

# NSU 2014 Krækingur-Online

Sauðárkrókur, Iceland

Sunday 27th of July

**Culture event  
In Haugsnes field**

Today at 19:30 the municipality of Skagafjörður will invite NSU participants to experience the historical Battlefield of Haugsnes with guidance around the area and some historical explanations.

The Battle of Haugsnes, Haugsnesbardagi in Icelandic, was fought at a low peninsula south of Flugumýri in Skagafjörður on April 19, 1246 between two hostile Chieftains in Iceland during the Sturlung Era (Sturlungaöld), a period in Iceland's history marked by violence and conflicts. The battle was fought with the highest number of casualties in Icelandic history. The combatants of the battle numbered more than 1000 men, close to 2,5% of the Icelandic population at the time, and ended in about 110 deaths.

Haugsnesbardagi marked one of the stepping stones towards the end of the Icelandic commonwealth, which came to an end with the signing of the Old Covenant (Gamli sáttmáli) in 1262 and brought Iceland under the Norwegian crown.

After having been introduced to this dramatic history, it is ideal to relax in one of Iceland's most interesting swimming pool at Hofsós, enjoying the breathtaking view over Skagafjörður and Drangey island from the hot tub. People will be offered a glass of white wine and taste of local beer. Estimated time of return is at 23:30, it is possible though to return earlier. Don't forget your swimsuit!



**Krækingur  
Photobucket  
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## Weather report

Sunday 27th of July

Supplied by the Icelandic weather service,  
Bergstaðir station Sauðárkróki.

10:00

+12

1 m/s



12:00

+13

2 m/s



15:00

+14

4 m/s



18:00

+12

4 m/s



21:00

+13

1 m/s



# Krækingur Chronicle



City official Magnús Sveinsson cuts the ribbon on the draft beer in downtown Reykjavík on the 1st of March 1989.

Prohibition in Iceland went into effect in 1915 and lasted, to some extent, until March 1, 1989, which has since been celebrated as “Beer Day”. The ban had originally prohibited all alcohol, but from 1935 onward only applied to “strong” beer which was with an alcohol content of 2.25 percent or more. What’s ironic is that beer was banned for longer than stronger liquor and alcohol even though a main purpose for the ban was to decrease the consumption of alcohol in Iceland. After harsh political battles in the 1980’s beer was legalized on the 1st of March 1989. Despite all the warnings, the Icelandic family and society in general, did not collapse.



## Meeting about the future of NSU

The board would like to invite everyone for a meeting to discuss ideas for NSU's future. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss how we can continue building on and developing NSU in the line of what we see and define as NSU.

What initiatives should be taken in the nearest future to keep NSU alive, to make it an attractive place for us and to others who will find their way to NSU?

What is it that defines NSU and what is the idea we wish to protect and develop?

The meeting is about what we think about NSU, and wish for NSU. It is not for discussing how we can comply with possible pressure from the outside or conform to different expectations and rules of

academic management. It is to answer questions such as how should we attract more participants? Should we work towards creating study circles within specific fields of particular interest to NSU? What forms of work can we develop within NSU? Do we organise our workload in the best way? Can the format of the summer session be changed and

developed? And many more questions.

This concerns both the content and the form of NSU.

Come Sunday at 17:00 and share ideas and engage in discussions about NSU. This is for everyone to take part in. As newcomers to NSU, do not hesitate to come even though you perhaps feel you do not know NSU well. We really need to hear what fresh eyes can see.



### 5am breakfast on Monday

Circle 7 invites you for a 5am breakfast in the beautiful nature outside Monday morning. Everyone welcome to join.

### Crash Course in Icelandic

Today's challenge is **HV**

HV is pronounced as KV. You can encounter words like hvar [where], hvarf [disappear] and hvalurinn [whale].

Hvert hvarf hvalurinn?  
[Where did the whale disappear?]

