

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

The Association Nordic Textile ART is a non profit association. The purpose of the Association is to be a forum for contact creation and to assist in establishing new networks and conduct meetings for Nordic textile art.

We want to enable physical as well as virtual meetings and create networks for the Nordic Textile arts.

The Board consists of:

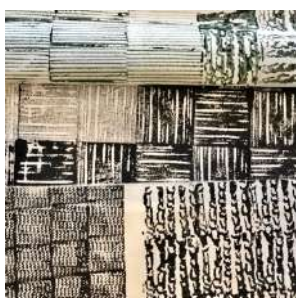
President	Vibeke Lindhardt
Vice-President	Elisabeth Brenner Remberg
Secretary	Åse Eriksen
Treasurer	Josabet Werkmästar
Ordinary member	Linnea Blomgren
Ordinary member	Ragna Frodadottir
Ordinary member	Pirkko Heikkilä
Deputy Member	Kristina Hellberg
Deputy Member	Berthe Forchhammer
Deputy Member	Juha Laurainen
Deputy Member	Olga Bergljöt Thorleifsdottir
Deputy Member	Kristin Lindberg

Accountant for 2018 has been Berit Sahlström and Anna Segelman, deputy.

The Election committee 2018 Sofia Hagström Møller, Denmark, (convener) Kristina Aas, Norway, Katriina Flensburg, Sweden, deputy member.

NTA Annual Meeting 2018 in Hämeenlinna, Finland

The Association Nordic Textile ART held on 22.-25. March 2018 a Nordic textile meeting in Hämeenlinna, Finland. The Headline was: *Textile is power*. The Focus was on this annual meeting workshops, the power of hand and the meeting through artistic practice. The meetings and excursions were held at: Wetterhoff House - House of Arts & Creative Handicrafts Hämeenlinna City center, Häme University of Applied Sciences HAMK, Department of Design, Visamäki, Hämeenlinna, Industrial Weaving Studio of Arto Laine, Visamäki Hämeenlinna, Inkalan Kartano, Inkala Herrgård Hämeenlinna.



Participants arrived at the meeting during Wednesday evening and Thursday, but as we all stayed at the same hotel in the middle of the city, it was easy to plan for excursions. Some started visiting the Tavastehus Castle, which was very beautifully located in a park covered with snow, while others visited other suggested excursions such as: Hämeenlinna Art Museum, Verkatehdas Culture and Congress Centre, Galleri KONE, Hämeenlinna Castle (Hämeen Linna)

Friday morning, the actual programme started at Wetterhoff Foundation, and was presented by director Hannele Yrjö-Koskinen. Most of the participants knew Wetterhoff for yarn, but Wetterhoff has a long history dating back to 1885. Fredrika Wetterhoff started the house as a teaching and production site for woven fabrics, where women, as part of their education, could learn to weave. From 1976, it was surpassed as part of the University. There is still training on the spot – the sale of yarn and hobby articles – and a cozy café. See more about Wetterhoff at www.wetterhoff.fi

The next speaker of The Program was Professor Pirjo Kääriäinen from Aalto University School of Arts, design and architecture, the lecture called Textile Futures, new material innovations. She talked about how the students from the fashion department are working to develop new materials, a kind of basic research where the focal point is to develop not oil based, sustainable materials. Photographs of textile fibres developed by casein fibers (milk protein) – soya fibres – fibres developed by the shell of oranges – seacell – and grain fibres were shown.

We also heard about how the university had helped develop a new Viscose yarn Lyocell-F, which is now used by Marimekko in their production. Reuse of cotton and paper in new products, fake skins produced from bacterial Cellulose and much more. A very interesting lecture that showed how Aalto University has the long end, where the designers are given the opportunity to be part of the development and further develop the textile area, which is so important for our subjects. spinnova.fi/, chemarts.aalto.fi/, ioncell.fi/, trash2cashproject.eu/ cellulosefromfinland.fi/
This Morning's last post was a presentation of the online book Contemporary Colour Methods written by Maija Pellonpää, the book is a textbook in color methods and printing techniques. Maija has been teaching at Aalto University until 2015 and the book contains a treasure trove of knowledge. The Book is available via Aalto Arts Books or Shop.aalto.fi

The Afternoon's programme was a bus tour into the country side where we were going to visit 3 industrial companies. The First stop was at Printscorpio – a family owned Digital print factory ultramodern, with Supermachines that could print on nearly all qualities. We were around to look at the production and got all a goodiebag with us home with a calendar dish towel and lots of all the quality samples we could assemble.

The Next stop was Toika, which is probably most famous for producing looms, but also has evolved in relation to the digital techniques and therefore could present the latest digital shaft control model in their showroom/shop. Toika also sold yarns both their own qualities and other fabrics, as well as equipment for tuft, spinning and felting.

