it in November. I found that very reasonable: revolutions are rare. The term should be used sparingly.

Then, every Saturday, ever growing thousands of people came together for protest in the main square of Reykjavík, united on very clear demands. For the last twenty years, Icelanders have been very reluctant protestors – and to begin with most felt hesitant to support such actions as hurling eggs at parliament. As daring activists waged further and further – with symbolic action, such as raising a discount supermarket's flag on parliament but also direct action such as carrying a bank manager out of her bank – and as these actions started showing success, while politicians refused to utter a word of apology, let alone resign, support for the protest became as close to unanimous as can be expected. On the 21st of January, police used tear-gas for the first time in Reykjavík since people demonstrated against Iceland joining NATO in 1949. When polled the day after, 70% of the country's population declared their support of the protest actions. A people, so long fenced-in with optimis-





tic silence, learned to show anger, resentment and shout.

Let's go back a day: On the 20th of January 2009, Parliament intended to resume its activities after a vacation seen by some as ludicrously long. A call for action was voiced: let's make noises! A few hundred showed up in front of parliament before noon. Before long, these few hundred hesitatingly and shyly crossed a police ribbon that had been strung around the building at a few metres distance. Once the ribbon was broken, the protestors surrounded the building, banging pots, pans and the windows of parliament. When police applied pepper spray, the demonstrators showed resolute solidarity, ready with diluted washing-up liquid and milk to take care of each other. A garden behind the house of parliament became a site of struggle, where the police arrested dozens, mostly underage teenagers. In a few hours police gained control of the garden, but protestors kept banging.

As dusk set in, the one or two hundred people who were still relentlessly banging whatever bangable items they had brought that morning, witnessed something bewildering: the action was not fading. On the contrary, new streams and flocks of people appeared. In a few hours, after the evening news, the hundreds turned to thousands and the incessant tribal beat was accompanied by a bonfire in the square in front of parliament. The fire lasted for hours, but grew to most splendid heights when the City's own Christmas tree was brought down and carried on to the fire. And as it turned out, this is one way to off a government: the noise continued and they were gone in a week.

This is revolution. It is a revolution of mindset, born of deep anger, resentment and a categorical demand for justice. But this is also a good-old "The King is Dead! Long Live the King!" factual sort of revolution, where the public throws off the burden of unbearably bad rulers and demands new ones. A constitutional convention is underway, to meet basic demands, such as a separation of government, parliament and the courts. In a supposed republic where citizens still tend to refer to themselves as subjects, this is, in some ways, 1789. In or-

der to undermine the protestors' own achievement, and to postpone the obvious hard question: what now, then? – both the protest movement and its opponents have cute-ified the happening by naming it 'the cutlery revolution' [búsáhaldbyltingin]. And the newspapers, of course, acknowledge no such thing as revolution. The event, as event, is a priori excluded from their agenda. The day after the government was toppled, their headlines ran: 'Left-wing government seems likely'.

"The only thing I have to do is look each day and see how much money came in," he says, laughing, in a 2006 interview, "picks up the phone and a moment later says: '50 million pounds came in, just last Friday!'".

LESSONS FROM THE ICELANDIC VOYAGE

Neoliberal Iceland was run as a secret conspiracy worthy of a James Bond screenplay: it was exchanged for gambling money in a plot involving Russian oligarchs, offshore accounts in the Caribbean, and luxury yachts no less kitschy than your average dictators' – not to mention Elton John, Tina Turner and Duran Duran entertaining in private parties, and a lot of cocaine. Or so they say. Rumours abound, but no details, no facts: no single money transaction has been publicly verified. In Iceland, no businessperson, politician or civil servant has

been charged with any crime.


The first revolutionary stroke in Iceland's history re-established the possibility of meaning. Just that. Then everything is left unsaid and undone. How far back do the lies reach? Was Iceland rigged up to feed the US army? It may not be much harder to forge a national identity than decorating a Pizza Hut: one Nobel Prize here, Viking myths there, put a 'The world's oldest democracy'-plaque on the wall

Camouflaged in elegant white, we thought that we had passed through as Europeans. As long as we'd keep proper distance from the Inuit and always correct those who think we live in snow houses, we hoped that no one would notice. Will they now despise us? During the self-professed 'good years', a lot of people left Iceland. In 2007, some 60 thousand Icelandic citizens permanently resided elsewhere, 20% of its inhabitants. Now Icelanders have suddenly become Europe's cheapest workforce. We all know how this works – Norwegian worker rentals have already set up shop in the city hall, recruiting from those already unemployed. Those who were not in on any scam and gained nothing from Iceland's rise and fall, ask: Will we be treated like we treated our immigrants? Or worse? No, we are not numerous enough, someone answers. They won't notice.

'Ninth,' President Grímsson went on in his London address on Icelandic success, 'is the importance of personal reputation. This is partly rooted in the medieval Edda poems, which emphasise that our wealth might wither away but our reputation will stay with us forever. Every Icelandic entrepreneur knows that success or failure will reflect not only on his or her own reputation but also on the reputation of the nation. They therefore see themselves as representatives of a proud people and know that their performance will determine their reputation for decades or centuries to come.' Grímsson forgot to mention the most prominent advice in the Edda-poems: 'The ignorant booby had best be silent / When he moves among other men / No one will know what a nit-wit he is / Until he begins to talk.' (Verse 27 in W.H. Auden's transla-

tion.) Grímsson evaded the subject of thralldom altogether.

It's got geothermal heating, so at least no one will freeze to death', wrote Time Magazine about Iceland's prospects in October 2008. According to rumours from more experienced third-world countries, the IMF might beg to differ. We have every reason to fear that they and other representatives of global market interests will want to use this opportunity for a full-scale Friedmanite Shock Doctrine. Already in early October, right-wing forces tried to create consensus on the dogmatic "Now nothing can be holy", i.e. now is the time for environmentalists, feminists and socialists to shut up and let business do its business. Venture capitalists have made bids at the state's total real estate.

It's Don Corleone's world, full of 'offers they can't refuse'. We know little about the IMF's agreement with Icelandic authorities, only that they promised each other to suspend the full force of the collapse until 2010. It's a gluey sort of Apocalypse. Eight thousand of the country's 300 thousand inhabitants are currently studying business and finance, acting as if nothing happened. Everyone still acts as if money has a function and basically every trick in the hysteric's toolbox is currently applied to hide the fact that there is no way back. Tomorrow may be capitalist, but tomorrow's capitalism would be a dystopian remix of Fukuyama's universe, without any pretences towards freedom. In a silent act of minimal decency, local right-wing ideologues have stopped uttering the word. For the next year or two, our brutally real choice will continue to be revealed: between capitalismo puro, capitalism as mere, brutal fact and – through a thick layer of ridicule, this word still demands its way out as the only fitting one – revolution. 

OPINION

I'm Not Stupid!

BY INGIBJÖRG RÓSA BJÖRNSDÓTTIR

You gotta love us Icelanders. We take everything to the extreme. Two of our girls were voted Miss World in the 80s and we decided that ALL our women were the world's most beautiful. One Icelandic guy repeatedly won the title of The World's Strongest Man, and we assume our men are the strongest of all. A few people started behaving like they were the astronomically wealthy aristocratic class that Iceland had always lacked, and the rest of the nation bought into the idea that the nation's economy was booming like never before.

A few not-so-good men managed to ruin the banking system, almost bankrupting the entire nation and staining our reputation as content hard-working, honest, tax-payers... and now we can hardly find words powerful enough to describe our self-deprecation. We're humiliated and we blame ourselves for all helping to blow up this bubble that has now burst. Bloggers seem to be competing in who-can-use-the-nastiest-language when describing how utterly stupid we are: myopic, stupid, naive, stupid, immature, stupid, overly-confident, stupidly optimistic, stupid and irrational. And stupid.


I guess it's an understandable psychological reaction to the trauma of watching your country's economy crumble to dust. We blame ourselves for not being able to prevent it. But enough is enough. I refuse to kick myself over things I had nothing to do with. I don't work in the finance sector; I hardly understand the stock market news. And why should I? Only a small portion of the nation works in finance and only a small percentage of them are to blame for taking these outrageous risks with the nation's money.

We vote for people whom we trust can take care of things for us, like ensuring that our economy is soundly run, so that we can get on with living our lives. If the government fails, as many of us think they did, we simply get a new one.

I don't want to spend my days and nights worrying whether the country is being run well or not; I trust others to do a much better job than I ever could.

And with trust comes the danger of disappointment. Yes, I'm disappointed with our former government and financial structure. Yes, I'm disappointed with how a few of my countrymen have behaved and I honestly believe they will get their just comeuppance. But I will not talk down to my nation or declare my own stupidity. I was a university student during the boom years. I was studying at the faculty of humanities, not economy.

I paid my taxes and debt, took student loans and worked my ass off to make ends meet. I used the bus or a bicycle to commute. Those three times I went abroad in the past decade, I bought the cheapest bulkhead seats on the longest milk-run flights. That's how I lead my life, I and the vast majority of the nation. I believed what I was told, that our banks were sturdy and our economy was sound. How could I have known better? What could I have done differently? So I refuse to join the bemoaning, self-deprecating choir of the Icelandic masochists. I will not mock my own nation; I will not agree with foreign journalists making fun of our misfortune; I will not take our bleak situation and make it worse by kicking myself. I have nothing to be ashamed of and I'M NOT STUPID!

We have much to be proud of. Those who can't see that and truly believe we are an island of idiots should just leave and find someplace more befitting their standards. Because that's not the spirit we need to get through these next few years. I'm tired of sarcasm and self-deprecation. Quit wallowing in shame and do something. 

OPINION



Denial and Ignorance

BY AFTAKA - PHOTO BY HÖRÐUR SVEINSSON

Not long ago, the word anarchism was almost meaningless in Icelandic. It hardly existed. But now it seems that it has received a seat in the language and better yet—it is getting more and wider understanding. The reason must be the growing movement of anarchists and their visibility during protests and actions concerning the economic collapse.

Many people's first reactions to new words and ideas are ignorance and denial, especially when the ideas challenge and defy the society's standards and traditions—when the "truth" is doubted. Anarchists state and argue that something is wrong with the current social structure. This causes disturbance that constantly expands when people realise that the anarchists are right... it is inconvenient having to change the "truth".

One way to ignore this disturbance, not updating one's mind and adapting to new and changed ideas, is to pretend that these ideas don't exist. Another way is to run them down, remove all ideals and ideologies.

The February issue of Grapevine included an interview with police officers who took part in the police actions during the January revolt. Talking about the more radical part of the protesters, a police officer titled 'Senior Policeman' says: "It all starts with a group that connects itself with anarchism, although I don't believe there is much behind that." He continues and says that by looking at the group of anarchists he can't imagine that they are badly situated financially and adds that he would have liked to see more people in his age group at the protests, indebted people who have families to support.

Wait a moment; there is something wrong here: (1) How can he, by looking over a crowd, see if people have financial problems or not? (2) How does he know that anarchists don't have families to support? (3) Not being indebted is a sign of rationalism and lack of participation in the consumerism that characterised a majority of the Icelandic nation during last years and which sucked out critical thinking and people's desire of autonomy. (4) Not being indebted doesn't take away one's freedom to resist against a corrupt and incompetent government (not meaning people's constitutional "right" to protest but every living being's unwritten right to defend itself). (5) Not nearly everybody is protesting against the crisis and asking for new period of prosperity. No! Some people always saw (and still see) through the so-called prosperity and still see the class divisions, injustice and corruption that the prosperity period created and sustained. These peo-


ple protest and fight against capitalism, not the crisis!

The police officer's words mark the narrow mindsets and lack of ideals that last years' social situation lead to. The sentence here above – "although I don't believe there is much behind that" – is a schoolbook example of denial and ignorance.

But these words are not only the police officers'. Anarchism is constantly dismissed like this—ignored before properly considered. That's a childish behaviour that shows the lack of will to learn and get to know things from a variety of perspectives; a lack of will to always have an open mind, challenge the "truth" and consider nothing as holy; a lack of will to improve society. It shows the success of authorities' silencing campaigns; how well they have managed to create a society of ideological stagnation, with the help of corporations, PR managers and advertisement agencies.

We could turn this around and state that in the society there is "a group that connects itself with capitalism, but there is not much behind that!" But this statement is wrong. Capitalism builds on the idea that an individual's freedom is to do business, buy and sell without authorities' interventions. It is based on greed, acceptance of class divisions, injustice, individuals' different values inside society and an unequal distribution of resources. It builds on oppression, exploitation, deprivation of freedom (yes, people's freedom is constantly deprived in the name of other's business freedom) violence and imprisonment.

Therefore it is impossible to deal with capitalism in this manner, as well as anarchism. No ideology, philosophy and form of organisation can be dealt with in this manner. But since anarchist ideas are new for many people and these ideas challenge the society's fundamental values, people repeatedly try to ignore them, hoping they will get lost and forgotten forever.

In the end, it wouldn't matter at all if 'Senior Policeman' would study anarchism and agree with some of its ideas. His statement would stay unchanged because it's a part of his job to state this to protect authorities and break down everything that threatens their position. A police officer would never accept the legitimacy of anarchist ideas. However, that does not change the fact that his words and the way he dismisses challenging ideas is exactly how authorities want the whole of society to behave. That is something that us anarchists fight against! 

OPINION

Does It Matter?

BY VALUR GUNNARSSON


In the film *Frost/Nixon*, former U.S. President Richard Nixon wonders if his legacy will be an entire generation of Americans losing faith in the political system. The fact that Nixon was forced to resign was itself proof that the system, in fact, worked. However, the shock of seeing the President exposed as corrupt led to people abandoning faith in the very system that at that point was proving that no one was above it.

We all know the story from there. Reagan, Bush, a brief Clintonian intermission, followed by even more Bush. All that is needed for evil to prosper, as the oft-quoted Burke once said, is for good men to do nothing. In the aftermath of Watergate, it seemed that good men took a collective step away from politics. For nearly 30 years between Carter and Obama, they were to do very little at all. Many even stopped voting, and the fewer people that took a stand, the better the Republicans did.

In many ways, Iceland now stands at a similar turning point to the one the US faced in the 1970's. Instead of Vietnam, we have the banking crisis. Instead of Watergate we have, well, the banking crisis. It seems that every evening, Icelanders are bombarded with still more news of corruption within both the private and public sectors. Small wonder that many consider the country to be hopelessly corrupt, even beyond help.

But saying that all politicians are the same is really saying that politics don't matter. They do matter; they matter a great deal. For those that would say that the Left-Greens are just as corrupt as other parties, the simple fact is that they have never been in government before, and, hence, have not been able to become corrupt to the same extent, if at all. Beating them with the same stick as a party that has excelled at corruption the past 18 years is as unfair as it is inaccurate.

Major changes in Iceland are needed, but these will not come overnight. By turning their backs on the system, by not voting at all or voting for parties with little hope of entering government, those that want the system to change the most will lead to it changing the least.

In fact, it is hard to see any fundamental differences between the platforms of the newly formed Citizen Movement and the present government. It is often those with the most in common who argue most with one another. In the recent University of Iceland student elections, the Anarchist Party Óskra asked people not to vote for any of the above, instead of the lefty Röskva. Many did not vote and the party the far right of the spectrum, Vaka, won. Hopefully this will not be a template for the elections this April. At the very least, politics are a question of choosing the lesser of two evils. When people forget this, the greater evil prevails. 

IN MANY WAYS, ICELAND NOW STANDS AT A SIMILAR TURNING POINT TO THE ONE THE US FACED IN THE 1970'S. INSTEAD OF VIETNAM, WE HAVE THE BANKING CRISIS. INSTEAD OF WATERGATE WE HAVE, WELL, THE BANKING CRISIS.



NORDIC HOUSE - KNOWLEDGE AND DESIGN

The Dill dining room is open

Mon – Wed 11.30 – 17.00
 Thu – Sat 11.30 – 17.00 and 19.00 – 22.00
 Sun 13.00 – 17.00

Norræna húsið / The Nordic House
 Sturlugata 5
 (at the Iceland University campus)
 Tel.: + 354 551 7030
www.nordice.is

NORRÆNA HÚSIÐ

Get straight to it



New generation
of leaders



The Independence Party has fought for the freedom to work and freedom of the individual, abolition of any kind of restraints, cooperation with other nations and other progressive matters. The Party stands for a dynamic and open economy with a strong welfare system.

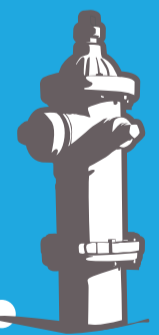


Present agenda: Create up to twenty thousand new jobs. Restore the current financial sector and ensure a functioning and efficient banking system that enables all individuals and firms access to necessary credit. No new taxes, no tax increases. Launch a new build-up in energy-demanding sectors.

Information on www.xd.is in English, Russian, Spanish, Serbian, Polish and Danish.