## The legend of Drangey

Once upon a time there were a pair of trolls living in Skagafjörður. They were night trolls, the kind who turn to stone when exposed to sunlight, and therefore they only venture out at night. They had a huge cow which provided them with milk. The cow came into season, and since the nearest bull was on the other side of the fjord, they had a long way to take the cow. At sunset they started wading across the fjord, the old man pulling the stubborn cow behind him, and his wife pushing after it. The going was slower than they had expected, and at dawn they still had some way to go. When the sun's rays struck them, all three were turned to stone and became the island of Drangey, and two pillars of rock at either end of the island, after which it was named. (Drangey means "Island of the rock pillars"). The pillars were given the names Kerlingin (the old woman) and Karlinn (the old man). Karlinn collapsed into the sea in the 18th century, but Kerlingin is still standing strong.

Girlpower!



Slavoj Žižek with his beloved microphone.

## Heard in the bar - Iceland 1995

Attending this year's Summer Session, there are people who remember at least a few of the previous NSU visits to Iceland. The reporter of Krækingur overheard some reminiscences about the 1995 Summer Session, when the keynote speakers were Karen Armstrong and Slavoj Žižek.

The conditions at the power station at Nesjavellir were rather more primitive than today's comparative luxury. Together with even for Icelandic standards abysmal weather and power failures, the constant earthquakes kept people on the edge. Four days into the 10-day Summer Session, Karen Armstrong confessed to our reminiscer: "Listen — I've been a nun for forty years, and this is the closest to hell I've ever been." She left Iceland then and there, never to return. The other keynote, Slavoj Žižek, showed his audience how much he loves the microphone by asking continually for more time ("Can I speak for 5 more minutes?"). This he kept on doing even as his transport to the airport was about to leave. Finally his wife, Renata Salecl, literally had to drag him off the stage. He still continued to speak while backing towards the door.

Do you have any more memories of old summer sessions, perhaps in Iceland? Please send them to us at [nsuavis2014@gmail.com](mailto:nsuavis2014@gmail.com)

## Invitation to establish NSU Proceedings

At different occasions it has been brought up that we should create a NSU journal with proceedings from our seminars based on a small selection (4-8) of the many presentations we have during the sessions.

This is an invitation to forming an editorial group for establish such a journal.

The journal should have two annual issues, one after each session. For a start we will begin with a summer issue and next year see how this works before launching also one after the winter.

Many presentations already become public in our anthologies, in journals related to sessions in some circles, and because they are part of the work of the participants.

Still, there will be presentations that could be published after the sessions. Within the three years of a circle's life span it is long to wait for contributing to an anthology, and not all participants follow the circle and participate in the anthology.

To create NSU proceedings will also contribute to the visibility of NSU and it will also enable some participants to have support for their participation as many institutions only support travel to conferences if publication is made.

NSU proceedings should follow rules of review and have an editor/editorial group. It will be an online journal with open access. The exact plan for organising the journal will be for the involved editors to decide. As the circles are very different in form and content we should not have a too strict standard for the format of contribution, but some guidelines to follow.

A contribution should be 6-12 pages. Illustrations admitted if the author provides permission for printing (there will be no money for buying images).

A standard system of references. Contribution should not have been published previously; however an already published article substantial rewritten is admitted.

