

# Literature Center

*books  
from  
Iceland  
2017*

Icelandic  
Literature



# Icelandic Literature Center

## *promotes Icelandic literature abroad*

The role of the Icelandic Literature Center is to support the publication and to raise awareness of Icelandic literature, both in Iceland and abroad, and to enable its distribution through translation and travel grants. The Icelandic Literature Center is a government-funded office, founded in 2013.

### Icelandic Literature Center

- ♦ Offers translations and sample grants, available to foreign publishers of Icelandic books.
- ♦ Offers travel support for Icelandic authors travelling abroad in order to promote their work, available to authors, publishers and organizers of literary events to apply for.
- ♦ Offers residency in Reykjavik and travel grants, which translators of Icelandic literature can apply for.
- ♦ Takes part in book fairs abroad.
- ♦ Organizes events aimed at encouraging foreign publishers and translators to work with Icelandic literature.
- ♦ Distributes approx. € 250,000 in translation grants, travel grants and residency grants for over 160 projects every year.

The center promotes fiction, books for children and young adults, non-fiction, poetry and graphic novels written in Icelandic. The center serves as a support organization for the export of literature, while publishers and literary agencies handle the sale of translation rights.

# Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir

## Scars Ör



*“Undoubtedly one of Auður Ava’s best works.”*

Fréttablaðið

The central theme of this novel, the most recent work of award-winning author Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir, are scars – our scars and the scars we inflict on others. *Scars* is a story about destruction and the rebirth of one man, as well as perhaps, mankind as a whole. It is a riveting narrative in which cruelty may have many faces, but where the faces of love outnumber them.

A middle-aged, do-it-yourself kind of guy has given up on life. He has been divorced for half a year and terribly lonely for quite a lot longer and Jónas Ebeneser has now reached the point where he’s eating breaded lamb chops straight out of the frying pan. His only daughter turned out to be someone else’s and his mother is slowly drifting into the land of dementia and he can do nothing about either of those things. He packs a suitcase with a rope and a power drill, buys a plane ticket to a country recently ravaged by warfare and embarks on a journey he has decided will be one way only.

With an understated wit and warm sincerity, Auður Ava disarms her readers. This is a book with an obvious message for today, in an era where humanity doesn’t seem to know how to stop being at war.

**Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir** (b.1958) addresses all the most important questions we, as human beings, must ask ourselves, questions about life, death and love itself, the most important thing of all.

Auður Ava has written novels, plays and poetry and is lyricist for the pop band Milkywhale. She has received various awards for her novels and is translated into many languages. In February 2017, Auður Ava received the Icelandic Literature Prize 2016, for the novel *Scars*.

### Publishing Details

Novel  
201 pp  
2016

English translation available

### Publisher

Benedikt Publishing  
Guðrún Vilmundardóttir  
gv@benedikt.is  
www.benedikt.is

### Rights

Éditions Zulma  
Amélie Louat  
amelie.louat@zulma.fr

### Rights Sold

France (Zulma)  
Italy (Einaudi)

### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles

Brazil (Alfaguara), Bulgaria (Colibri, Culture), Croatia (Ljevak), Czech Republic (Albatros Media), Denmark (Batzet & co), English worldrights (Amazon Crossing), France (Zulma), Italy (Einaudi), Germany (Suhrkamp/Insel), Latvia (Janis Roze), Macedonia (Antolog Books), Netherlands (De Bezige Bij), Norway (Pax), Portugal (Marcador), Romania (Pandora), Slovakia (Slovart), South Korea (Jae Seung), Spain (Alfaguara), Sweden (Svante Weyler Bokförlag), Taiwan (Aquarius), Turkey (Pinhan), UK & Commonwealth (Pushkin Press), USA (Grove Atlantic).

### Awards

- Awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize 2016
- Awarded the Booksellers Prize 2016 for best Icelandic novel
- Awarded the Prix des libraires du Québec for translated fiction 2011
- Awarded the Prix de Page 2010
- Awarded the DV Cultural Prize for Literature 2008
- Awarded The Icelandic Women’s Literature Prize 2008
- Awarded the Tómas Guðmundsson Literature Prize 2004



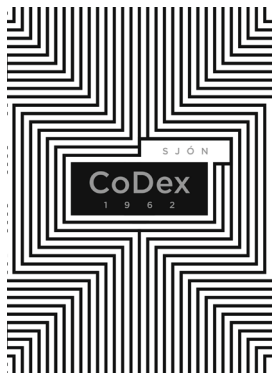
*Fiction*



# Sjón

## Codex 1962

Augu þín sáu mig *Your Eyes Saw Me* (1994)  
 Með titrandi tár *With a Quivering Tear* (2001)  
 Ég er sofandi hurð *I am a Sleeping Door* (2016)



*“A fantastic ending to the trilogy that began with Your Eyes Saw Me. A polyphonic and sweeping story that bears all the hallmarks of its author.”*

Fréttablaðið

Sjón is one of the few of the Nordic writers of his generation inspired and profoundly influenced by surrealism and although he does not consider himself a surrealist today, he claims to owe a great deal to this source of inspiration. Drawing on that source, Sjón has over the course of 20 years written the trilogy *Codex 1962*, a book that consists of the love story *Your Eyes Saw Me* (*Augu þín sáu mig*, 1994), the crime novel *With a Quivering Tear* (*Með titrandi tár*, 2001) and the sci-fi novel *I Am A Sleeping Door* (*Ég er sofandi hurð*, 2016). All three are strong and moving works in which the author expands a traditional form or genre and transforms it within a new and exciting context.

*I Am A Sleeping Door* is the story of the protagonist Josef Löwe, and the story of his generation as well. A story with a darker note and a stronger undercurrent than previous works, perhaps fittingly for the story of a generation born in the Cold War era and growing up in constant fear of nuclear warfare. Despite the morose theme, there is a playfulness and wit to the story that makes it in turns dramatic, funny and a very thrilling read. *I Am A Sleeping Door* is Sjón at the zenith of his craft as a writer, turning his mastery of style and lyrical imagination into an elegant and very fitting final part of this amazing trilogy, making this one of the most interesting literary works in Iceland in a considerable time.

**Sjón** (b.1962) has published numerous poetry collections and seven novels and has written plays, libretti and picture books for children.

His long-time collaboration with the Icelandic singer Björk led to an Oscar nomination for his lyrics for the Lars von Trier movie *Dancer in the Dark*. In 2005 Sjón won the prestigious Nordic Council's Literature Prize for his fifth novel *The Blue Fox* (*Skugga-Baldur*, 2003), which in 2009 was nominated for the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize. Another of his novels, *From the Mouth of the Whale* (*Rökkurbýsnir*, 2008) was shortlisted for the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize 2012.

Sjón's novels have been translated into more than thirty languages.

[sjon.siberia.is](http://sjon.siberia.is)

### Publishing Details

Novel  
 562 pp  
 2016

English sample  
 translation available

### Publisher

JPV / Forlagið  
[www.forlagid.is](http://www.forlagid.is)

### Foreign Rights

Licht&Burr Literary Agency  
 Trine Licht  
[tl@licht-burr.dk](mailto:tl@licht-burr.dk)

### Rights Sold

Denmark (C&K Forlag) (YESM),  
 Finland (Like) (C1962), France/  
 Switzerland/Luxembourg/  
 Canada (Payot & Rivage) (YESM  
 & WaQT), Germany (Fischer  
 Verlag) (C1962), Lithuania  
 (Apostrofa) (YESM), Norway  
 (Tiden) (YESM), Romania  
 (Niculescu) (YESM), Spain/  
 South America (Siruela) (YESM),  
 Sweden (Anamma/Alfabeta)  
 (YESM & WaQT), UK (Sceptre)  
 (C1962), US (FSG) (C1962).

### Awards and Nominations

- Awarded The Icelandic Literary Prize 2013
- Awarded The Icelandic Booksellers' Prize 2016, 2013 & 2005
- Awarded the Nordic Council's Literature Prize 2005
- Nomination for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2016, 2008, 2007 & 2003
- Nominated for Prix Europa 2009
- Shortlisted for the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize 2009 & 2012
- Shortlisted for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award 2013
- Nominated for the Jan Michalski Prize for Literature 2011
- The DV Cultural Prize for Literature 2013, 2005, 2002 & 1995
- Nominated for an Oscar, an Academy Award 2000, in the category Best Original Song and for a Golden Globe Award for the song I've Seen It All from the film *Dancer in the Dark* 2001
- Nominated for The Nordic Council Music Prize 2008 (Shadow Play, opera)



# Guðrún Eva Mínervudóttir

## *Rasputin's Beard* Skegg Raspútíns



*"This year's best novel ... a powerful and unforgettable work of fiction."*

Morgunblaðið

*Rasputin's Beard* is a unique and fascinating work where the everyday life of rather extraordinary women is interwoven with the story of Rasputin, the farmer's son who charmed the Russian Tzar and his family and became their guide and mentor.

Eva, an Icelander, and Ljuba, a Russian-speaking agricultural farmer, become acquainted in the small town of Hveragerði. They sip tea in the kitchen, swap stories about their lives, their marriages and their youth and share their dreams. Above all, they discover the friendship and trust we all need to experience on our journey through life. Guðrún Eva Mínervudóttir is exceptionally skilled at peering beneath the surface of the apparently ordinary life of ordinary people and has a way of seeing inside her characters, exposing a charming portrait of a very real existence. A life that has a meaning and is both unique and generic.

*Rasputin's Beard* is a literary work in which philosophical musings appear as a natural and entertaining part of daily life. The story is told in first person narrative, by Eva, and that makes it personal and intriguing, and Guðrún Eva has a style that is both lyrical and accessible. *Rasputin's Beard* is a unique work of fiction that is absolutely not to be missed.

**Guðrún Eva Mínervudóttir** (b.1976) has earned herself a place among Iceland's most talented writers. Her work is fresh, original, demanding and exciting, with a well-ordered structure and a flawless narrative mode. In her unique way, Guðrún Eva Mínervudóttir captures human emotion at the breaking point.

Her novels include *Angel Dust*, *All is Awakened With a Kiss*, *The Creator* and *Yosoy*. Also worthy of note are her equally remarkable short story collections *While He Looks at You*, *You are the Virgin Mary* and *Album*. Guðrún Eva was awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize in 2011 for *Everything With a Kiss Awakens* and the DV Cultural Prize in literature for *Yosoy* in 2006 and *Angel Dust* in 2014.

### Publishing Details

Novel  
317 pp  
2016

English sample  
translation available

### Publisher

Bjartur  
Páll Valsson  
pall@bjartur.is  
www.bjartur.is

### Rights

The Parisian Agency  
Alexandra Lefebvre  
alexandra@theparisianagency.com

### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles

Italy (Scritturapura), Germany, Austria, Switzerland (Random House/btb), UK, Australia, New Zealand, South-Africa, USA, Philippines (Portobello), Switzerland, Luxembourg, Canada (Autrement), Finland (Athena), Denmark (Art People), India/Malayalam (Megha Books), France (Zulma and Tusitala).

### Awards and Nominations

- Nominated for the DV Cultural Prize for Literature 2016
- Awarded The Icelandic Literary Prize 2011
- Awarded DV Newspaper Cultural Prize in Literature 2006 & 2014
- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2016, 2008 & 2000



*Fiction*

# Steinar Bragi

## *Everything Goes* Allt fer



*“Steinar Bragi is undeniably a master storyteller that keeps the reader riveted story by story.”*

Viðsjá Cultural Program – RÚV Radio

Steinar Bragi has been described as the most talented writer of his generation in Iceland and he more than lives up to that description with the short story collection *Everything Goes*.

This is a voluminous book with nineteen stories that are each different, yet all have a strong impact on the reader and together, they create a unique and fascinating universe.

A common denominator for all these powerful stories is that in life, “everything goes” – in one way or another. Love, marriage, life, innocence, self-respect, our ideals – these will all, at some point, be stripped away, leaving us as human beings alone and helpless.

Steinar Bragi is a true master of storytelling and each story is a complete, profound and unique narrative universe, not least due to his technique of pulling his readers ever deeper into the world of the story. In his stories, language becomes a powerful channel of communication and non-communication alike, since language cannot fix the things that go wrong in the world, but does nonetheless provide the reader with social unity and a strong emotional experience, forcing us to look at the world, as well as ourselves, through critical, unforgiving eyes.

*Everything Goes* is without a doubt one of the most impressive short story collections in Icelandic literature in the last decades, granting Steinar Bragi a place among one of the best writers of his generation.

**Steinar Bragi** (b.1975) is the author of several books of poetry and prose. Debuting as a 23-year-old with the critically acclaimed poetry collection *Black Hole* (*Svarthol*, 1998), he later turned to prose with the novel *Women*, a claustrophobic abstraction of the price of being a woman under the male-driven capitalism and misogynistic power structures that would break the nation's economy. *Women* (*Konur*, 2009) was later nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize.

