

**Revised full program for the Nordic Labour History Conference,
Copenhagen (Arbejdermuseet & Cinemateket) January 26-30, 2022**

The program may be subject to changes

Venue and location: All activities of the conference, including the film screenings, will take place at Arbejdermuseet, Rømersgade 22, in central Copenhagen, close to the metro station Nørreport

Track codes:

A: Feminist Labor History

B: Precarious Work Historicized

C: Free/Unfree Labour

D: History of Fascism and Anti-Fascism

E: Communist Lives

F: Histories of Migrant, Itinerant, Vagrant and Entrepreneurial Labour

G: History of Collective Bargaining.

H: Political Activism and Labour Protest

J: Special Sessions

Y: Plenary Sessions

All sessions have a letter and a number. In the first pages you will find a program overview, in the following pages the descriptions of sessions with paper titles etc.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 26

14.00-14.45: Lunch for Nordic Labour History Network representatives

14.45-16.45: Nordic Labor History Network meeting

16.00-17.00: Conference registration (Entrance Hall)

17.00-19.00: Keynote lecture with Prof. Eileen Boris: Centennials as battleground of historical memory - the International Labour Organization 1919-2019 **ONLINE**

Roundtable: Jørgen Estrup, former chairman of the Danish United Nations Association; Henrik Berlau, former president of the Danish Seafarer Union (now part of 3F) **ONLINE**; Jacob Bang, head of negotiation team FOA; Jørgen Assens, former director of the Danish Trade Union Development Agency; Jens Bundvad, former General Secretary of Nordic IN.

Moderator: Irene Odgaard, historian, and former consultant in the trade unions SiD and 3F

19.15-21.30: Nordic Labour Film Festival Opening (Festsalen) – Introduction by NLFF-organizer Talat Bhatt on labour films as labour education and screening of **The Dirty War on the NHS (2019, documentary, UK, 1 hour 46 min)** with introduction by activist from the nurses strikes around Denmark, who will relate it to the recent struggles in the Danish health care sector. Chair: Nina Trige Andersen

THURSDAY JANUARY 27

08.30-12.00: Conference registration (Entrance Hall) (Participants arriving later than 12.00 are themselves responsible for finding organisers to register with)

09.00-09.45: Conference opening: The importance, relevance, and perspectives of Nordic Labour History, opening words by: Søren Bak-Jensen, director at Arbejdermuseet (representing the host institution), Mads Bruun Pedersen, chairman SFAH (representing Society for Labour History), Silke Neunsinger, ARAB (representing the XIV NLHC), Nina Trige Andersen, SFAH (XV NLHC organising team)

09.45-10.00: Coffee break

10.00-12.00: Parallel Sessions A1, C2, H3, B1

12.00-13.00: Lunch

13.00-15.00: Parallel Sessions E1, C1, H4, B2

15.00-15.30: Coffee break

15.30-17.00: Keynote lecture: Donatella della Porta: Political protest, social movements, and the politics of collective memory (Festsalen) **ONLINE**. Chair: Lasse Lindekilde, Aarhus University

17.00-18.00: Evening meal and socializing

18.00-20.30: Film Festival (Festsalen): Screening of "**Occupy, Resist, Produce – Scop Ti**" (2018, short film, Italy, 34 min) and **Memorias Culturales de un Pasado Industrial / Cultural Memories of an Industrial Past** (2020, documentary, Spain, 50 min) – with introduction by film maker Irene Díaz Martínez

FRIDAY JANUARY 28

09.00-10.30: Keynote lecture: Kevin Morgan: Labour biographies and transnational communist studies. Chair: Jesper Jørgensen, ABA and Arbejdermuseet

10.30-10.45: Coffee break

10.45-12.45: Parallel Sessions C3, J6, B3, J1

12.45-13.45: Lunch

13.45-15.45: Parallel Sessions D2, H1, A3, G1

15.45-16.15: Coffee break

16.15-17.45: Plenary debate: The state of Nordic Labour History – collective input for historiographical article for Scandinavian Economic History Review, introduction by Silke Neunsinger (S), Nina Trige Andersen (DK), Pete Pesonen (FI) [ONLINE](#), Hanne Østhus (NO) [ONLINE](#), Ragnheiður Kristjánsdóttir (I) [ONLINE](#)

17.45-18.30: Book launch by Risto Turunen: Shades of Red: Evolution of the Political Language of Finnish Socialism from the Nineteenth Century until the Civil War of 1918 - A Computational Approach to the Intellectual History of Finnish Socialism [ONLINE](#). Chair: Jonas Söderqvist