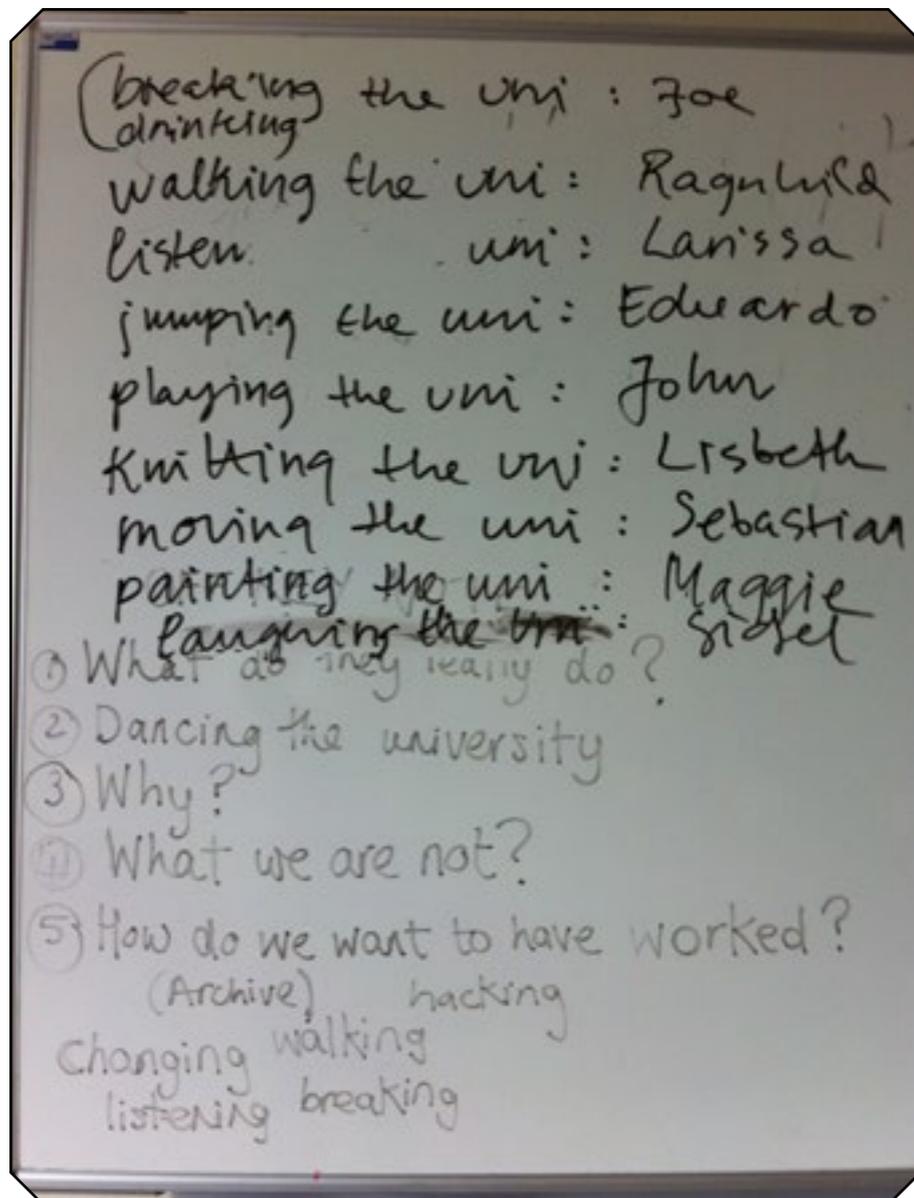
Languages accepted are Scandinavian and English.

An abstract of 100-150 words in English is required.

A deadline for contribution – proof read and edited – is 1 October for the summer, and 1 May for the winter.

If interested in being part of the editorial group, please contact Carsten at [carsten.friberg@gmail.com](mailto:carsten.friberg@gmail.com)

# Krækingur Youtube channel press here!



## Off Keynote - Planning meeting II

Today subgroups for the Off Keynote on Tuesday will form (see photo on the right). Everybody interested in joining please meet at 13:00 in the room of study circle 8 (behind the cafeteria).

## Special guest



Minister of Social Affairs and Housing, Eygló Harðardóttir will pay us a visit today out of interest and curiosity about NSU.

The advent of the visit by the Minister of Social Affairs and Housing today, Eygló Harðardóttir, gives Krækingur a great opportunity to introduce you to the Icelandic political landscape. The current seatholders at Alþingi were elected in the spring of 2013 forming the coalition government between the conservative Sjálfstæðisflokkurinn and the centrist Framsóknarflokkurinn. This succeeded the coalition between the social-democrat Samfylkingin and the left-green Vinstrihreyfingin grænt framboð. These four parties in addition to the liberal Píratar and liberal-democrat Björt Framtíð form the total parliamentary party participation.

