

non-fiction

*CURRENT AFFAIRS
NARRATIVE NON FICTION
BIOGRAPHY
MEMOIRS
SOCIAL STUDIES
HISTORY
COOKERY
BOOKS ON ICELAND*



FORLAGIÐ

rights-agency

“Brilliantly written and a reliable overview of the bank collapse, the events preceding it and its aftermath. Gudmundsson ... draws a clear and often absolutely hilarious picture of the corruption that devoured Iceland.”

FRETTLADID NEWSPAPER

EINAR MAR GUDMUNDSSON The White Book

Einar Mar Gudmundsson received a great deal of attention at home and abroad for his provocative articles in the newspaper Morgunbladid during the weeks and months following the economic collapse in Iceland in the autumn of 2008. In *The White Book*, Gudmundsson has extended, sharpened and honed the articles into a unique book, lively, amusing and at the same time merciless in its description of Icelandic society and its development for the last few years. The book ranges far in space and time, entwining fragments from the author's personal experience, chapters from the political history of the world, rock-music and economical debate, politics and literature, social criticism and a healthy understanding of human nature.

PAPERBACK
JUNE 2009
189 pp
Chapters in English available
Sold to:
Denmark (Informations forlag)
Germany (Hanser Verlag)
Norway (Cappelen)



EINAR MAR GUDMUNDSSON is a novelist, short-story writer and poet, one of the most widely translated Icelandic author born in the post-war period. A storyteller with a lyrical perceptive and humorous style, his work charts the growth of urban culture in the capital and the larger-than-life characters that it spawns.

“The focus of Arnarson's book (and it's strength) is his approach to link together and explain the crash and it's underlying political and systemic causes.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

OLAFUR ARNARSON The Iceland Meltdown

Lehman Brothers' demise in September 2008 sent shockwaves around the world. Trust, the glue of financial markets, evaporated and what had started out as a credit crisis turned into a worldwide economic recession. The first true casualty of this was the Icelandic banking system, which promptly collapsed, leaving the country isolated in the world of international finance and diplomacy.

The Iceland Meltdown is a riveting, thriller-like read, without technical jargon, intended for people with no background in banking or finance, as well as those who know their way about international finance, which describes in plain language what **really** happened in Iceland.



PAPERBACK
JUNE 2009
189 pp
Rights available



OLAFUR ARNARSON has a MBA from Vanderbilt's Owen Graduate School of Management. He has held the posts of Secretary General of the Parliamentary Group of the Independence Party in Iceland, senior political advisor to the Minister for Culture and Education and has also worked as an investment banker for Dresdner-Kleinwort-Benson and Lehman Brothers. Since 2003 Arnarson runs an investment consultancy.



“Such an accurate piece of writing ... We can be thankful that the right man was in the right place at the right time.”

FRETTLADID NEWSPAPER

GUDNI TH. JOHANNESSEN

The Collapse: Iceland on the brink of bankruptcy and disintegration

The first comprehensive overview of the meltdown of the Icelandic economy and its aftermath – spanning from the moment when the first stormy clouds of the credit crunch gathered on the horizon to the fall of the Icelandic government.

An engrossing behind-the-scenes account based on a great wealth of sources. Interweaving previously unpublished emails, phone calls and memos with great craftsmanship, the author paints a stirring and utterly persuasive picture of these incredible current events.

This book is the subject of a documentary to be broadcast on Icelandic State Television in the autumn of 2009.



PAPERBACK
JUNE 2009
428 pp
Rights available



GUDNI TH. JOHANNESSEN has a doctorate in History from Queen Mary, University of London and is a professor of History at the University of Iceland. He is the author of numerous books and articles on contemporary history and issues, published both in Iceland and abroad.

“This book had an enormous impact in Iceland when it came out.

After Icelandic politicians had sold Icelandic nature cheap to some of the industrial giants of this world without the people’s consent, the Icelandic people were upset. We didn’t get a chance to defend ourselves.