18.30-19.15: Evening meal (Festsalen)

19.15-21.00: Film Festival: Screening of 'We Carry It Within Us' (2017, Danmark/US Virgin Islands) with introduction to the film by director Helle Stenum and introduction to the archival project Fireburn Files by Bertha Rex Coley, M.A. English & History, lecturer, translator

SATURDAY JANUARY 29

9.00-11.00: Parallel Sessions A5, E2, F3, J4

11.00-11.15: Coffee break

11.15-13.15: Parallel Sessions A4, E3, F2, H2, J5

13.15-14.15: Lunch

14.15-16.15: Plenary Session Y1: Labour History for a Digital Age

16.15-16.45: Coffee break

16.45-17.45: Round up from organizers (Jesper Jørgensen, ABA and Arbejdermuseet) and NLHN (organizers of the next conference)

17.45-19.00: Resting time

19.00-23.00: Conference dinner (Festsalen)

SUNDAY JANUARY 30

10.00-17.00: Film screenings as well as a book and journal fair hosted by Society for Labour History and “The Book Man” Lance Jensen, who will bring a selection from his large stock of second-hand books on socialism, the workers’ movement, political economy, political history and much more

Kl. 10.00: *Made in Dagenham*, 2010, UK (fiction, 53 min). [Watch trailer](#)

Kl. 11.10: *Så er spørsmålet: hadde de egentlig råd til det før og?* 2021, NO (documentary, 30 min). [Read article](#)

Kl. 11.50: *We have no fear / Paura non abbiamo*, 2017, IT (documentary, 50 min). [Watch trailer](#)

Kl. 13.00: *En Mammars Kropp / A Mother’s Body*, 2020, SE (short film, 9 min). [Watch interview with director](#)

Kl. 13.15: *Working Man*, 2019, US (fiction, 1 hour 49 min). [Watch trailer](#)

Kl. 15.15: *9to5: The Story of a Movement*, 2021, US (documentary, 1 hour 29 min). [Watch trailer](#)

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

A: Feminist Labor History

A1) Citizenship, Labour, and Gender

Samita Sen, University of Cambridge: *Women Leaders, Labour Movements and Electoral Politics: India in Transition, 1940–1960* [ONLINE](#)

Malin Arvidsson, Lund University: *Swedish Social Democratic Women's relation to the National Association for Women's Franchise (L.K.P.R): Cooperation and complications 1907–1921*

Ragnheiður Kristjánsdóttir, University of Iceland: *Votes for the poor. The intersection of suffrage and poor law in Iceland 1916–1934* [ONLINE](#)

Discussant and chair: Drude Dahlerup, Professor, Dept. of Political Science, Stockholm University and Honorary Professor at Roskilde University

A3) Gendering industry

Jørgen Burchardt, Museum Vestfyn: *The men took over: The cheese dairy workforce 1840-1930*

Katri Karkinen, independent (Finland): *Looking for recognition for early dairy maids* [ONLINE](#)

Thanasis Betas, University of Ioannina & Research Centre for the Humanities (Athens): *Health, technology and labour in the Greek tobacco industry in the 20th century. The gender dimension* [ONLINE](#)

Tiina Kuokkanen (and Noora Hemminki), University of Oulu: *Girls at work in Varjakka sawmill (1900–1921)* [ONLINE](#)

Discussant and chair: Lars Berggren, emeritus, Centrum för Arbetarhistoria, Lund University

A4) Women's role in trade unions and labor struggle

Valgerður Pálmadóttir, University of Iceland, Evelina Johansson Wilén, Gothenburg University, and Eva Schmitz, independent scholar: *Solidarity and Political Conceptions of Gender and Class in the ASAB cleaning women's strikes in Sweden and the "Women's Day Off" in Iceland* [ONLINE](#)

Iris Olavinen, The Finnish Labour Archives: *Empowering women - the informal meetings and activism of trade union women leaders in 1988 - 1992* [ONLINE](#)

Helle Stenum, Roskilde University: *Invisible Queens of Nordic Caribbean labour history – Or Queens in invisible Nordic Caribbean Labour History*

Discussant and chair: Silke Neunsinger, ARAB

A5) Women organizing political and social movements

Fredrik Egefur, Lund University: *"From the Ruined Belgium..." - Anna Lindhagen's European Journey in 1915*

Malin Arvidsson, Lund University: *Speaking up in public to win women's votes: The 1921 election campaign of the social democratic women's federation*

Andrés Brink Pinto, Lund University: *Public toilets, the right to the city and women's political citizenship*

Discussant: Mats Wickström, Forskardoktor, Åbo Akademi [ONLINE](#)