### Shortlist of previous governments

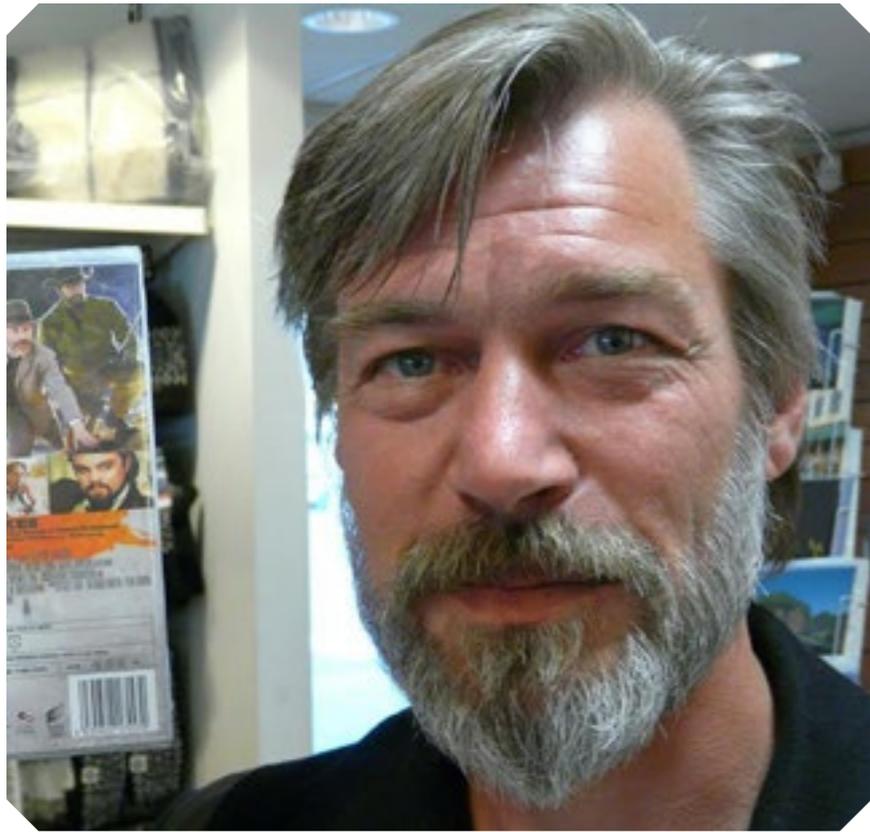
Sjálfstæðisflokkurinn (Cons) & Framsóknarflokkurinn (Centre) 1995-2007

Sjálfstæðisflokkurinn (Cons) & Samfylkingin (SocDem) 2007-2009

Samfylkingin (SocDem) & Vinstrihreyfingin Grænt framboð (LGreen) 2009-2013

Framsóknarflokkurinn (Centre) & Sjálfstæðisflokkurinn (Cons) Incumbent

# Today's doppelganger



Dr. King Schultz in Django Unchained



Erik Steinskog

If you like that one you can buy the doll!



# Children's circle proposal



To NSU,

Concerning the organisation of the Summer Sessions.

After seven great summers with NSU, this summer should have been me and my sons eighth; I have some propositions concerning how to make the arrangements for the children's circle in future summer-sessions.

To me, as to many hard-working persons, it has been a lovely experience and privilege to have the opportunity to bring my child/young one with me to NSU. However, for the children to get a taste of what NSU stands for and for the parents to be able to work, the importance of having a well-functioned children's circle is vital. The way to achieve this can definitely vary, but the base is to have an interesting program for different ages, good personal and good youth leaders with thorough experience with NSU, perhaps also as former member in the children's circle.

This year we missed NSU because we missed applying for a youth-leader-job. When we got in touch with Arrkom the places were already filled without any announcement from Arrkom's side.

