

## Northern Lights-The Art and Landscape of the North

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**Start date** 7<sup>th</sup> July 2017**End date** 9<sup>th</sup> July 2017**Venue** Madingley Hall  
Madingley  
Cambridge**Tutor** Dr. Jan D. Cox**Course code** 1617NRX085**Director of Programmes**

Emma Jennings

**For further information on this  
course, please contact**Public Programme Coordinator, Clare Kerr  
[clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk](mailto:clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk) or 01223 746237**To book** See: [www.ice.cam.ac.uk](http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk) or telephone 01223 746262

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### Tutor biography

Jan D. Cox wrote his PhD on the Impact of Nordic Art in Europe, and has made presentations on this subject at universities and galleries in Oslo, Copenhagen, Aarhus, Edinburgh and Rome. Recent publications include an article on the Norwegian painter Erik Werenskiold for *Kunst og Kultur* (Oslo), a book chapter on the Battle of Kringen (1612) for the University of Edinburgh, and a catalogue chapter for Ribe Kunstmuseum in Denmark. He has taught and lectured extensively on Scandinavian art and has a keen interest in all aspects of Nordic culture.

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## Course programme

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### Friday

Please plan to arrive between 16:30 and 18:30. You can meet other course members in the bar which opens at 18:15. Tea and coffee making facilities are available in the study bedrooms.

19:00	Dinner
20:30 – 22:00	Caspar David Friedrich and his pupils.
22:00	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

### Saturday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Danish Artists in Italy
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	Romantic Art in Norway
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Free
16:00	Tea
16:30 – 18:00	The Swedish Landscape
18:00 – 18:30	Free
18:30	Dinner
20:00 – 21:30	P. S. Krøyer and the painters at Skagen.
21:30	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

### Sunday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Nordic success in Paris.
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	Scandinavian art and Canada's 'Group of Seven'
12:45	Lunch

**The course will disperse after lunch**

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## Course syllabus

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### **Aims:**

To follow the course of Nordic landscape art from the late-eighteenth to the early-twentieth century.  
To analyse art that had a nationalistic or social meaning.  
To discover how, where and why Nordic art achieved recognition and success.

### **Content:**

Our artistic trail begins in Swedish Pomerania and blazes across the northern skies before finding a home in modern Canada. On our journey we examine the landscape and art of Scandinavia and Finland during the nineteenth-century. Beginning with Caspar David Friedrich, we assess his legacy to the Norwegian artists Dahl and Fearnley. We then look at Fearnley's companions of the Danish Golden Age, such as Købke and Hansen, and their escapades in Italy. Romanticism was a key element in the mid-century – particularly in Norway – to be followed by a Naturalism that depicted working people without sentiment or embellishment. The landscape, with its purity and strength, was always a fundamental component, and we analyse how it became a metaphor for the growing tide of Nordic Nationalism. We also discover P. S. Krøyer and the influential artists' colony at Skagen, located at the very tip of Denmark. Finally, we see pictures that imbued a group of artists with a feeling for their own nation, leading to the formation of 'The Group of Seven', the most celebrated group of painters in early twentieth-century Canada.

### **Presentation of the course:**

The course will consist of PowerPoint presentations of artworks, and also of relevant film clips. There will be significant student interaction with the tutor to facilitate analysis of the factors that affected art production and exhibition. These will include personal, social, political, artistic, and financial factors.

### **As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:**

Follow and comprehend the production of art in the Nordic countries of Europe from the late eighteenth century to the early twentieth century.  
Understand the links between the portrayal of landscape and a sense of national identity.  
Identify the obstacles that affected Nordic artists in their efforts to attain international recognition.

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## Reading and resources list

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Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course.

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Author	Title	Publisher and date
Arts Council	Dreams of a Summer Night	Hayward Gallery, 1986
DeJardin, Ian	Painting Canada: Tom Thomson and the Group Of Seven	Philip Wilson, 2011
Gunnarsson, Torsten	Nordic Landscape Painting in the Nineteenth Century	Yale University, 1998
Jackson, David	Nordic Art: The Modern Breakthrough	Hirmer, 2012
Monrad, Kasper	Danish Painting: The Golden Age	National Gallery, 1984
Saabye, Marianne	Krøyer: An International Perspective	Narayana Press, 2011
Spencer-Longhurst, Paul	Moonrise over Europe: J C Dahl and Romantic Landscape	Barber Institute, 2006
Spencer-Longhurst Paul	Northern Lights: Swedish Landscapes from the Nationalmuseum, Stockholm	Barber Institute, 2009
Svanholm, Lisa	The Skagen Painters	Gyldendal, 2004
Varnedoe, Kirk	Northern Light	Brooklyn Museum, 1982 /Yale University, 1988

### Website addresses

Nationalmuseum, Stockholm

<http://www.nationalmuseum.se/sv/English-startpage/Collections/>

Skagens Museum

<http://skagenskunstmuseer.dk/en/>

Statens Museum (National Gallery of Denmark)

<http://www.smk.dk/en/explore-the-art/the-royal-collections/>

**Note** Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

*Information correct as of:* 25 April 2017