Chair: Jonas Söderqvist, ARAB

B: Precarious Work Historicized

B1) Precarity and forms of labor: Case studies I

Maria Fernanda Arellanes Arellanes, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Iztapalapa: *Domestic work as the original gig. A contemporary investigation of platform-organized domestic work and its precarious implications in historical context*

Nina Trige Andersen, SFAH, Copenhagen: *Pirates and chambermaids: Outsourcing schemes in the Copenhagen hotel sector 1970s-1990s*

Roderick G. Galam, Oxford Brookes University: *From the globalization of the seafaring labour market to its global regulation: International actors and the assembly and employability of Filipino seafarers*
[ONLINE](#)

Katja Nicolaysen, Museums in Akershus: *Retired teachers as call-tmps - from a standard to a non-standard affiliation in working life*

Discussant and chair: Marlene Spanger, Aalborg University

B2) Precarity and forms of labor: Case studies II

Rosa Kösters, International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam: *Between solidarity and fragmentation: the consequences of and reactions to changing labour relations at the Dutch shop floor, 1970-2010.*

Annette Thörnquist, affiliated researcher at Forschungsinstitut für Arbeit. Technik und Kultur (F.A.T.K.), Tübingen: *Trade union struggle for workwear in Swedish elder care* [ONLINE](#)

Gunhild Lurås, Norwegian industrial Workers Museum: *Construction workers and precarious work in Rjukan industrial site*

Ingrid Haugrønning, Norsk trikotagemuseum: *Precarious work in the 19th century?*

Discussant and chair: Marlene Spanger, Aalborg University

B3) Precarity, industry and the state

Irene Odgaard, Independent researcher (Denmark): *The logic of the Ghent model vs. flexicurity.*

Rohini Thyagarajan, Indian Feminist Judgment Project: *Unveiling the 'employer': Indian supreme court's adjudication of sham contract claims.*

Discussant and chair: Marlene Spanger, Aalborg University

C: Free/Unfree Labor

C1) Experiences at the nexus of punishment and labour

Emilie Luther Valentin, Aalborg University: *How to be(come) the perfect inmate: Perspectives on emotional labour in the prison workhouse in the last part of the eighteenth century*

Bonnie Clementsson, Lund University: *Love, sickness, and death at a Swedish fortress prison in early 1800s*

Discussant and chair: Johan Heinsen, Aalborg University

C2) Illicit movement and documents of control: Studying practices of mobility and labour coercion in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries

Vilhelm Vilhelmsson, University of Iceland Centre for Research in Northwest Iceland: *Paperless and masterless: Passports, permits and labour (im)mobility in law and practice in Iceland ca. 1780-1860*

Johan Heinsen, Aalborg University: *Escape and Illusion: Prison breakers' forged identities in eighteenth century Denmark*

Anders Dyrborg Birkemose, Aalborg University: *Runaway-advertisements in Copenhagen. Advertising runaways in Early Modern Copenhagen*

Bonnie Clementsson, Lund University: *Under False Identity: Swedish convicts on the run in the early 1800s*

Discussant and chair: Matthias van Rossum, International Institute of Social History

C3) Capitalism, colonialism, and coercion

Olli Siitonen, University of Helsinki: *Coerced to kill: American narratives of killing in the Vietnam War*

Matthias van Rossum, International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam: *Corvée Capitalism – the Dutch East India Company, coerced labour and resistance in early modern Asia*

Ale Pålsson, Uppsala University/Högskolan Dalarna: *Visualizing Demographic Change and Continuity from Slavery to Liberation: An Examination of Censuses in the Swedish Caribbean* [ONLINE](#)

Discussant and chair: Vilhelm Vilhelmsson, University of Iceland Centre for Research in Northwest Iceland

D: History of Fascism and Anti-Fascism

D2) Framing anti-fascism: Conceptualising a working-class unity against the far right from Popular Front to People's Parks and beyond

Matias Kaihovirta, Åbo Akademi University: *Fighting for anti-fascist spaces: Swedish-speaking working class resistance against Finnish fascism in the 1930's* [ONLINE](#)

Pontus Järvstad, University of Iceland: *The Many Conceptualizations of Anti-fascism: Historiographical Considerations for the Developing Field of Nordic Anti-fascist Studies* [ONLINE](#)

Tomas Widing, University of Stockholm: *Anti-Fascism as a Communist strategy for Working-Class Unity: The Communist Party of Sweden and the Jansson-Mineur- Committee 1935-1938.*