Consider the above; I would suggest that there should be a procedure for how to organize the children's circle. I would suggest that each Arrkom should:

- Publish notice and announce the need for a youth leader together with the invitation to the Summer Session, with a clear deadline, so everyone has the chance to apply
- Make the process transparent, so everybody can understand why somebody got the job and why someone else did not
- Hire a professional leader to take responsibility for the children's circle: for the daily activities and for the functioning of the whole circle
- Prepare a program for all different ages participating

If the tendency is that there are many young persons wanting to participate in the NSU Summer Session, I think arr-kom should consider if there is some work need to be done within the summer-session that they can do and then hire them to do it. It is important though that there is some responsible adult being able to function as supervisor/manager to lead the work.

With hopes and wishes to see you in the future,

Fia Adler Sandblad

Actress/playwright/artistic director, Master of fine Arts

Member of circle 7 since 2007

## NSU books for sale!

Learning from the Other: Intercultural Meta-logues. Red. Michael Paulsen, Oleg Koefoed, Christian Ydesen & Joakim Kromann, 2011.

Sense and Senses in Aesthetics. Red. Per Bäckström & Troels Degn Johansson, 2002.

Fotografiske dialekter. Red. Jannie Uhre Mogensen og Claus Krogholm, 2006.

Välfärdspolitik i praktiken. Om perspektiv och metoder i forskning. Red. Elinor Brunnberg och Elisabeth Cedersund, 2007.

Æstetik og politisk magt. Otte analyser af aktuelle forhold mellem æstetik og politik. Red. Marie Østergaard Møller & Sara Nordmann Thorsen, 2008.

Tong Shijun, Theoretical Dialogues in Practice (NSU Summertalks #4). 2009.

Peter Wagner, Plurality and Progress. Modernity in Political Philosophy and Historical Sociology. 2010.

500 ISK each

Contact Ingibjörg for preview or to buy,  
tel. +354 694 6170



## Micro bar & bed

On the main street in Sauðárkrókur is a brand new bar called Micro bar and bed. The bar is located in a 100 year old house which used to be pharmacy in the old days. Owners of the bar are the local Árni Hafstað, and his wife Birgitte Bærendtsen.

In February 2011 they set up a micro-brewery called Gæingur Öl at their home in Útvík in Skagafjörður. Gæingur Öl's production soon became very popular and during the next year they opened a bar in Reykjavík, called MicroBar.

This year the couple decided to open a bar in Árni's hometown, Sauðárkrókur. Micro bar and bed is considered particularly friendly and the locals are extremely happy about it and crowd together at the bar all week. The bar is really stylish; the walls are covered with drawings by Huggleikur Dagsson, a known graphic designer from Iceland who is related to Árni. Huggleikur also designs Gæingur Öl's bottles.

Kristveig Anna Jónsdóttir, a young krækingur who is a head bartender at the bar this summer. According to Kristveig the reception was a pleasant surprise to Árni and his crew, and the bar is very successful. Micro Bar's target-group is middle aged people who want to go down town and have a nice drink at a calm place. The customers are both locals and tourists, Kristveig says that according to the population of the town many krækingar (locals) come to the bar all week.

## The Tannery Visitor Centre



Sauðárkrókur is a small but dynamic town. Sauðárkrókur is a thriving fishing community and the centre of services and manufacturing in this prosperous agricultural region. Thus it is no coincidence that Iceland's only tannery is located in Sauðárkrókur.

Located in the same building as the tannery is a Tannery Visitor Centre called Gestastofa Sútarans. At the Centre you can buy leather and hides at an economical price, direct from the tannery. Two companies, Atlantic Leather and Loðskinn, operate within the tannery: Atlantic Leather makes leather from the skins of salmon, ocean perch, spotted wolffish and cod, while Loðskinn's main production is decorative longhair lambskins, as well as lamb and reindeer leather, etc. At the Visitor Centre all these types of leather are for sale, along with first-hand information about the products.