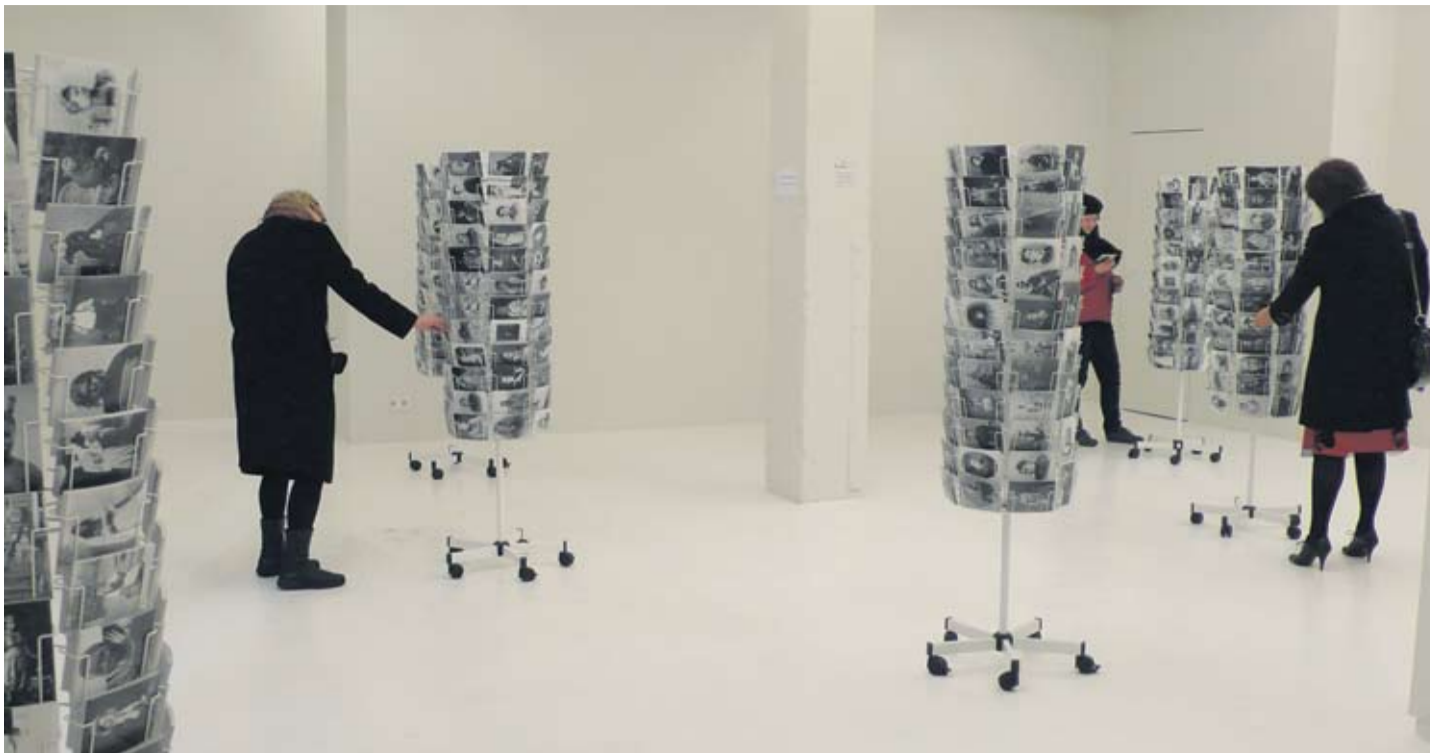


EXPECT
HANG
OVERS...



NASA

**THE BIGGEST CLUB IN
DOWNTOWN REYKJAVIK.
LIVE MUSIC EVERY WEEKEND.
WWW.NASA.IS**



101 Projects: Silenced

One last look at 101 Projects

A critical part of Iceland's society, the arts, is feeling the impact of the economic crisis, as businesses are losing sponsors and funding. One art space that has sadly fallen victim to this crisis is 101 Projects. 101 Projects is tucked away on Hverfisgata and has been presenting challenging and thought provoking art shows, under the recent curatorship of Birta Guðjónsdóttir. It has established a programme which instigates a more critical discourse in the arts here in Iceland, and is unfortunately just in the beginning stages.

A common thread between the artists Guðjónsdóttir has chosen is that most of them are not content with the now and want to change and improve society. Leaning towards the opposite side of the commercial art world and exhibiting international diverse artists, these shows are about art and the world, and how we see the world.

Since the space was turned into a project space from a gallery last year, three of the four shows have featured women artists. Even though it is a rare statistic in the global art world, it is less of an issue in the Icelandic art scene. Icelanders have a history of a feminist lineage: it is a country that allowed women to vote earlier than most nations, as well as having a female president in 1980, a female director of the National Gallery of Iceland in 1988, a female mayor of Reykjavík in 1994, and, now, a female Prime Minister; women artists certainly seem to have fair representation here.

It is noteworthy that this high percentage of strong women voices in an art space is disturbingly unusual outside Iceland, even in big cities like New York. For instance, the Museum of Modern Art in New York still only shows approximately 30% women artists. New York art critic Jerry Saltz has fre-

quently remarked on the under-representation of women artists in museums and galleries in his writing. The high percentage of women artists shown at 101 Projects is an example of how the space is progressive and significant in the context of the art world.

A CLOSER LOOK

In November 2008, 101 Projects exhibited the artist Mathilde ter Heijne. The stark white gallery was bare except for ten postcard stands on the floor.

The postcards displayed black and white photographs of random women spanning across time and regional maps. On the back of each postcard there was a brief biography about a specific woman, but not the one photographed. The bio emphasized how this woman contributed to society, whether as a leader, a fighter or a philanthropist.

The photograph created this personal connection with the story even though they are not related. Viewers in the gallery were welcome to take postcards with them. The process of looking, reading and taking a woman who was way ahead of her time and shaped our world today, was an empowering experience.

Most recently, 101 Projects has been exhibiting *The Last Silent Movie* by the monumental artist, Susan Hiller. Upon entering the stripped down space you have a sense that the work is emphasizing something missing. The space is cold and quiet, even though there is the sound coming from the speakers above. Voices from another time are intimately talking, whispering and singing to you in their endangered language, which may not exist today. The exhibition focuses on a video and sound piece, which is a projected black screen with Eng-

lish subtitles of the sound that you hear. There are twenty-four etchings of sound waves around the perimeter of the room with English translations. It is striking how the voices personally communicate with the viewer. Some share stories and some speak of injustice, which demonstrates that these languages are anything but silent. The body of work focuses on languages that are extinct or on the brink of no longer being practiced which is, as Birta sees it, especially relevant for Iceland, since the Icelandic language is such an old language and only spoken by around 320,000 in the world.

Susan Hiller is American born and has been living in the UK for the past 30 years. Even though under-recognised, she is an extremely accomplished artist and writer and has influenced many artists, such as Douglas Gordon and Ann Hamilton. As a studied anthropologist, inspired by death, memory, language, and perception, her work sits in between art and social practice and science. Hiller has demonstrated in *The Last Silent Movie*, as well as others such as *From the Freud Museum 1991-6*, that art can be about life and death, and how death can be lived.

As you read this, 101 Projects has been forced to close its doors. It is clear that short-term art spaces are common in Iceland, but it is disappointing and discouraging to witness the true potential of a space get cut short. As Susan Hiller revealed to us: when something is no longer here, that doesn't mean it is lost. Hopefully new art spaces will emerge to continue what 101 Projects has started and the existing galleries will not suffer the same fate. At times like these, creativity and critical thinking is what this country needs the most. 🇮🇸

**Icelandic art
makes me feel
nothing at all**

BY EIRÍKUR ÖRN NORDDAHL

They tell me that Iceland, and in particular Reykjavík, is too small an environment to foster a critical arts debate, since the feeling of being able to speak freely is a luxury given only through a certain remove, a certain distance which is not to be found in the Icelandic arts world (and moving abroad, I assure you, doesn't help much – unless you decide never to return). Sooner or later you're gonna share a table at a bar with the artist in question, and although the situation is more likely to turn out to be less violent and more strained, repressed and weird, it's still uncomfortable and religiously avoided by almost anyone that engages in criticism in Iceland.

And thus literary reviews have become a minimalist art form where the reader is more or less left to interpret what the reviewer thought of the book in question – leaving the option open whether he or she had any thoughts about it whatsoever. All poetry is so-and-so – and the few truly lauded seem to be lauded mostly for being old men who have begun to believe their own hype writing new books as if they were word for word imitations of their own best-of collections.

Icelandic art seems to be “mostly ok” and the spectrum of quality for Icelandic movies spans three-and-a-half to four stars – while the spectrum for music is a tad wider, it still shares the same sort of mentality: An utter fright of any concrete opinion.

Being “cruel” – or “open” or “honest” or what-you-wannacallit – is not going to get you any friends and we all know that without friends you're basically worthless. Dale Carnegie calls it “How to win friends and influence people” because the two tend to go together. And besides, you should do the work justice: judge it on its own merits. Does it achieve what it sets out to do? And by all means, ask not whether what it sets out to do makes any sense, if it's any fun or has any merit. Speak carefully, for you may later prove to have been (historically) wrong. As if discussing arts was a matter of being right or wrong.

Now let me state that being objective doesn't deprive you of your right to an opinion – and commenting on plausible/possible faults in a piece of work doesn't mean you hate the artist and all his or her kin. It doesn't even mean you hate the work in question. And yes, you're allowed to misread and misinterpret – just don't be cowardly. If you're not willing to risk misreading you're probably not reading at all.

Arts differ from, let's say, engineering. If you miscalculate the structure of a bridge it might crumble – and it means you were probably wrong. A book? A play? A film? The bridge of a song? – while it need not sit well with the artist you're still entitled to an opinion. And the artist, the artist's friends, the artist's mother, fans, other critics and culture enthusiasts are entitled to have opinions about your opinions – it doesn't mean you're wrong and they're right. It doesn't even mean you're right and they're wrong. It means that to some degree you disagree.

It's called a discussion, relax, get over it. 🇮🇸

🔍

SEARCH

New já.is

Hótel Ísafjörður

Silfurtorgi 2 - 400 Ísafirði

Phone **456 4111**

Fax **456 4767**

www.hotelisafjordur.is

Get vCard
Print

já
- er svarið

📞
118

📄
já.is

📖
Símaskráin

INFORMACJE DOTYCZĄCE WYBORÓW 25. KWIETNIA 2009

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS ON 25 APRIL 2009

» Kto może głosować?

Wybory powszechne do rządu odbywać się będą 25. kwietnia 2009. Jedynie osoby z obywatelstwem islandzkim mają prawo do głosowania i startowania w wyborach. Osoby te muszą mieć ukończone 18 lat i posiadać stałe zameldowanie na Islandii. Jednakże prawo do głosowania posiadają także osoby, które opóściły Islandię w przeciągu ostatnich ośmiu lat oraz które się o to prawo ubiegały.

» Czy trzeba zgłosić swoją chęć do głosowania wcześniej?

Nie, będąc obywatelem Islandii oznacza automatycznie wpisanie do bazy danych w danym okręgu wyborczym, czyli tam, gdzie znajduje się stałe zameldowanie. Głosujący ma prawo oddać głos tylko i wyłącznie w tym okręgu wyborczym. Wpis do bazy danych oparty jest na informacjach zawartych w rejestrze danych osobowych [Þjóðskrá]. Dlatego też nie trzeba specjalnie zapisywać się na głosowanie, jak jest to przyjęte w niektórych krajach. Jeśli głosujący nie znajduje się na liście głosujących, oznacza to, iż nie ma prawa do oddania głosu. Osoby zmieniające stałe miejsce zamieszkania mają obowiązek poinformować o tej zmianie do 28. marca 2009 aby uzyskać prawo do głosowania w nowym okręgu wyborczym. Formularz o zmianie stałego miejsca zamieszkania można uzyskać w urzędzie miasta, na policji oraz w Þjóðskrá. Prawo do głosu będzie wówczas przyznane nie później niż 17. kwietnia 2009.

» Jak można głosować?

Są dwa sposoby. Większość osób decyduje się na oddanie głosu w komitetach wyborczych 25. kwietnia 2009. Zarząd okręgu wyborczego informuje wcześniej w którym Komitecie wyborczym oraz w jakich godzinach można oddać swój głos. Zazwyczaj komitety mieszczą się w szkołach podstawowych. Jeśli głosujący nie może oddać głosu 25. kwietnia 2009, np. dlatego, że znajdował się w tym czasie za granicą, wtedy możliwe jest wcześniejsze oddanie głosu w biurze naczelnika okręgu [sýslumaður] poprzez wystosowanie prośby o wcześniejsze prawo głosu. Możliwe jest również oddanie głosu w ambasadach Islandii za granicą oraz w konsulatach. Wcześniejsze głosowanie będzie miało miejsce 14. marca 2009. Na kuponie do głosowania nie będzie tekstu więc będzie trzeba napisać nazwisko kandydata bądź też postawić pieczęć.

» Jak oddajemy głos?

Wszystko jest objęte tajemnicą więc nie będzie ujawnione na kogo głosujący oddał głos. Do oddania głosu potrzebny będzie dowód tożsamości, np. prawo jazdy bądź karta płatnicza. Sprawdzane jest czy dana osoba znajduje się na liście głosujących. Jeśli tak, otrzymuje ona formularz, z którym powinna udać się do pomieszczenia do głosowania. Głosowanie polega na zaznaczeniu krzyżykiem kandydata, na którego chcemy oddać głos. Jeśli nie postawimy krzyżyka, bądź też zostanie zaznaczonych kilku kandydatów, oznaczać to będzie nieważność głosu. Formularz należy złożyć na pół i wrzucić do urny wyborczej. Nasz głos powinien znajdować się po wewnętrznej stronie, tak, aby nikt inny nie mógł go zobaczyć. Wybory zakończą się w sobotę 25 kwietnia o godzinie 22.00. Wyniki głosowania będą podane późno w nocy bądź też następnego dnia rano, jeśli będzie odpowiednia frekwencja. Nieważne formularze będą policzone osobno a ich liczba zostanie ujawniona z resztą głosów.

Who may vote?

General elections to Parliament [Alþingi] are on 25 April 2009. Only Icelandic citizens may vote or run for election. They must be 18 years of age and be legally residing in Iceland. Those who have moved away from Iceland retain the right to vote for eight years and even longer if they apply for an extension.

Do voters have to register?

No, Icelandic citizens are automatically registered on a list of eligible voters in the municipality where they are legally residing. They may only vote in that municipality. Information on eligible voters comes from the National Registry [Þjóðskrá], so it is not necessary to register like in some countries. Persons not on the list may not vote. Those who have moved from one municipality to another must be sure and change their legal address before 28 March. Applications to change your legal address may be found at all local government offices, at police stations and at the National Registry [Þjóðskrá]. The list of eligible voters becomes available to the public not later than 17 April 2009.

Where is it possible to vote?

It is possible to vote at selected polling stations on 25 April. All towns and municipalities advertise these locations and opening times of these polling stations. The general rule is that voting takes place in schools.

Voters who can not vote at polling stations on 25 April, for instance those who are abroad on Election Day, may request an absentee ballot. These are issued by the district magistrate [sýslumaður]. It is also possible to vote in Iceland embassies and with many Icelandic consulates abroad. Absentee ballot voting begins on 14 March 2009. These ballots are blank and voters must write in the letter of the party they wish to vote for.

How do I vote?

Voting is private and no one is able to see how people vote. It is necessary to have an id with a picture in order to vote. If your name is on the list you will receive a ballot and be shown into a voting booth. There voters make their choices in private by making a cross in front of their choice. It is important not to make any other marks on the ballot or it will be invalid. After marking your choices, fold the ballot marked side in and place it in the ballot box. It is forbidden to show others how you voted.

Voting is over on the evening of 25 April. Most polling stations close at 10pm at which time all ballots are counted and the results are announced in the media. Empty ballots and those incorrectly marked are also counted.

See also the website www.kosning.is.



MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS

by the sea
and a delicious lobster
at Fjörubordid in Stokkseyri



At the seashore the giant lobster makes appointments with mermaids and landlubbers. He waves his large claws, attracting those desiring to be in the company of starfish and lumpfish.



Fjörubordid
and the sea said ok...



< Only 45 minutes drive from Reykjavik

Eyrarbraut 3 · 825 Stokkseyri · Iceland · tel. +354-483 1550
fax. +354-483 1545 · info@fjorubordid.is · www.fjorubordid.is

ITALIAN CUISINE
IN REYKJAVÍK

PISA

RISTORANTE · GUESTHOUSE

LÆKJARGATA 6 B TEL. 00354-5787200
www.pisa.is pisa@pisa.is

we bring the O to sushi



Osushi Lækjargata 2a Og Borgartún 29 | Sími : 5610562

Café Loki Lokastíg 28
in front of Hallgrímskirkja



Icelandic plate

Enjoy some solid homemade Icelandic food.

Café Press SECOND HAND COFFEE

Reviewed by Sari Peltonen — Photo by Jói Kjartans

Like any great drug in history, coffee thoroughly entwines itself in the addict's life. It is not just about the act of drinking but the entire culture around it. Coffee pries one's eyes open in the morning, offers an excuse to meet a friend and chat for hours, and provides legal permission to laze around at work.