His novel *Kata* (*Kata*, 2014) is a story about crime and the aftermath, about unfathomable cruelty, deepest sorrow, and the war of sexes.

A nascent master of contemporary horror, Steinar Bragi illuminates the darkest corners of our collective psyche with Lovecraftian detail and in the vein of Stephen King.

### Publishing Details

Novel in stories

351 pp

2016

English sample translation available

### Publisher

Mál og menning / Forlagið

### Rights

Salomonsson Agency

Julia Angelin

julia@salomonssonagency.com

### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles

Czech Republic (Zlin), Denmark (Gyldendal), Estonia (Varrak), Finland (Like), France (Métailié), Germany (DVA), Greece (Klidarithmos), Hungary (Animus), Italy (Marsilio), Macedonia (Bata Press), Netherlands (Luitingh-Sijthoff), Norway (Gyldendal), Serbia (Vulkan), Spain (Destino), Sweden (Natur & Kultur), UK & Commonwealth (Pan Macmillan).

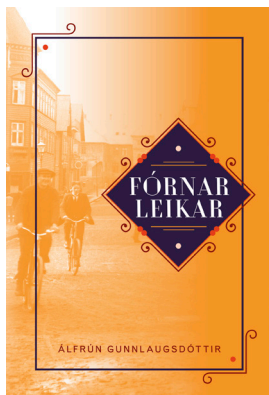
### Awards and Nominations

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2016
- Best Icelandic Thriller/Crime Novel of the Year 2015
- Nominated for The Blood Drop, Icelandic crime fiction award 2015
- Nominated for the DV Cultural Prize for Literature 2015, 2008 & 2005
- Nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize 2010



# Álfrún Gunnlaugsdóttir

## *Sacrificial Games* Fórnarleikar



*“Álfrún Gunnlaugsdóttir is one of our finest writers and this book is a powerful family story ... an epic tale of generations ....”*

Kvinnablaðið

Few writers can paint as vivid and interesting image of a family history as Álfrún Gunnlaugsdóttir, who for decades has held an indubitable place among the most important writers in Iceland. The dense, clear and uncompromising style makes *Sacrificial Games*, a powerful portrait of an individual, a family and a society, a marvelous example of the writing style of Álfrún Gunnlaugsdóttir.

*Sacrificial Games* tells the story of three generations. Magni the writer, son of Regína, the daughter of Sólborg, attempts to navigate the pathways of the past by way of old tape recordings owned by his mother. The task is slow and unsuccessful, since the tapes don't turn out to be what Magni was hoping for. They do not contain the truth nor the emotions and feelings he, as a writer, thought to find and so he has to turn to fiction.

The narrative moves effortlessly between generations and by telling Magni's story in the first person and the women's story in the third person, the axle the story moves on is created. The lines separating memories and reality on one hand and fiction on the other become blurred and become both a subject matter and a way of demonstrating the possibilities of fiction as a tool for revelation and how the truth and the sacrifices made in times past always seek to expose themselves at some point.

**Álfrún Gunnlaugsdóttir** (b.1938) is the author of numerous novels and short stories. She has won a number of commendations for her writing, including three nominations for the Nordic Council Literature Prize and two for the Icelandic Literary Prize. She won the Icelandic Women's Literature Prize for her novel *Rán*, as well as The DV Cultural Prize for Literature.

The major theme of her fiction is the conflict between the past and the present. Álfrún's characters look, willingly or unwillingly, to the past to evaluate their present in the context of periods of significance in their past.

Álfrún Gunnlaugsdóttir has also translated books from Spanish and written articles for academic journals.

### Publishing Details

Novel  
216 pp  
2016

English sample  
translation available

### Publisher

Mál og menning / Forlagið  
The Forlagid Rights Agency  
Valgerdur Benediktsdóttir  
vala@forlagid.is  
www.forlagid.is



### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles

Denmark (Gentofte)  
France (Presses Université de Caen)  
Germany (Steidl)

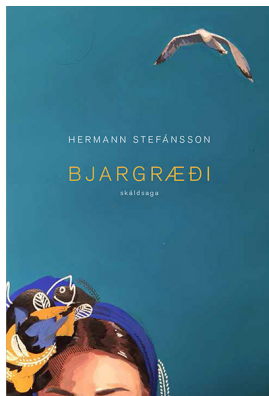
### Awards and Nominations

- Awarded The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2009
- Awarded DV Cultural Prize for Literature 2008 & 1985
- Awarded the RUV Writer's Prize 2001
- Nominated for The Icelandic Literature Prize 2008, 2001 & 1993
- Nominated for The Nordic Council Literature Prize 2003, 1995 & 1991

*Fiction*

# Hermann Stefánsson

## *Deliverance* Bjargræði



*“A wonderfully entertaining and well written novel, featuring one of the most powerful female characters to appear in Icelandic literature for quite some time ...”*

Fréttablaðið



Hermann Stefánsson is one of a select few among Icelandic writers who can truly be called post-modernist. In his *oeuvre*, Hermann deals with the novel as such, and its myriad forms, as well as language and its possibilities in an original and notable way. In *Deliverance*, he once again strikes a new and interesting chord.

*Deliverance* is the story of Látra-Björg, a poet and a formidable woman of her time, some 300 years ago, who travels to today's world to visit Tómas, the coffin maker. The character of Björg, her discourse, poetic gifts, her social critique and her fierce independence come alive to us in a fluid and powerful text that binds past to present in a unique and masterful way.

The story pours forth from Björg's lips as she gives Tómas, whom she thinks is a good-for-nothing and useless wuss, a generous piece of her mind. She also has some very strong opinions on Tómas's generation in general, those lazy idiots who spend their days sipping latte at cafés and taking selfies. In her powerful, almost shamanic flow of discourse, Hermann blends the language of the past with that of the present and brings us a poet and a revolutionary force in one of the most memorable and awesome heroines in Icelandic literature for several years. The text is wrought with spells and poetry, but also full of wit and humor. *Deliverance* is truly a work that speaks to our times.

**Hermann Stefánsson** (b.1968) studied literature in Iceland and Galicia, Spain. He is the author of thirteen books, novels and poetry and has been a full-time writer for ten years. In Hermann's working life, he has worked as a literary editor, a translator of the works of various Spanish-speaking authors, a prolific columnist in Icelandic media, newspapers, websites and radio, a critic, a musician, a part time university teacher, a part time seaman and a part time farmer, but mostly, he has been a writer. He was nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2015 for his novel *The Way Out To The World* (*Leiðin út í heim*).

### Publishing Details

Novel  
306 pp  
2016

English sample  
translation available

### Publisher

Sæmundur  
Bjarni Harðarson  
bokakaffid@bokakaffid.is

### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles

Germany (Litteraturverlag  
Roland Hoffmann)

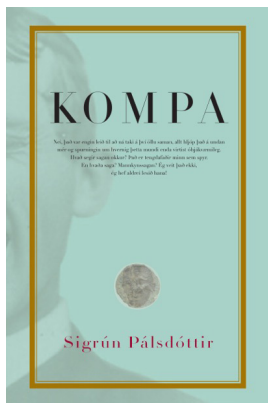
### Awards and Nominations

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2015
- Nominated for the Icelandic Translators Prize 2014 & 2012



# Sigrún Pálsdóttir

## *That Little Dark Room* Kompa



*“Like a cubist work of art”*

DV Newspaper

A woman realizes, after spending years abroad doing research for a doctoral thesis on a 365 years old diary, that the premises for her research and the questions she is attempting to answer are unfounded and without purpose. Desperately, she tries to cover up her mistake, only to make the situation even worse. As a consequence, a mental illness that plagued her in the past asserts itself anew.

She puts off finishing her studies and goes with her husband back home to Iceland. There, she is burdened by her secret and has to deal with the effects of her illness, hallucinations that may, eventually, offer her a way out of her predicament.

*That Little Dark Room* is a gripping novel about the nature of research and sources, how we interpret them and how we preserve them. The construction of the writing is meticulous and refined, in a fragmented story that turns into an intricate web of time, point of view and narrative progress.

### Publishing Details

Novel  
166 pp  
2016

English sample translation available

### Publisher

Smekkleysa sm ehf.  
Bragi Ólafsson  
oink@simnet.is



**Sigrún Pálsdóttir** (b. 1967) completed a Ph.D in the History of Ideas at Oxford University in 2001, after which she was a research fellow and lecturer at the University of Iceland. Since 2007 she has worked free-lance, as the editor of *Saga*, the principal peer-reviewed journal for Icelandic history, from 2008 to 2016.

Her previous titles include the historical biography *Thora. A Bishop's Daughter* (JPV 2010) and *Uncertain Seas* (JPV 2013), a story of a young couple and their children that got killed when sailing from New York to Iceland aboard a ship torpedoed by a German submarine in 1944.

### Awards and Nominations

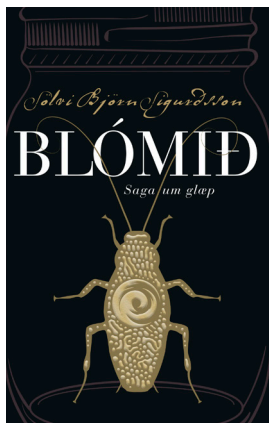
- Awarded the Icelandic Bookseller's Literary Prize 2013 (Biography)
- Nomination for the Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2016 (fiction)
- Nomination for The Icelandic Literary Prize 2010 (non-fiction)
- Nomination for the Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2010 (non-fiction)
- Nomination for the Icelandic Bookseller's Literary Prize 2010 (Biography)
- Nomination for The Hagbenkir Non-fiction Prize 2010 & 2013
- Nomination for The DV - Newspaper Cultural Prize for Non-Fiction 2013
- Nomination for The DV - Newspaper Cultural Prize for Literature 2013

*Fiction*

# Sölvi Björn Sigurðsson

## *The Flower – a Tale of a Crime*

### Blómið – saga um glæp



*“An epic novel with  
a broad scope ...  
very exciting!”*

Orð um bækur, Literature Program  
– RÚV Radio

*The Flower* is a tale of a crime. But wherein lies the crime? In doing the deed or in hiding the truth? Benedikt Valkoff wakes up in the middle of the night and starts folding the laundry. It's his birthday but the day is marred by another anniversary: 33 years ago his little sister vanished. The mystery of her disappearance has never been solved.

The child that disappeared has never left the minds of her parents and brother, but by the evening of this day, on which the reader is swept through time and space, the moment of truth will arrive.

The story is a crime novel at heart but teeters on the verge of other genres. Glowing cockroaches, cold war experiments and the hyperrealism of queuing for a year's worth of Dunkin' Donuts are all mixed together to form a playful, yet thrilling story of crime and guilt.

#### Publishing Details

Novel  
294 pp  
2016

English sample  
translation available

#### Publisher

Mál og menning / Forlagið  
The Forlagid Rights Agency  
Valgerdur Benediktsdottir  
vala@forlagid.is  
www.forlagid.is



Sölvi Björn Sigurðsson (b.1978) has published numerous interesting novels, poems, and non-fiction, and has been nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize. He has also translated a variety of novels and poetry and has been nominated for the Icelandic Translator's Award.

Sölvi Björn Sigurðsson is without a doubt one of the sharpest pens of his generation, and this ambitious novel is both far-reaching realist fiction and a story full of wonder and menace.

#### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles

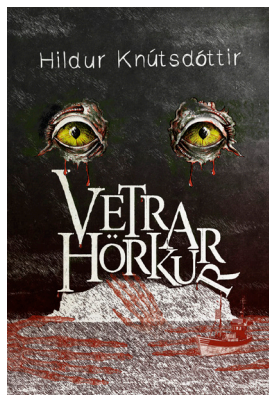
Denmark (Thorgard),  
SA/Philippines/UK/ANZ (Open  
Letter), Macedonia (Ikona)

#### Awards and Nominations

- Awarded the RUV Writer's Fund 2016
- Awarded the DV Cultural Prize for non-fiction and scholarship 2013
- Awarded The Icelandic Book-sellers' Prize 2009 & 2005
- Nominated for The Icelandic Literature Prize in non-fiction 2013
- Nominated for The Icelandic Translator's Award 2017 & 2009
- Nominated for DV Cultural Prize for Literature 2008

# Hildur Knútsdóttir

## *Winter Frost*    *Vetrarhörkur*



*“A fantastic horror story.”*

Kiljan Literature Program – RÚV TV

*Winter Frost* is the tale of an ordinary family in extraordinary circumstances. After barely surviving the attack of cannibalistic aliens that plagued Iceland, *Winter Frost* is the second part of the story Hildur Knútsdóttir began in the award-winning *Winter Dark* (*Vetrarfri*, 2015).