Or our nature. I have a feeling this is a universal problem that our generation will find solutions to. This book is one of these solutions.”

BJÖRK

ANDRI SNAER MAGNASON

Dreamland: Self-Help for a Frightened Nation

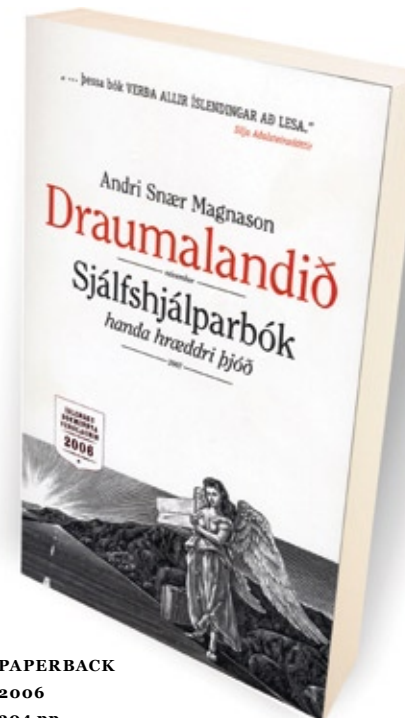
Dreamland is a wake-up call, a devastating polemic that puts environmental issues into global perspective.

Dreamland is an influential book about the most burning issues of our times, written with knowledge and a rare passion that will move any reader.

Dreamland immediately became a best seller on publication in Iceland and has already attracted worldwide attention due to its radical style, in the vein of Naomi Klein, Malcolm Gladwell and Jared Diamond, as well as critical acclaim from the Icelandic media.

Revised edition with an introduction by Björk and a new chapter on the bank crisis in Iceland. *Dreamland* is being made into a movie.

- *The Iceland Literary Award*
- *The Icelandic Bookseller Prize*



PAPERBACK
2006
304 pp
English translation available
Sold to:
England (Citizen Press)
Japan (NKH Publishing)
Denmark (Tiderne Seifter)
Sweden (Natur och Kultur)



ANDRI SNAER MAGNASON has won the Icelandic literary prize for both fiction and non fiction, his work has been published or performed in over twenty countries and received numerous international awards.

A journey that unravels the peculiar ideological world of Nazi Germany and sheds a light on its plans to gain power in Iceland.



HARDBACK
1998
221 pp
Rights available
The book contains a vast collection of photographs.

THOR WHITEHEAD
**Himmler's
 Icelandic Adventure**

This book, of unquestionable historical merit, reads like a thriller and provides a unique account of some of the bizarre ideas Heinrich Himmler and a few of his kindred spirits entertained about Iceland and its inhabitants. Himmler looked on Iceland as a sacred land which preserved the remnants of the noble and ancient high culture of the Norse, the origins of the Germanic race. At the same time he intended to annex Iceland into the Nazi's "Thousand Year Reich" and planned to boost trade between the two countries and promoting large scale industry in Iceland.



THOR WHITEHEAD is a professor of history at the University of Iceland specializing in political and military history. He has written extensively on Icelandic foreign relations and security during the 1930's and the Second World War as well as publishing some works on the Cold War era and the history of the Communist movement in Iceland.

"This is the story of a woman who, at one time, was one of America's most effective impostors: a person who enthralled great numbers of people with her fabrications. ... a multilayered text that gradually builds a cogent picture of the life experience of an unusual woman and the society in which she lived and functioned."

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER



HARDBACK
2004
275 pp
English translation available
Sold to:
USA (University of Michigan Press)
English translation available

INGA DORA BJORNSDOTTIR
**Olof the Eskimo
 Lady**
A Biography of an Icelandic Dwarf in America

A dwarf girl, Olof Solvadottir, was born in Iceland in 1858. She moved to the Western World at the age of 19, following the tracks of an American travelling circus, but then transformed herself into an Inuit Eskimo and started to deliver lectures about Greenland and her life there. As an Eskimo, Olof acquired fame and recognition with her concocted biography, travelled widely across America, and managed to con the world for more than two decades and deliver some 2,500 lectures without raising any suspicions.