Edda Borg Stefánsdóttir works in the Centre during this summer. It's Edda's first summer and she likes it very much. She says the Tannery Visitor Centre is a fun place to work at, full of diversity and options. The clients are as different as they are many, all from local sewing amateurs to big fashion chains like Prada and Nike. The centre is very popular among tourists and they buy a lot of souvenirs and presents to bring back home. The Icelandic clients buy more of the skins to make something out of them themselves.

According to Edda the hardest question she gets from costumers is when they ask her what you can make from fish skins, because there is no answer to that question. You can basically make anything you want, it's about what you like, your creativity and imagination. The options are endless, you can literally tan anything, Edda could tan you guys if she wanted to. She told me that actually once there was a designer that wanted them to tan a peace of his own skin to put in a jacket he was making, they said thanks, but no thanks. You've got to draw the line somewhere, right?

The Tanning Centre in Sauðárkrókur is the only one in Iceland, and the only one in Europe that tans fish skins. This industry is growing every year, and that is a great thing because what they do is basically just use what otherwise would be thrown away from the slaughter houses and fish markets. So this is 100% a win-win situation, and a very green and environmentally friendly company. Edda of course welcomes you to the Gestastofa if you want to see it for yourself or learn more about it.

The Tanning Centre open weekdays from 9 to 18 and at 10 and 14 o'clock Edda takes people on guided tours, the price is 500 per person.

# Today's program

Sunday 27th of July

	Circle 1	Circle 2	Circle 3	Circle 4	Circle 5	Circle 7	Circle 8	Circle X
9.00-10.30	Visit Circle 3	Reading time	Giorgio Baruchello: Reflections on Castoriadis' 'The Crisis of Modern Society'	Notes from yesterday, discussion Kjersti Aarstein: Love Stories in Two contemporary Norwegian Novels	Visit other circles	Maggie Jackson: "On the Road (again)"	Valdimar Halldorsson: Communities, Individuals and Festivals Affecting Each Other + Visit other circles	Shadows of Universalism: The Untold Story of Human Rights around 1948 – Lydia H. Liu Short presentation by Rebecka Lettevall Discussion
10.45-12.15	Workshop on current tendencies in higher education (neoliberalism, marketization)	Discussion: Gernot Böhme: Atmosphere as the Fundamental Concept of New Aesthetics	Agust Thor Arnason: "Could a different type of Constitution have prevented the Crisis of 2008-2010?"  Maria Refer: Halldor Laxnes and Martin A. Hansen -Two Perspectives on the History of Iceland	Pia Hylén: Sexuality, Words + the Body	Visit other circles	Ehinomen Oboh: The Power of Text in Artwork  Ragnhild Freng Dale: Placing the performative-speaking from attentive presence	Sara Seeberg Laursen: Transforming pain: Treatment processes in a hospital clinic for youngsters with medically unexplained pain	Discussion: Bombing Gaza - Will the Gaza conflict turn into a third Intifada?  The role of academia in discussion of the conflict: Free speech/ censorship
14.00-15.30	Workshop continued  Discussion: the future of NSU, study programme	Johanna Ross: Relationships in the "Everyday" of War: Soviet Estonian War Novels by Women Authors	Øjvind Larsen: The Revival of Political Economy – From Adam Smith to Thomas Piketty  Jacob Rendtorff: Economy and morality in Piketty's critique of Inequality And Capitalism	Sofie Marhaug: Explorations of Kafka through the paradigms of Lacan, Deleuze and Zizek	Lars Ylander: Passages Through P-modern Metaphor: A Visit to the garden of Cosmic Speculation	Anna Frew: My Book Has Eyes- Digital texts that perceive the reader  Amélie Brisson-Darveau and Christoph Brunner Milieus of Texture: Relaying Practices between Art and Philosophy	Reading: Hochschild	
15.45-17.00	Keynote: Erin Manning	Keynote: Erin Manning	Keynote: Erin Manning	Keynote: Erin Manning	Keynote: Erin Manning	Keynote: Erin Manning	Keynote: Erin Manning	Keynote: Erin Manning

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