This is a spine-chilling and masterfully written thriller for adults and children and it's a book you can't easily put down. Written in a style as sharply honed as the aliens' teeth, it is a horror tale with an eerily realistic fae. Nothing is what it seems and the twists and turns of the plot leave the reader on the edge of his seat.

No one really knows how many survived the first attack of the aliens. Bragi is lost and Bergljót and her father are willing to risk everything to find him. But can they outwit the aliens? What do the aliens really want? Will the family ever be united again, or will they fall victims to the aliens? What does the future hold? Will their lives ever go back to just being ordinary?

### Publishing Details

Fiction / YA  
282 pp  
2016

English sample translation available

### Publisher

JPV / Forlagið  
The Forlagid Rights Agency  
Valgerdur Benediktsdóttir  
vala@forlagid.is  
www.forlagid.is

### Rights Sold

France (Thierry Magnier)

### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles

France (Thierry Magnier)



**Hildur Knútsdóttir** (b.1984) did volunteer work in Guatemala after graduating from college and travelled through Latin America. After that, she spent a winter in Berlin and lived in Taiwan for a year, studying Chinese at Chengchi University, Taipei. She has previously published two other novels for children.

*Winter Frost* is the second part of the story that Hildur Knútsdóttir started in her electrifying novel *Winter Dark*, a book that was a commercial success, was nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize and the Reykjavik Children's Literature Prize, and won the Icelandic Women's Literature Prize. *Winter Frost* was awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize 2016 and is nominated for the Reykjavik Children's Literature Prize 2017.

### Awards and Nominations

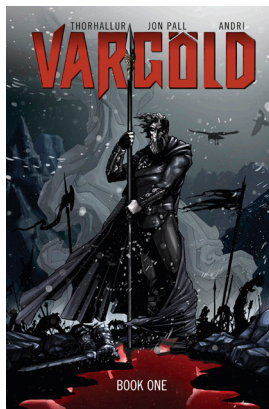
- Awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize for Best Children's and YA Book 2016
- Awarded the Icelandic Bookseller's Prize for YA Books 2016
- Awarded the Icelandic Women's Literature Prize for YA literature 2016
- Nomination for the Reykjavik Children's Literature Prize 2016 & 2017
- Nomination for the Icelandic Literary Prize for Best Children's and YA Book 2015

# Children & YA



# Jón Páll Halldórsson & Þórhallur Arnórsson

## *The Wrath of Ragnarök* Vargöld



*“An excellent graphic novel ... the start of a great Saga ...”*

Vikan Magazine

*The Wrath of Ragnarök – Book one* is an ambitious and thrilling graphic novel with a storyline from the Nordic myths. Its authors, Þórhallur Arnórsson and Jón Páll Halldórsson, based the work on the original sources in the Icelandic manuscripts and took great pride in remaining faithful to the tales of the old manuscript and the world which they describe.

Vikar thinks he has finally found a safe harbour, away from the blood-steeped life of a Viking, and his and Grian's first born will be born soon. But in the merciless universe of the Gods, the fates of the humans have been decided long before and those fates can be brutal. A war is in the making and great struggles will follow. This is an exciting tale of men and gods, in a pagan age, reaching through several universes and from the time of Creation all the way towards Ragnarök.

*The Wrath of Ragnarök – Book One* contains the first two chapters: An Ominous Calm and A Taste of Blood.

### Publishing Details

YA – Graphic Novel  
60 pp  
2016

The book was also published in English in Iceland

### Publisher

Iðunn / Forlagið  
Valgerdur Benediktsdóttir  
vala@forlagid.is  
www.forlagid.is

### Rights

Fraendi ehf  
toti@vargoldcomic.com  
www.vargoldcomic.com



**Jón Páll Halldórsson** / Illustrations. Jón's artistic career spans most of his life and extremely diverse fields such as creating 3-D environments for online games and TV shows to book illustrations and tattooing. He's been a prominent figure of the Icelandic tattoo scene for more than two decades now. Jón currently works and lives in Barcelona with his wife and two children.

**Þórhallur Arnórsson** / Writer. Armed with a degree in philosophy and psychology, Þórhallur has worked as a creative director since the turn of the century, mainly in the advertising business but also for TV companies and online gaming distributors. He enjoys all creative work and relishes the opportunities he gets dealing with all possible kinds of creative problems that need a solution. Þórhallur lives and works in Reykjavik with his wife and three daughters.

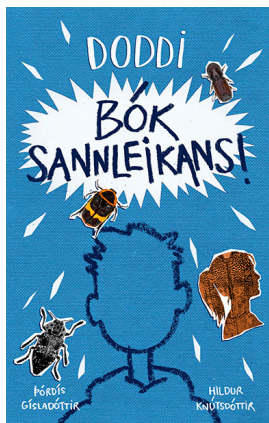
### Awards and Nominations

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2016 for Children and YA Books

# Þórdís Gísladóttir & Hildur Knútsdóttir

## *Doddi: The Book of Truth!*

## Doddi: Bók sannleikans!



“...extremely funny, vivid, and unvarnished description of the everyday life of a teenaged boy.”

bokmenntir.is

*Doddi: The Book of Truth!* is a hilarious book for children and young adults that describes the everyday life of a fourteen year old boy in a straight-forward and no holds barred-manner. Doddi is not the kind of guy who minces his words and he gives it to us the way it is.

Doddi has two main hobbies – insects and women – and has a tremendous crush on his class mate, Hulda Rós. Doddi's parents have split up and Doddi leads a very typical life for an Icelandic teenager. Pawel, his best friend, also has two main interests – The European Union and mathematics – but luckily, he also takes a huge interest in the pressing issue of Doddi ever getting a girlfriend.

The story is told in a clipped, to the point narrative style and paints a vivid and funny picture of the life of the contemporary teenager, including the important role of social media as a method of expression and how kids feel that grown-ups tend to make a huge deal out of things that really aren't that serious.

### Publishing Details

Children / YA  
160 pp  
2016

English sample  
translation available

### Publisher

Bókabeitan  
Birgitta Hassell  
birgitta@bokabeitan.is

### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles

France (Editions Thierry Magnier)  
*Winter Dark* and *Winter Frost* by  
Hildur Knútsdóttir  
Hungary (Pongrác Kiadó)  
*Randalín* and *Mundi* by Þórdís  
Gísladóttir



**Þórdís Gísladóttir** (b. 1965) is known for her popular children's stories about Randalín and Mundi, and her poetry has also been well received. In 2010 Þórdís Gísladóttir received the Tómas Guðmundsson Award for her first poetry work *Leyndarmál annarra* (*Secrets of Others*). Her second book of poetry, *Velúr* (2014) and her children's book *Randalín, Mundi og afturgöngurnar* (*Randalín, Mundi and the Zombies*, 2015) were nominated for The Icelandic Literary Prize.

**Hildur Knútsdóttir** (b. 1984) has a BA in literature and creative writing from the University of Iceland. Hildur was awarded The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize for *Vetrarfrí* (*Winter Dark*, 2015) which was nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2015 and Reykjavik Children's Literature Prize. *Winter Frost* is the second part of the story which started in *Winter Dark* and was awarded The Icelandic Literary Prize and The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2016 and is nominated for the Reykjavik Children's Literature Prize.

### Awards and Nominations

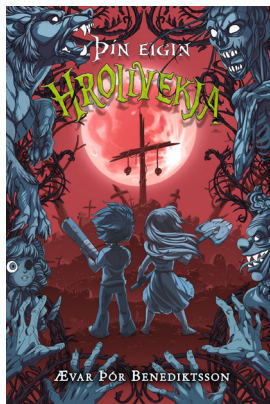
- *Doddi: The Book of Truth!* – Nominated for The Icelandic Literary Prize 2016, The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2016 & Reykjavik Children's Literature Prize 2016
- *Winter Frost* – Awarded The Icelandic Literary Prize 2016, Nominated for The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2017 & Reykjavik Children's Literature Prize 2016
- *Winter Dark* – Awarded The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2016 & Nominated for The Icelandic Literary Prize 2015
- *Randalín, Mundi & the Zombies* – Nominated for The Icelandic Literary Prize 2015 & The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2015
- *Randalín and Mundi* – Awarded The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2012 & The Booksellers Prize 2012

# Children & YA

# Ævar Þór Benediktsson

## *Your Very Own Scary Story*

### Þín eigin hrollvekja



*A book that works like a computer game – you decide what happens next!*

In today's time of computer games and digital entertainment for children, we need to rethink the way we not only stimulate kids and motivate them to read more, but make sure reading great books is a real and exciting option. *Your Very Own Scary Story* is the third in the *Your Very Own ...* – series of books where the reader gets to pick and choose different twists and turns for the storyline, getting a different conclusion at the end of each road travelled. This makes the book interactive and gives the reader the controls at each reading session.

Are you thrilled by monsters, animated objects or ghosts? Do you enjoy being scared out of your wits? Well, in that case *Your Very Own Scary Story* is the right book for you. The “secret ingredient” is that Ævar Þór is extremely skilled at placing the reader in the center of the reading experience and giving him or her control of the process. His prankish, school-yard sense of humor is always on hand, making sure that no one gets too frightened, despite all the horrors on offer.

*Your Very Own Scary Story* is above all a very well written and cleverly construed book for children of every age, making it a perfect book for reading aloud for the whole family – each family member gets to pick the storyline they prefer and choose their own path towards the end of this thrilling story.

#### Publishing Details

Children  
309 pp  
2016

English sample translation available

#### Publisher

Mál og menning / Forlagið  
The Forlagid Rights Agency  
Valgerdur Benediktsdottir  
vala@forlagid.is  
www.forlagid.is



Ævar Þór Benediktsson (b. 1984) has published many popular children's books and fronted or supported several incredibly successful reading campaigns aimed at elementary school children. His award-winning TV show for children has also been a huge success. His book *Your Very Own Fairytale* (*Þín eigin hjóðsaga*, 2014) won the Icelandic Booksellers' Prize and the Children's Book Prize as the best children's book of the year and *The Robot Attack* (*Vélmennaárásin*, 2016) was nominated for the Icelandic Literary Award, as the best children's book. The DeBary's Children's Science Book Award selected *Dinosaurs in Reykjavík* (*Risaeðlur í Reykjavík*), as one of the best books of 2016.

[www.aevarwritesbooks.com](http://www.aevarwritesbooks.com)

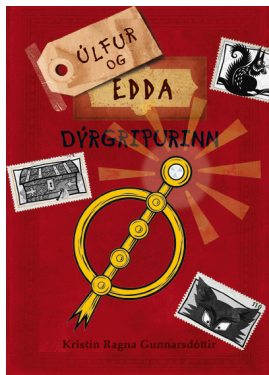
#### Awards and Nominations

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize for Children and YA Books 2016
- Finalist and first International Selection of the DeBary Outstanding Children's book Awards 2016
- Awarded The Icelandic Booksellers' Prize 2014 & 2016
- Awarded The Children's Choice Book Prize 2014
- Edda Awards Winner – Best Children's Programme 2017
- Edda Awards Winner – Best Children's Programme 2016
- Edda Awards Winner – Best Children's Programme 2015
- Edda Awards Winner – Best Entertainment Programme 2016

# Kristín Ragna Gunnarsdóttir

## Úlfur and Edda: The Relic

### Úlfur og Edda: Dýrgripurinn



*Wonderfully  
entertaining as well  
as informative*

In the last few years, Kristín Ragna Gunnarsdóttir has earned a name for herself as a clever and artistic illustrator of children's books, in particular for her images from the world of the Nordic mythology. With this, her first novel, she takes her rightful place among the more exciting writers of children's literature in Iceland.

*Úlfur and Edda: The Relic* is a wonderfully entertaining, as well as informative, story for children and families. It is the story of the stepbrother and -sister Úlfur and Edda, who are forced to spend their summer holiday in the country, at Skálholt, the famous cathedral site of old. Their grandmother, who lives in Skálholt, is the keeper of a very significant relic and when her treasure is stolen, Úlfur and Edda embark on a thrilling quest to reclaim it.

One of the book's greatest strength is the clever way in which the author brings together children of our age and mythical beings, in an original, entertaining and informative manner that kids as well as grown-ups can enjoy. It also addresses issues pertinent to many of today's children, such as relating to half- and stepsiblings, accepting characteristics different from one's own and not least the traditional gender stereotypes.

*Úlfur and Edda: The Relic* is the work of a skilled and knowledgeable writer, the illustrations are wonderfully artistic and above all, it is a great read with a wealth of information – an exceptionally well written book.

**Kristín Ragna Gunnarsdóttir** (b.1968) is an Icelandic author, illustrator and graphic designer. She has a master's degree in creative writing and has illustrated countless children's books and received the Icelandic Illustrator's Award twice, and a nomination for the Icelandic Literature Prize in 2008. Her illustrations of the ancient, Icelandic poem *Hávamál* secured her a place on the IBBY honorary list in 2014 and pictures from that book were chosen for the exhibition *Into the Wind!* In 2015 IBBY in Iceland rewarded her for her continuing work in the field of children's culture.