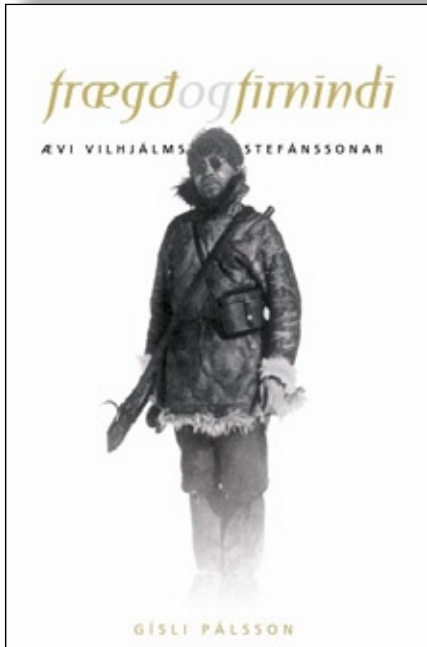
- *Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2004*



INGA DORA BJORNSDOTTIR studied anthropology at Lund University in Sweden and at New York University before earning her doctoral degree from the University of California at Santa Barbara. She has taught anthropology at the University of California, as well as at the University of Iceland. Dr. Björnsdóttir has co-authored books and documentaries and is currently engaged in writing a biography.

“This book is informative and entertaining – a genuinely good read. It sheds new light on our man Vilhjalmur Stefansson, and for that reason alone it is well worth owning.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER



GISLI PÁLSSON
Traveling Passions

The Arctic Explorer Vilhjalmur Stefansson was a famous explorer who led three expeditions to the Arctic, an anthropologist, and a popular lecturer, who was widely renowned for his writings. G. Pálsson, a professor in Anthropology, has written Stefansson’s biography from a new angle. He focuses on specific aspects of Stefansson’s life and work: the contents of his travelling journals, the silence surrounding his Inuit family, the women in his life, his links with Iceland, and the tug of war between his private life and the theories Stefansson came to be renowned for.

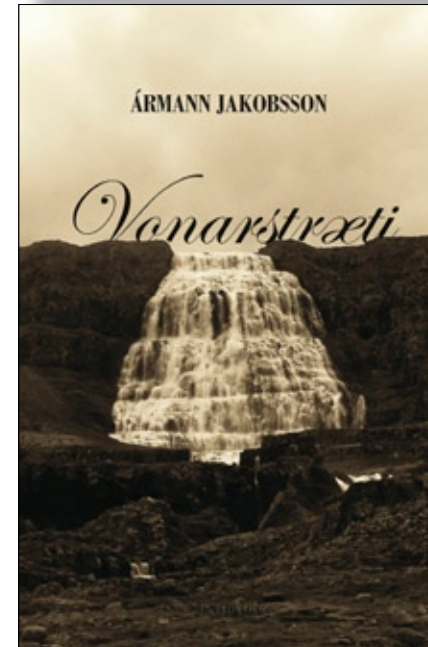
HARDBACK
2003
416 pp
English translation available
Sold to:
Canada (University of Manitoba Press)



GISLI PÁLSSON (Ph.D., University of Manchester, 1982) is Chair and Professor of Anthropology at the University of Iceland. His most recent book is *Anthropology and the New Genetics* (2007). Currently, Pálsson’s research focuses on the social implications of biotechnology, genetic history, environmental change, and Arctic exploration.

“*Hope Street* is a well delimited novel, short and pacey... the narrator manages to draw countless contemporary parallels ... It offers a broad historical perspective ... written with empathy ...”