At Kaffi Port, of the local flea market Kolaportið, coffee becomes your entrance ticket to observe a clientele that is far removed from the hip 101 coffee houses on Laugavegur. For almost 20 years, Port has served out classics from the local coffee table to suburbanite families, granddads with shopping bags full of harðfiskur and boys with glowing plastic lightsabres.

For the longest time I barely noticed the place. And now that I finally have, I cannot stop looking: plastic flowers and palm trees, neon lights, golden angel fig-

ures and an art-for-sale-exhibition showcasing images of burning twin towers, racing cars and fetish figures...

In addition to all of this, Port offers another warmly welcomed boon: a momentary respite from the barging and bashing of the crowded flea market aisles, a cultural treat and local specialty that makes mince out of untrained Sunday walkers. You need not fight shopaholic Vikings to enjoy a sweet moment and a serving of Emmess ice cream. Here, everyone has a place, a chair and a table.

To be honest, I wouldn't advise you to come to Kaffi Port for a great paper mug of coffee. But I do warmly recommend it as an antidote to all the cool and as a safe haven to heal your bruises and gather your spirits before facing the enemy again.

Where:

Kaffi Port in Kolaportið flea market, open in weekends from 11 to 17. Tryggvagata 19.

Recommended:

Black coffee and a kleina, 400 ISK.

+ 1 E5



Food & Drink | Venue finder

3 Frakkar
Baldursgata 14 | **F9**
A seriously Icelandic atmosphere and traditional Icelandic dishes prepared in the good old-fashioned way. RSVP and keep your ears pricked for wild whaling tales!

Aktu Taktu
Skúlugata 15 | **K8**
This drive-in destination in 101 Reykjavík is busy day and night and the burgers are especially tasty. The caramel shakes are a local favorite.

American Style
Tryggvagata 26 | **E5**
With a soft bun and lots of veggies, you can settle into a booth and eat for hours. Big portions for authentic American dining.

Argentína Steak-house
Barónstígur | **18**
True to its name with tender steaks and flamingly vibrant South American décor. Generous portions, fine wine, liqueurs and cigars make an excellent choice in fine dining.

Austurlanda-hraðlestin
Hverfisgata 64A | **H7**
Though a bit expensive for take-away, it is well worth it for a spicy bite of this Indian cuisine. A few tables to the side for those who choose to dine in.

Á Næstu Grösom
Laugavegur 20B | **G7**
Regarded by many to be the best vegetarian place in town, "First Vegetarian" offers a healthy and tasty

menu of vegetarian and vegan dishes. Indian theme on Fridays a hit.

B5
Bankastræti 5 | **F6**
By day a chic little bistro with good food and a prime location for Laugavegur people watching—by night a stylish bar with a "whiskey room" and Manhattanesque clientele.

Basil & Lime
Klapparstíg 38 | **G7**
Basil & Lime located at Klapparstígur 38 serves authentic Italian cuisine and dishes. Fresh pasta made at location and an exquisite Tiramisu dessert make this one of the best Italian restaurants in Reykjavík.

Babalú
Skólavörðustígur 22A | **G8**
It's tough to miss café Babalú walking up Skólavörðustígur. A cozy place for coffee and cake, the well-worn, homey ambience makes it difficult to leave.

Balthazar
Austurstræti 1-3 | **D6/E6**
A hangout for older foreigners, Victor attracts a diverse crowd, both in age and origin, a rule that extends to the musicians that play there.

Bæjarins Beztu
Tryggvagata | **E6**
The oldest fast-food in Iceland, it is feasibly the best hot dog stand in Europe. Don't be intimidated by the perpetual line in front

— an absolute must and worth the wait.

Brons
Pósthússtræti 9 | **E6**
Called a bistro, but more a restaurant in quality, Brons is settled in the place of former popular Café Kaffibrennslan. Brons focuses on Mediterranean cuisine and is famous for serving dishes that are as large as they are delicious.

Café Cultura
Hverfisgata 18 | **G6**
Cultura is a café/bar with a party feel. The menu features all sorts of international dishes, alongside the staple salad and sandwich.

Café Loki
Lokastígur 28 | **G9**
With a splendid view of Hallgrímskirkja, Café Loki is the perfect place to take a load off your feet and enjoy some solid homemade Icelandic food.

Café Paris
Austurstræti 14 | **E6**
With an outdoor terrace, this café gets busy on sunny days. With a cosy interior, fine menu and attentive service, it makes a fine spot for evening dining as well.

Café Roma
Rauðarárstígur 8 | **J9**
Roma, an Italian deli and café, offers a variety of breads, soups as well as tempting desserts. For a good bargain, come at lunchtime for the specials.

Domo
Þingholtsstræti 5 | **F7**
The elegantly decorated Domo serves delicious French-Asian cuisine, excellent sushi and has a great wine list. A sure choice.

Einar Ben
Veltusundi | **E6**
The restaurant Einar Ben is named after one of Iceland's national heroes, the early 20th century poet and entrepreneur Einar Benediktsson, who once lived in the house where the restaurant is now located. In many ways, the restaurant Einar Ben pays homage to the historic relations coupled with the house and the person who lived there.

Eldsmíðjan
Bragagata 38A | **G9**
Totally satisfying oven-baked pizza with a wide choice of toppings—snails an unusual specialty. Well worth the cost. Order, take away or eat comfortably among the paintings.

Fiskmarkaðurinn
Aðalstræti 12 | **D6**
Run and co-owned by the national team of chefs, this establishment specializing in Japanese cuisine has everything planned to the last detail, ensuring a relaxing evening.

Geysir Bar/Bistro
Aðalstræti 2 | **D6**
Situated in the dignified Geysir Building at the corner of Vesturgata and Aðalstræti, this stylish bistro is always a good place to

grab a tasty bite for a reasonable price.

Garðurinn
Klappastígur 37 | **G7**
"Ecstasy's Heart" is a simple, friendly, family-run vegetarian restaurant on Klappastígur. Offers an ever-changing menu of specials and soup du jours, alongside a basic menu

Grái Kötturinn
Hverfisgata 16A | **G7**
Legendary for its early opening ours, the Gray Cat serves amazing breakfasts and coffee that packs a wallop. A splendid way to start you off on your day.

Grillhúsið
Tryggvagata 20 | **E5/E6**
With a menu of reasonably priced home-style food, Grillhúsið has satiated hungry regulars since 1994 with juicy burgers, sandwiches, steaks and fish dishes.

Habibi
Hafnarstræti 20 | **D5**
A reliable source of high quality shawarma and falafel. Important ingredient for successful living.

Hamborgarabúlla Tómasar ("Bullán")
Geirsgata 1 | **D5**
Considered by some to be the best real hamburger in Reykjavík, "Bullán" does serve some mysteriously delicious burgers, guaranteed to take the edge off any hangover.

Híolla Batar
Ingólfsborg | **D6**
The first sub sandwich

shop in Iceland, Híolla Batar has a large selection of creatively named sandwiches with equally imaginative contents. Good for an adventurous bite.

Homið
Hafnarstræti 15 | **E6**
Since 1979, this Italian restaurant has been a longtime Reykjavík staple. Famous for its pizza and stuffed calzones, it proudly offers an affordable menu of high-quality dishes.

Hótel Holt
Bergstaðarstræti 37 | **F7**
Housing Iceland's most renowned restaurant, The Gallery, an evening here is an unforgettable experience. Delicious French-inspired cuisine and fine wines await.

Humarhúsið
Ammtmanstígur 1 | **E7**
One of the oldest restaurants in the country, the Lobster House is known of course for its lobster and also its impressive cognac lounge. Fine intimate dining.

Hressó
Austurstræti 20 | **E6**
With a spacious neutral interior and a varied lunch menu, Hressó attracts no specific type of crowd. Tap beer and music makes a fair hangout on weekends.

Icelandic Fish & Chips
Tryggvagata 8 | **E5**
Not your average fish'n'chips joint, but a healthy restaurant

Food SALATBARINN

Reviewed by **Sari Peltonen**



One of the highpoints of my curly-haired, barbie-loving early existence was a cruise from my native Finland to Sweden. Back in 1985, a Viking Line ferry was pretty much the coolest thing I could think of. The luxury of Coke with a paper umbrella, the excitement of the ball pit and the main ceremony: buffet dinner.

The bar seemed to continue forever and the options felt endless: herring, salmon, salad... By the main course I was inevitably full, but still held out 'til dessert, with its chocolate mousse and fruit salad from the can.

Once I witnessed a man take an entire serving bowl of shrimps to the table next to us and eat straight from it. "Terrible manners" my mother condemned and soon the waitress came to fetch the shrimp bowl and scold the gentleman.

It was great – the amount of things on offer and the feeling of knowing you could have as much of anything you wanted. You were of course expected to eat until your bursting point.

The idea of Salatbarinn is by and large the same. For 1500 ISK you can stuff yourself full from a mind-blowing assortment of around 50 different salad stuffs, 2 types of soup, 3 hot dishes and home-baked bread, and drink soft drinks, water, juice and automat coffee as your heart desires.

I have read in my women's magazines that if you want to be thin, you must eat small portions, a concept these all-you-can-eat buffets hardly promote. Then again, I suppose it's better to stuff yourself with salad than most other things, if you're stuffingly inclined.

The offerings are potentially healthy, but it's not just rabbit food here. They've got hot vegetarian dishes and clear dairy-free soups on offer, but also meat and enough pasta salads to keep a big man going; indeed, I hear Salatbarinn is a pit stop for sportsmen to fuel up before practice.

Needless to say, I stayed true to my childhood and ate three plates of salad, leek soup and lamb curry before rolling to the bus stop.

Where:
Salatbarinn, Faxafen 9, Skeifan.
Open weekdays 11.30-20.30,
Sat 11.30-16.

What We Thing:
Healthier food for fuel

Have a wonderful night

Einar Ben is a beautiful restaurant located in the heart of Reykjavik, a great place to start of a wonderful night.. Our Chef Nicolas Vergnaud and Stefán Guðjónsson our Matr'D will make your visit an occasion to remember.

Come and try our new and exiting Menu, created by Chef Nicolas Vergnaud who was born and raised in the Provence region of France, renowned all over the world for it's food and vine .

For Reservations call 511 5090

Einar Ben

Veltusundi 1/Sími: 511 5090 www.einarben.is

2 E5

Food SÚPUBARINN

Reviewed by **Sari Peltonen**



Súpubarinn serves soups and vegetarian food in the Reykjavík Art Museum, facing an incredible view over the harbour towards Mt. Esja. The menu consists of a set list of soups and a weekly selection, with vegetarian dishes for each day. They also serve coffee and cake in the afternoon.

The friendly women of "Soup bar" served me Tex Mex soup (890 ISK) and half a grilled sandwich with mozzarella, tomato and mango chutney (500 ISK, together with soup, both for 1.290 ISK). My friend went for the same deal but chose the soup of the day, with lentils and tomato and a sandwich with asparagus, pineapple, red pepper and chilli sauce.

My Tex Mex looked pretty, sporting a pile of fresh vegetables on top. It tasted of chilli and all things healthy. I got tortilla chips too. My friend's lentil soup was

heartly and creamy, but not overtly so.

The 1-year-old Águst enjoyed his beautiful apple salad decorated with pecan nuts (usually served with the portion of the day, 1.290 ISK) almost as much as he enjoyed running around the spacious aisles throwing Duplos on the floor and seeing Érro's colourful paintings, of which "Odelscape" (1982) from the series "Around the world" was especially to his liking.

The sandwiches, made from home baked bread (yeast free), looked tasty and were just that. A good sandwich is hard to find in Reykjavík, a promised land of subs served with French fries and filled with ingredients that come in handy for a hangover but will blow a hole in your arteries on a normal weekday. The offerings from Súpubarinn are a positive improvement on that standard: "This is what I would get at home in most plac-

es," said my homesick Swedish lunch date.

Whilst I am not sure that Súpubarinn's 'workplace-canteen meets chain eatery from the mall' branding suits the most prestigious modern space in town, the place does contribute to the greater good, raising the standard of the lunch offering in the city centre by serving nice, healthy food at a fair price.

Where:
Súpubarinn, Hafnarhúsið,
the Reykjavik Art Museum.
Tryggvagata 17. Opening hours
Mon-Sun 10-17, Thu 10-22.

What We Thing:
Good lunch in a grand setting

"You haven't been in Iceland if you haven't been to us"

Don't miss it!

Viking feasts every night
- live entertainment

For booking and further information:
Tel.: +354 565-1213
www.vikingvillage.is
vikings@vikingvillage.is

Strandgata 55 Hafnarfjörður

VIKING village
Fjörúkráin

using only organic vegetables and quality fish products. The spiced skyr side a special treat.

Jómfrúin
Lækjargata 4 | **E6**
These days, good Smörrebröd can be an elusive delicacy. Lucky for us out in the colonies, it's alive and well at Jómfrúin with fresh eel imported specially from Denmark.

Kaffi Hjómaland
Laugavegur 21 | **G7**
This organic, free-trade café prides itself not only on great lunches and food but being a strong cultural center, hosting live music as well as lectures and poetry nights.

Kaffitár
Bankastræti 8 | **F6**
Kaffitár celebrates good coffee, and serves it in abundance, along with sweet treats and tasty if pricy special blends. Eat in or to go, a great way to enjoy your morning boost.

Kaffivagninn
Grandagarður 10 | **D1**
By the harbor, this lunch and coffee place is a gathering place for all sorts of tough folks. If you want traditional Icelandic food, a great place to see another side of Reykjavík.

Kebabhúsið
Austurstræti 2 | **E6**
The name says it all, really.

Kofi Tómasar Frænda
Laugavegur 2 | **F7**
Nestled in a basement location, Uncle Tom's Cabin has the feeling

of a back-alley London Café. On weekends it becomes a happening and diverse bar.

Krua Thai
Tryggvagata 14 | **D5**
We dare you to find a better meal for the same price anywhere else. Every dish is delicious. Just eat what looks best to you on their colorful menu.

La Primavera
Austurstræti 9 | **E6**
Though it sounds strange, La Primavera serves delicious traditional North Italian cuisine using only local produce. A startlingly tasty combination and a local favorite.

Lystin
Laugavegur 73 | **H7**
Specialising in Icelandic ingredients, cooked in a fusion of Asian and French cuisine.

Mokka
Skólavörðustígur 3A | **F7**
Operating since 1958, Mokka is the city center's oldest coffee joint and founder of Icelandic coffee culture. Regular art exhibits are always worth a look.

Nonnabiti
Hafnarstræti 9 | **E6**
"Nonni" is one of the more popular junk-food places in town, renowned for its greasy sandwiches and its unique Nonni-sauce. Open late for midnight cravings.

O Sushi
Lækjargata 2A | **E6**
Also called "The Train", O Sushi's most intriguing feature is a conveyor belt that runs around the entire

restaurant delivering a buffet of authentic sushi straight to your table.

Pisa
Lækjargötu 6b | **E6**
In a small-ish cellar by Lækjagata, you'll find newly opened Italian restaurant Pisa.

Pizza King
Hafnarstræti 18 | **E6**
This little place serves not only the cheapest but largest slices downtown. A local favorite, and open until 6 on Friday and Saturday nights.

Pizza Pronto
Vallarstræti 4 | **D6**
With a convenient location and late hours, a good place to snack in between bars. Three sizes of pizza with a good selection of toppings. A cheap, if unhealthy, choice.

Pizzaverksmiðjan
Lækjargötu 8 | **E6**
Some say, these guys are making the best Pizza in town. You will have to find out yourself. However they have the most original menu written on the wall and the Pesto Pizza is outstanding!

Prikið
Bankastræti 12 | **F6**
Part of the Reykjavík bar scene for decades, this café/bar has a fairly cheap menu and attracts a mix of students and old regulars. Mostly R&B and Hip-Hop on weekends.

Ráðhúskaffi | **D7**
Tjarmargata 11
Located in the City Hall with a great view of the pond, this café has a good selection of pastries and a good

place to relax. Regular art exhibits add to the aesthetic.

Santa Maria
Laugavegur 22A, | **F7**
Authentic Mexican food, directly from the stove of the owner's mother, who is an authentic Mexican. Served with a healthy distaste for anything TexMex. Also the best quality/price ratio in town with every dish under 1000 ISK.

Segafredo
Lækjartorg | **E6**
The Italian coffee chain makes its way to Lækjartorg Square, bringing strong espresso and Italian lunch snacks to grab on the way to work or just to enjoy on the spot.

Shalimar
Austurstræti 4 | **E6**
Shalimar sports the conceit of being the northernmost Indian restaurant in the world and has fine daily specials. We recommend the quite addictive chicken tikka masala.

Silfur
Pósthússtræti 11 | **E6**
Extravagant upscale restaurant situated in the Hotel Borg. The new French style cuisine is brought with professional and friendly service, you get a selection of finest wines and you can choose from an exotic and excellent menu - assuming that you can afford the not less extravagant prices.