Last visit was on Pihlgren & Ritola, a wallpaper factory from 1930, which still produces the old patterns, some right back from the beginning of the factory, designs designed by the great Finnish designers. The Wallpaper was produced in both new and old colour ways. It was a great building that seemed completely extinct and abandoned, but inside the factory we saw the most beautiful old printing machines. The most beautiful was probably the pattern rollers, which stood on the floor in long rows still in use and all welcomed the picturesque factory hall that was also still in use.



On Friday evening, the Finnish organizers had invited the members to the Nordic Championship in dark knitting – a very funny arrangement. There were handknitting needles with light (and battery) at the ends and the rules of the contest were explained. In the dark, of course, a certain number of stitches should be beaten up and then worked as much as possible in 10 minutes. When the light was turned off, the Audience could follow the quick knitting in the dark when the knitting needles are lit. **The Winner was Karin Quick from Sweden, in the second place Berthe Forchhammer from Denmark and the third place went to the Islands Olga Bergljót Thorleifsdóttir.** When the competition was finished, we drove out into the dark, as we were going to have dinner out in the woods in the beautifully lit house: Inkala Manor. For dinner, all of Nta's board of directors had been asked to take "portable art — Portable conversational", so that textile art could become a subject of conversation – which it became indeed.

On Saturday 24 March, workshops were organised at Häme University (HAMK), so we were able to see the school at the same time. The Subject of the meeting was just the power of the hand and the meeting through artistic practice, which was all we did this day. ALL participants had already signed up to one of the four workshops offered. The four workshops were as follows: **Workshop 1 – Rya - håndknyttet.** At This workshop, Finnish RYA was attached to the machine-woven bottom. **Workshop 2 – Textile Press – pattern-pattern – pattern.** This was done with block presses in black and colour combinations and with experimental overpressure in the line of Margareta Heijkenskjöld Holmgren. **Workshop 3 was industrial weaving,** where participants were taught the elementary techniques and knowledge, and all participants were weaving their own designed scarf in wool. **In The 4 workshop the topic was lasercut.**

All workshops worked hard and concentrated and all met at the end of the day to discuss and show the results of today's work for each other.

On Saturday evening, we all had an exceptional good dinner in the beautiful room at Raatihoune Town Hall in Hämeenlinna.

On Sunday 25 March, the annual meeting was held at the Wetterhof.

Members are the voice of the network

Together we contribute to the development of Nordic textile art. The Number of members 2018 was 205. The Association is working to increase the number of members. Denmark, Finland, Norway, Iceland and Sweden are all represented in the association. However, most of Them are still from Sweden. In order to increase the number of members, the Board has carried out several activities. The Information leaflet and hand-printed networks have been widely distributed in different contexts. The Information letter on the association which is available in Swedish, Danish and Finnish spreads, communication on social media such as Facebook, where news about textile events, both Nordic and international, is becoming increasingly important.

Invitation to curated exhibition in Estonian Association of Textile Artists Galerii Noorus in Tartu Estland. After the network at the workshop in Pulsa In Finland in 2017 made contact with the Estonian Textile Artists ' Association and Aet Ollisaar, NTA members have been invited to exhibit in the Estonian Association of Textile Artists Galerii Noorus in Tartu. The Estonians who curated the exhibition selected artists for the exhibition which will take place as part of the programme: Textur conference, a textile tour through a large part of Estonia with exhibitions, lectures and visits to museums and small textile companies.

We are very grateful for this opportunity of cooperation, as it has been a long wish to work together with the Baltic countries.

Exhibition for the NTAs members in Almgrens Sidenväveri

NTA is in conversation with the Almgrens Sidenväveri & Museum in Stockholm on an exhibition for NTAs members

New Catalogue and Flyers

During the year 2018, Josabet Werkmäster, Elisabeth Brenner Remberg and Linnea Blomgren produced a catalogue and documentation "**Exposé Nordic textile art**" as well as information material and flyers about the NTA. It has long been a wish to renew our physical material and it became possible due to the Fund support from Nordic cultural Point, Nordic Culture Fund, Swedish Arts Council and Letterstedtska Föreningen.

During the year, the upcoming annual meeting has been planned.

Annual Meeting 2019 in Iceland

The annual meeting of the NTA will be held in Reykjavik this year. The Annual Meeting takes place at the same time as HönnunarMars/Designmarch. In this context, the NTA together with the ITA (Icelandic Textile Association) has arranged a program: NTA Nordic Textile Meeting. The theme of the days is: Heritage meets the future, and includes, among other things, Textile Talks in Reykjavik and a trip to Blönduós with workshops at Textílsetur Íslands/The Icelandic Textile Center och Heimilisiðnaðarsafnið/Textile Museum.

Annual Meeting 2020 at Rødding Folk High School in Denmark

The Annual Meeting of the NTA will be held in Denmark in Jutland. The Centre of the meeting itself and the workshops will be Rødding High School. We have chosen one of Denmark's oldest high schools as we for several years have held meetings in connection with educational establishments, design schools and universities. The opportunity to meet at a college and get new looks into the world of textiles and also a place where you learn from desire and not to have a formal education have been one of our important goals.