ICELANDIC STATE RADIO



ÁRMANN JAKOBSSON
Hope Street

In early 1908, Skuli and Theodora Thoroddsen travelled to Copenhagen to participate in negotiations about Iceland’s future within the kingdom of Denmark. In the space of a few months everything changed: Icelanders staged a silent uprising and were now bent on independence. Skuli became a national hero but the shadow of death hovered over his family at 12 Vonarstraeti, Hope Street. *Hope Street* is a historical novel about great ideals, human frailty and one of the few uprisings ever to have taken place in Iceland.

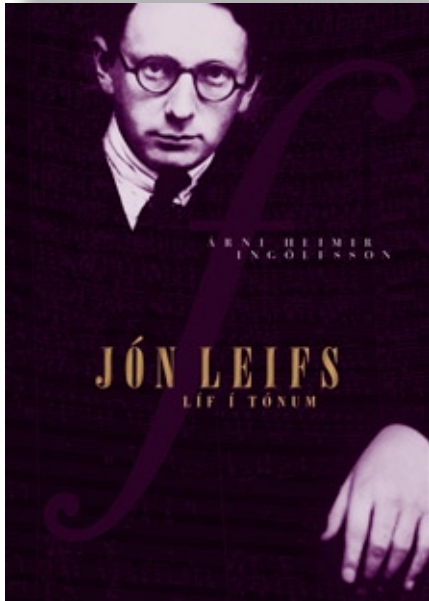
HARDBACK
2008
192 pp
Chapters in Danish available
Rights available



ÁRMANN JAKOBSSON has written articles about social and cultural issues in newspapers and magazines for decades, as well as in-depth pieces on Icelandic literature and a book on *Tolkien and the Ring* in 2003. This spring he published a collection of poems entitled *News from my land*. *Hope Street* is his first novel.

“If I ever become a good musician I’ll be a powerful one.”

A LETTER FROM JON LEIFS TO HIS PARENTS
ON HIS EIGHTEENTH BIRTHDAY



HARDBACK
AUTUMN 2009
Rights available

ARNI HEIMIR INGOLFSSON

Jon Leifs

Jon Leifs (1899–1968) was one of the most significant and unusual Icelandic artists of the twentieth century.

In the middle of World War I, he sailed to Germany, determined to dedicate himself to music, without the slightest inkling, however, of what that entailed. Like Halldor Laxness he was overtaken by world events, married a woman of Jewish origin and lived in Germany until 1944. This book recounts his story more bluntly than ever before. Arni Heimir Ingolfsson has left no stone unturned in his quest for sources on Jon Leifs’ life, which reveals itself to be gripping and fraught with suspense.



ARNI HEIMIR INGOLFSSON holds a PhD degrees in Musicology from Harvard University and is the Programme Director of the Iceland Symphony Orchestra.

In 1980 Vigdis Finnbogadottir was sworn in as Iceland’s fourth president, becoming the world’s first elected female head of state. What did this entail and what sacrifices had to be made?



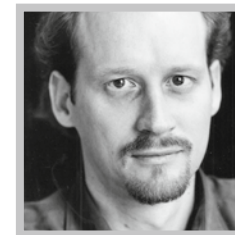
HARDBACK
AUTUMN 2009
Rights available

PALL VALSSON

Vigdis – the Woman Who Would be President

Vigdis – the Woman Who Would be President recounts the story of this woman who not only charmed her own countrymen as president, but also much of the world, thanks to her charisma, warm attitude and intelligence. The book gives a detailed account of her upbringing and ancestry, the influences that shaped and moulded her, and the blows she endured before, as a single divorced mother, Vigdis accepted the responsibility of the Icelandic presidency.

This comprehensive portrait of the person of Vigdis Finnbogadottir, covers every shade hue from sorrow to victory, so that by the end of the book, the reader is left with both an intimate and lasting impression of her.



PALL VALSSON has a Masters Degree in Icelandic Literature from the University of Iceland. He was the chief editor and director of the Edda Publishing House and Mal og menning. Pall received the 1999 Icelandic Literary Award in the scholarly category for his biography of the national Icelandic poet *Jonas Hallgrímsson*.