Sjávarkjallarinn
Aðalstræti 2 | **D6**
Elegant Seafood Cellar focuses on gourmet seafood and tantaliz-

ing Asian-fusion dishes. Share the exotic menu, courses selected by the chef, with a friend for the most fun.

Sólón
Bankastræti 7a | **F6**
Truly a jack-of-all trades establishment. By night a decent restaurant, by day a café/bistro and on Friday and Saturday nights a nightclub. Art exhibitions on the walls to top it off.

Sushibarinn
Laugavegur 2 | **F7**
Deceptively ordinary Sushibarinn has recently become the talk of the town among Reykjavík sushi lovers, serving, in our opinion, the very best rolls in city.

Svarta Kaffi
Laugavegur 54 | **H8**
A cosy second floor café, their fame lies partly in their tasty Súpa í Brauði (Soup in Bread) and also in their romantic atmosphere. Good for a few early evening drinks.

Sægreifinn
Verbuð 8, Geirsgata | **D5**
Right next to the harbor, Sægreifinn fish shop is like none other in the country. With a diverse fish selection, exquisite lobster soup and good service, an absolute must-try.

Tapas
Vesturgata 3B | **D5**
For those with a bit of money and time to spare, Tapas serves course after course of delightful miniature dishes. Also serves tasty and unusually af-

fordable lobster.

Thorvaldsen
Austurstræti 8 | **E6**
Dress formally for this fancy spot, and come before 12 to avoid a long line. DJs play Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

Tíu Dropar
Laugavegur 27 | **G7**
An old-fashioned café with warm atmosphere and generous coffee refills. A thoroughly pleasant establishment.

Tívoli
Laugavegur 3 | **F7**
A stylish bistro with a wide variety of selections and positively charming atmosphere.

Vegamót
Vegamótastígur 4 | **G7**
Vegamót's kitchen is open until 22.00 daily and sports an appealing lunch menu. Come for a tasty brunch on weekends. If you like Óliver, try Vegamót and vice versa.

Við Tjörmina
Templarasund 3 | **E7**
A Reykjavík classic with menu exclusively of traditional cuisine, as frequented by tourists as it is by locals. A perfect opportunity to try Icelandic delicacies.

Vitabar
Bergþórugata 21 | **H9**
Really a bar, but best known for its hamburgers. Burger and fries for 500 one of the best deals in town, but Forget-Me-Not blue cheese and Garlic Extravaganza are also winners.

GENTLEMEN'S
SUPERIOR
CLOTHING

HERRAFATAVERZLUN

KORMÁKS & SKJALDAR

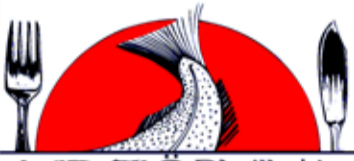
READY TO WEAR
SUITS - SHIRTS - COATS
JACKETS - SHOES
HATS - CAPS - CANES
NECKTIES - BOWTIES
ACCESSORIES

LAUGAVEGUR 59 BASEMENT



The REYKJAVÍK
GRAPEVINE

Charming seafood restaurant who offers the best in food and Wine



• VID TJÖRNINA
SEAFOOD RESTAURANT
Tel: 5518666 Templarasund 3, rvk.
VIDTIORNINA@SIMNET.IS

Now open
on Sundays!

sushibarinn

Supper 7-10 Reykjavik Tel: 552 6444

Open:
Mondays-Saturdays 11:30-22:30
Sundays 16:00-22:30

TRY OUR FANTASTIC
FIREBAKED ITALIAN
STYLE PIZZA



RESTAURANT
TAKE-AWAY
HOME-DELIVERY

CALL NOW
TEL: 577-7000

GRENSÁSVEGUR 10
HRAUNBÆR 121
BÆJARLIND 2

Useful Numbers

Emergency number: 112
Police: 444 1000
Medical help: 1770
Dental emergency: 575 0505
AA: 551 2010
Information: 118
Telegrams: 146

Tax Free Refund

Iceland Refund,
Aðalstræti 2, Tel: 564 6400
www.is.eurorefund.com

Opening Hours

Bars and clubs: According to regulations bars may be open until 01:00 on weekdays and 05:30 on weekends.

Shops: Mon-Fri 10-18, Sat 10-16, Sun closed. The shopping centres Kringlan and Smáralind as well as most supermarkets and tourist shops have longer opening hours.

Swimming pools: weekdays 06:30-22:30, weekends 08:00-20:30 although some may be open an hour longer.

The State owned ÁTVR liquor stores: Mon-Thu 11-18, Fri 11-19, Sat 11-18. Banks in the centre are open Mon-Fri 09-16.

Tourist Information

Icelandic Travel Market
Bankastræti 2, Tel: 522 4979,

Tourist Information Centre
Aðalstræti 2, Tel: 590 1550,
www.visitreykjavik.is

Both tourist infos offer information for tourists as well as providing internet access, booking service, a phone centre, money exchange service, tax refund and selling the Reykjavik Tourist Card. The Reykjavik Tourist Card gives admission to city busses, various museums, Reykjavik swimming pools, The Family Park and Reykjavik Zoo, The Culture House and the National and University Library.

Getting Around

Public Transport

The only public transport system in Reykjavik is the bus. Most busses run every 20 minutes and price per fare is 280 ISK for adults and 100 ISK for children. Complete route map at: www.bus.is. Tel: 540 2700
Busses run from 07:00-24:00 on weekdays and 10:00-24:00 on weekends

Taxi

Hreyfill-Bæjarleiðir,
Tel: 553 3500 or 588 5522

BSR, Tel: 561 0000

For disabled travellers:

Reykjavik Group Travel Service,
Brunastaðir 3, Tel: 587 8030,
www.randburg.com/is/reykjavik_group_travel_service/

Airlines

Air Iceland, Reykjavikurflugvöllur,
Tel: 570 3030, www.flugfelag.is

Air Vestmannaeyjar,
Tel: 481 3255, www.eyjaflug.is

Bus Terminal

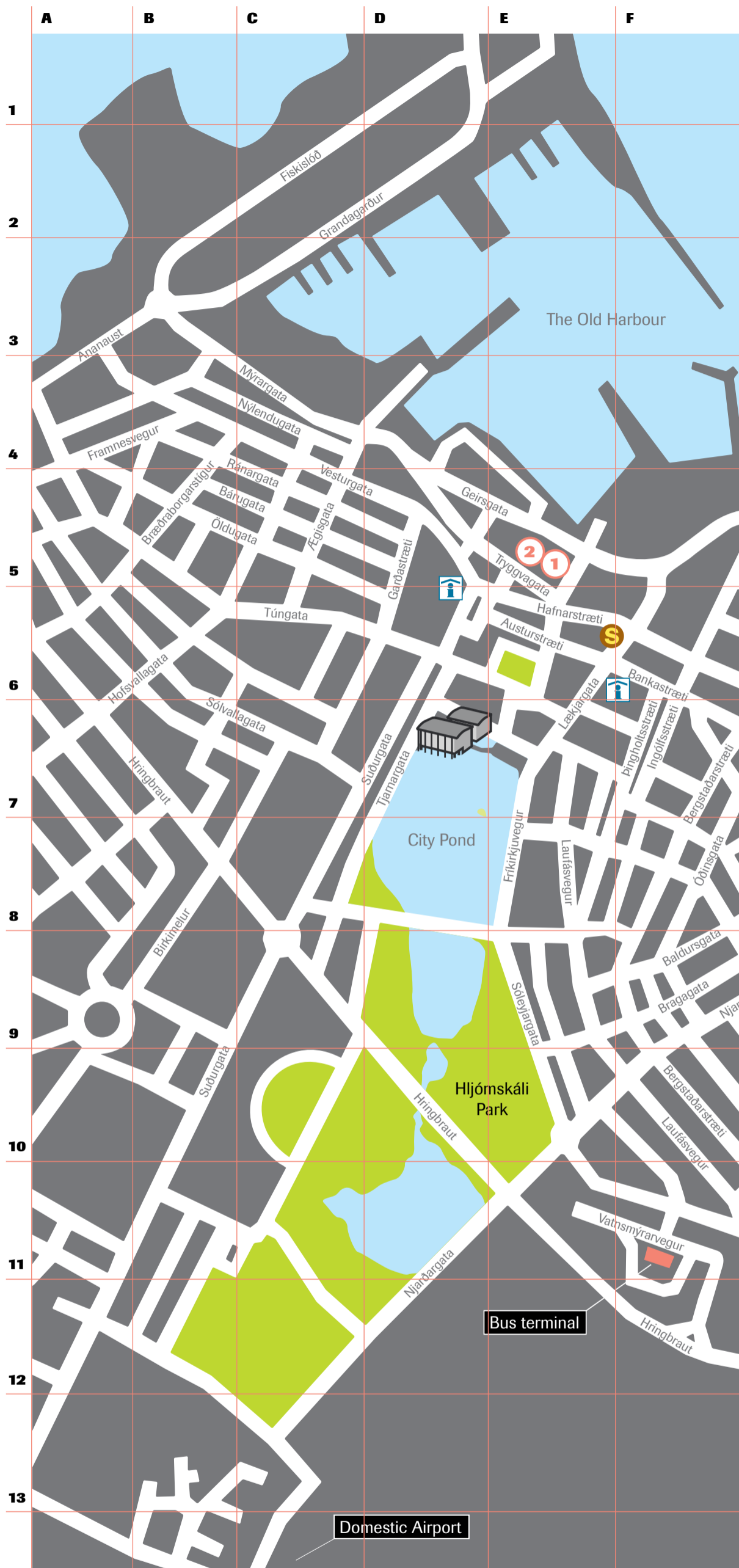
BSÍ, Vatnsmýrarvegur 10,
Tel: 562 1011, www.bsi.is

Flybus

Busses run daily from the BSÍ Bus Terminal to Keflavik International Airport in connection with all departing flights. Departures daily from 04:45 to 15:00/16:30 (every 15 - 60 minutes). For Flybus time schedule see: www.flybus.is

Samferda.net

A reasonable choice for the budget traveller. You log on to the website www.samferda.net, choose your destination and hopefully find a travel buddy to share the cost.





**Reykjavík
Center
City Map**

**What's this
thing?**



These things are pretty useful, check it out: Every venue that's mentioned in our info section gets a little marker like this, which will help you locate it on our map. Say you want to try out "Súpubarinn" after reading our review - no problem, sir, just look up the corresponding icon on the map!

THE ENGLISH PUB
Austurvöllur

Live Soccer
Live Music
Thursdays and weekends
Special Beer Offers
and our infamous
Wheel of Fortune

Fresh Icelandic specialities

Wide variety of international dishes

Abalstræti 2 / 101 Reykjavík / Tel: 5174300 / geysirbistrobar.is

Friendly family restaurant
in the City Center

A menu where everyone has a great variety to choose from

Tryggvagate 20 / Tel: 562-3456 / grillhusid.is

Italian cuisine
Fresh home made pasta

Basil & Lime
Ristorante | Bar

Klapparsígur 38, 101 Reykjavík, Tel: 555 3696, basil.is

www.lystin.is

**RESTAURANT
OF
THE YEAR
2009**

ORIGINAL INDIAN & PAKISTANI TASTE

SHALIMAR
INDIAN - PAKISTANI CUISINE

INDIAN LUNCH 1290.-
INDIAN DINNER 1490.-

AUSTURSTRÆTI 4, Tel. 551 0292 www.shalimar.is

Not as cute as you thought!!!



Out in
April

Sudden Weather Change |
**Stop! Handgrenade in the name of Crib
Death 'nderstand?**



Reykjavík! | **THE BLOOD**
★★★★★ / Morgunblaðið



Skakkamanage | **All Over The Face**
★★★★★ / Morgunblaðið



Morðingjarnir | **Áfram Ísland!**
★★★★★ / DV

www. **KIMI** records .net

Music THE REYKJAVÍK BLUES FESTIVAL



The Reykjavík blues festival returns, running from April 4th through to the 9th. The festival has become an annual event to look forward to and has grown in both size and quality each year. This year the three concerts featuring the festival's biggest acts will take place at the Hilton Reykjavík Nordica Hotel. Two legendary names will be paying Iceland a visit: Willie "Big Eyes" Smith and Pinetop Perkins, one of the last living first-generation blues legends. Both artists have played alongside some of the most famous artists of our times, including Muddy Waters, The Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan and Eric Clapton. Of course, all of Iceland's greatest blues artists will be playing, including KK, Mugison, Halldór Bragason and Devils Train to name a few. The festival will start out with an extravagant blues day in the center of Reykjavík to get the whole city into a bluesy mood. Café Rósenberg will act as the festival's base of operations and will host free shows daily throughout the festival. Tickets can be bought online at Midi.is and 7500ISK will get you access to the whole festival. Tickets for individual shows are also available.

What:
The Reykjavík Blues Festival
Where:
Reykjavík
When:
4th of April to the 9th of April
How much:
**7500ISK for the whole festival,
3900ISK for Pinetop Perkins
and 2900ISK for the other two
bigger acts.**

Music YOU WANT METAL. HERE BE METAL!

It is time to choose which Icelandic metal band will receive the honor of going to the annual Wacken Open Air metal festival in Wacken, Germany this July. Now in its 20th year, the festival draws a crowd of 70,000 annually, so the stakes are high for the bands competing. There will be only one band going on to Germany, and which one will be decided in a full-out metal battle between Diabolus, Severed Crotch, Perla, Gone Postal, Celestine, Beneath and Wistaria on Saturday, April 18 at Dillon Sportbar. To prepare for the battle, a warm-up will be held at the venue on the 17th, where bands Changer, Agent Fresco, Munnriður, In Siren and Carpe Noctem will perform. Tickets are only 1300ISK each night. If you want metal, you've got it!

What:
**Wacken Metal Battle -
A weekend of metal**
Where:
**Dillon Sportbar, Trönuhraun 10,
220 Hafnarfjörður**
When:
**Warmup: Fri. April 17 at 22:00
Battle: Sat. April 18 at 18:30**
How much:
1300ISK each night

Music GRAPEVINE GRASSROOTS #3

The Grapevine grassroots concert series continues to give aspiring young artists a chance to perform for a live audience. The concerts have proven to be an entertaining look into the swarming underground music scene in Reykjavík and have furthered the already good reputation of Hemmi and Valdi bar. This time the show will be dedicated to indie/electric type artists. 701, Mikael Lind and Magnoose will be playing. The concert will take place on Friday April 24th and, as always, Hemmi and Valdi will be selling large beers for the reasonable price of 550ISK.

Who:
**701, Mikael Lind and Mag-
noose.**
Where:
Hemmi og Valdi
When:
24th of April

3 G7

Art THE DARK TRUTH

On March 21st, Cinzia D'Ambrosi's opened her private photography exhibition in Gerðuberg. Titled Dark Truth, the exhibition sheds light on modern slavery: the horrible working conditions of Chinese coalmine workers. Coalmining is the foundation of the Chinese "economic wonder," as the country is the biggest coal producer in the world, but their mining conditions are nevertheless the worst in the world, costing thousands of lives each year. Cinzia D'Ambrosi is an independent press photographer, working primarily for volunteer-run organizations. Her photography touches topics such as violation of human rights, refugees and other tragic social situations. Her prior exhibits include "War widows of Kosovo," "Children in refugee camps in Tuzla, Bosnia" and "Italian Labourers." The exhibition is open 11 - 17 on weekdays, and 13- 16 on weekends through May 25th. An exhibition no Photography enthusiast can miss.

Where:
**Gerðuberg, Gerðubergi 3-5,
111 Reykjavík**
When:
February 28 - April 5

www.grapevine.is

Go to Grapevine.is for daily news, opinions,
event listings and exclusive articles.



Listings

If you would like to be included in the Grapevine listings, free of charge, contact the Grapevine by email at listings@grapevine.is.

Music & Entertainment

FRIDAY APRIL 3

- **800Bar (Selfoss)**
22:00 Papar host a ball. 2000ISK
- **B5**
22:00 DJ Simon Gorillafunk - Pop - Hip Hop - R'n'B - Oldies.
- **Café Paris**
22:00 Cocktail Night.
- **Celtic Cross**
01:00 Live Music.
- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **English Pub**
22:00 Live music
- **Hressó**
22:00 Band Dalton in concert followed by DJ Maggi.
- **Jacobsen**
22:00 DJ Hjalti and DJ Sexy Lazer.
- **Nasa**
22:00 Eivør Pálsdóttir in concert. 2500ISK. Tickets can be bought at midi.is
- **Prikið**
21:00 DJ Gauti starts the Happy Hour followed by DJ Danni Deluxe.
- **Q-Bar**
23:00 DJ Kári.
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 Halli Reynis troubadour in concert .
- **Sódóma Reykjavík**
21:00 Nokia on Ice music festival. Cosmic Call, Bárújárn, Sudden Weather Change and Mammút will be performing. .
- **Sólon**
23:00 Upstairs: DJ Áki Pain
- **Thorvaldsen**
23:00 Siggí Hlő will be hosting his famous Boogie Night at Thorvaldsen bar.