#### [Publishing Details](#)

Illustrated book for children  
215 pp  
2016

English sample  
translation available

#### [Publisher](#)

Bókabeitan  
Birgitta Hassell  
birgitta@bokabeitan.is  
www.bokabeitan.is

#### [Awards and Nominations](#)

- Awarded the Icelandic Illustrator's Award Dimmalimm 2008 & 2011
- Nominated for The Icelandic Women's Literature Awards 2017
- Nominated for the IBBY Honour List 2014
- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2008





# Bergrún Íris Sævarsdóttir & Ósk Ólafsdóttir

## *The Shopping Trip* Búðarferðin



*A beautiful and entertaining picture book for the youngest readers*

*The Shopping Trip* is a beautiful and entertaining picture book intended for the youngest readers. Although the text is simple, it provides a lot of material for a lively conversation about the adventures that take place in the images and about the imaginative world that lies behind the story.

When imagination runs wild anything can happen and even ordinary events turn into adventures. The protagonists Jesse and Happy go to the store to buy milk for a birthday party. *The Shopping Trip* becomes extremely eventful when they encounter a range of peculiar creatures and a magical landscape.

One of the protagonists has a non-gender specific name and nothing in the text or pictures indicates whether it's a girl or a boy. This leaves the readers to decide for themselves.

### Publishing Details

Children / Illustrated book  
32 pp  
2016

English sample translation available

### Publisher

Bókabeitan - Töfraland  
[www.bokabeitan.is](http://www.bokabeitan.is)

### Rights

Gudrun Hebel  
[gudrun.hebel@agentur-literatur.de](mailto:gudrun.hebel@agentur-literatur.de)

### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles by Bergrún Íris

Simplified Chinese - *Vinur minn, vindurinn* (*My friend, the wind*), *Sjáðu mig, sumar!* (*Here comes summer!*) and *Viltu vera vinur minn?* (*Will you be my friend?*)



**Bergrún Íris Sævarsdóttir** (b. 1984) is an illustrator, journalist and author. She has illustrated over 25 children's books and has been awarded for her books as both author and illustrator. Her first book as both an author and illustrator, *Vinur minn, vindurinn* (*My friend, the wind*) was nominated for both the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize 2015 and the Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2015. Bergrún Íris follows the success of her previous books with a brand-new title that is sure to delight kids of all ages.



**Ósk Ólafsdóttir** (b. 1981) is an author who loves fairy tales and fantasy. She has a particular interest in the boundless imagination of children, and conversations with her daughters are her favorite source for inspiration. She holds degrees in computer science and software engineering and is happiest when creative thought and logic can be combined.

### Awards and Nominations

- Nomination for the Reykjavík Children's Literary Prize 2016 for *Viltu vera vinur minn?* (*Will you be my friend?*)
- Nomination for the Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2015 for *Vinur minn, vindurinn* (*My friend, the wind*)
- Nomination for the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize 2015 for *Vinur minn, vindurinn* (*My friend, the wind*)
- IBBY Spring Breeze award for contribution to children's culture 2016

# Fiction

## Albania

Ejal  
Auður Jónsdóttir  
*Ósjálfrátt*

Ombra GVG  
Publishing House  
Hallgrímur Helgason  
*Konan við 1000°*

Ombra GVG  
Publishing House  
*Brennu-Njáls saga*

Ombra GVG  
Publishing House  
Kristín Ómarsdóttir  
*Hér*

## Armenia

Guitank  
Ragnar Jónasson  
*Snjóblinda*

## Argentina

Milena Caserola  
Rúnar Helgi Vignisson &  
Svava Jakobsdóttir  
*Collection of short stories*  
– *Voces de Islandia II*

## Bulgaria

EMAS  
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir  
*DNA*  
*Sogið*  
*Aflausn*

List 2016  
Thor Vilhjálmsson  
*Grámosinn glóir*

Unity International  
Jón Gnarr  
*Indjáninn*

## Canada

Alto  
Andri Snær Magnason  
*LoveStar*

Kind Publishing  
Gyrðir Elíasson  
*Bréfbátarígningin*

La peuplade  
Gyrðir Elíasson  
*Gangandi ikorni*

## China

People's Literature  
Publishing House  
Einar Már Guðmundsson  
*Hundadagar*

## Columbia / Argentina

Poklonka  
Bergsveinn Birgisson  
*Svar við bréfi Helgu*

## Croatia

Knjige i sve  
Arnaldur Indriðason  
*Mýrin*

Naklada OceanMore  
Eiríkur Örn Norðdahl  
*Illska*

## Czech Republic

Albatros Media  
Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir  
*Rígning í nóvember*

DIBBUK  
Gyrðir Elíasson  
*Koparakur*

KALICH  
Gunnar Gunnarsson  
*Aðventa*

Leda  
Lilja Sigurðardóttir  
*Gildran*

METAFORA  
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir  
*DNA*  
*Sogið*  
*Aflausn*

Moba  
Arnaldur Indriðason  
*Kamp Knox*

Pragma  
Jón Gnarr  
*Sjóræninginn*

## Denmark

Art People  
Lilja Sigurðardóttir  
*Gildran*

C&K forlag  
Sjón  
*CoDex 1962*

Forlaget Multivers  
Jakobína Sigurðardóttir  
*Í barndómi*

Gyldendal  
Kristín Marja Baldursdóttir  
*Svartalogn*

Lindhardt & Ringhof  
Hallgrímur Helgason  
*Sjóveikur í München*

Løvens forlag  
Jón Atli Jónasson  
*Börnin í Dimmuvík*

## Egypt

Al Arabi  
Jón Gnarr  
*Sjóræninginn*

Masr El-Arabia  
Kristín Ómarsdóttir  
*Hér*

## Estonia

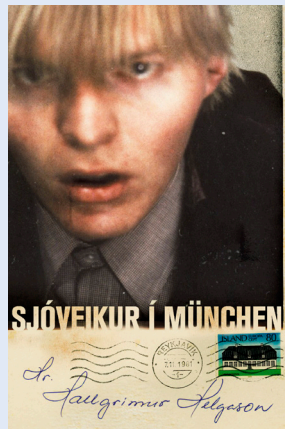
VARRAK  
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir  
*DNA*  
*Sogið*  
*Aflausn*

## Faroe Islands

Sprotin  
Halldór Laxness  
*Heimsljós*

## Finland

Blue Moon  
Arnaldur Indriðason  
*Þýska húsið*



# Recently Sold Abroad

Like  
Sjón  
*CoDex 1962*

OTAVA  
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir  
*Sér grefur gröf  
Þriðja táknid*

France  
Actes Sud  
Bragi Ólafsson  
*Sögumaður*

Actes Sud  
Bergsveinn Birgisson  
*Landslag er aldrei asnalegt*

Gaia  
Sigríður Hagalín  
Björnsdóttir  
*Eyland*

Gallimard  
Guðmundur Andri Thorsson  
*Sæmd*

Gallimard  
Jón Kalman Stefánsson  
*Eitthvað á stærð við  
alheiminn*  
*Fiskarnir hafa enga fætur*

Métailié  
Arnaldur Indriðason  
*Petsamo*

Métailié  
Árni Þórarinnsson  
*13 dagar*

Métailié  
Lilja Sigurðardóttir  
*Netið*

Zulma  
Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir  
*Ör*

Georgia  
Bakur Sulakauri  
Publishing LLC  
Halldór Laxness  
*Brekkukotsannáll*

Germany  
Amazon Crossing  
Stefán Máni  
*Nautið*  
  
btb/Random House  
Einar Már Guðmundsson  
*Hundadagar*

btb/Random House  
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir  
*Sér grefur gröf  
Þriðja táknid*

btb/Random House  
Auður Jónsdóttir  
*Stóri skjálfti*

C.H. Beck  
Kristín Steinsdóttir  
*Vonarlandið*

Krüger Verlag  
Kristín Marja Baldursdóttir  
*Svartalogn*

Lubbe  
Arnaldur Indriðason  
*Þýska húsið  
Petsamo*

Suhrkamp  
Sigríður Hagalín  
Björnsdóttir  
*Eyland*  
  
Universitäts- und  
Stadtbibliothek Köln  
Gunnar F. Guðmundsson  
*Pastor Jón Sveinsson – NONNI*

Greece  
METAICHMIO  
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir  
*DNA  
Sogið  
Aflausn*

METAICHMIO  
Arnaldur Indriðason  
*Mýrin*

Hungary  
ANIMUS  
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir  
*DNA  
Sogið  
Aflausn*

Gondolat  
Auður Jónsdóttir  
*Stóri skjálfti*

Jelenkor  
Jón Kalman Stefánsson  
*Himnaríki og helvíti  
Harmur englanna  
Hjarta mannsins*

Polar Könyvek  
Pétur Gunnarsson  
*Punktur, punktur,  
komma, strik*

Italy  
Edizioni Capricorno  
Árni Þórarinnsson  
*Tími nornarinnar  
Sjöundi sonurinn*

Einaudi  
Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir  
*Upphækkuð jörð  
Ör*

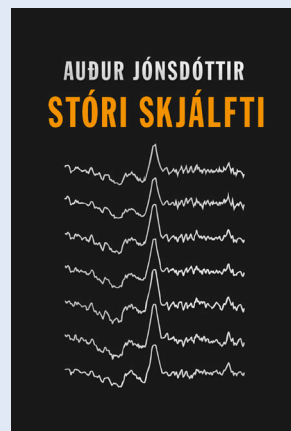
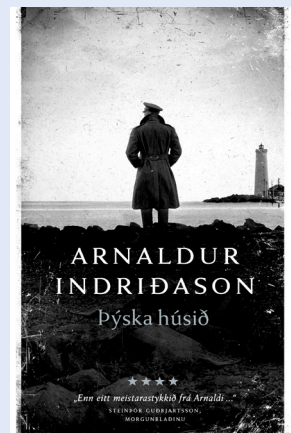
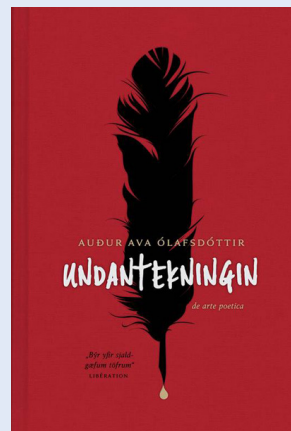
Iperborea  
Gunnar Gunnarsson  
*Adventa*

Iperborea  
Jón Árnason  
*Íslenskar þjóðsögur  
og ævintýri*

Iperborea  
Jón R. Hjálmarsson  
*Þjóðsögur við þjóðveginn*

Ugo Guanda  
Arnaldur Indriðason  
*Þýska húsið*

Japan  
Shogakukan Ltd.  
Ragnar Jónasson  
*Snjóblindu*



Tokyo Sogensha  
Arnaldur Indriðason  
*Kleifarvatn*

**Latvia**  
Janis Roze  
Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir  
*Upphækkudjörð*

Mansards  
Sjón  
*Skugga-Baldur*

ZVAIGZNE  
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir  
*DNA*  
*Sogið*  
*Aflausn*

**Lithuania**  
Alma Littera Publishers  
Hallgrímur Helgason  
*Konan við 1000°*

VšĮ Akademinė leidyba  
Snorri Sturluson  
*Edda*

**Macedonia**  
Antolog Books  
Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir  
*Afleggjarinn*

Antolog Books  
Oddný Eir Ævarsdóttir  
*Jarðnæði*

Antolog Books  
Ófeigur Sigurðsson  
*Skáldsaga um Jón*

Antolog Books  
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir  
*Sér grefur gröf*  
*Þriðja táknid*

Ikona  
Andri Snær Magnason  
*LoveStar*

Ikona  
Sölvi Björn Sigurðsson  
*Síðustu dagar móður minnar*

**Mexico**  
LEGIONCOMIX  
Ingólfur Örn Björgvinsson  
& Embla Ýr Bárudóttir  
*Hetjan*

**The Netherlands**  
Ambo Anthos  
Jón Kalman Stefánsson  
*Sumarljós og svo kemur nóttin*

Lebowski Publishers  
Gunnar Gunnarsson  
*Aðventa*

Querido  
Arnaldur Indriðason  
*Petsamo*

**Norway**  
Aschehoug  
Gerður Kristný  
*Hestvík*

Bokvennen  
Andri Snær Magnason  
*LoveStar*

KAGGE  
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir  
*Aflausn*

Pelikanen Forlag  
Bergsveinn Birgisson  
*Geirmundar saga heljarsskinns*

**Poland**  
Amber  
Ragnar Jónasson  
*Myrknætti*

Wielka  
Guðmundur Andri Thorsson  
*Valeyarvalsinn*

**Portugal**  
Bertrand  
Andri Snær Magnason  
*LoveStar*

Cavalo de Ferro / Theoria  
Jón Kalman Stefánsson  
*Fiskarnir hafa enga fætur*  
*Eitthvað á stærð við*  
*alheiminn*