A biography of Olafía Johannesdóttir

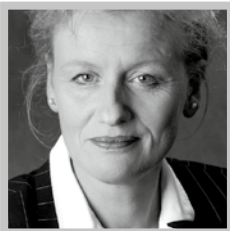


SIGRIDUR DUNA
KRISTMUNDSDOTTIR

Mother Theresa of the North

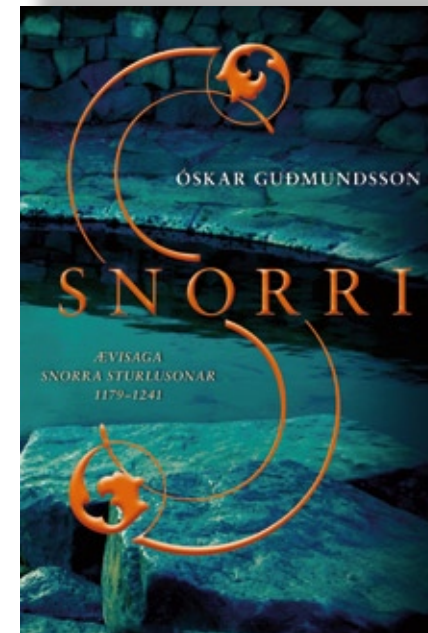
Olafía Johannesdóttir (1863–1924) was born into the poor rural society of nineteenth century Iceland where women had few civil rights and even fewer vocational opportunities. But Olafía defied her destiny, became an ardent campaigner for women’s rights, education and temperance and a popular lecturer in Europe and North America where she travelled widely. She has been called “Mother Theresa of the North” as she devoted herself to easing the misery of destitute women in Oslo, who in turn loved her like a mother.

HARDBACK
2006
539 PP
Rights available



SIGRIDUR DUNA KRISTMUNDSDOTTIR is professor of Anthropology at the University of Iceland. She was awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize for non-fiction in 2001.

*The story of the most famous Nordic scholar of the Middle Ages –
a politician, teacher and poet Snorri Sturluson in Reykholt*



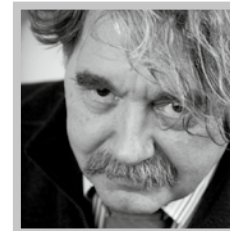
OSKAR GUDMUNDSSON

Snorri

Snorri Sturluson (1179–1241) left more of a mark on the history of Iceland and the culture of western Europe than perhaps any of his fellow countrymen. This biography is therefore greatly welcomed. It paints a vivid portrait of an exceptionally talented individual who had to grapple with kings abroad, chieftains at home, his children and his own weaknesses. But this man who struggled against the world more than eight centuries ago also conquered it through his literature.

The book lifts the veil of some of Iceland’s most intriguing historical figures and conjures up memorable images of cunning individuals and harrowing events.

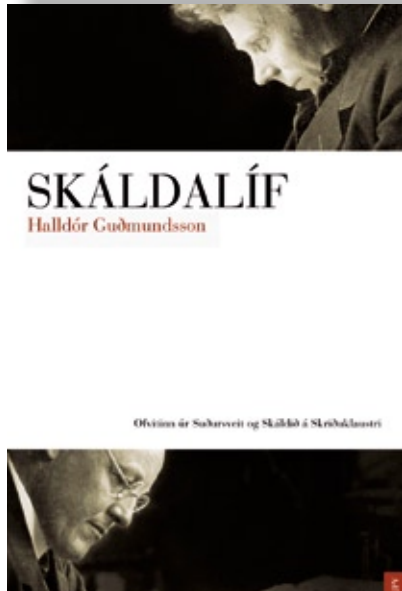
HARDBACK
AUTUMN 2009
514 PP
Rights available



OSKAR GUDMUNDSSON studied History, Literature and Social Sciences at the University of Reykjavík, in Bremen, Germany and in Copenhagen during the seventies. He was the editor in chief of the magazine *Studenta-bladið*, the weekly *Nordurland* and the news magazine *Thjódlif*. Óskar has worked as an independent academic and writer and has been involved in the publication of numerous books as editor and author.

