

# Nordic Museum <sup>Heritage</sup>

Share the Nordic Spirit!

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## NORDIC HERITAGE MUSEUM ANNOUNCES THIRD ANNUAL NORDIC LIGHTS FILM FESTIVAL JANUARY 6 – 8, 2012 AT SIFF

**Seattle**—The Nordic Heritage Museum announces the third annual Nordic Lights Film Festival on January 6 – 8, 2012. This cutting-edge cinematic festival offers an immersion into the world of hot Nordic films during the chilly winter film season, focusing on contemporary, award-winning films from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. All films are presented at the new SIFF Cinema Center, located in Seattle in the Seattle Center's Northwest Rooms, between the Key Arena and the Seattle Repertory Theatre.

"We have a great line-up of Nordic movies, documentaries and shorts that will appeal to the general public as well as to those who are specifically interested in Nordic film," said Eric Nelson, the Nordic Heritage Museum's CEO. "There has been a surge of interest in Scandinavian films, but few make it to mainstream US theaters. This is a good opportunity to experience a diverse selection of award-winning films, and Seattle audiences will have the opportunity to meet two filmmakers from Sweden, Anna Wessman and Nilsmagnus Sköld, who are coming to the Northwest to present their film."

The festival will open Friday, January 6 with a reception at SIFF beginning at 7 pm, hosted by SWEA (Swedish Women's Educational Association), followed by the US premiere of the Swedish documentary *When the Pepper Blossoms*. The documentary will be presented by the film's directors: Anna Wessman and Nilsmagnus Sköld. The Nordic Heritage Museum is also hosting a lunch and lecture with Wessman and Sköld at noon on January 6 at the Museum.

On Saturday, the highlights include the popular Finnish children's animated *Moomins and the Comet Chase*, shown in English with no subtitles, and a rare showing of an award-winning Sami documentary, *Suddenly Sami*, from Norway. The Saturday festival will also include the Swedish feature film *Miss Kicki*, the first-ever film collaboration between Scandinavia and Taiwan; the

Finnish comedy feature *Lapland Odyssey*, and the Oscar and Golden Globe-winning Danish feature film *In a Better World*, directed by Susanne Bier, plus the always-popular *Nordic Shorts*.

Sunday's highlights include the award-winning Swedish documentary *The Regretters*, and the Icelandic feature film *Summerland*. The festival will conclude with the Norwegian feature film *King of Devil's Island*, directed by Marius Holst.

Admission is \$7 for Nordic Heritage Museum members and SIFF members; \$10 for the general public, \$9 for students, and \$5 for the noon matinées on both Saturday and Sunday (*Moomins* on Saturday and *Suddenly Sami* on Sunday). A Nordic Lights Film Festival pass will be also available for purchase through SIFF, \$40 for members and \$50 for the general public. All ticketing will be through SIFF.

For more information about the films or to buy tickets, visit: [www.SIFF.net](http://www.SIFF.net). Show times and information: call 206.633.7151 | Tickets: call 206.324.9996. SIFF Cinema Center is located in Seattle Center's Northwest rooms (formerly the Alki Room), between Key Arena and the Seattle Repertory Theatre. For more information about the Nordic Lights Film Festival, visit [www.nordicmuseum.org](http://www.nordicmuseum.org).

The Nordic Lights Film Festival is made possible through major support from the Nordic Culture Fund with additional funding from Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation, Scan Design Foundation by Inger & Jens Bruun, and SWEA. The festival's media sponsor is KUOW.

### **About the Nordic Heritage Museum**

With over 55,000 visitors annually, the Nordic Heritage Museum is a cultural treasure in the Pacific Northwest. It is the only museum in the United States that represents the cultural heritage of all five Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. The Museum's mission is to share Nordic culture with people of all ages and backgrounds by exhibiting art and objects, preserving collections, providing educational and cultural experiences and serving as a community gathering place. The Nordic Heritage Museum presents a wide range of vibrant programs including contemporary art exhibitions, outstanding concerts, lectures and films and a variety of special events throughout the year.



**NORDIC LIGHTS FILM FESTIVAL SCHEDULE  
JANUARY 6 – 8, 2012**

**Friday**

7:00 pm

Reception hosted by SWEA Seattle

8:00 pm

Documentary

US Premiere of *When the Pepper Blossoms* 60 min. (Sweden)

Produced by: Anna Wessman and Nilsmagnus Sköld

**Saturday**

12:00 pm

Children's Animated Movie

*Moomins and the Comet Chase* 75 min. (Finland)

Directed by: Maria Lindberg

2:00 pm

Feature

*Miss Kicki* 88 min. (Sweden)

Directed by: Håkon Liu

4:00 pm

Feature

*Lapland Odyssey* 92 min. (Finland)

Directed by: Dome Karukoski

6:00 pm

Feature

*In a Better World* 119 min. (Denmark)

Directed by: Susanne Bier

9:00 pm

Nordic Shorts

We are proud to present a series of award winning shorts from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. Film makers from the Nordic countries have a reputation of producing critically acclaimed short movies. This selection will showcase recent productions.

**Sunday**

12:00 pm

Documentary

*Suddenly Sami* 52 min. (Norway)

Directed by: Ellen-Astri Lundby

2:00 pm

Feature

*Summerland* 85 min. (Iceland)

Directed by: Grímur Hákonarson

4:00 pm

Short/documentary

*Not Panic / Inte Panik* 12 min. (Sweden)

Directed by: Elisabeth Marjanovic Cronval

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*The Regretters* 60 min. (Sweden)

Directed by: Marcus Lindeen

7:00 pm

Feature

*King of Devil's Island* 120 min (Norway)

Directed by: Marius Holst

\*Please note – this schedule is subject to change.