QUETZAL  
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir  
*DNA*  
*Sogið*  
*Aflausn*

20120 Editora / Topseller  
Ragnar Jónasson  
*Snjóblinda*  
*Náttblinda*

**Romania**  
Editura Trei  
Arnaldur Indriðason  
*Harðskafi*  
*Kamp Knox*

Polirom  
Sjón  
*Rökkurbýsnir*

**Serbia**  
Booka  
Arnaldur Indriðason  
*Röddin*

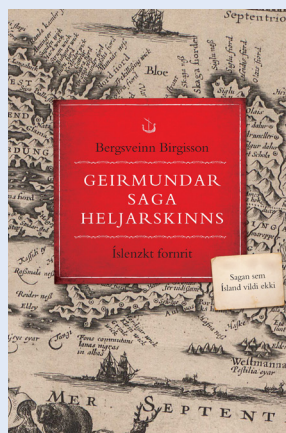
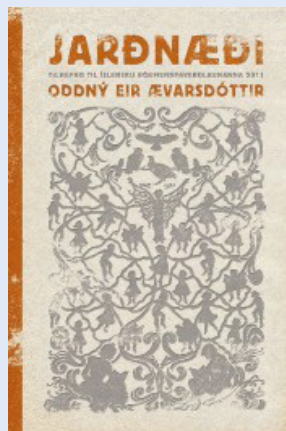
Dereta DOO  
Hallgrímur Helgason  
*The Hitman's Guide*  
*to Housecleaning*

**Slovenia**  
Artforum  
Jón Kalman Stefánsson  
*Eitthvað á stærð*  
*við alheiminn*

**South Korea**  
Bookplaza  
Ragnar Jónasson  
*Snjóblinda*

Munhakdogne (Elixir)  
Arnaldur Indriðason  
*Grafarþögn*

Open Books  
Arnaldur Indriðason  
*Kleifarvatn*  
*Reykjavíkurnætur*



*Recently Sold Abroad*



## Spain

RBA Libros  
Arnaldur Indriðason  
*Svörtuloft*  
*Furðustrandir*  
*Einvígið*

## Spain, Galicia

Rinoceronte  
Sjón  
*Mánasteinn*

## Sweden

Svante Weyler Forlag  
Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir  
*Undantekningin*

## Turkey

Ayalak Adam Kultur  
Thor Vilhjálmsson  
*Grámosinn glóir*

## KORIDOR

Yrsa Sigurðardóttir  
*DNA*  
*Sogið*  
*Aflausn*

## Monkl

Sjón  
*Rökkurbýsnir*  
*Mánasteinn*  
*Skugga-Baldur*  
*Argóarflisin*

## United Arab Emirates

Dar Al Muna  
Gunnar Gunnarsson  
*Aðventa*

## United Kingdom

Michael Joseph/Penguin  
Ragnar Jónasson  
*Dimma*  
*Drungi*

## Orenda

Lilja Sigurðardóttir  
*Gildran*  
*Netið*

## Peirene Press

Guðmundur Andri Thorsson  
*Valeyrrarvalsinn*

## Quercus

Jón Kalman Stefánsson  
*Eitthvað á stærð*  
*við alheiminn*

## USA

FSG  
Sjón  
*CoDex 1962*

Open Letter  
Bragi Ólafsson  
*Sögumaður*

St. Martin's Press  
Yrsa Sigurðardóttir  
*DNA*  
*Sogið*  
*Aflausn*

Thomas Dunne  
Arnaldur Indriðason  
*Skuggasund*  
*Þýska húsið*

# Non-Fiction

## Estonia

Paljasjalg OÜ  
Hugleikur Dagsson  
*666 selected cartoons*

## Poland

Wydawnictwo  
Poznanskie sp. Z o.o.  
Bergsveinn Birgisson  
*Leitin að svarta vikingnum*

# Poetry

## Denmark

Vandkunsten  
Gerður Kristný  
*Drápa*

Det Poetiske Bureaus Forlag

Þór Stefánsson  
*Heima*

## Finland

Hap(pi)  
Gerður Kristný  
*Drápa*

## Italy

Nottetempo  
Andri Snær Magnason  
*Bónusljóð*

## Lebanon

Fondation Naji Naaman  
Þór Stefánsson  
*Í ljósi þínu*

## Norway

Nordsjöforlaget  
Gerður Kristný  
*Drápa*

Nordsjöforlaget  
Gyrðir Elíasson  
*Selected poems*

Nordsjöforlaget  
Sigurður Pálsson  
*Ljóð muna rödd*



# Children and Young Adult

## Bulgaria

Ergon  
Andri Snær Magnason  
*Sagan af bláa hnettinum*

## China

Jieli  
Andri Snær Magnason  
*Tímakistan*

Shanghai 99  
Reader's Culture  
Hallfríður Ólafsdóttir &  
Þórarinn Már Baldursson  
*Maxímús kætist í kór*  
*Maxímús bjargar ballettinum*

## China / Taiwan

Eastern  
Andri Snær Magnason  
*Tímakistan*

## Denmark

Turbine  
Gunnar Helgason  
*Mamma klikk!*

## Finland

Aula  
Andri Snær Magnason  
*Tímakistan*

## France

Thierry Magnier  
Hildur Knútsdóttir  
*Vetrarfrí*  
*Vetrarhörkur*

## Germany

Oetinger  
Guðrún Helgadóttir  
*Bara gaman*

## Greece

Patakis  
Andri Snær Magnason  
*Tímakistan*

## Italy

Giunti  
Andri Snær Magnason  
*Tímakistan*

## Japan

NHK  
Andri Snær Magnason  
*Tímakistan*

## Macedonia

Antolog  
Andri Snær Magnason  
*Sagan af bláa hnettinum*

## Rumenia

Paralela 45  
Andri Snær Magnason  
*Sagan af bláa hnettinum*

## Russia

Samokat  
Arnar Már Arngrímsson  
*Sölvasaga unglings*

## South Korea

Booklog  
Andri Snær Magnason  
*Tímakistan*

Hanmadang Publishing co.  
Bryndís Björgvinsdóttir  
*Flugan sem stöðvaði stríðið*

Daekyo  
Hallfríður Ólafsdóttir  
& Þórarinn Már Baldursson  
*Maxímús heimsækir*  
*hljómsveitina*

## Spain

Sushi books  
Áslaug Jónsdóttir  
*Skrimslapest*  
*Skrimсли í myrkrinu*

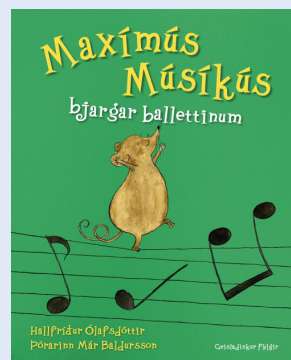
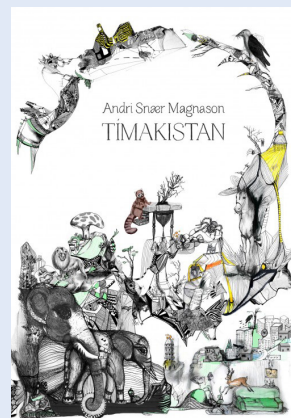
## United Arab Emirates

AlFulk  
Áslaug Jónsdóttir  
*Ég vil fisk!*

## USA

Edda USA  
Hallfríður Ólafsdóttir  
& Þórarinn Már Baldursson  
*Maxímús heimsækir*  
*hljómsveitina*

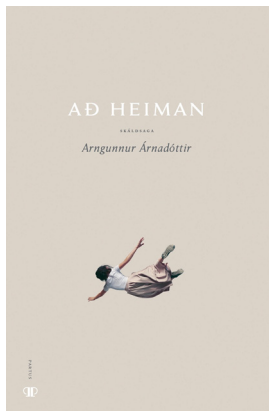
Edda USA  
Vilhlem Anton Jónsson  
*Vísindabók Villa*



# Recently Sold Abroad 2016 – 2017

# Arngunnur Árnadóttir

## *Elsewhere*    Að heiman



*“There is music in Arngunnur’s text. Tension mounts and then is released. ... a very well written novel.”*

Fréttablaðið

This is the story of a young woman, Unnur, a 23 year old university student returning to Iceland after some time spent in a European city after a breakup. Returning to the small community of her native Iceland, she feels a loss of freedom that influences her struggle with her feeling of not belonging in any particular place and her uncertainty about where she truly is at home. On a trip in the Icelandic wilderness with some friends, Unnur rediscovers her own sense of harmony with herself, her country and with love.

*Elsewhere* is a story about the generation that has come of age in Iceland in the time of post-mass tourism and in the aftermath of the financial crash.

“Now, she is neither here nor there. Nowhere. She narrows her eyes to the evening sun and isn’t quite sure which is more important, being there or being here. She might even be left somewhere in between. Make her home here.”

Arngunnur’s writing is exceptionally refined and honed to a perfection, so that every word seems to be placed in exactly the right spot. Underneath the elegant surface, there is a swirling current that pulls the reader down into the depth of the text.

### Publishing Details

Novel  
180 pp  
2016

English sample translation available

### Publisher

Partus Press  
Valgerður Þóroddsdóttir  
vala@partuspress.com  
www.partuspress.com



**Arngunnur Árnadóttir** (b.1987) is a poet, author, and clarinetist. She holds a Bachelor of Music from of the Hanns Eisler Academy of Music in Berlin – where she studied the clarinet, graduating with highest honours.

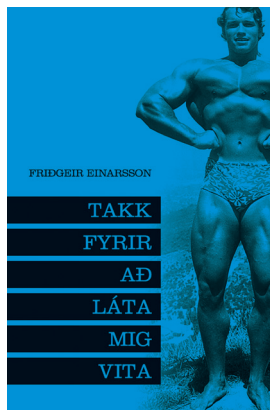
Arngunnur has performed chamber music in Berlin, Amsterdam, London and around Iceland, as well as pop music with the bands Samaris and Hjaltalín. In the fall of 2012, she became the principal clarinetist for the Icelandic Symphony Orchestra.

Arngunnur has previously published one book of poetry, *Unglingar* (*Teenagers*) in 2013. *Að heiman* (*Elsewhere*) is her first novel.

# Friðgeir Einarsson

## *Thank You For Letting Me Know*

## Takk fyrir að láta mig vita



*“Friðgeir Einarsson is one of the sharpest writers to appear on the Icelandic literary scene in a very long time.”*

DV Newspaper

Everyday life has one great advantage over other subject matters: We all share it. We know everyday life, its limits and its infinite horizon, and it is a subject we have in common with other people. This is the kind of fiction you will find in the short story collection *Thank You For Letting Me Know*. Ordinary, unpretentious and above all, filled to the brim with internal struggles that are hard to define and silky poetry.

The collection has thirteen short stories, all of which share a masculine, gentle and a bit paternalistic, voice that guides the reader through the intricate labyrinth of the human soul. One of the stronger traits that all the stories share is the author's obvious and firm background in dramatic arts. Friðgeir stages powerful scenes with simple, ordinary, yet at times a bit peculiar circumstances, featuring people that readers anywhere in the world will be able to relate and connect to. Also worth noting is the wry and quirky sense of humor and an unusually firm and lyrical command of language, above and beyond anything you might expect from an untested, new writer.

*Thank You For Letting Me Know* is an entertaining and multi-faceted short story collection, with the added characteristic of appealing to people of any gender and every age. This is a new and especially noteworthy writer that readers should follow closely right from the start.

### Publishing Details

Short stories  
138 pp  
2016

English sample translation  
available

### Publisher

Benedikt Publishing  
Guðrún Vilmundardóttir  
gv@benedikt.is  
www.benedikt.is



**Friðgeir Einarsson** (b. 1981) is an author, director, performer and creative copywriter. He graduated from the Iceland Academy of the Arts in Theater Making and holds a BA degree in Icelandic Language and Literature. In 2012 he founded Kriðpleir Theater Group, which has gained great popularity in Reykjavík.

*Thank You For Letting Me Know* contains thirteen stories that deal with subjects one cannot talk about and other minor trifles.

# Sigríður Hagalín Björnsdóttir

## Island Eyland



*“For a debut novel, this is amazing stuff.”*

Kiljan Literature Program – RÚV TV

Sigríður Hagalín Björnsdóttir's debut novel is an ingeniously constructed and haunting mix of a thriller, a political horror story and science-fiction. The story is spun out of two separate strands, addressing issues such as what it means to be part of a family and to be Icelandic; what unites us and what divides us.