SATURDAY APRIL 4

- **B5**
22:00 Immo Schram - Pop - Hip Hop - R'n'B
- **Celtic Cross**
01:00 Live Music.
- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **English Pub**
22:00 Live Music.
- **Hressó**
22:00 Band Transkvintett in concert followed by DJ Maggi .
- **Jacobsen**
22:00 Resident DJ. DJ Yamaho and DJ Maggi Felix
- **Kaffibarinn**
23:45 DJ Sexy Lazer.
- **NASA**
23:00 Papar host a ball. 1800ISK
- **Prikið**
17:00 The Reykjavík Bluesfestival pays Prikið a visit.

- **Q-Bar**
23:00 K.G.B.
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 Reykjavík Blues Festival. Hrudn Ósk Árnadóttir, Park Project, The Lame Dudes and Danni Jón og Ingiberg.
- **Salurinn (Kópavogi)**
13:00 Germany - France. Teachers from the musical school of Kópavogur will be playing. 1500ISK
- **Salurinn (Kópavogi)**
17:00 Songs of the young in Tíbrá concert series: Matthías Nardeau plays. 2500ISK
- **Sódóma Reykjavík**
21:00 Smirnoff spring festival. 8-bit, MEGA(Steed Lord dj set) and Terror-disco will be handling the music .
- **Sólon**
23:00 Ground floor: DJ Party. Upstairs: DJ Áki Pain.
- **Thorvaldsen**
23:00 DJ JR.

SUNDAY APRIL 5

- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **Prikið**
22:00 Hangover cinema with popcorn on the house. Dazed and Confused will be shown.
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 Reykjavík Blues Festival. Hilmar Örn, Steindór Andersen, Guðmundur Pétursson, Birgir Baldursson, Björn Thoroddsen, Jón Rafssoon and many more.

MONDAY APRIL 6

- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 Reykjavík Blues Festival. Jazzy blues night. Kristjana Stefánsdóttir, Tómas R. Einarsson and Budget Jazzblues Band

TUESDAY APRIL 7

- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **Hilton Reykjavík Nordica**
20:00 Reykjavík Blues Festival. Pinetop Perkins a living legend in concert. Also playing are KK, Deitra Farr, Nordic All Star Blues Band and Devils Train. 3900ISK
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 Reykjavík Blues Festival. Bands Ferlegheit and Solla in concert
- **Sólon**
18:00 Champion League Live

WEDNESDAY APRIL 8

- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music
- **Hilton Reykjavík Nordica**
20:00 Reykjavík Blues Festival. Willie "Big Eyes" Smith in concert. Also Blúsmenn Andreu and Mugison. 2900ISK
- **Hressó**
22:00 Band Tepokamir followed by DJ Elli
- **Jacobsen**
22:00 DJ Árni E. and DJ Gísli Galdur
- **Kaffibarinn**
23:45 DJ Alfons X.

- **Prikið**
22:00 DJ Danni Boy, open til 5:30.
- **Q-Bar**
22:00 Pub Quiz.
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 Reykjavík Blues Festival. Finnsgöngu Blues Band, Angela Basombrio, Þjór Raddir and Arnar Guðmundsson
- **Sódóma Reykjavík**
21:00 Boys in a Band, Who Knew and Dynamo Fog in Concert. .
- **Sólon**
18:00 Champion League Live and DJ Áki Pain from 24 - 05

THURSDAY APRIL 9

- **B5**
22:00 DJ Simon Gorillafunk - Pop - Hip Hop - R'n'B - Oldies.
- **Café Cultura**
21:00 Electro band Anonymous in concert.
- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **English Pub**
22:00 Live Music.
- **Hilton Reykjavík Nordica**
20:00 Reykjavík Blues Festival. Vinir Dóra will be celebrating their 20 year anniversary. Also playing are Andrea, Ragnheiður Gröndal and Deitra Farr. 2900ISK
- **Hressó**
22:00 Troubadours from Dalton Böddi and Dabbi play.
- **Jacobsen**
22:00 Unicity night, Paul Moritz Dj's.
- **Prikið**
22:00 DJ Kári, open til 00:00.
- **Q-Bar**
22:00 DJ Úlfaldi.
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 Reykjavík Blues Festival. Bands Devils Train and Birting
- **Sódóma Reykjavík**
21:00 Kimi night #2. Kimono, The Bent Moustache and Sudden Weather Change in concert. Retro Stefsson will DJ in between. It will rule!

FRIDAY APRIL 10

- **B5**
22:00 DJ Simon Gorillafunk - Pop - Hip Hop - R'n'B - Oldies.
- **Café Cultura**
21:00 DJ Gísli Galdur.
- **Café Paris**
22:00 Cocktail Night.
- **Celtic Cross**
01:00 Live Music.
- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **English Pub**
22:00 Live Music.
- **Hressó**
24:00 DJ Elli.
- **Jacobsen**
22:00 Lunatech (NOR) also DJ's Stein Massiv, Kangoos and FKNHNDMS
- **Kaffibarinn**
23:45 DJ Gísli Galdur.
- **Prikið**
22:00 Everyone over 220cm drink free tonight. DJ Danni Deluxe plays til 5:30
- **Q-Bar**
22:00 DJ Manny.
- **Rósenberg**
00:00 Thin Jim and the Castaways in concert.

Music & Entertainment | Venue finder

Amsterdam
Hafnarstræti 5 | **E6**
Kaffi Amsterdam seems to have been around forever, though recently it's been reinvented as a live venue. Good music, cheap beer, and colorful characters to be found.

Apótek
Austurstræti 16 | **E5**
Sporting a chic and pristine interior with a healthy club atmosphere.

B5
Bankastræti 5 | **F6**
By day a chic little bistro with good food and a prime location for Laugavegur people watching | by night a stylish bar with a "whiskey room" and manhattanesque clientele.

Bar 11
Laugavegur 11 | **G6**
The sweatiest Rock joint on the northern hemisphere. Mötley Crüe would have played this bar 25 years ago and still be talking about it.

Bjarni Fel
Austurstræti 20 | **E5**
Named after the Iceland's most legendary sports commentator, this is the place for the three Bs: ball, burger and beer.

Boston
Laugavegur 28b | **H6**
A fresh addition to the Reykjavík bar scene.

Roomy bar floor, nice sofas and stylish interior make this a comfy café as well as a tavern with good, unintrusive music.

Café Cultura
Hverfisgata 18 | **G6**
Cultura is a café/bar with a party feel. The menu features all sorts of international dishes, alongside the staple salad and sandwich.

Café Paris
Austurstræti 14 | **E5**
With an outdoor terrace, this café gets busy on sunny days. With a cosy interior, fine menu and attentive service, it makes a fine spot for evening dining as well.

Balthazar
Hafnarstræti 1-3 | **D4**
Victor attracts a diverse crowd, both in age and origin, a rule that extends to the musicians that play there.

Celtic Cross
Hverfisgata 26 | **H6**
Arguably the most authentic Irish pub outside Ireland, a very lively space where you'll often find live music, sometimes two bands playing at once.

Dillon
Laugavegur 30 | **H7**
The quintessential rock pub Dillon serves moderately priced drinks, and

has pretty good music, too. The mix of students and tattooed tough guys always creates a fun atmosphere.

Dubliner
Hafnarstræti 4 | **E5**
The city's main Irish pub attracts quite a lot of foreigners, though there's an influx of locals on weekends. Good if you're looking for the darker stuff on tap.

Glaubar
Tryggvagata 20 | **E4**
The premier sports bar in town, though after the final whistle, DJs take the floor and begin a night of feverish dancing.

Grand Rokk
Smíðjustígur | **G6**
As its Viking theme accurately displays, this hardcore chess hangout is no place for the lily livered. Take the pub quiz on Fridays at 17:30, the winner gets a free case of beer!

Highlander
Lækjargata 10 | **E7**
If you prefer Scottish to Irish, this might be the place for a single malt.

Hressó
Austurstræti 20 | **E5**
With a spacious neutral interior, pleasant courtyard and a varied lunch menu, Hressó attracts no specific type of crowd.

Tap beer and music makes a fair hangout on weekends.

Hverfisbarinn
Hverfisgata 20 | **G6**
After a long line, you'll get in and wonder what all the fuss was about. You may end up here if you're still going at 4 on a Sunday morning, in which case it's just as good as any.

Kaffi Hjómáland
Laugavegur 23 | **G6**
This organic, free-trade café prides itself not only on great food and coffee but being a strong cultural center, hosting live music as well as lectures and poetry nights.

Kaffibarinn
Bergstraðastræti 1 | **F6**
A popular place to grab a drink after work, this daytime coffee joint roils with nighttime activity on weekends with live DJs. Parties often pound until dawn.

NASA
Þorvaldsenstræti 2 | **E6**
The main live venue in town. If you are looking for a decent band, chances are you'll find it at NASA.

Næsti Bar
Ingólfstræti 1A | **F6**
On nights where queues snake down Laugavegur, Næsti Bar can be great

place to sneak off to and chat with friends over a beer. Frequented also by the literary and acting elite.

Óliver
Laugavegur 20A | **H7**
This nightclub attracts a crowd of crazy dancers that may not be for everyone. In which case, air conditioning and fine food make Óliver a good lunch spot.

Ólstofan
Vegamótastígur | **G6**
No tricks here. You'll want just simple beer in this simple pub. Also the hangout for Reykjavík intellectual circles

Prikið
Bankastræti | **F5**
Part of the Reykjavík bar scene for decades, this café/bar has a fairly cheap menu and attracts a mix of students and old regulars. R&B and Hip-Hop plays on weekends.

Q-Bar
Ingólfstræti 3 | **F6**
A roomy gay/straight bar. Some of the best DJs in town play regularly, making it an especially lively space on weekends.

Rósenberg
Klappastígur 25 | **G7**
Live music venue that has something to offer every single night, ranging from rock to jazz to

poetry. You name it, they got it.

Sódóma Reykjavík
Tryggvagata 22 | **E5**
Sódóma Reykjavík is a brand new venue for live music in Reykjavík. It is located on the upper floor on the old Gaukur on Stöng and was built up for people to really enjoy live music.

Sólon
Bankastræti 7A | **F5**
Truly a jack of all trades establishment. By night a decent restaurant, by day a café/bistro and on Friday and Saturday nights a nightclub. Art exhibitions on the walls to top it off.

Thorvaldsen
Austurstræti 8 | **E5**
Dress formally for this fancy spot, and come before 12 to avoid a long line. DJs play Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

Vegamót
Vegamótastígur 4 | **G6**
Vegamót's kitchen is open until 22:00 daily and sports an appealing lunch menu. Come for a tasty brunch on weekends. If you like Óliver, try Vegamót and vice versa. The party goes on late.



UPCOMING CONCERTS

SLEEPING BEAUTY – A FAMILY CONCERT

SATURDAY, APRIL 18TH @ 14 PM
Conductor | Bernharður Wilkinson
Host | Halldór Gylfason
Ballet | Students from the Icelandic Academy of Dance
Pjotr Tchaikovsky | Sleeping Beauty

A RUSSIAN FEAST I

FRIDAY, APRIL 24TH @ 7.30 PM
Conductor | Rumon Gamba
Soloist | Cedric Tiberghien
Dimitri Shostakovich | Festival Overture
Dimitri Shostakovich | Piano Concerto no. 1
Pjotr Tchaikovsky | Symphony no. 5

A RUSSIAN FEAST II

THURSDAY, APRIL 30TH @ 7.30 PM
Conductor | Rumon Gamba
Soloist | Natalia Gutman
Dimitri Shostakovich | Ballet Suite no. 3
Dimitri Shostakovich | Cello Concerto no. 1
Pjotr Tchaikovsky | Symphony no. 6

A PIANO VIRTUOSO FROM PALESTINE

THURSDAY, MAY 7TH @ 7.30 PM
Conductor | Ludovic Morlot
Soloist | Saleem Abboud Ashkar
Claude Debussy | Jeux
Henri Dutilleux | Métaboles
Ludwig van Beethoven | Piano Concerto no. 5



Tickets sold at www.sinfonia.is or tel. 545 2500. All concerts take place in Háskólabíó.

ICELAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



Grand Rokk

Reykjavík

LOCAL PUB

LIVE MUSIC

PUB QUIZ

Smíðjustígur 6 ~ Tel. 354 551 55 22

www.grandrokk.is

Art TRANS- AQUANIA

Artists of international fame gather at the Blue Lagoon to create an extraordinary dance instalment this April. The event is one-time-only, so book a bus ticket early to witness this masterpiece of the Icelandic Dance Company, or you will be missing out on a potentially life-changing event. The artists promise to elevate the lagoon to another plane of existence where nature, art and man unite. The infamous dancer Erna Ómars and notorious visual artist Gabriela Friðriksdóttir, along with the springy Damien Jalet, will perform whilst you soak in the lagoon, and, believe me, they all have their exquisite figures in common so you're in for a treat. The concept of the piece originates in the genesis of the lagoon, relating to the dawn of vegetation on earth and the evolution of life. This also has music by the almighty Ben Frost and Reykjavík's Valdimar Jóhannsson,

Where:
Blue Lagoon
When:
April 22

F-U-N! KARAMBA

In the month it's been open for business, Karamba (run by the good people behind cheapo Mexican restaurant Santa Maria) has been carving out a niche as a comfortable place to partake in some quality drinking; the decorations by resident Grapevine artist Lóa and Hugleikur are inviting and the music on offer is usually of the highest calibre. In fact, Karamba has on occasion brought to mind the glorious abandon of golden-age Sirkús. The atmosphere of the place is furthermore heightened by their practice of inviting local musicians and music enthusiasts to serve as DJs - and this was most certainly the case a couple of Saturday nights back, when Retro Stefson blasted us into oblivion. Gosh, we're still recovering. We'd be hard pressed to finger what it was exactly about that DJ set that made such a difference. Was it the Lil' Wayne tunes? The Dr. Dre? The Angolese techno? The complete and utter lack of musical discrimination on offer? Refreshing tribal beats and general joyousness? The fact that being fun will always beat being cool? Or maybe it's the decorations and general atmosphere that Karamba has on offer?

Where:
Laugavegur 22, 101 Reykjavík



Music HEMMI & VALDI

On Monday 6.april the Oki Doki group will be kicking off their first of a string of gigs with an acoustic night at the quaint Nýlenduvöruverzlun Hemma & Valda. Featuring the talents of Loji, Doddi, Jóhann Kristinsson and Artery Music, this acoustic night promises to be an event not to be missed. The music will start flowing at about 20:00. Admission is free, but some merch will be on sale so its great opportunity to get a taste of good Icelandic alternative folk if that's your cup of tea. More info about Oki Doki and the artist's music may be found at okidoki.is.

Where:
Laugavegur 21, 101 Reykjavík



- **Thorvaldsen**
23:00 DJ JR.

SUNDAY APRIL 19

- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **Prikió**
22:00 Hangover Cinema. Free popcorn with Shaft(the old one).
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 The Drama company Hugleikur will be performing some short plays accompanied by music

MONDAY APRIL 20

- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **Rósenberg**
21:00 Dikta and Kuroi in concert.

TUESDAY APRIL 21

- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 A mysterious duett.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 22

- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **Q Bar**
22:00 Pub Quiz Night and DJ Shaft.
- **Rósenberg**
21:00 Pop Mass. Famous pop songs through the ages will be played followed by a musical schedule with historical relevance.
- **Prikió**
22:00 DJ Moonshine, large beer 490ISK and shots for 350ISK.
- **Sódóma Reykjavík**
21:00 A release celebration with Eberg and Dr. Gunni.

THURSDAY APRIL 23

- **B5**
22:00 DJ Jay Oh Hip Hop - Pop - Funk.
- **Café Paris**
22:00 Cocktail Night.
- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **English Pub**
22:00 Live Music.
- **Hressó**
22:00 Troubadours Böddi and Dabbi.
- **Prikió**
22:00 The first day of summer!. Guests will be entertaining til 21:00 when DJ Kári starts.
- **Q-Bar**
22:00 DJ Benni B Ruff.
- **Rósenberg**
21:00 Jazz guitarist's Bjóssi Thors release concert.
- **Sódóma Reykjavík**
21:00 Guitar legend Guðmundur Pétursson in concert with guests.

FRIDAY APRIL 24

- **B5**
22:00 DJ Simon Gorillafunk - Pop - Hip Hop - R'n'B - Oldies.
- **Bar 11**
00:00 DJ Gulli.
- **Celtic Cross**
01:00 Live Music.
- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **English Pub**
22:00 Live Music.
- **Háskólabíó**
19:030 The Icelandic Symphony Orchestra will be performing russian classics. 3500ISK
- **Hressó**
22:00 Band Menn ársins in concert followed by DJ Maggi.
- **Jacobsen**
22:00 Club Red Square weekend.
- **Kaffibarinn**
23:00 DJ CasaNova.
- **Oliver**
23:00 DJ Brynjar Már.
- **Prikió**
22:00 We start with Friskó and then DJ Benni B Ruff.
- **Q-Bar**
23:00 Anna Rakel and Hjalti DJ's.
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 Krumma Fótur, Gypsy jazz.
- **Sólón**
23:00 DJ Áki Pain.
- **Thorvaldsen**
23:00 DJ Hlynur.