Johan Pries, University of Lund (co-written with Erik Jönsson & Don Mitchell, University of Uppsala): *The Swedish People's Parks: Socialist landscapes for staging the people.*

Discussant and chair: Johan A. Lundin, Malmö University

E: Communist Lives

E1) Nordic Communist Activists

Kim Frederichsen, independent researcher (Denmark): *Martin Andersen Nexø – a most debated communist life*

Liisa Lalu, University of Turku: *'Home again. The battle season is ahead.' The diary of a young radical communist woman*

Discussant: Ole Martin Rønning, ARBARK, Norge

Chair: Yulia Gradszkova, Mid Sweden University

E2) Communism as Ideal and Reality in a Gendered Perspective

Silja Pitkänen, University of Jyväskylä: *Children in Soviet Propaganda Photographs in the 1930s* [ONLINE](#)

Yulia Gradszkova, Mid Sweden University: *The emancipation of women from the countries of state socialism as an example for women from the “developing countries”*

Heidi Kurvinen, University of Turku, Finland: *Portrayal of Soviet women in the Finnish print media of the 1960s and 1970s* [ONLINE](#)

Mari-Leen Tammela, University of Tartu / Estonian War Museum: *70 years in the communist party: its ideals and realities on the example of life and career of Olga Lauristin*

Discussant: Ragnheiður Kristjánsdóttir, University of Iceland [ONLINE](#)

Chair: Ole Martin Rønning, ARBARK

E3) Transnational Lives and Movements

Torkil Sørensen, independent researcher (Denmark): *Communists from Germany as refugees in Denmark, 1933-39 and the Danes assisting them*

Michał Gęsiarz, Adam Mickiewicz University (Poland): *AKP (m-l) and Democratic Kampuchea: between naivety and postcolonial patterns*

Discussant and chair: Kim Frederichsen, independent researcher (Denmark)

F: Histories of Migrant, Itinerant, Vagrant and Entrepreneurial Labor

F2) Migration, the Nordic Welfare State and Labor Market Model

Mai Lundemark, Lund University: *Representing workers of migrant background – discourse and action in trade union practice in Denmark* [ONLINE](#)

Daniel Stridh, Stockholm University: *Between Inclusion and Exclusion: The Conflicting Meanings of Migration and (Child)Care Work within the Swedish Municipal Workers’ Union 1972-1987* [ONLINE](#)

Discussant: Mats Wickström, Forskardoktor, Åbo Akademi [ONLINE](#)

Chair: Jonas Söderqvist, ARAB

F3) Exiled Work: Activist labour in the Nordic countries

Fernando Camacho Padilla, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid: *Activism of the Chilean exiles in Sweden: political organisation, actions and major demands*

Emma Lundin, Malmö University: *Representing the struggle: the lives of ANC activists in Stockholm, 1976-1994*

Robert Nilsson Mohammadi, Malmö University: *From Black Nationalism to class struggle: Scandinavia as an arena for the Black Panther Party*

Discussant and chair: Yulia Gradszkova, Mid Sweden University

G: History of Collective Bargaining

G1) The establishment of the system of collective bargaining

Lars-Erik Hansen, Oslo Metropolitan University: *Kampen om löneutrymmet. Tjänstemännens lönepolitik i Larorganisationens (LO) Skugga*

Ken Bjerregaard, independent: *When private officials took to the fight for collective bargaining*

Hannes Rolf, Uppsala University: *Organized Interests, Power, and Rent* **ONLINE**

Discussant and chair: Lars Berggren, emeritus, Centrum för Arbetarhistoria, Lund University

H: Political Activism and Labour Protest

H1) Strikes and Lockouts in a Nordic and International Perspective Part I: Perspectives and sources

Jesper Hamark, University of Gotenburg: *Lockouts in the Scandinavian Countries, c. 1900-1930*

Tobias Karlsson, Lund University: *Digitized Newspapers as a Source for Historical Strike Data: Problems and Opportunities*

Flemming Mikkelsen, prev. University of Copenhagen: *Social Movement Unionism in Denmark, 1914-2000*

Discussant and chair: Knud Knudsen, prev. Aalborg University

H2) Strikes and Lockouts in a Nordic and International Perspective Part II: Cases

Erik Bengtsson, Lund University: *The evolution of popular politics in Sweden, c. 1866-1899: the case of folkemöten* **ONLINE**

Magnus Olofsson, Lund University: *Contested streets. Marching and demonstrating in Stockholm, 1887-1920* **ONLINE**

Tapio Bergholm, University of Eastern Finland: *Leino Strikes in the Spring 1948 as Double Failure – The Failure of Finnish Communist Party and The Failure of the Earlier Research*