Hjalti and Maria have just ended a romantic relationship and suddenly, everything has changed. Sometimes events occur that are of such a magnitude that they ought by right to act as a unifying force for all mankind – or the exact opposite. Iceland loses all contact with the world and it becomes clear over time that no help from the outside is forthcoming. What changes occur in a society where food safety is suddenly the main focus, where people fight for power and no one knows which basic human rights will be deemed unessential?

A hermit in an isolated fjord lives in constant fear of being found by rescue squads. While he awaits his fate, he pens a chronicle of the preceding events.

### Publishing Details

Thriller  
247 pp  
2016

English & German sample translations available

### Publisher

Benedikt Publishing  
Guðrún Vilmundardóttir  
gv@benedikt.is  
www.benedikt.is

### Rights Sold

Germany (Suhrkamp)  
France (Gaia)



**Sigríður Hagalín Björnsdóttir** (b. 1974) is a journalist, deputy head of news and television news anchor at the Icelandic National Broadcasting Service.

Sigríður studied history in Salamanca, Spain, journalism at Columbia University, New York, and lived and worked in Copenhagen, Denmark, before moving back to Reykjavík, where she lives with her husband and two daughters. *Island* (*Eyland*, 2016) is her first novel.

### Nominations

- Nominated for the DV Cultural Prize for Literature 2016
- Nominated for the The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize, 2017



# Dagur Hjartarson

## *The Last Confession of Love*

### Síðasta ástarjåtningin



*“... a beautifully written book, full of speculation, depression, humour, fragments of poetry, and love.”*

Fréttablaðið

The *Zeitgeist* and the state of a nation at any given time may, in some fleeting way, become intertwined with the personal lives of individuals. This is what happens in Dagur Hjartarson's novel, *The Last Confession of Love*. The year 2007 has a very specific and clear meaning to Icelanders. It is the year when the economic boom reached its peak, even as a vague and unknown danger hovered over us. Something ordinary people had no name for and no control over. Dagur succeeds admirably at making use of these undefined emotions, while also telling a simple and lovely story about very ordinary people.

The leitmotiv of the book is an all-time favorite in contemporary Nordic literature: the young country boy who comes to the big city, is sucked into a maelstrom of things previously unknown to him and beyond his understanding, and falls in love. The strength of the narrative, however, lies in the original approach and the very lyrical and lovely style that makes this a booklover's feast. Dagur has published several short stories and poems, but this novel places him firmly among the most noteworthy authors of the recent generation of Icelandic writers.

*The Last Confession of Love* is a beautiful, suspenseful, comical and well written love story about things that are gone and things that might have been – as well as a story about the psyche of a small nation in the far North.

**Dagur Hjartarson** (b.1986) has previously published several poems and stories. He has been awarded the Tómas Guðmundsson Poetry Prize and the Icelandic Literature Center's Newcomer's Grant, as well as the Jón úr Vör Poetry Prize.

*The Last Confession of Love* is his first novel and with it, he has earned his place amongst Iceland's most interesting writers.

#### Publishing Details

Novel  
240 pp  
2016

English sample translation  
available

#### Publisher

JPV / Forlagið  
The Forlagid Rights Agency  
Valgerdur Benediktsdottir  
vala@forlagid.is  
www.forlagid.is

#### Awards

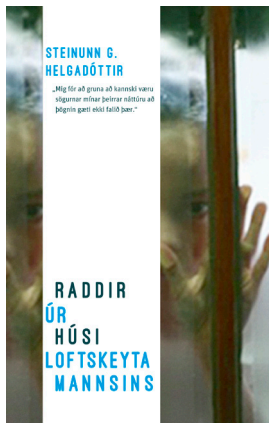
- Awarded the Jón úr Vör Poetry Prize 2016
- Awarded the Tómas Guðmundsson Poetry Prize 2012



# Steinunn G. Helgadóttir

## *Voices from the Radio Operator's House*

### Raddir úr húsi loftskeytamannsins



*Voices from the Radio Operator's House* is a spellbinding collection of intertwined stories, where Icelandic life in past, present and future is captured, braided together and split apart in fascinating manner. All the stories deal, in some way, with the problems of location, of accepting where you are and belong or else create a new and different context for your life.

A lonely radio operator keeps constant contact with the world outside through his radio, but can't manage the simplest means of communication with those that come his way. He gets even more confused when the novels he writes when he's alone and has never shown anyone are published and credited to other writers. He turns to science in order empower himself and go on the offensive.

This is a beautiful, well crafted story and the style is light and accessible. This is a book to be read slowly, jumping back and forth in the story in order to gain deeper insight into the characters, the events, and even the reader's own life and experiences.

#### Publishing Details

Novel in stories  
287 pp  
2016

English sample translation  
available

#### Publisher

JPV / Forlagið  
The Forlagid Rights Agency  
Valgerdur Benediktsdóttir  
vala@forlagid.is  
www.forlagid.is

*"A remarkably  
interesting and  
inventive work...  
There is a great  
wealth of ideas and  
narrative joy here."*

Kiljan Literature Program – RÚV TV



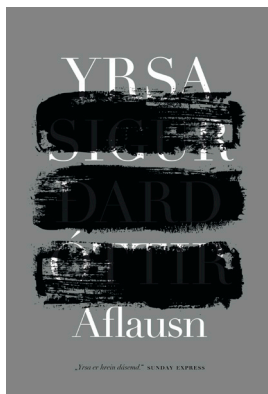
**Steinunn G. Helgadóttir** (b.1952) is well-known for her books of poetry. She has received the Jón úr Vör Poetry Prize for her poetry in 2011 and was awarded The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize for *Voices from the Radio Operator's House* in 2016. In this tale of the telegraphist she captures Icelandic reality – past, present and future.

#### Awards

- Awarded The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2016
- Awarded the Jón úr Vör Poetry Prize 2011

# Yrsa Sigurðardóttir

## *The Absolution*    Aflausn



*“An exceptionally good crime novel in which the writing, plot and characters all come together to form a story that will keep the reader up all night.”*

Fréttablaðið

Social media has its dark sides and few Icelandic crime fiction writers can make the more sinister aspects of the modern community come to life like Yrsa Sigurðardóttir. In *Absolution*, a group of friends get a snap from sixteen year old Stella where they see images of brutal violence to her along with a video where she asks to be forgiven, without explaining why or what for. Stella then is reported as missing, leaving only a trail of blood and some images of the event from the security camera in the toilet of the movie house where she worked.

Yrsa is known for her solid and vivid characterization and this novel is an excellent example of that trait. Readers get to reacquaint themselves with police officers Erla and Huldar, along with psychologist Freyja, an old friend from the novels *DNA* and *Sogið* (*The Vortex*). Interweaving a thrilling and original topic with an urgent message to the modern reader and a sharper sense of humor than Yrsa's readers have hitherto been exposed to, *Absolution* is an intensely interesting read. First and foremost, the quality of the book is determined by an intense construction and an original plot that keeps the reader on the edge of the cliff to the last page. This is quite simply Yrsa at her most masterful.

**Yrsa Sigurðardóttir** (b.1963) is the internationally bestselling Icelandic crime author of the award-winning Þóra Guðmundsdóttir series and several stand-alone thrillers. Yrsa Sigurðardóttir made her crime fiction debut in 2005 with *Last Rituals*, which has been translated into more than 30 languages.

Universally hailed as one of the finest crime writers of our time, Yrsa Sigurðardóttir's new series about Freyja and Huldar shows a master storyteller at the top of her game.



### Publishing Details

Crime / Thriller

363 pp

2016

English sample translation available

### Publisher

Veröld

### Rights

Salomonsson Agency  
Federico@salomonssonagency.com

### Rights Sold

Bulgaria (EMAS), Czech Republic (METAFORA), USA (ST MARTIN'S PRESS), Estonia (VARRAK), Greece (METAICHMIO), Hungary (ANIMUS), Latvia (ZVAIGZNE), Norway (KAGGE), Portugal (QUETZAL), Turkey (KORIDOR).

### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles

Bulgaria (EMAS), Czech Republic (METAFORA), USA (ST MARTIN'S PRESS), Estonia (VARRAK), Finland (OTAVA), Germany (BTB/RANDOM HOUSE), Greece (METAICHMIO), Hungary (ANIMUS), Latvia (ZVAIGZNE), Macedonia (ANTOLOG), Portugal (QUETZAL), Turkey (KORIDOR).

### Awards

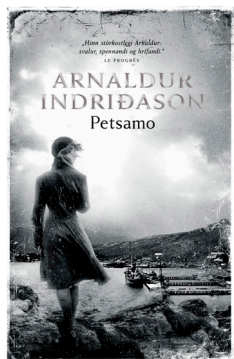
- The Danish Academy of Crime Writers' Award (Best Crime Novel of the Year) 2017
- Awarded The Blood Drop (Best Icelandic Crime Novel of the Year) 2015 & 2011
- The Petrona Award (Best Scandinavian Crime Novel of the Year) UK 2015
- Nominated for The Blood Drop (Best Icelandic Crime Novel of the Year) 2017, 2016, 2013, 2012, 2010, 2009, 2008 & 2007.
- Nominated for LovelyBooks' Der Leserpreis (Best Crime & Thriller of 2016) Germany 2016
- Nominated for the Mördar Award (Captivating Crime in Translation) UK 2016
- Nominated for the Petrona Award (Best Scandinavian Crime Novel of the Year) UK 2014
- Nominated for the Glass Key, the Nordic Crime Novel Prize 2014 & 2011
- Nominated for the Shamus Award US 2010

# Crime Fiction



# Arnaldur Indriðason

## *Petsamo*



*“Yet another masterpiece from Arnaldur.”*

Morgunblaðið



In the fall of 1940, the War has caught up with the Nordic countries. The Icelandic passenger ship *Esja* has arrived in the Arctic harbour of Petsamo to pick up a large group of Icelanders and bring them home. In one of the groups is a young woman who has been waiting for her fiancé. They had planned to meet on the pier in Petsamo where the ship is waiting but he never arrives.

Fast-forwarding to the spring of 1943, the Second World War is in full swing and occupied Reykjavík is buzzing with activity when a corpse washes ashore. At the same time a young man is brutally assaulted behind a bar frequented by soldiers, and a woman known to associate with the soldiers disappears.

In Arnaldur Indriðason's 20th book, Flovent and Thorson solve an intricate case of murder and missing persons. This is the author's third book on their partnership on the Reykjavík police force during World War II.

**Arnaldur Indriðason** (b. 1961) has the rare distinction of having won the Nordic Crime Novel Prize two years running. He is also the winner of the highly respected and world famous CWA Gold Dagger Award for the top crime novel of the year in the English language, *Silence of the Grave*. Indriðason's novels have sold over twelve million copies worldwide, in 40 languages, and have won numerous well-respected prizes and received rave reviews all over the world. *Petsamo* is Arnaldur Indriðason's twentieth novel and his third book about police officers Flovent and Thorson.

### Publishing Details

Crime Fiction

343 pp

2016

English sample translation available

### Publisher

Vaka-Helgafell / Forlagið  
The Forlagid Rights Agency  
Valgerdur Benediktsdottir  
vala@forlagid.is  
www.forlagid.is

### Rights Sold

Sweden (Norstedts)  
Holland (Querido)

### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles

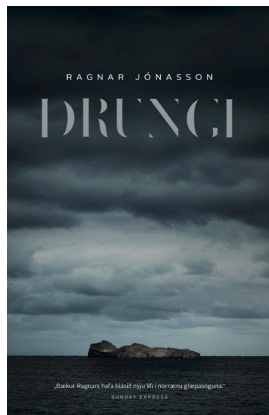
Abu Dhabi (Thaqfa), Armenia (Guitank), Brazil (Companhia das Letras), Bulgaria (Colibri), Catalonia (La Magrana), Czech Republic (MOBA), Croatia (Knjige i sve to), Simplified Chinese (Xinhua), Denmark (Rosinante), Estonia (NyNorden), Ethiopia (Qirtas), Faroe Islands (Sprotin), Finland (Blue Moon), France/Switzerland/Luxembourg/Canada (Métailié), Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Verlagsgruppe Lübbe), Greece (Metachmio), Hungary (Animus), Israel (Keter), Italy (Ugo Guanda), Japan (Tokyo Sogensha), Korea (Open Books), Latvia (Apgads Mansards), Lithuania (Baltos Lankos), Macedonia (Tri), The Netherlands/Belgium/Luxembourg (Querido), Norway (CappelenDamm), Poland (Foksal), Portugal (Porto Editores), Romania (Trei), Russia (Corpus), Serbia (Booka), Slovenia (Didakta), Spain/Andorra/South and Central America/USA (RBA Libros), Sweden (Norstedts/Prisma), Turkey (Dogan), Taiwan (Crown), Thailand (Pearl), UK/Australia/New Zealand/South-Africa (Random House/Harvill Secker), USA/Philippines (St. Martin's Press/Thomas Dunne Books), Vietnam (Alphabooks).