SATURDAY APRIL 25

- **B5**
22:00 DJ Jay Oh Hip Hop - Pop - Funk.
- **Celtic Cross**
01:00 Live Music.
- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **English Pub**
22:00 Live Music.
- **Hressó**
22:00 Band Napoleon in concert fol-

- lowed by DJ Elli.
- **Jacobsen**
22:00 Club Red Square weekend
- **NASA**
23:00 Skítamóral-- over 20's.
- **Oliver**
23:00 DJ Brynjar Már.
- **Prikió**
22:00 DJ Gauti followed by DJ Danni Deluxe.
- **Q-Bar**
23:00 DJ Yamaha
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 Tubilakar. Troubadours from the band Ljótu Hálfvitarnir.
- **Salurinn (Kópavogi)**
17:00 Dalton Baldwin. Magic in Tíbrá. 3900ISK.
- **Sódóma Reykjavík**
21:00 Hardcore night.
- **Sólón**
23:00 Ground floor: DJ Party. Upstairs: DJ Áki Pain.
- **Thorvaldsen**
23:00 DJ Láki.

SUNDAY APRIL 26

- **Prikió**
22:00 Hangover Cinema with free popcorn. Thursday will be shown
- **Q-Bar**
23:00 Every Fancied DJ at Q-Bar- Open Deck Night with cheap beers all night.
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 The Haukur Laufey Jazz Trio.

MONDAY APRIL 27

- **Rósenberg**
22:00 Bands Siggster og pungarnir.

TUESDAY APRIL 28

- **Oliver**
22:00 Raggi Trubador (Live Karaoke). Guests can sing songs accompanied by Oliver's troubador Raggi.
- **Q-Bar**
22:00 Elín Ey and Myrra open stage.
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 Bob Dylan night, Band Slow Train will be performing Dylan's album Slow Train.
- **Sólón**
18:00 Upstairs: Champion League Live

WEDNESDAY APRIL 29

- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 Villi from the band 200.000 Naglbítar will be performing a troubadour session.
- **Prikió**
22:00 Milknight with DJ Moonshine. A large beer for 490ISK
- **Q-Bar**
22:00 Pub Quiz Night.
- **Sólón**
18:00 Upstairs: Champion League Live

THURSDAY APRIL 30

- **B5**
22:00 DJ Einar - Pop - Hip Hop - Funk - Electro.
- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **English Pub**
22:00 Live Music.
- **Háskólabíó**
19:30 The Icelandic Symphony Orchestra will be performing russian classics. 3500ISK.
- **Hressó**
22:00 Troubadours Jógvan and Vignir play.
- **Prikió**
22:00 Milknight with DJ Kári. A large beer for 490ISK
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 Fabúla release concert.
- **Q-Bar**
22:00 Ýr.
- **Sólón**
23:00 Ground floor: DJ playing R'n'B, Old School. Upstairs: Ingó Idol with green thursday session.

FRIDAY MAY 1

- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **English Pub**
22:00 Live Music.
- **Hressó**
22:00 Band Dalton in concert followed by DJ Maggi.
- **Oliver**
22:00 DJ Brynjar Már.
- **Nasa**
22:00 Eivör Pálsdóttir with band in concert. 2500ISK.
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 Halli Reynis troubadour.
- **Sólón**
23:00 DJ Áki Pain.
- **Thorvaldsen**
23:00 DJ Hlynur.



ENJOY PHOTOGRAPHS

Unique gift ideas from Iceland



LJÓSMYNDASAFN REYKJAVÍKUR
Reykjavik Museum of Photography

Tryggvagata 15, 6th floor · 101 Reykjavík · Tel. 563 1790 · www.photomuseum.is
Opening hours 12-19 mon-fri, 13-17 weekends · ADMISSION FREE

Read about Icelandic contemporary literature on www.literature.is

Icelandic Literature

Reykjavik City Library. Tel: 563 1717. www.borgarbokasafn.is

REYKJAVÍK CITY HOSTEL
Your affordable Quality bed in the city!
Private en-suites and shared dorm rooms for 4-6 pers.

Prices from 1700isk | Open 24hrs
In Laugardalur, next to the pool.
10mins from down town/BSI with bus 14
Free WiFi | Kitchen | Laundry | Flybus pick up

(+354) 553 8110
reykjavikcity@hostel.is
www.hostel.is

Listings

SATURDAY MAY 2

- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **English Pub**
22:00 Live Music.
- **Hressó**
22:00 Troubadours Gotti and Eisi play followed by DJ Maggi.
- **Laugardalshöllin**
16:00 Rúnar Júlíusson tribute concert. 5900ISK.
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 Joanne Kearney and her band in concert.
- **Salurinn (Kópavogi)**
17:00 Natalia Gutman. Magic in Tíbrá. 3900ISK.
- **Sólón**
23:00 Ground floor: DJ Party. Upstairs: DJ Áki Pain.
- **Thorvaldsen**
23:00 DJ Mokki.

SUNDAY MAY 3

- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **Salurinn (Kópavogi)**
20:30 Af fingrum fram. Valgeir Guðjónsson in concert. 2900ISK.

FRIDAY MAY 4

- **Celtic Cross**
01:00 Live Music.
- **Dubliner**
22:30 Live Music.
- **English Pub**
22:00 Live Music.
- **Rósenberg**
22:00 The Reykjavík Bluescompany and Dóri Braga in concert.

Art

- **ASÍ Art Museum**
April 04 - April 26
Bjargey Ólafsdóttir - Running of to South America: New drawings by Bjargey will be on Display.
Keiko Kurita - Tree/sleep.
- **The Culture House**
Permanent exhibitions:
Medieval Manuscripts;
The Library Room.
Current exhibitions:
Surtsey - Genesis
The exhibition traces the emergence and evolution of the island Surtsey until the present day and predicts its geographical and ecological development over the next 120 years.
The Late View - Halldór Laxness' Photographs
Nobel Laureate and cosmopolitan Halldór Laxness was better known for his writing but also proved to be a good photographer. This is an exhibition of his works.
Exhibition Series: Weird and Wonderful Beasts from Icelandic Folklore by Jón Baldur Hlíðberg is an exhibition of illustrations from his book on the magical creatures of Icelandic folklore.
- **The Einar Jónsson Museum**
Permanent exhibition:
The work of sculptor Einar Jónsson.
- **Gallery Ágúst**
March 21 - April 02 (2009)
Málverkasýning/Paintings: Gallery Ágúst will be displaying works by young and prominent artists Magnús Helgason and Marta María Jónsdóttir. The exhibition consists paintings and drawings.
- **Gallery Kling & Bang**
Feb 07 - Mar 08
Opið, til eru hræ: The exhibition is basically a workshop by artists Eva Signý Berger, Katrín I. Jónsdóttir, Rakel MacMahon and Una Björk Sigurðardóttir. The artists will be working on their material over the period of time given and than showing the results at the end
- **Gallery StartArt**
April 04 - May 09
6 Artists will be showing at Start Art. Lene Boel, Joseph Henry Ritter, Dagrún Matthíasdóttir, Sigurlín M. Grétarsdóttir, Margrét Jónsdóttir painter and Ragnheiður Ragnarsdóttir. The exhibitions will consist of video installations, 3-D works, photographs, paintings, mixed technique and papier maché
- **Gallery Turpentine**
April 1 - May 04
Gallery Turpentine will be displaying and selling works by mixed artists
- **Gerðuberg Cultural Centre**
Mar 06 - Apr 19
Boginn gallery: The Land in colour. Popular artist Guðrður Jóhannsson exhibition of landscape paintings. March 21 - May 24
The Dark Truth: A photo exhibition of the reportage "The Dark Truth: Coal Miners of China" exposes some of the working conditions in the world largest coal industry
- **Gljúfrasteinn Laxness Museum**
Gljúfrasteinn was the home and workplace of Halldór Laxness (winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1955) and his family for more than half a century. It has now been opened to the public as a museum, unchanged from when Laxness lived there.
- **Hafnarborg**
Exhibition: Veðurskrift (Weather Writing) - Guðrún Kristján. Guðrún
- **i8 Gallery**
Mar 27 - May 09. Limboland: An exhibition by Icelandic artist Ólafur Elíasson.
- **Living Art Museum**
Mar 5- Show and See Series. Further info at Nylo.is
- **Lost Horse Gallery**
Presents: A Wild Night. Come back to an era when jazz raged and gin flowed (illegally) and charleston crazy flappers danced the night away behind locked doors. Have a seat at our candlelit tables and enjoy popular standards of the 1920's by Irving Bell, Hoagy Carmichael, Fats Waller, The Gershwins, Rodgers & Hart and Hammerstein and Kern.
- **The National Gallery of Iceland**
Feb 13 - May 5
SEVERAL FRIENDS: The exhibition sheds light on the period in Icelandic art when formalism, confronted by informal values, retreated and other attitudes started to invade the art scene in the second half of the 20th century.
- **The National Museum**
Permanent exhibition:
The Making of a Nation-Heritage and History in Iceland is intended to provide insight into the history of the Icelandic nation from the Settlement to the present day.
Jan 31 - Nov 30. Encounters. Archaeological excavations at many locations around Iceland have been funded by Kristnihátíðarsjóður (the Millenium Fund). Finds from some of these excavations are on display in an exhibition suitable for the whole family.
Sep 6 - Feb 25. Child Labour or Training for Life? Photographs of young children at work, on land or at sea, during the period 1930-50. From the National Museum's Collection of Photographs and Prints.
- **The Nordic House**
Mar 19 - Apr 5. The Nordic Fashion Biennale - Focusing on Fashion and Jewellery from West-Nordic Nations: Faroe Islands, Greenland and Iceland.
- **The Numismatic Museum**
Permanent exhibition: The Central Bank of Iceland and the National Museum of Iceland jointly operate a numismatic collection consisting of Icelandic notes and coins.
- **Reykjavík 871 +/- 2**
Permanent exhibition:
The Settlement Exhibition
- **Reykjavík Art Gallery**
March 27 - April 19
In celebration of Páll Guðmundsson's 50th birthday Reykjavík Art Gallery will be displaying paintings, textiles, drawings and sculptures from his catalogue.
- **Ásmundur Sveinsson Sculpture Museum**
Permanent Exhibition. The Shape of Line. A new retrospective of works by Ásmundur Sveinsson. The exhibition focuses on abstract works from 1945 onwards.
- **Reykjavík Art Museum Hafnarhús**
Feb 05 - May 10. SHADOW BOY - THE WORLD OF ALFRED FLÓKI.
Jan 5 - May 17. Erró - Point to the east, point to the west
Jan 17 - May 17. The Erró Game- an interactive exhibition, kids can reconstruct paintings by Erró.
March 19 - May 17. Parallax - Elín Hansdóttir. The artist tries to erase the line between personal space and public space.
- **Reykjavík Art Museum Kjarvalsstaðir**
Jan 10 - Apr 13. Kjarval Complete: A saloon style exhibition displaying the whole collection of Iceland's most beloved painter Kjarval
Jan 24 - Apr 13. The Art of Chess: Fifteen unique chess sets and boards made by internationally renowned artists. Each chess set has its own concept reflecting artists' vivid imagination. Artist including Damien Hirst, Maurizio Cattelan, the Chapman brothers, and Rachel Whiteread exhibit.
Jan 24 - Apr 13. Creative Move: An on going workshop for the whole family where they can create chess sets out of unusual materials.
- **Reykjavík Maritime Museum**
Current Exhibitions: Living Museum by the Sea; Arterial for Country and City; From Poverty to Abundance; The Shark - Light and Life Energy; Hidden Craftsman.
- **The Reykjavík Museum of Photography**
Jan 17 - May 10. Tíra: The art of Bjargey Ólafsdóttir.
- **101 Projects**
Feb 28 - April 05. Exhibition by artist, Susan Hiller (US)

OUTSIDE REYKJAVÍK

For more information about art outside Reykjavík visit grapevine.is

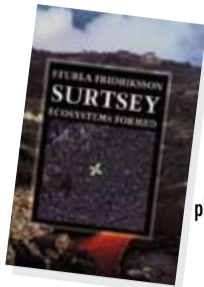


RING OF SEASONS. ICELAND: - IT'S CULTURE AND HISTORY

Terry G. Lacy brings both the perspective of an outsider and the familiar eye of a long-term resident to this delightful exploration of all facets of Iceland, past and present. She conveys her story with a skillful interlacing of history, religion, politics, and culture to paint a vivid picture of the way Icelanders live today.

„This fascinating book is a must for anyone who is interested in Iceland.“ - Dick Ringler

„This is an excellent encyclopedia of Iceland's folklore, fact, science, history, anecdote, written in clear and lively prose.“ - Bill Holm



SURTSEY - AN ECOSYSTEM FORMED

Dr. Sturla Fridrikson describes the birth of the island in 1963 and how in itself it became an interesting geological phenomenon and a biological laboratory, where scientists could investigate how organisms disperse across the ocean to remote islands and how plants and animals colonize completely barren areas such as Surtsey. Available in English, French and German Surtsey was inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 2008.

11 YEARS - A DECADE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

A selection from Iceland's leading modern art gallery i8, drawn from it's archives in order to paint a coherent picture of the body of works exhibited over the years. The selection clearly portrays the pioneering work that i8 has done in the past decade.



UNIVERSITY OF ICELAND PRESS
haskolautgafan.hi.is – hu@hi.is – tel. 525 4003



Lækjargötu 8, 101 Reykjavík
Pizzuverksmiðjan
57 88 555 www.pizzuverksmidjan.com

TRY OUR WOODBRICK OVEN PIZZA
opening hours: Mon - Thu 11:30 - 22:00, Fri - Sat 11:30 - 06:00, Sun 17:00 - 22:00

ELEGANT SURROUNDINGS
SUPERB CUISINE
MODERN COMFORT

Gallery Restaurant
PRESERVING QUALITY IS OUR BUSINESS
Open daily for lunch and dinners
Special offer on Monday and Tuesday – 3 course dinner for only 4200 ISK.
Reservation: tel. 552 5700, e-mail: gallery@holt.is

HOTEL HOLT
Bergstaðastræti 37 s. 552 5700
holt@holt.is www.holt.is

GAGNBYNANDINN

Kvikmyndaveislan hefst í apríl!
Tvær af bestu evrópsku kvikmyndum ársins

Let the Right One In
★★★★★ Washington Post
★★★★★ Ebert
★★★★★ Rolling Stone
Ein af þremur bestu skandinavisku myndum allra tíma samkvæmt IMDB.

The Baader Meinhof Complex
★★★★★ Empire
★★★★★ Sky
Tilnefnd til óskarsverðlauna.
Sterk mynd um hættulegasta hryðjuverkahóp Evrópu.

Listings

Shopping Venue finder

12 Tónar
Skólavörðust. 15 | **G8**
A record label as well as a store, all the best new Icelandic music on CDs or live on Fridays at 5 PM.

66°North
Bankastræti 5 | **F6**
One of the most recognised Icelandic products 66gráður North provides world class arctic clothing.

Aftur
Laugavegur 23 | **G7**
Aftur's internationally acclaimed label is proudly displayed here in their shop/studio.

Belleville
Laugavegur 25 | **G7**
Stuffed with trendy streetwear designs as well as funky magazines and media.

Blue Lagoon Store
Laugavegur 15 | **G7**
All the natural skincare products from the famous geothermal spa at their outlet here.

Brim
Laugavegur 71 | **H7**
Big surf wear, skate wear, and snowboard shop.

Börn Náttúrunnar
Skólavörðustígur 17a | **G8**
The basement children's toy store sells clothes and toys only made of organic products as well as books about childcare and parenthood.

Cintamani
Laugavegur 11 | **F7**
Featuring quality Icelandic outdoor gear, you can even book an excursion on the spot.

Dead
Laugavegur 29 | **G7**
Artist Jón Sæmundur Audarson's own hand-printed Rock and Roll label, Dead, plus others.

Dogma
Laugavegur 32 | **H7**
Dogma offers street clothing with interesting prints. Hooded sweaters and T-shirts made by both Icelandic and foreign designers can be found.

Einvera
Laugavegur 35 | **H7**
A cosy little shop with a great selection of hand-picked second hand clothing for girls who like to dress differently. Also available is the Icelandic designer label Kálda.

Fríða Frænka
Vesturgata 3 | **D5**
A real treasure chest of antique furniture and vintage accoutrements to perk up your apartment.

G-Star Raw
Laugavegur 86 | **I8**
A store for the Dutch jeans brand, an edgy collection with innovative details and washes.

Galleri Sautján
Laugavegur 91 | **I8**
Stocking many hip labels, a unisex store offering casual business wear to evening dress wear.

Gilbert
Laugavegur 62 | **H8**
Watchmaker Gilbert Guðjónsson has sold watches and clocks on Laugavegur for over 40 years. Recently, Gilbert designed his own line of wristwatches.

Glamúr
Laugavegur 41 | **H7**
A flashy vintage clothing shop with everything from necklaces to fur coats to kimonos.

Green Apple
Laugavegur 20 | **G7**
The tiny shop combines massage and other relaxation products with organic products.