In The preliminary programme is a visit to the Kolding School of Design, in galleries, Koldinghus, an ancient castle from the 12th century having been rebuilt, visits to textile artists workshops, lectures/artist talk and other workshops.

Website

www.nordictextileart.net. The Website is our virtual meeting place. Our news is exposed on the website. On our Facebook page, the number as likes has been increased throughout the year from 2800 to 2952 people. Anna Linder is employed as webmaster. The difficult or heavy part is to get members to send material for own presentations on the network side, which is an important part for the website to act as a meeting space/place.

NTA Gallery

Nordic Textile Arts Web-based gallery **NTA Gallery**, Shows contemporary textile art from the Nordic countries. An exhibition here is an exclusive opportunity for members of the NTA. The exhibitions are specially adapted for the digital space. The Exhibition throughout the year 2018 has been Works from the NTA curated exhibition at the Textile Museum in Borås, Everyday Matter-The Value of Textile Art. The Exhibition curator is Linnea Blomgren.

Board

Since 2017, the board has had representatives from all five Nordic countries, which has been our goal for many years. Despite The distance, it works well.

In 2018, the Board of Directors held 8 protocol-leading meetings and a number of non-protocol working meetings. It is possible to read all the minutes on the member pages of the website. The Board meetings have been held via Skype, and physical working meetings with parts of the board have been held in Hämeenlinna, Malmö, Copenhagen and Tallin, as well as by mail and telephone. Approved by the annual meeting of the Board of directors and the costs of the Board's duties and meetings have been paid for by the association. In the framework of projects, some work is represented.

The Nordic cooperation and the Nordic textile art are the foundation of NTA. Nordic Textile Art wants to create forums for discussions about contemporary textile art. In order to spread the network in the various countries, it is important that the Nordic artists conduct conversations and meet, as well as connecting to already established networks is an important goal. In order to strengthen the network, the annual meeting is held alternately in the Nordic countries. The fact that the meetings circulate between the countries and that the Textiles conference is held in a new place every year is important for the knowledge of each other's countries and ways of working. The Textile conferences have changing themes and these inspirational days are important for the conversation between the members of the association. Some years there is a lot of emphasis on lectures, other years on workshops and materials.

Through long-term network support from Nordic Culture Point the NTA has received a three-year support *Forum for talks-textile art in the Nordic Countries (from 2016 – 2018)* to promote cooperation and contact between the Nordic countries in cooperation with **TEXO, Finland. The Network support has enabled the NTA's now Nordic board to meet for network collaboration. **In 2018, a meeting took place in Tallin and on the island of Kihnuu in Estonia.** Here the board met to discuss the association's structure and future opportunities and projects and met here with our new partners, the board of the Estonia Textiel Association. Act Ollisaar, who at our meeting in Pula in 2017 was invited from Estonia, was our initial contact with the Baltic states and Act Ollisaar as well as the board we are still in a working process with.**



This work continues and is of great importance. A joint workshop was held on the island of Kihnu in Estonia and we find that these artistic joint workshops are a significant form of network. Project promoters of this work have been Josabet Werkmäster and Elisabeth Brenner Remberg.

Cooperation with ETN, European Textile Network

Building Bridges - brainstorming about textile collaborations in Europe and the future of ETN (European Textile Network) 30. – 31. July 2018.

Elisabeth Brenner Remberg, Josabet Werkmäster and Vibeke Lindhardt, as Nordic representatives, were invited to take part in a expert discussion forum on the ETN in Austria. Thirteen different nationalities were represented in the group, which consisted of 21 people. In connection with the meeting in Austria, NTA collected ideas and thoughts on international cooperation from its Nordic members; Both concrete needs and proposals, as well as visionary ideas. At the end of July 2019, ETN Textile Conference is held in Haslach, Austria with the theme: Garden of Eden with exciting and rich days.



Textilmuseum in Borås. During 2018, there has been continuous contact with Museum Director Ulrika Kullenberg and Textilmuseet. This cooperation and discussions on opting out activities will continue.

The NTA will connect more closely to already established networks in the Nordic region and have been working for this throughout the year. For example, by conversation and visitation with TEXO in Finland, Textílfélagið The Icelandic Textile Association, Textílfetur Islands Blönduósi and KKV-Textiltryck Malmö.

Economy:The basis of the economy this year was member income and funds. The Member fee 2018 was €25 for individuals and €55 for organisations. A allocated contribution to Crossover 2017 has been partially used in the budget in 2018. NTA has received long-term network support from Culture contact Nord For the period 2015 to December 2018. The Nordic Culture fund made a contribution to the Nordic Textile Meeting in Iceland 2019.

March 2019 for the board chairman Vibeke Lindhardt

Letterstedtska föreningen **NORDISK
KULTURFOND KULTURRÅDET**



**Nordic Council
of Ministers**

A.P. Møller og Hustru Chastine Mc-Kinney Møllers Fond