### Among Numerous Awards

- Awarded The RBA International Prize for Crime Writing 2013
- Awarded The Nordic Crime Novel Prize two years running
- Awarded the Glass Key, the Nordic Crime Novel Award 2002 & 2003.
- Awarded the Crime Writers' Association Gold Dagger Award 2005
- Awarded the Martin Beck Award 2005
- Awarded The Swedish Caliber Award 2003
- The Barry Award, USA 2008
- RBA's International Crime Novel Award 2013

# Ragnar Jónasson

## *The Island* Drungi



*“Ragnar’s best written book, filled with psychological horror and underlying rage.... It is almost impossible to put the book down until the last word has been read.”*

Fréttablaðið



In the autumn of 1987, a young couple spend a romantic weekend at a summer cottage in the West of Iceland, but their trip ends in a murder that has devastating consequences. Ten years later, four friends spend a weekend in an old hunting lodge in the remote Elliðaey Island, without any means of communication with the outside world. At the end of their stay, a woman in the group falls over a cliff and is killed.

In this second book of the *Hulda* series, which consists of books in chronologically reverse order, the detective Hulda Hermannsdóttir is called on to investigate the suspicious death, but the case soon reveals itself as a deeply complex one, with sinister connections to the previous murder.

The characters are well developed and an interesting suspense underlies all communications between them. The story is full of psychological horror and an unsettling undercurrent draws the reader deep into the story, maintaining its grip until the last page.

**Ragnar Jónasson** (b. 1976) is author of the international bestselling Dark Iceland series. His debut *Snowblind*, first in the Dark Iceland series, went to number one in the Amazon Kindle charts and was selected by The Independent as one of the best crime novels of 2015 in the UK. Books in the Dark Iceland series have been published in the UK, Germany, Poland and Iceland, and rights have also been sold to the USA, France and Italy.

From the age of 17, Ragnar translated 14 Agatha Christie novels into Icelandic. As well as working as both a writer and lawyer, he teaches copyright law at Reykjavik University and has previously worked on radio and television, including as a TV-news reporter for the Icelandic National Broadcasting Service.

### Publishing Details

Crime Fiction  
297 pp  
2016

English sample translation  
available

**Publisher**  
Veröld

**Rights**  
Copenhagen Literary Agency  
Monica Gram  
monica@cphla.dk

**Rights Sold**  
UK (Michael Joseph/Penguin)

### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles

Arabic (Kalima), Armenia (Guitank Publishing), Australia, France (La Martinière), Germany (S. Fischer Verlag), Italy (Marsilio Editori), Japan (Shogakukan Inc.), Morocco, South-Korea (Bookplaza), Poland (Wydawnictwo Amber), Portugal (20|20 Editora/Topseller), Turkey (Andante), UK (Orenda Books), US (St. Martin's Press).  
TV rights (On the Corner/UK)

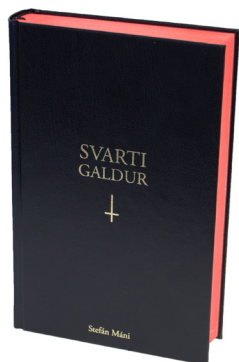
### Awards and Nominations

- Nominated for The Blood Drop – Best Icelandic Crime Novel of the Year 2010 – 2017
- The Mördar Award (Captivating Crime in Translation) UK 2016
- Winner of the Dead Good Reader Award, best Crime and Thrillers 2016: The Sunday Express
- Best New Crime and Thrillers 2016: The Daily Express

# Crime Fiction

# Stefán Máni

## *Black Magic* Svarti galdur



*“This is a real find for crime fiction aficionados, witchcraft enthusiasts and all those who love to read a good book.”*

Fréttablaðið

Many an avid reader of crime fiction dreams of being a crime detective and many a clever writer of crime fiction has tried to bring this distant dream closer to his or her readers. In *Black Magic*, Stefán Máni's latest book, a regular policeman gets a little closer to his own dream when, by chance, he figures out the connection between the murder of a member of parliament and a skull found in a storage building. His principal character, police officer Hörður Grímsson, isn't quite the “regular bobby” – he is psychic and has an unusually keen sense for the presence of death.

This is not Stefán Máni's first vivid journey into the world of crime and horror and he never shies from treading new and thrilling paths. *Black Magic* is yet another example of this, an intricate web of the supernatural and harsh reality, a tapestry Stefán Máni's loyal readers are familiar with. By merging the seemingly opposite worlds, he creates a dense, well written and unusual thriller for all those who love a marvelous read.

**Stefán Máni** (b.1970) has been writing and publishing novels since 1996. Prior to that time, he worked in the fishing industry in his hometown, Ólafsvík. At the age of 17 he dropped out of school, became a worker and travelled the world in search of rock and roll concerts and other adventures. He put all his belongings in a Russian station wagon and moved to Reykjavík to publish his first book, *The Door on Black Mountain* (*Dyrnar á Svörtufjöllum*, 1996) today an expensive out-of-print collectors item.

His first major success was *The Ship* (*Skipið*, 2006). Since then he has written a detective novel series and a trilogy for young adults, alongside the occasional thriller and other work.

### Publishing Details

Crime fiction / Noir / Polar  
373 pp  
2016

English sample translation available

### Publisher

Sögur útgáfa

### Rights

Agentur Literatur  
Gudrun Hebel  
gudrun.hebel@agentur-literatur.de

### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles

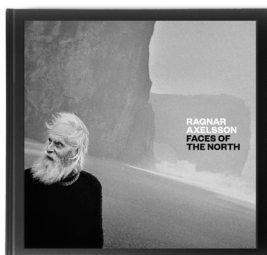
France (Gallimard), Denmark (Gyldendal), Germany (Ullstein), Sweden (Bonniers), Poland (W.A.B.), Italy (Marco Tropea), Australia (Pier9/Murdoch Books).

### Awards and Nominations

- Awarded the Drop of Blood, Icelandic Crime Writer's Award 2014, 2013 & 2007
- Awarded the crime fiction of the year in France by literary magazine *Liré* 2010
- Awarded the Prix Des Lecteurs at Festival Du Polar in France 2014
- Nominated for The Glass Key, the Nordic Crime Novel Award 2015, 2014, 2008 & 2006

# Ragnar Axelsson

## *Faces of the North* Andlit norðursins



*“Pictures that melt the heart ... extraordinary.”*

The Mail on Sunday

Every Icelander is familiar with the images of Ragnar Axelsson and his work has been widely known and respected in the world of photography for years. In this unique book, Ragnar delves into his portfolio and shares the stories behind the images with his audience, in simple, informative and entertaining texts. These are tales of interesting, quirky people alongside informative texts on history, culture, society and above all the conservation of the environment – Ragnar's work is an important documentation of a world in retreat, on a planet that is suffering the consequences of man-made global warming.

Ragnar was among the first photographers to focus on the Arctic as a subject, not least its peoples and the native culture of Iceland, Greenland and the Faroe Islands. One of the main characteristics of Ragnar's work is the immense patience and genuine interest in the subject matter that is apparent in all his images. The result is that the faces in his pictures never seem aware of the camera, but are preoccupied with life in all its ways and forms, and in this unique photographic book, that is how these faces are shown to us.

*Faces of the North* is our ticket into Ragnar's world, in images and text, and is a book that speaks to all those interested in the nature and culture of the Arctic, to lovers of exquisite photography and indeed, those who value the Earth and its future.

**Ragnar Axelsson** (b. 1958) has dedicated his career to the subsistence hunters, fishermen and farmers of the circumpolar area that live on the fringe of the habitable world. Since the early 1980's he has travelled to the Arctic, documenting the lives of the Inuit hunters in Northern Canada and Greenland, the farmers and fishermen in the North-Atlantic region and the indigenous people of Northern Scandinavia and Siberia.

His stories have appeared in print media publications such as *Time magazine*, *Life*, *Stern*, *GEO*, *Polka*, *Wanderlust*, *Geographical* and *Newsweek* and are the subject of his major photography books: *Faces of the North* (2004 – republished in an extended version in 2016), *Last Days of the Arctic* (2010) and *Behind the Mountains* (2013). Axelsson's three major photography series are narrative photo collections, spanning more than two decades each.

### Publishing Details

Illustrated Adult – Photography  
410 pp  
2016

Complete book available in English

### Publisher

Crymogeia  
Kristján B. Jónasson  
crymogeia@crymogeia.is  
www.crymogeia.is

### Rights Sold

Germany (Knesebeck)

### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles

Germany (Knesebeck)

### Awards and Nominations

- Awarded The Icelandic Literary Prize for non-fiction 2016
- Awarded The Annual Icelandic Photojournalists Awards more than 20 times, including Photographer of the year (six times) and Documentary story of the year (six times).
- The Oskar Barnack Award, Honourable Mention 2001
- Festival Photo de Mare, Vannes, Grand Prix.



# Photography

# Bergsveinn Birgisson

## *The Black Viking*    Leitin að svarta víkingnum



“A wildly entertaining and thrilling tale.”

Morgunblaðið

Like all the Nordic nations, Iceland has witnessed a growing world-wide interest in Nordic history and culture in the past few years. Bergsveinn Birgisson is an expert in Nordic language and culture, but he is also an Icelandic writer and by merging the two faculties Bergsveinn creates an extraordinary work. A novel with a solid academic foundation that guides its readers through the world of Geirmundur heljarskinn, a previously all but unknown character in the Icelandic Sagas.

The story of Geirmundur heljarskinn is the literary aspect of the work, written in the style and spirit of the Sagas, but *The Black Viking* also incorporates the academic background that is an essential aspect of this unique literary work. *The Black Viking* reveals to the reader the stories, academic theories and extensive research that is the foundation of the story, in a manner both personal and academic. With this unique approach, Bergsveinn enchants the lay person and brings the academic universe of the Sagas to his enthusiastic readers.

*The Black Viking* is a thrilling journey to an era long past and distant lands – as well as to Geirmundur's home counties in Breiðafjörður and the West Fiords. By perusing old documents, relics and artefacts and using the latest technology, the past is brought to life and the puzzles fall into place, one by one, in a thrilling tale, written by an author armed with a deep knowledge of the subject matter, a poetic inspiration and an exquisite style.

Bergsveinn Birgisson (f. 1971) did his Ph. d. in Nordic languages and culture at the University of Bergen, Norway and has lived in Bergen ever since, juggling his writing and his academic work.

Bergsveinn gained considerable attention for the novel *The Landscape is Never Corny* (*Landslag er aldrei asnalegt*, 2003) and the very original “research novel” *Manual on the Mentality of Cows – A Research-based Novel* (*Handbók um hugarfar kúa – skáldfræðisaga*, 2009). His next novel, *A Reply to Helga's Letter* (*Svar við bréfi Helgu*, 2010) was a huge commercial and critical success and nominated for The Icelandic Literary Prize.

Bergsveinn has published the original manuscript of the *Saga of Geirmundur Heljarskinn* (*Geirmundar saga heljarskinns*, 2015), a work that is the historical foundation for *The Black Viking*. *The Black Viking* has been extremely well received and was nominated for The Icelandic Literary Prize for non-fiction in 2016.

### Publishing Details

Narrative non-fiction  
416 pp  
2016

English sample translation  
available

### Publisher

Originally written in Norwegian  
and published by Spartacus  
Forlag AS (2013)  
Translated into Icelandic and  
published by Bjartur (2016)

### Rights

Trude Kolaas  
trude@immaterial.no

### Rights Sold

Iceland (Bjartur)  
Poland (Wydawnictwo  
Poznanskie sp. z o.o.)

### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles

Norway (Pelikanen), France  
(Zulma/Actes Sud), Netherlands  
(Ad. Donker), Denmark (C&K  
Forlag), Germany (Steidl), US/UK  
(Amazon Crossing), Columbia/  
Argentina (Peklunka).

### Awards and Nominations

- Nominated for the DV Cultural Prize for non-fiction 2016
- Nominated for The Icelandic Literary Prize 2016, 2013 & 2010
- Nominated for The Nordic Council's Literature Prize 2012
- Awarded The Icelandic Bookseller's Award 2010

## Narrative Non-Fiction



# Steinunn Sigurðardóttir

## *Heiða, the farmer*

## Heiða – Fjalldalabóndinn



*"A mighty heroine  
and a strong role  
model for all of  
us who live in this  
country."*

Viðsjá Cultural Program – RÚV Radio

Why would anyone choose to become a sheep farmer in the remote Icelandic countryside over pursuing a modelling career in New York? Award-winning author Steinunn Sigurðardóttir tells us the unlikely story of Heiða Guðný Ásgeirsdóttir, a farmer, parliamentarian and nature activist. Heiða, a former fashion model, is a young woman who single-handedly runs the family farm of 500 sheep while fighting to save Iceland's breath-taking natural landscapes from being sacrificed for a few megawatts of power and plenty of greed.

