

HUMANITIES WEST PRESENTS

Circumpolar Culture

Contemporary Perspectives of Ancient Peoples of the Arctic North

June 8, 2003 Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco

presented in cooperation with the Consulates General of Norway, Sweden and Finland, the American-Scandinavian Foundation, the Fort Mason Foundation and the Saami-Baiki Foundation



Circumpolar Culture

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, JUNE 8

FAITH FJELD, Moderator

10:00 AM *Lecture*

**MORE THAN A HUNDRED WORDS FOR SNOW:
SAMI LANGUAGE AND TRADITION**

Harald Gaski will overview Sami history and introduce us to the traditional viewpoint of the Sami. We will also learn about how new media is innovatively incorporating an expression of Sami identity today.

11:00 am (lecture)

**INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ON TWO CONTINENTS: CONSIDERATIONS ON
RECLAIMING AND RENEWING SAMI AND NATIVE AMERICAN SOCIETIES**

Rauna Kuokkanen will offer a comparative perspective on some of the central trends in these processes taking place in Samiland and in North America.

BREAK FOR LUNCH 12 noon – 1:30 PM (Concessions available in the theater lobby)

1:30 PM *Lecture*

SAMI ARTS: A SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL SURVIVAL AND CULTURAL IDENTITY

Sami artist **Rose-Marie Huuva** will share the many forms of Sami art, showing slide images from the Ajtte Swedish Mountain and Sami Museum in Jokkmokk, Sweden.

2:15 PM *Panel Discussion*

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE "INDIGENOUS" IN THE 21ST CENTURY?

3:15 PM *Performance*

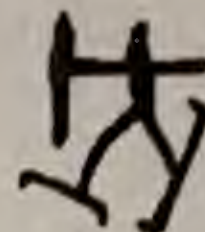
THE SAMI JOIK: A WAY OF UNDERSTANDING NATURE

ANDE SOMBY will demonstrate the oldest musical expression still alive in Europe. Somby will also perform with the **Larry Vuckovich Trio** (**Larry Vuckovich**, piano; **Omar Clay**, drums; **Buca Necak**, bass).



A partial timeline for Circumpolar Cultures with exploration and historical dates

18,000 years ago	First Inuit people arrive from Asia on Bering Land Bridge
330 BCE	Greek navigator and geographer, Pytheas sails in vicinity of Iceland. He reaches an island he names Thule.
850 AD	Norse people settle in Iceland
9th century	Viking chieftain, Ottar, sails around the North Cape and follows the Norwegian coast to Kola, before reaching the White Sea.
981 AD	Eric the Red visits the Northwest coast of Greenland
1360	Germans founds the Hanseatic Office, in Bergen
1490 AD	John Cabot first proposes existence of a Northwest Passage
1500's	Whalers explore from Baffin Island to Novaya Zemlya.
1555	Olaus Magnus publishes his work, <i>Historia de Gentibus Septentrionalibus</i>
1586	John Davis explores western shores of Greenland
1594-1597	William Barentsz discovers Svalbard and seeks Northeast Passage
1599	The Danish-Norwegian king, Christian IV, leaves on a journey from Copenhagen to Finnmark and to the northwestern part of Russia.
1619	Jens Munk sails on a voyage to find the Northwest Passage
1648	Semyon Dezhnev finds Northeast Passage
1670	Frenchman la Martiniere rounds the coast from Finnmark to Russia
1673	<i>Lapponia</i> by Johannes Schefferus published—first comprehensive work on Sami culture.
1685	Burning of the Sami drums, persecution of those who practice the old religion, destruction of holy sites and idols.
1693	Sami Lars Nilsson from Arjeplog is burned at the stake for "Witchcraft"
1701	The district governor of Finnmark from 1684-1701 is Hans H. Lilienskiold who writes several works on Finnmark and the northern areas illustrated with beautiful water colors.
1728	Vitus Bering discovers Bering Strait while seeking NE Passage
1734-43	A Nordic expedition conducted experiments along the Siberian coastline. Carolus Linnaeus, a botanist, makes an important journey to Lapland to conduct botanical studies.
1739	<i>The Trumpet of Nordland</i> is printed, 32 years after the death of its author, Petter Dass.
1751	By royal decree "Lapland" is created, with the passing of this law for this region the huntingrights are divided between the Sami's and the settlers
1755	The new testament is translated to the Ume-Sami language, the Old testament in 1811
1767	Knud Leem publishes <i>Beskrivelse over Finmarkens Lapper</i> ("An Account of the Laplanders of Finmark, their Language, Manners, and Religion")
1770	Ivan Lyakhov explores Novosibersky Ostrova in Siberia
1780	<i>The Lexicon Lapponicum</i> , a Sami- Swedish- Sami dictionary, are published which intended for missionaries.
1789	The Pomor Trade legalized
1795	French prince Louis Philippe visits the North Cape. Swedish A.F. Skjoldebrand and Italian Guiseppe Acerbi visited four years later. Marked the beginnings of tourism to the North Cape.
1809	The border between Finland (at this time not an independent national state) and Norway is drawn
1822	William Parry sails through Hudson and Hecla Straits
1831	James Ross reaches magnetic North Pole
1845	John Franklins's lost expedition proves existence of NW Passage.
1848	The parliament, Stortinget, passes a bill which states that the land in Finnmark, Norway, previously had been without rulers, and that the nomadic Sami's had no propertyrights.
1852	The Sami "revolt" in Kautokeino, Norway.
1868-73	The "cultivation border" is created for the protection of the mountainsami's in Sweden.
1905	The Karlstad Convention of this year dissolved the union between Norway and Sweden, the nomadic mountain Sami have to decide which country they want to belong to.
1917	First pan-national Sami conference in Trondheim, Norway decides to create political Sami organizations.
1918	First national conference for Samis in Sweden is held in Östersund.
1948	UN declaration of human rights



PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

Faith Fjeld (Moderator) holds a Masters degree in American Indian Studies from San Francisco State University (SFSU). She has lectured on Indigenous identity at SFSU, as well as at the University of Toronto (Canada), Simone de Beauvoir Institute (Concordia University, Montreal), Fond du Lac Tribal Community College (Fond du Lac Reservation, MN), Suomi College (Hancock, MI), Sinte Gleska University (Rosebud Reservation, SD), the Center for Sami Studies (University of Tromsø, Norway), the California Institute for Integral Studies (San Francisco), and the Finnish Studies Department at U. C. Berkeley. As editor of *Báiki: the North American Sami Journal*, she has been instrumental in the reawakening of Sami consciousness within the Norwegian, Swedish and Finnish American immigrant populations and has been involved at the grassroots as well as the academic level.

Harald Gaski is professor in Sami literature at the world's northernmost university, the University of Tromsø, Norway. He has been a visiting scholar at several universities in the US, Australia, and in Greenland, and is a regular speaker internationally on Sami issues. Gaski's research topics include indigenous peoples' literatures with a specific emphasis on Sami literature. He has also specialized on oral tradition – especially the transition of the traditional Sami singing, the yoik poetry, into contemporary lyrics. Gaski is the author and editor of several books and articles on Sami literature and culture. His latest books in English are the anthology *In the Shadow of the Midnight Sun: Contemporary Sami Prose and Poetry* and *Sami Culture in a New Era: The Norwegian Sami Experience*. His most recent work is a fiction book for young adult readers, written in Sami, titled *Ciezain caziin* (Seven kinds of water).

Rose-Marie Huuva is a visual artist, poet and designer. She studied traditional samicraft at the Sami College in Jokkmokk, Sweden and also studied weaving and design at the Jamtslojds School in Ostersund. She is a self-taught contemporary visual artist. She has studied at the Institute of American Indian Art in Santa Fe, and has privately toured Canada, Panama, Greenland, Morocco, Tunisia, Japan and Tibet, among other countries, in her pursuit of knowledge of art from around the globe. She has been exhibiting her work internationally since 1971, and had her first solo exhibition in 1984. She has received numerous scholarships and awards in Scandinavia, Europe, USA, and Japan. She has published three books of poetry, has designed stamps for the Swedish Postal Service, and has designed costumes and scenery for theaters in Norway and Sweden.

Rauna Kuokkanen is a PhD candidate in the Center for Study of Curriculum and Instruction at the University of British Columbia where she received her Masters degree in Comparative Literature. A Sami native of Finland, she has also completed studies at the Arctic Center at the University of Rovaniemi Finland and at the Program of Sami Language and Culture at Oulu, Finland. Rauna has received numerous scholarships and awards, including Graduate Fellowships from the University of British Columbia, the Arctic Center and the Finnish Cultural Foundation. She has been a contributor to several publications, including *The Impact of War Trauma on Civilian Populations* and the forthcoming *Monoacculturation, Power Relations and Diversity* with Dr. Kaarina Kailo.

Ande Somby is currently in a post doctoral scholarship in the Faculty of Law at Tromsø University in Norway. He received his law degree from the University of Oslo and his doctorate of Law from the University of Tromsø. He has been practising as a legal professional since 1987. He is the former Chair of the Center for Saami Studies at Tromsø University. Somby has taught at the University of Tromsø and the University of Alaska. He has been active performing with yoiks (traditional Saami songs) since 1976. He has written numerous publications, including *The Legal Situation of The Nordic Indigenous Peoples* (in Norwegian) and *Yoik and The theory of Knowledge* (in English). He spent the past year in the United States teaching in the University of Arizona's Program on International Indigenous People's Law on scholarships from the Fulbright Commission and the American-Scandinavian Foundation.

The Larry Vuckovich Trio: **Larry Vuckovich** (piano) was born in Kotor, Yugoslavia. He came to San Francisco in 1951 at the height of a flourishing jazz scene. Classically trained in his youth, he completed his music studies at San Francisco State University with an emphasis on jazz. He has performed with numerous acclaimed musicians including Mel Torme and Dexter Gordon, and had a 25-year association with lyricist and vocalist Jon Hendricks. Having toured extensively for a number of years, he returned to San Francisco in 1990. He is currently the featured pianist and music director at Bistro 339. Completing Larry's Trio today, we are fortunate to have **Buca Necak** (bass). Buca has performed with Clark Terry, Jessica Williams, Anita O'Day and Chet Baker. **Omar Clay** (drums) spent many years on the New York scene, and has performed with Charles Mingus, Max Roach, Sarah Vaughn, Sonny Stitt and others.



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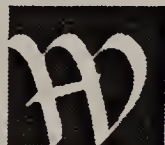
PARIS IN THE 50s — February 20–21, 2004

LENS CULTURE: *Photograph's Impact on Modern Life* — April 3, 2004

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