Gyllti Kötturinn
Austurstræti 8 | **E6**
One of a few second hand shops that have popped up in recent year, Gyllti Kötturinn also offers some pieces by locals.

Handþrjána-sambandið
Skólavörðustígur 19A | **G7**
All sorts of hand knit woollen clothing as well as fine yarns and knitting supplies.

Iða
Lækjargata 2A | **E6**
A great source for all kinds of reading material, with restaurants on the second floor.

Kísan
Laugavegur 7 | **F7**
An interesting mix of items from all around the world you won't find anywhere else.

Kisuberjatréð
Vesturgata 4 | **D5**
A lovely gallery/gift shop run by ten artists and designers where they sell their products.

Kolaportíð
Tryggvagata 19 | **E5**
Open on weekends, you can get a bargain on almost anything at this indoor flea market.

Kraum
Adalstræti 10 | **D6**
Featuring the best in contemporary Icelandic design of everyday items of any kind.

Kronkron
Laugavegi 63B | **I8**
This hip new shop stocks the latest trends in everything from socks to sweaters.

KVK
Laugavegur 27 | **G7**
Small yet stuffed designer shop KVK, which stocks a nice selection of local designs.

Marimekko
Laugavegur 56 | **H8**
Finnish designer brand Marimekko has found its spot on Laugavegur. The Marimekko concept store stocks a wide selection of the colourfully printed designer products.

Mál og Menning
Laugavegur 18 | **G7**
A multi-level store with games, books, souvenirs and a bustling café on the top floor.

Moods of Norway
Laugavegur 51 | **H8**
The new clothing shop on Laugavegur closes the gap between the clothes you wear on Saturday for your night off and those you wear the following Sunday at church. From casual shirts and pants to the eye-catching tux: they have it.

Nakti Apinn
Bankastræti 14 | **F7**
Offers an amazing array of colourful designer wear as well as contemporary media.

Nexus
Hverfisgata 103 | **I8**
The biggest comic book and gaming store in Reykjavík has something for everyone.

Rökk og Rósir
Laugavegur 17 | **G7**
Second-hand clothing for the fairer sex at a reasonable price.

Skarhúsið
Laugavegur 12 | **F7**
Glittery accessory shop stuffed with cheap jewelry, bags or other small items.

Skífan
Laugavegur 26 | **G7**
Selection of CDs, DVDs and computer games as well as some Icelandic films with English subtitles.

Spútník
Laugavegur 32 | **G7**
One of the best second-hand shops in the country, with recycled clothes at a range of prices.

Systur
Laugavegur 70 | **H7**
For whatever women's lingerie needs you might have, this is the store to satisfy them.

Trilogía
Laugavegur 7 | **F7**
A collection of trendy designer wear fills the shop, summery dresses, sweaters and skirts.

The Viking
Hafnarstræti 3 | **E5**
This large tourist shop sells all sorts of smart souvenirs to bring back home.

Dorsteinn Bergmann
Skólavörðustígur 36 | **G8**
Since the 1940s this small store has offered a huge selection of household supplies for a laughable low price.

Anatomic
Skólavörðustígur | **G8**
A great little shop with an excellent selection of sportswear.

Hanna Design Shop
Laugavegur 20B | **G7**
Hanna Design Shop provides elegant Icelandic design, made exclusively out of Icelandic wool.

Whale Watching from Reykjavík

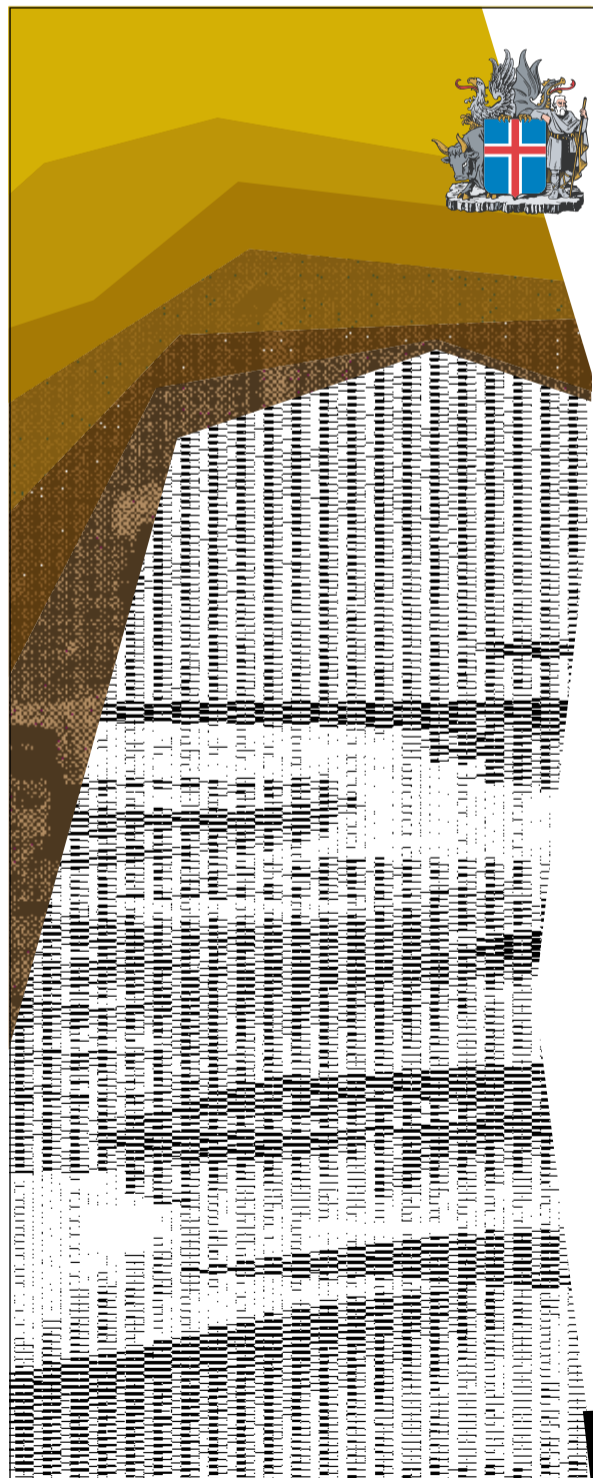
Take part in an adventure at sea with an unforgettable trip into the world of whales and sea birds. Conveniently located in Reykjavík's Old harbour, a three hour tour can bring you up close to whales in their natural habitat.

Free entry to the Information Centre for our passengers.

Call us on **555 3565** or visit www.elding.is

Elding
adventure at sea

Puffin season						
April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
9:00	9:00	9:00	9:00	9:00	9:00	9:00
13:00	13:00	13:00	13:00	13:00	13:00	13:00
		17:00	17:00	17:00		



FöS. 3.
Hjalti
Sexy Lazer

LAU. 4.
resident DJ
Yamaho
Maggi Felix

Mið. 8.
Árni E.
Gísli Galdur

Fim. 9.
University Night
Paul Mauritz

FöS. 10.
Lunatech
Special Invite
(NOR)
Kangoos
Stein Massiv
Fknhndsm

LAU. 11.
Hyper Hyper
Swedish
Connection 3

SUN. 12.
Óli Ofur, Asli
Mr. Cuellar & Trix
Oculus
Impulce

FöS. 17.
USA
HipHop
Ge-Ology

LAU. 18.
Shaft

FöS. 24.
LAU. 25.
Club
Red
Square
weekend

De gode tider

Austurstræti 9

Jacobsen

CD REVIEWS



THE VERDICT

Picks up right where we left off on the last album, so no real surprises, but that's pretty much what everyone wanted, right?

LISTEN

www.myspace.com/singaporesling

SINGAPORE SLING

Perversity, Desperation & Death



REVIEWED BY SINDRI ELDON

After the swaggering binge that was *Life Is Killing My Rock & Roll* and the crisp urgency of *Taste The Blood*, PD&D is as confident, laid-back and self-assured as Singapore Sling have ever been, and continues to cement their reputation as one of the most robust, colourful and, above all, sonically interesting Icelandic rock bands. It's one of those great albums that, although it lacks a distinct hit or a specifically memorable song, it makes a powerful, consistent whole. It really is a win-win situation: if you hate the Sling, then you'll just continue hating them for PD&D, and if you love the Sling, then you'll continue loving them for it. The weird, vacuous sounds of Singapore Sling's post-apocalyptic road trip, fuelled by a full tank of acid and cocaine, continue to thrill us as we stare empty-eyed into the headlight-lit night and barrel on to nowhere in particular.



THE VERDICT

Groovy, but it's a bit too slow to party to and a bit too vacant to immerse in, plus *Dirty Mutha* is obviously ripped off of the SLUGS song *MTHRFCRR*.

LISTEN

www.myspace.com/steedlord

STEED LORD

Truth Serum



REVIEWED BY SINDRI ELDON

"Temptation is a bitch / Get on your knees and suck my dick, girl" ...indeed. Steed Lord's brilliantly named 15-track opus is mostly just silly, but the attempts to infuse the silliness with integrity and ingenuity make the 65 minutes worth it... sort of. There is real innovation here; It's *What U Do 2 Me's* flaunted vocoders and *Thirst To Burst's* phasing eighties synth showcase a vitality to Steed Lord that easily outshines their techno contemporaries; but in the end, it's just so much fluff. The vocal effects and movie samples can't quite disguise the fact that Steed Lord's bark is a lot harder than their bite, and their desire to be stylish and relevant a lot more powerful their drive than to write a good song, which is kind of a shame; their song writing, in the moments it does poke through, is pretty good. The fact that they still manage to be more interesting than the other bands of their scene just says more about how useless their scene is.



THE VERDICT

The new *Strokes*, but uglier, fewer, more stoned and better endowed in the testicular area.

LISTEN

www.myspace.com/wavves

WAVVES

Wavves



REVIEWED BY SINDRI ELDON

After a somewhat unnecessary intro begins the most shockingly direct and vital American rock album in years. All playful drums, raw, chunky distortion and flangey, sedated vocals, it blasts through its fourteen tracks with such simple, random energy that the whole album would seem almost improvised, were it not so powerfully propelled into its own unique direction. Opener 'Loser Year' and the title track, 'Wavves' are particularly endearing, almost anthemic in their simplicity, and easily two of the most put-together indie rock songs of the decade. The album admittedly slows towards the end, wallowing a bit too much in effect-fiddling and such foolery. But let's not split hairs here: this album kicks brutal amounts of ass and you'd be a fool not to recognise that.

CONCERT REVIEW BY ÞÓRIR GEORG JÓNSSON — PHOTO BY VALDÍS THOR



THIS IS SOME SERIOUS EMOTING RIGHT THERE.

The waiting game

Punk, funk and distortion pedals



Having been born with the curse of punctuality, I entered Nýlenduverslun Hemma og Valda at 21:00, only to be informed that the concert would not start for at least another 45 minutes because of a show going on next door where they were using some of the equipment needed for the night's gig. So I walked over to Kaffi Hjómáland to check out the bands and kill some time.

When I arrived, youngsters Muck were finishing off their set of metallic hardcore with a wall of noise. They've just released their first album "Vultures" and are definitely a band to watch. Then came a short set from Bárújárn who, without vocals because of a bad P.A., and without Theremin, because of a broken Theremin, weren't really all that great—which is a shame because when on form they really are a good band.

After Bárújárn's set, I walked back over to Nýlenduverslun Hemma og Valda just in time to see Me, the slumbering Napoleon set up. They are very often referred to as promising due to their young age, both as people and as a band, but I really don't think that is a fair description. Very good doesn't even do them justice. What they are

is a great band. And they delivered a hell of a set. Heavy, loud and powerful they switched between aggressive rock in the vein of Shellac to a spastic funk fusion that would have made the Minutemen proud. They promised a summer release for their album that will doubtlessly be one of the year's best.

What came next was certainly not as pleasant. Kid Twist are good. And their drone rock is as good as anyone's, but taking an hour to set up is never a smart move. No matter how good you are. It just means that when you finally get on stage people will have either left or are getting very impatient. The latter being the case for me. And to make matters somewhat worse, they suffered from some sound problems as well. I've seen Kid Twist play excellent shows. Too bad this wasn't one of them.

After the wait for Kid Twist, I had done my fair share of standing around. So I left Nýlenduverslunin before Skelkur í bringu got to the stage. Their show is something I'll have to experience another time.

WHAT

Grapevine Grassroots number 2

WHO

Me, the Slumbering Napoleon Skelkur í Bringu Kid Twist

WHERE

Hemma & Valdi

WHEN

Friday, March 20th



THE VERDICT

Complex and totally wound up jazz-rock, not for the faint of heart.

LISTEN

www.myspace.com/zuband

ZU

Carboniferous



REVIEWED BY FLORIAN ZÜHLKE

I guess ZU make it even harder to categorise their sound than labelmates Dälek. Being silhouetted from the classical rock outfit, Zu is a trio consisting of a drummer, a bass player and a saxophonist. The free-jazz madness these three Italians make reminds me of the Dillinger Escape Plan – which is not that surprising if you remember band buddy and publisher Mike Patton sings one EP for the band – or of fellow Italian jazz-metal band Ephel Duath (especially because of the saxophone), but lacking the hectic spirit of both of those. Zu are danceable and funky in their own strange way. "Carboniferous" is less hard-hitting and more experimental, in part due to Mike Patton's trademark guest vocals, for example in the tune "Soulympics." Anyway, this is no easy stuff! But if you bring your patience and an interest in weird sounds, then you and the record ought to share some nice hours together.



THE VERDICT

Sinister, political hip-hop.

LISTEN

www.myspace.com/dalek

DÄLEK

Gutter Tactics



REVIEWED BY FLORIAN ZÜHLKE

Since forming in 1997, Dälek has mixed traditional hip-hop with drone and rock elements, gaining attention from audiences far beyond the genre's usual borders. Since 2002, they have been signed to Mike Patton's extravagant label IPECAC. Dälek did not change their music very much for the new album. They still produce a sinister and unique hip-hop sound, in which massive beats and noisy sampling is dominating and led by MC Dälek's insistent and sharp rap. While not very musically surprising, "Gutter Tactics" is an intriguing record when its lyrics and political context are taken into consideration. The lyrics deal with racism and the ingenuity of the social phenomenon called 'Obamania' in relation to persisting war and violence world-wide and the unbroken participation of the US. That is why this album is outstanding. "Gutter Tactics" brings hip-hop back to the civil rights movement, after it has been ruled by dull pimps and gangsters for too long.

THE NEW COLLECTION HAS ARRIVED!

Our philosophy is to provide you with **different clothes for different moods.**

This is why the collection is divided into **three** various lines: **street, casual and cocktail.**

Just like a well casted **boy band**, we have something for **everyone.**





moods of norway
Laugavegi 51 // 101 Reykjavík // s.551 - 4337
www.moodsofnorway.is



LET THE FUN BEGIN!

Beautiful and accessible handbook with great ideas for fun family days in Reykjavík. The activities are endless: Horseriding, museums, whalewatching ... along with theme parks of all kinds, and so much more ...



Salka www.Salka.is

Taste the best of Iceland...

... with a little bit of spanis thrown in!

There are over 70 courses on our Tapas menu so drop by and indulge in our excellent food in the greatest of atmosphere.

viva la vida

Kitchen open to **23.:30** on weekdays and **01:00** on weekends






A MUST TRY
Our famous Puffin with bluberry and brennivín sauce is something that will make your visit unforgettable.



RESTAURANT - BAR
Vesturgata 3B | 101 Reykjavík
Tel: 551 2344 | www.tapas.is

Iceland's very first Tapas-bar



Condé Nast Traveller
2009
READERS' SPA AWARDS
WINNER
MEDICAL/THERMAL SPA/NATURAL SPA
BLUE LAGOON
ICELAND

BLUE LAGOON
ICELAND

Energy for life
through forces of nature

Blue Lagoon is open daily www.bluelagoon.com

Lost in Berlin

Composer Hildur Ingveldardóttir Guðnadóttir is certainly one of the most prominent Icelandic artists to emerge in a long time. Raised in a musical environment, she has been writing and performing music since the tender age of thirteen.

Her career is highlighted by successful collaborations and has been on the rise ever since she first laid hands on the cello. Since graduating from the Berlin University of Arts, Hildur has gone on to play with many famed artists; Pan Sonic, Nico Muhly, Angel, Ben Frost and Jamie Lidell, to name a few.

Her sophomore solo album, *Without Sinking*, has already been ranked as one of the top albums of 2009 by some publications. It was released by Touch, one of the biggest labels for electronic music. We called up Hildur to ask a few questions about her album and her career and to glean some info on the fabled Berlin kebab.

Has the cello always played a big part in your compositions?

No, of course I first went through the phase of being in teenage rock and pop bands and that kind of stuff. But I think it was around the year 2000 that I started writing primarily for the cello.

When making or working with music, do you find that education matters?

Both yes and no. When creating music, I feel education doesn't really matter except that when you've studied you learn a certain way of handling it. When composing, I work a lot instinctively, but on the other hand when playing a string instrument like the cello I think it helps immensely to have the experience of a classic education.