In this remarkable book, Steinunn Sigurðardóttir introduces us to a unique heroine with a keen sense of humour, a dazzling style, a deep insight – and a profound love for nature.

### Publishing Details

Biography  
319 pp  
2016

English sample  
translation available

### Publisher

Bjartur  
Páll Valsson  
pall@bjartur.is  
www.bjartur.is

### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles

- *Tímahjófurinn* (France, Sweden, Germany, Denmark, Netherlands)
- *Hjartastaður* (Germany, France, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland, USA, Ethiopia)
- *Ástin fiskanna* (Germany, Sweden, Denmark)
- *Jöklaleikhúsið* (Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Finland)
- *Sólskinshestur* (Germany, France, Sweden, Denmark)
- *Góði elskhuginn* (England, Germany, Denmark, Holland, Macedonia)
- *Jójó* (Germany, England, France, Netherlands)
- *Gæðakonur* (France)
- *Hundrað dyr í golunni* (France, Sweden)
- *Hanami* (Sweden)
- *Síðasta orðið* (Sweden)
- *Vigdís Finnbogadóttir, president* (Denmark)
- *Poetry* (Germany, France)

### Awards and Nominations

- Awarded The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2017
- Awarded The Booksellers Prize 2016
- Awarded The Jónas Hallgrímsson Prize 2014
- Awarded The Icelandic Literary Prize 1995
- Awarded The Icelandic Broadcasting Service Writer's Prize 1991
- Nominated for The Icelandic Literary Prize 2011, 2009, 2005, 1999 & 1990
- Nominated for The Nordic Council's Literature Prize 1997 & 1998
- Nominated for The Aristeion Award 1996

**Steinunn Sigurðardóttir** (b.1950) published her first book of poetry when she was just 19 years old and was noticed immediately. Her novel *The Thief of Time* (*Tímahjófurinn*, 1986) was a huge success, a big break-through on the literary scene. The movie *Le voleur de vie* (1999) is an adaption of the book.

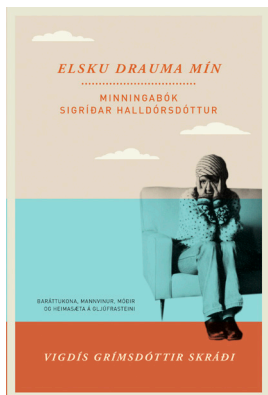
Steinunn Sigurðardóttir received the Icelandic Literary Prize for her novel *Place of the Heart* (*Hjartastaður*, 1995), published in English translation by Amazon Crossing in 2014. On the Day of the Icelandic Language in 2014, she received the Jónas Hallgrímsson Prize for extraordinary service to the Icelandic language. Steinunn Sigurðardóttir was awarded The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2017 for *Heiða, the farmer*.



*Biography*

# Vigdís Grímsdóttir

## *My Dearest Dreama*      *Elsku Drauma mín*



*“Totally enchanting  
... This is a portrait  
of real human  
beings ... charmed  
me completely.”*

Kiljan Literature Program – RÚV TV

Sigríður Halldórsdóttir is the daughter of Halldór Laxness, a Nobel laureate in literature and widely regarded as Iceland's greatest author. In this memoir, she reminisces on her childhood home and members of her family. The fragments presented paint a vivid picture of a vibrant cultural home – a house that served as a meeting place for the greatest minds of the era and was therefore not always the easiest place to grow up in.

Being the child of a Nobel laureate comes at a price, especially if you just want to be like other children. The memoir describes both dismal failures and exhilarating adventures in rich detail. This string of recollections alternately enchants, saddens, delights and moves to tears, just like life is always bound to do.

The memoir is written by author Vigdís Grímsdóttir in close collaboration with Sigríður Halldórsdóttir herself. Vigdís Grímsdóttir has deftly rendered Sigríður's narrative, perfectly capturing both her voice and the spirit of the times.

### Publishing Details

Narrative non-fiction  
303 pp  
2016

English sample translation  
available

### Publisher

JPV / Forlagið  
The Forlagid Rights Agency  
Valgerdur Benediktsdóttir  
vala@forlagid.is  
www.forlagid.is

### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles

UK (Mare's Nest), France  
(Presses Université de Caen),  
Netherlands (Wilde Aardbeien),  
Sweden (Anamma, Boglaget,  
Alfabeta Bokförlag), Denmark  
(Klim), Finland (Like, WSOY/  
Johnny Kniga), Germany/  
Austria/Switzerland (Cargo  
Verlag, Steidl).



Vigdís Grímsdóttir (b.1953) has received widespread recognition for her work and her books have been translated into several languages.

Vigdís has won many prizes for her writing, including the Icelandic Literary Prize. Two of her novels have been adapted for the stage in Sweden and Iceland, and one of her novels, *Cold Light (Kaldaljós)*, has been made into a major motion picture.

### Awards and Nominations

- Awarded the DV Cultural Prize for Literature 2011, 2001, 1990
- Awarded The Icelandic Booksellers' Prize 2007
- Awarded The Icelandic Literary Prize 1994
- Awarded The RUV Writer's Fund 1992
- Nominated for the Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2013
- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2013 & 1996
- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize for non-fiction 2007
- Nominated for The Nordic Council Literature Prize for Children books 1997
- Nominated for The Nordic Council Literature Prize 1996 & 1994

# Linda Vilhjálmsdóttir

## *freedom* frelsi



*“The poetry book  
of the year.”*

Morgunblaðið

*Freedom* is Linda Vilhjálmsdóttir's sixth book of poetry. Her first poems were published in newspapers and magazines and her first poetry volume, *Hanging By A Thread (Bláþráður)* was published in 1990.

*Freedom* is a poetry book containing around fifty harshly critical and political poems: the finely chiseled and powerful poetic images reflect society and modern times, even forcing the reader to examine himself in the sharp light cast by the poetry. This is a book that moves the reader to reflection and strong emotions.

#### Publishing Details

Poetry  
65 pp  
2015

English and Swedish sample  
translations available

#### Publisher

Mál og menning / Forlagið  
The Forlagid Rights Agency  
Valgerdur Benediktsdóttir  
vala@forlagid.is  
www.forlagid.is



**Linda Vilhjálmsdóttir** (b. 1958) is a poet of deep and delicate emotions, finely expressed in crafted verse. She was awarded the DV Cultural Prize for Literature in 1993 for her poetry book *Ice Children (Klakaþörnir)*. In 2015 her poetry book *freedom* received the DV Cultural Prize for Literature as well as the Icelandic Booksellers' Prize.

#### Awards and Nominations

- Nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize 2017
- Awarded The Icelandic Booksellers' Prize, best book of poetry 2015
- Awarded the DV Cultural Prize for Literature 2015, 1993
- The Icelandic Broadcasting Service Writers Fund 2010
- Awarded the Jón úr Vör Poetry Award 2005

# *Icelandic works nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize 2017*



# Guðmundur Andri Thorsson

## *A Poet and a Vagabond* Og svo tjöllum við okkur í rallið. Bókin um Thor



*“A remarkably successful and touching work ... well thought out and incredibly beautifully written ... Without doubt one of the most notable and best books of the year.”*

Morgunblaðið

Thor Vilhjálmsson was one of the greatest authors in Iceland and known throughout the country as an uncompromising advocate of the arts, culture, and philanthropy. But he was also a striking man and very photogenic, his every move capturing attention wherever he went. In this unique book, Thor's son Guðmundur Andri creates a memorable portrait of a poet and vagabond; a moody and complicated man who was often at odds with his environment, but was nevertheless a genial humanist who sacrificed everything for his art.

#### Publishing Details

Novel / Portrait

160 pp

2016

Danish translation available

#### Publisher

JPV / Forlagið

The Forlagid Rights Agency

Valgerdur Benediktsdóttir

vala@forlagid.is

www.forlagid.is

#### Foreign Sales of Previous Titles

Denmark (Batzner & co), France (Gallimard), Germany (Hoffman und Campe Verlag), Norway (Orkana), Poland (Wielka), UK / US (Peirene).



Guðmundur Andri Thorsson (b. 1957) published his first novel, *My Wonderful Angst* (*Min káta angst*) in 1988 and was warmly received. He was awarded the DV Cultural Prize for Literature for his novel *The Icelandic Dream* (*Íslenski draumurinn*) in 1991 and two of his books have been nominated to the Icelandic Literary Prize. Guðmundur Andri Thorsson is one of Iceland's most respected writers, praised for his superlative style and writing skills. He is the editor of the literary magazine TMM and a columnist for Iceland's biggest newspaper, besides working as an editor for a publishing house. He has also translated several works of fiction into Icelandic. His novel *The Waltz of Valeyri* (*Valeyryarvalsinn*, 2011) was nominated to the Nordic Council Literature Prize 2012.

#### Awards and Nominations

- Nominated for The Nordic Council's Literature Prize 2017 & 2013
- Nominated for the DV Cultural Prize for Literature 2015 & 2011
- Awarded The Icelandic Booksellers' Prize 2015
- Awarded The National Broadcasting Service's Writer's Fund 2013
- Awarded the Reykjavík City Children's Literature Prize for a translation 2008
- Awarded the DV Cultural Prize for Literature 1991
- Nominated for The Icelandic Literary Prize 2013, 1996 & 1991

## *Icelandic works nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize 2017*

## *The Icelandic Literary Prize 2016*

## *The Icelandic Women's Literature Prize 2017*



### **Fiction**

*Ör (Scars)*

Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir  
Benedikt Publishing



### **Fiction/Poetry**

*Raddir úr húsi loftskýtamannsins  
(Voices from the Radio Operator's  
House)*

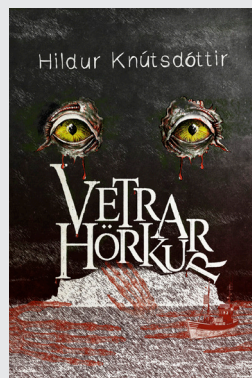
Steinunn G. Helgadóttir  
Forlagið / JPV Publishing



### **Non-Fiction**

*Heiða – Fjalldalabóndinn  
(Heiða, the farmer)*

Steinunn Sigurðardóttir  
Bjartur Publishing

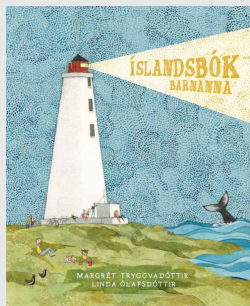


### **Children's and**

**Young Adult Books**

*Vetrarhörkur (Winter Frost)*

Hildur Knútsdóttir  
Forlagið / JPV Publishing



### **Children's and Young**

**Adult Books**

*Íslandsbók barnanna*

*(The Children's Book of Iceland)*

Margrét Tryggvadóttir  
& Linda Ólafsdóttir  
Forlagið / Iðunn Publishing

### **Non-Fiction**

*Andlit norðursins*

*(Faces of the North)*

Ragnar Axelsson  
Crymogea Publishing

# *Icelandic Literature Awards*

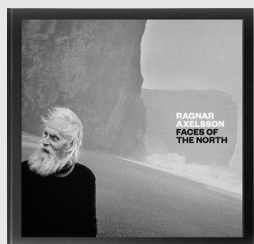
# The Icelandic Bookseller's Literary Prize 2016

## Fiction

*Ör (Scars)*

Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir

Benedikt Publishing



## Non-Fiction

*Andlit norðursins (Faces of the North)*

Ragnar Axelsson

Crymogeia Publishing

## Young Adult Books

*Vetrarhörkur (Winter Frost)*

Hildur Knútsdóttir

Forlagið / JPV Publishing



## Children's Books

*Flökkusaga (Bear with me)*

Lára Garðarsdóttir

Publisher Lára Garðarsdóttir

## Biography

*Heiða – Fjalldalabóndinn*

*(Heiða, the farmer)*

Steinunn Sigurðardóttir

Bjartur Publishing



## Poetry

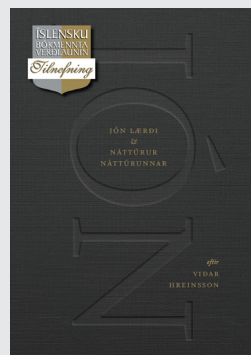
*Ljóð muna rödd*

*(Poetry Remembers Voice)*

Sigurður Pálsson

Forlagið / JPV Publishing

# The Hagþenkir Non-Fiction Prize 2016



*Jón lærði og náttúran náttúrunnar*

*(Jón the Learned and the*

*Virtues of Nature)*

Víðar Hreinsson

Lesstofan Publishing



Icelandic Literature Center  
Hverfisgata 54  
101 Reykjavík  
Iceland

+354 552 85 00  
[islit@islit.is](mailto:islit@islit.is)  
[www.islit.is](http://www.islit.is)

 [islit.is](http://islit.is)  
 [icelandiclitcenter](https://www.instagram.com/icelandiclitcenter)  
 [@IceLitCenter](https://twitter.com/IceLitCenter)