Discussant and chair: Flemming Mikkelsen, prev. University of Copenhagen

H3) Protest! Political Activism post 1960 Part I: Activist Memories

Arja Turunen, University of Jyväskylä: *Oral History Life Stories of Finnish Second-Wave Feminists: Political Activism and Personal Experiences* **ONLINE**

Thomas Olesen, Aarhus University **ONLINE** and Jesper Jørgensen, Arbejdermuseet & ABA: A new organizational paradigm? Comparing organization and resources in historical and contemporary social movements in Denmark 1960-202

Jesper Jørgensen, Arbejdermuseet & ABA: *Solidarity with other 'others'. Life History Pathways into Political Activism on the Left, 1960-1990*

Discussant and chair: TBC

H4) Protest! Political Activism post 1960 Part II: Contemporary Activism

Jenny Jansson, Uppsala University (co-written with Katrin Uba): *Protests and collective bargaining: The Swedish case*

Flemming Mikkelsen, Aalborg Universitet: *Immigrant Mobilization and Activism in Denmark since 1965*

Lasse Lindekilde, Aarhus University: *For the Climate... and Me: Weighing Common and Personal Interests in the Fight against Climate Change*

Discussant and chair: Sune Haugbølle, Roskilde University

J: Special Sessions

J1) Memories of Industry and Deindustrialization Processes in the Nordic Countries

Stefan Backius, Karlstad University: *Deindustrialization and rural community activism in 1980's* **ONLINE**

Irene Díaz Martínez, Archive de Fuentes Orales Para la Historia Social de Asturias: *Cultural memories of an industrial past*

Pete Pesonen, Finnish Labour Archives and University of Turku: *Finnish Factory "Homers" 1950—2000 — Workers and supervisors clandestine co-operation* **ONLINE**

Discussant and chair: Jenny Jansson, Uppsala University

J4) Rebellious Workers in Texts and Literature Part I

Magnus Nilsson, Malmö University: *Working-class literature as a literary and political phenomenon: the example of Stig Sjödin*

Nicklas Freisleben Lund, University of Southern Denmark: *In ambivalent battle. The strike and the novel*

Lisbeth Gundlund Jensen, member of the Nexø Foundation Board (Denmark): *Contemporary Danish Social Literature in Historical Perspective*

Jussi Lahtinen, Tampere University: *Finnish working-class authors of the 1970s: Dissidents of the Grand Modernization* [ONLINE](#)

Discussant og chair: Magnus Gustafson, Malmö Universitet

J5) Rebellious Workers in Texts and Literature Part II

Małgorzata Drwal, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań: *South African workers' dissident voice in song and poetry*

Alpo Väkevä, University of Helsinki and Finnish Library of the Labour Movement: *A Call for Proletarian Morality: Raoul Palmgren on Art and Literature*

Mikko-Olavi Seppälä, University of Helsinki: *Struggle for Migrant Working-Class Culture – Creating Theatre by/for Finnish labour in Sweden, from 1950s to 1990s*

Discussant and chair: Lisbeth Gundlund Jensen, Member of the Nexø Foundation Board (Denmark)

J6) Security Police, Surveillance and the Labour Movement

Sami Suodenjoki, Tampere University: *Political informing as class struggle? Workers and the practice of denunciation in Finland in the late imperial era, 1899-1917* [ONLINE](#)

Ville Okkonen and Dr. Tiina Lintunen, University of Turku: *Socialists under surveillance in the wartime 1941-1944* [ONLINE](#)

Nils Ivar Agøy, University of South-Eastern Norway: *The establishment of counterrevolutionary measures, directed against the Norwegian Labour movement, between the two world wars*

Discussant: Kimmo Rentola, University of Helsinki [ONLINE](#)

Chair: Andrés Brink Pinto

Y: Plenary Session

Y1) Labour History for a Digital Age

Jenny Jansson, Uppsala University: *Preserving online union activism: Experiences from the project DigiFacket*

Margit Bech Vilstrup, Arbejdermuseet & ABA (Denmark): *Conceptualizing the worker. How big data, SMURF and the longue durée can contribute to labour history*

Peter Håkansson, Malmö University, and Tobias Karlsson, Lund University, and Matti La Mela, Aalto University/Uppsala University: *Running Out of Time: Using Job Ads to Analyse the Demand for Messengers in the 20th Century*

Donald Weber, Amsab-Instituut voor Sociale Geschiedenis: *The Social History Portal*

Chair: Tobias Karlsson, Lund University, Sweden

Discussant: Helle Strandgaard Jensen, Aarhus Universitet **ONLINE**