You've worked with all kinds of sound installations, but also with music that is meant for commercial release. Do you think there is a strong relationship between the two?

Well I see music – most of the time – as sound. But of course, there is a great difference between sound installations and the music I release in album form. When you make music for a certain installation or performance, you work a lot more with the space you are playing in. At those performances, I work a lot more with just the materials I have at that given time. So it's more like a sound happening, where I channel certain emotions and experiences. But on the other hand, when I'm making music for publication, the process is a lot more intimate. The solo stuff that I've been



HILDUR SHOWING OFF HER PATENTED CELLO-DRESS

working on is mostly all written and performed by me, and then I'm trying to work a lot more inward trying to locate more personal experiences.

WITHOUT SINKING

Hildur's latest LP was released in March and has already made a big critical splash. I asked Hildur to tell me a bit about the album. Recorded both in Iceland and Berlin, Hildur says the creative process was in retrospect a natural one, without any stress or discomfort.

"This is my second solo album and it's a little bit different from the one before it because spent a lot more time working on it. The oldest material on the record is probably about three years old.

Like the other album its fairly short, short songs, and the cello plays the lead role. What is also different about this album is that I have a few guest players on this one. Jóhann Jóhannsson, Skúli Sverrisson and Guðni Fransson, my father, all contributed to the album."

How do you make your music? Is it a constant process or do you work in intervals?

It's a bit different. I work very intensively, and I'm often more manic than not. Working on something for fourteen hours straight and then putting it away used to be my M.O., but I have been reconsidering

that attitude as of late. I am looking back a lot more now, returning to stuff that I was working on before and looking at it from a different perspective.

Since yours is a very experimental music, do you feel that you've maybe reached a wider audience than you expected?

That was the case with my first album, at least. The cello is an instrument that people know very well. Since it has the same sound spectrum as the human voice, it gets very close to people, and of course the way the instrument resembles the human form, people have a lot more to relate to than with many other instruments used in experimental music. And since the album is mostly based on the cello, people sometimes prefer to classify it as classical music. That isn't a very big deal for me, since I don't really care what people want to call it. I have been more affiliated with the experimental scene and my working methods are more close to it, but since there is something in my music that people can relate to I think they're a lot more open to it.

Thus far you have worked with a wide range of artists and people. Are there any interesting projects or collaborations on the horizon?

Right now, I am working on an organ piece for an arts festival in Riga, Latvia. This is the first time that

I am composing for the organ so there is a whole new world of sound involved in the process, and I have been getting more acquainted with the instrument in the process. Elin Hansdóttir will have an installation accompanying this piece that I am very excited about. I think of music a lot of the time as lights and shadows, and I feel that she shares my perspective with her art.

Will you be following up the album with a tour?

With this kind of music the follow up process is different than with popular music for instance. You don't go out and tour clubs and live in buses for a month. This kind of music doesn't have the base for that kind of touring. It's a lot more playing in art events and that kind of setting. Of course there are a lot of concerts but you might say I won't be living out of a suitcase to promote this album.

Well to finish things of, where can I get the best Kebab in Berlin ?

Hah, this I have a very good answer to. It's on Kolmutsrasse on the corner of Danzigerstrasse and there is a place called Zweistrum. They serve a wicked kebab that I sincerely recommend. 🍴

Klúbbmeðlimir 2 fyrir 1.is fá
2 fyrir 1 af hamborgurum á
Vegamótum

SKRÁÐU ÞIG FRÍTT Á WWW.2FYRIR1.IS

VEGAMÓT
RESTORANT

HORNIÐ
Restaurant ~ Pizzeria

Hornið opened in 1979 was the first restaurant of its kind in Iceland, a restaurant with a true Italian atmosphere. Hornið is known for good food made out of fresh raw materials, good pizzas baked in front of the guests, good coffee and comfortable service.

Lunch offers every day.
Open every day from 11.00 to 23.00
For reservations call 551-3340

Restaurant Hornið – Hafnarstræti 15, 101 Reykjavík – s. 551 3340 – www.hornid.is

Saturday April 18th

Wine & Degrás

An introduction of
limitless possibilities.

Enjoy Reykjavík!



The program will be available at

www.visitreykjavik.is
www.grapevine.is



Reykjavíkurborg



THE OWNER OF THIS HOUSE ALLEGEDLY GROWS ROSES



HRÍSEY'S MOVIE THEATER

Ice-o-lation

Fighting Snow on a Desert Island

Hrísey is Iceland's second largest island. It's located in Eyjafjörður, around 30 kilometres from the north's capital, Akureyri. It used to be a prosperous fishing village with a lot of action all year round, but the small village lost its fishing "quota" to the nearby village of Dalvík a few years back, and now many of the houses are only in use during the summer. This is exactly why us Grapeviners wanted to visit the island during high winter and experience its extremely isolating surroundings. The only way to get to the island is to take the small but cosy ferry Sævar from Árskógssandur. A return ticket will put you back 1000 ISK and the sailing experience alone is very well worth it. The ferry departs every two hours during winter and crosses the sea, even though no passengers are aboard.

Hrísey is often jokingly referred to as "Akureyri's Manhattan" by locals, since it couldn't be further from the truth. The population counts around two hundred, of which we met only five during our short stop. This number must therefore be fixed. The day before it had snowed cats and dogs and the five villagers had been keeping themselves busy by battling the average two metres of snow,

trying to get in or out of their houses. According to Sigurður Högnason – a retired electrician and self-taught painter who lives in a small house called Njálshús – it hasn't snowed like this in the north for over seven years. We ourselves had not seen so much snow since viewing Ice Age and kind of felt like we were stuck in a winter wonderland. It was good.

Hrísey has been a home to many eccentric establishments throughout the years. It is the breeding ground for the Galloway-Bull, a very special breed of bull with an unusually big head, almost similar to the North American buffalo. They are now also being bred on the opposite coast, in the Árskógssandur area. The island's only restaurant/hotel is called Brekka. It's mostly open during the summer and serves the most delicious Galloway steak you'll ever get your teeth on. Not to be confused with the more famous Japanese Kobe steak, whose bulls are fed beer and massaged to death, the Galloways are more used to fighting snowstorms and sharks, which gives their meat a distinct flavour.

Hrísey is also the place all cats and dogs

have to go to for isolation when being imported to Iceland. After their three month stint they can finally meet their impatient owners, all germ free, pure and slightly insane (Iceland is notorious for its strict animal importing restrictions; for instance, Icelandic horses who leave the country are never allowed to return. This is why you can find an annual Icelandic Horse World Championship on Europe's mainland, featuring only expat stallions).

Hrísey used to be the shark-fishing capital of the north, and the most notorious sharksman (that's a word) was Hákarla-Jörundur ("Shark-Jörundur"). He begat eighteen children and built his first family mansion, Syðsti-Bær, out of Norwegian wood from a brutally stranded ship out of Norway. Later he built a bigger mansion out of more solid material than driftwood, but the old one now houses an interesting museum about the island's history and its inhabitants. It's also the island's only museum. Unfortunately, we failed to see any sharks during our stay, but we're told we might get lucky next time. And there will be a next time.

Hrísey is also the only place where the Icelandic ptarmigans ("rjúpa"), an extremely clumsy looking, unflappable bird, is protected. Everywhere else those guys are hunted down and shot like clay pigeons, mostly due to their popularity as a main Christmas dish. It's therefore an extremely amusing sight to witness a group of dozen ptarmigans walk around obliviously in the middle of the street, like football hooligans in Manchester or something. The law protects 'em here, and they won't be shot. That's a nice thought.

The townspeople are proud of their recently renovated swimming pool, which is located on a hill with a great view over the rustling ocean. It also houses a brand new sports hall that has come to house the annual Þorrablót festivities, where the five locals get together and eat the most repulsive, old, improperly stored but delicious food available.

In Hrísey, they're used to driving around in massive Massey-Ferguson tractors. During summer, people can take an enlightening tour around the island in a small carriage carried by such a machine, narrated by an actor said to be living in the island.

Hrísey has only a single shop, aptly named Verslun ("shop"), where you can only buy bare necessities, like bread, butter and toy guns. They also give away free coffee, which astounded us greatly. The Grapevine has been to Hrísey a couple of times before, mostly during summer, when it could easily be mistaken for the most wonderful island in the world. But then again, we were astonished that anyone could possibly take the hassle of living in such isolation and darkness for the rest of the year. These two hundred (or five) people must know something we don't. When we find out, you will be the first to know. ☺

Trip provided by: Air Iceland
www.airiceland.is



AIR ICELAND

Air Iceland destinations



/ tel. 570 3030



THERE'S NO ESCAPING DOING THESE DISHES



ICICLES ARE CALLED GRÝLUKERTI IN ICELANDIC... TROLL'S CANDLES



YOU ARE LUCKY GOD, THAT I CANNOT REACH YOU!



ISLANDERS PAINT THEIR HOUSES BRIGHT SO THEY CAN FIND THEM



THE RJÚPA IS ON HRÍSEY'S COAT OF ARMS



AIR ICELAND

www.airiceland.is

Fly and discover

Get your action-packed day tour brochure at hotels, airports or any travel agent.



A Design For Life

Grapevine gets lost in style

During the last few weeks, it has undoubtedly been hard to ignore the various (and often minimal) design instalments scattered around town. Don't get me wrong though, to the untrained eye it might just seem that Icelanders are a colourful and artsy pack. But they aren't. These design figments floating around were apart of the several fashion happenings going down during the last two weeks or so. The festivals responsible for making some of our lives seem a bit more dazzling were The Nordic Fashion Biennale and DesignMarch, but they alone cannot be held responsible, as several 'off-venue' events played a crucial role.



MUNDI'S DESIGN HAS AN EXTRA CHROMOSOME

MINIATURE COMMUNITIES

One of these off-venue events was an exhibition hosted by the Icelandic Academy of the Arts, where architecture students had fabricated a micro version of Hverfisgata and its surroundings. After having knocked back a few-too-many cups of coffee, and having read up on the phenomenon all-too-well, it felt like I was actually hoofing down the street itself. Well, not really, but it was rather awesome to see an area you know so well from a giant's perspective, and it must have taken those kids months to replicate the street so thoroughly. There was also a selection of other works by students from other departments, probably on par with the architectural work, but fearing I would fall into another trance, I fled the scene.

Down at Hafnarhúsið, Mundi, the alleged prodigy of Icelandic design, exhibited his newest offerings. What struck the eye immediately were those walking down the catwalk. Mundi had very obviously deviated from the norm of having the standard anorexic, apathetic models modelling his designs, opting instead for individuals with Down syndrome to showcase his work. While taken as a novel gesture by the bulk of the crowd, some ex-

pressed mixed feelings about the whole scenario. Composer Ólafur Arnalds, one of Mundi's followers, found the deed magnificent and explained that if Mundi's designs were human, they'd definitely have the extra 21st chromosome, thus his choice of model was not in any sense exploitative.



"DANCING WITH CHLORINE IN MY EYES"

THE OPENING OF "THE OPENING" AND A CULTURAL MECCA IN THE SWAMP

The dance company bearing the magnetizing name "Spiral" premiered the piece "The Opening" in downtown's only swimming pool, Sundhöll Reykjavíkur. Choreographer Andreas Constatantinou depicted a world where nightmares and dreams emerge, and his intentions were, amongst others, to attack the spectator while in his most vulnerable state. This he achieved through various strategies, such as separating every guest from their companion, given that they had one, and, with no hope of a shoulder to cry on, he attacked. An anonymous member of the dance group described Constatantinou as a somewhat deranged artist, but after a short pause she took it further: "well, not exactly deranged, he's a complete wacko to be honest, and really the most nitpicking diva I've ever worked with."

At the Nordic House an infinite party was operated under the name "The Nordic Fashion Biennale," and when there wasn't champagne and fancy lectures up for grabs, there were hip bands, like Mammút or Agent Fresco, ravishing the crowd. All in all, the events that took place definitely lit up the bankrupt atmosphere currently prevailing in the streets of Reykjavík. And yeah, although I'm no David Fricke, and am maybe a little short on experience in these matters, I'd definitely rank this as the hippest long weekend on the annual design-festival calendar. ☺

Monsters and Mythical Beings



Nábuxur

These pants will keep you fat through any economic recession!

BY HAUKUR S MAGNÚSSON

This twelfth instalment in our Hugleikur Dagsson illustrated series of Iceland's monsters and mythical beings (or are they...?) uncovers a fashionable and lucrative garment entitled nábuxur (also: "nábrók" and "finnabrækur"). For the record, nábuxur translates as: "corpsepants." How cool is that?

Now, corpsepants don't really classify as a "monster" or "being," as they do not have a mind of their own and cannot move around freely. They're more of a mythical tool or entity, if you will, one that grants its owner great powers and serves a very specific purpose: bringing home the bacon. And since "the bacon" is in high demand these days, we felt these awesome pants merited a mention.

To make your very own pair of corpsepants, you must simply make an arrangement with a friend or acquaintance that entitles you to make use of his flesh after he's dead (you might want to get that in writing). Make sure that your friend is of the male variety, as the corpsepants' magical powers reside in the nutsack, which is exclusive to dudes. After your friend passes away, you must venture at night to the graveyard (or wherever he's buried), exhume the corpse and flay it from the waist down, being extra-careful not to puncture the skin anywhere. There must be no holes on your corpsepants, save for the ones you stick your legs through. Anyway, this should leave you with some leg-skin, which you must hoist over your own bare legs as soon as

possible.

Once you put them on, the fleshy pants will immediately graft onto your skin. To activate CORPSEPANT-POWER, you must then steal a coin from a poor widow during Christmas, Easter or Pentecost (and you must steal it between the time your minister reads his sermon and the Gospel). Place that coin firmly in the aforementioned nutsack of your cool new pants and voila – you will never be short on spare change again!

Yes, you read correctly. Given that you followed the above directions to a tee, your stolen coin will now generate an endless amount of fresh coins in your pants' nutsack. Whenever you need money, you can simply reach in and pull some out. Change for a dollar? There you go. Vending machine soda, anytime you like? No problem! However, be sure to not remove the original widow's coin, as that'll break the spell and leave you penniless.

Though it's unbelievable that anyone would want to remove such an awesome pair of pants, keep in mind that taking them off is no mean feat. To go pants-free, you must convince a buddy to take them on, putting on one pants-leg as soon as you slide it off. He won't be able to back out once he has taken the first step, either, so try and convince him or her while drunk, if you can. ☺



The only thing lower than the standard of this ad ...

... the price of a Sixt Rent a Car.

(Book at www.sixt.is, call 540 2222 or contact your Hotel reception.)

gogoyoko

fair play in music

gogoyoko.com/videos

Once you put them on, the fleshy pants will immediately graft onto your skin. To activate CORPSEPANT-POWER, you must then steal a coin from a poor widow during Christmas, Easter or Pentecost...

This whole thing with the corpsepants is rather unpleasant.

PAGE 30

Since it has the same sound spectrum as the human voice, the cello gets very close to people, and of course the way the instrument resembles the human form, people have a lot more to relate to than with many other instruments used in experimental music.

Hildur Guðnadóttir talks to Ragnar Hrólfs-son about her most excellent new album.

PAGE 26

Bloggers seem to be competing in who-can-use-the-nastiest-language when describing how utterly stupid we are: myopic, stupid, naive, stupid, immature, stupid, overly-confident, stupidly optimistic, stupid and irrational. And stupid.

Some bloggers are apparently making stupid statements. Imagine that.











PAGE 10

Hrísey used to be the shark-fishing capital of the north, and the most notorious sharksmen (that's a word) was Hákarla-Jörundur ("Shark-Jörundur"). He begat eighteen children and built his first family mansion, Syðsti-Bær, out of Norwegian wood from a brutally stranded Norwegian ship.

Although currently lacking in sharksmen, Hrísey is still damn nice.

PAGE 28



-  Kynntu þér úrræði vegna greiðsluerfiðleika
-  ครัวเรือนรู้และติดตามข้อมูลเกี่ยวกับวิธีการต่างๆ ที่สามารถลดภาระในการชำระหนี้สินของท่าน
-  Познакомьтесь с возможными решениями проблемы выплат по займам
-  Hãy tìm hiểu về các giải pháp cho những khó khăn về tài chính
-  Olaksice za one koji imaju problema sa placanjem kredita
-  Cómo las distintas soluciones a tus problemas de pago
-  Zapoznaj się z możliwościami rozwiązywania problemów finansowych
-  Check out our options in case of financial difficulties
-  Seneste nyt vedrørende løsninger af økonomiske problemer
-  Conheça os recursos disponíveis áqueles com dificuldades de pagamento de empréstimos



www.ils.is / www.hff.is

Borgartúni 21, 105 Reykjavík
Tel: 569 6900, 800 6969, ils@ils.is

Gogoyoko presents:

**GRAPEVINE
GRAND ROCK**

Grand Rokk % 22:00 % Friday April 17 2009 % 1.000 ISK

**Sprengjuhöllin
Sin Fang Bous
+ very special guests**

**gogo
yoko**

 The
REYKJAVÍK
GRAPEVINE