

Nordic Film Series

Winter, 2012; Fridays at 7 pm; 177 Lawrence Hall

FREE and open to the public

Allt Flyter (2008)



Despite their relatively small populations, the five Nordic countries Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, and Iceland—have a remarkably active film industry. Yet few Americans have ever seen a single film from any of these countries. This series aims to change that. Come sample a rich variety of wonderful contemporary films, all of them in the original language with subtitles in English.

Each film is preceded by a short presentation about a particular aspect of the country in which the film was made—culture, geography, language, etc.—as well as a brief introduction to the film itself. At the conclusion of each film, audience members who wish to stay for another 10-15 minutes are invited to participate in a short, not-overly-academic discussion of the film.

Lawrence Hall is located in the central part of the University of Oregon campus, about 100 yards north of the intersection of 13th and University. Please use the building's south entrance just below the Architecture and Allied Arts Library, and proceed straight ahead to 177.

6 January

The Girl (Flickan) 2009

Directed by Fredrik Edfeldt

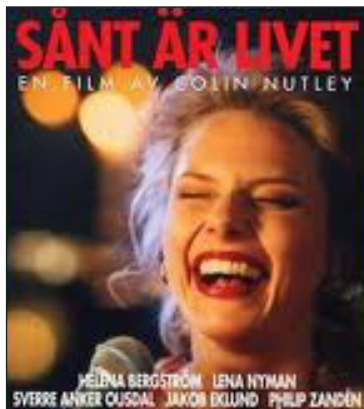
It's rural Sweden in 1981. The parents of a 9-year-old girl take a trip to Africa and leave their daughter in the care of a female relative—who has her own life to pursue and leaves the child largely unsupervised. The girl uses her new freedom to discover the world around her, from the forgotten corners of her house to the landscape beckoning outside. (Sweden, 95 minutes)

13 January

Such is Life (Sånt Är Livet) 1996

Directed by Colin Nutley

Tin-Tin Matsson plays the piano and sings in a bar, and is having a mid-life crisis. Her two greatest dreams—to play in the piano-bar of the Grand Hotel in Stockholm, and to be married before her 30th birthday—remain unrealized. Fortunately, or maybe not, she has three suitors who might help her fulfill at least one of her dreams: her live-in boyfriend, a hotel owner from Norrland, and a Norwegian businessman. (Sweden, 131 minutes)



20 January

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo (Män Som Hatar Kvinnor) 2009

Directed by Niels Arden Oplev

In this Swedish thriller, based on the first novel from Stieg Larsson's best-selling trilogy, journalist Mikael Blomkvist and rebellious computer hacker Lisbeth Salander team up to investigate the unsolved disappearance of wealthy Henrik Vanger's teen-age niece, Harriet, some 40 years earlier. When the pair link Harriet's disappearance to a number of grisly murders, they begin to unravel a dark and appalling family history. (Sweden, 152 minutes)

27 January

The Girl Who Played with Fire (Flickan Som Lekte Med Elden) 2009

Directed by Daniel Alfredson

In part two of Stieg Larsson's trilogy, the saga of journalist Mikael Blomkvist and hacker Lisbeth Salander continues. As Mikael and his fellow journalists investigate a sex-trafficking

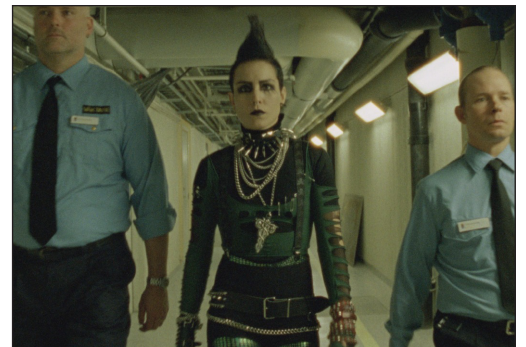
ring, three people wind up dead, and Lisbeth is accused of the murders—as her fingerprints are found on the weapon. While Mikael works to clear her name, Lisbeth is on the run and seeking personal vengeance on the man from her dark past who framed her. (Sweden, 129 minutes)

3 February

The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest (Luftslottet Som Sprängdes) 2009

Directed by Daniel Alfredson

This, the third in the trio of films inspired by Stieg



Larsson's "Millennium Trilogy," follows feisty Lisbeth Salander who, as the film begins, is under close supervision in a Göteborg hospital after being shot in the head. Upon her eventual release, Salander is set to face trial for attempted murder. With the help of journalist Mikael Blomkvist and his researchers at Millennium magazine, Salander must prove her innocence. In doing this, she plays against powerful enemies as well as her own past. (Sweden, 147 minutes)

10 February

The Swimsuit Issue (Allt Flyter) 2008

Directed by Måns Herngren

In this comedy, Fredrik, in the wake of a wild bachelor party that includes some hijinks in a swimming pool, discovers a passion for synchronized swimming. After convincing his buddies to join him and form Sweden's only all-male team, the middle-aged mermen work to improve their swimming as they set their sights on the world championship in Berlin. (Sweden, 100 minutes)

17 February

Troubled Water (De Usynlige) 2008

Directed by Erik Poppe

After serving time in prison for murdering a child, Jan Thomas takes a job as a church organist and becomes involved with Anna, a pastor and single mother. But the crime he insists he did not commit still haunts him. He is able to keep his past a secret from Anna, but when a local woman recognizes him as the convicted killer of her son, his new life is threatened in this tense drama. (Norway, 115 minutes)

(please turn)

24 February

Zappa (Zappa) 1984

Directed by Bille August

A precursor to August's *Twist and Shout* (1984), *Zappa* tells the story of three teenagers growing up in early-1960s suburban Copenhagen. Bjørn is a middle-class boy in his early teens

who wants to be accepted by his friend Steen; Steen is a bully with wealthy but incredibly distant parents; and Mulle is a cheerful working-class boy. Miserable at home, the boys find escape in shoplifting, sexual exploration, and increasingly violent behavior. (Denmark, 103 minutes)



neering mother, leaves his contented life in Stockholm and returns home to Denmark to assume control of the failing family business. As he tries to turn around the foundering steel works company, the dutiful son learns hard lessons about competition, sacrifice, and the conflict between corporate values and personal needs—and both his family life and self-respect suffer. (Denmark, 115 minutes)

9 March

Letters to Father Jacob (Postia Pappi Jaakobille) 2009

Directed by Klaus Härö

With nowhere else to turn to after her unexpected release from prison, cold-blooded murderer Leila reluctantly accepts a job reading and answering the letters of the needy as an assistant to blind pastor Jacob, whom she deeply resents at first but gradually grows to admire. The film is a heartwarming tale of personal redemption by the director of the much-loved *Mother of Mine* (2005). (Finland, 74 minutes)

2 March

The Inheritance (Arven) 2003

Directed by Per Fly

After his father's suicide, Christoffer, at the behest of his domi-

Flickan (2009)



This film series is organized and hosted by Whitey Lueck. It is supported in part by *Friends of Scandinavian Studies* (a community group that provides financial and other support to the Scandinavian Studies program at the University) and *Vasa Order of America, Odin Lodge* (a nationwide fraternal organization for people of Swedish descent).

Back by Popular Demand!

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Fridays at 7pm • January 6th to March 10th

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL
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FILM
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