“Incredibly intriguing ...a bold idea ... a remarkable book written with vigour and intensity.”

ICELANDIC STATE TV



HARDBACK
2006
440 pp
Rights available

HALLDOR GUDMUNDSSON

Writer's Lives

The Sudursveit Prodigy and the Skriduklaustur Poet – a Biography

Do they have anything at all in common, the cosmopolite Gunnar Gunnarsson and the homebody Thorbergur Thordarson? One wrote in Danish and saw his books translated into a host of foreign languages; the other's books were a well-kept secret known only to the few who knew his native tongue. One probed the mystery of human existence; the other was a noted and mercurial humorist.

Halldor Gudmundsson sketches a unique portrait of these two authors in this parallel biography.

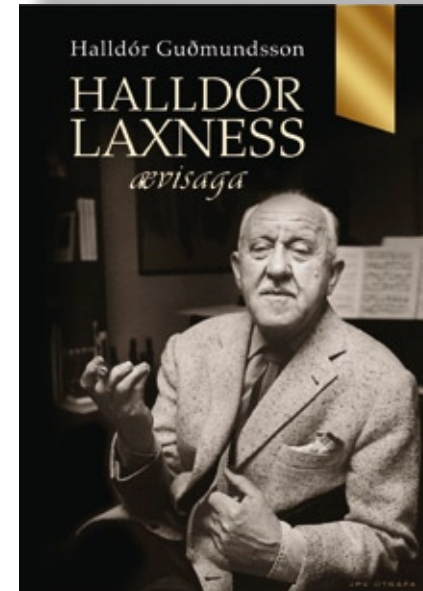
- *Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Award*



HALLDOR GUDMUNDSSON studied literature at the University of Iceland and then at the University of Copenhagen. For 19 years he worked in publishing, for the longest time as the publisher for *Mal og menning*. At the same time he continued researching and writing about literature, with emphasis on the works of Halldor Laxness.

“Stylistically admirable, exceptionally informative and will be the standard biography of Halldor Laxness.”

DIE WELT



HARDBACK
2004
486 pp
Sold to:
UK, USA (MacLehose Press/Quercus)
Germany (bth)
Norway (Tiden/Norsk Gyldendal)
Denmark (Vandkunsten)
Sweden (Leopard)

HALLDOR GUDMUNDSSON

The Islander, a Biography

Halldor Laxness was the most renowned Icelandic writer of the 20th century, having won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1955. In his best works he is considered to have combined the spirit of classical literary forms such as the Icelandic sagas with qualities that are reminiscent of what was later called South American magical realism.

This major biography is narrated in a gripping, exciting, and consistently critical way, giving readers a grand description of a personality in which the manifold conflicts of the 20th century are mirrored.

- *The Icelandic Literary Prize 2004*
- *The Biography of the year by Icelandic Booksellers*

The Icelandic Bookseller's Prize 2005
The Icelandic Journalist Award 2005



GERDUR KRISTNY
 THELMA ASDISARDOTTIR

Portrait of a Father – My Story

Thelma and her four sisters were brought up in the 1970's and 80's. There they were subjected to the cruellest violence that can be inflicted on any child – relentless sexual abuse from her father and other paedophiles. Thelma soon learnt that absolute silence was to reign over her experiences, a silence she didn't break until she became an adult woman and came into contact with, an organization set up to help women who have suffered sexual abuse. Author Gerdur Kristny recounts Thelma's story in a poignant and dispassionate style. A story of a woman who has been helped to come to terms with her excruciating past and stands up, victorious.

HARDBACK

2005

232 pp

Chapters in English available

Sold to:

Sweden (Bra böcker)

Film rights sold to:

Elf Films



GERDUR KRISTNY is an award winning poet and writer. She has published several poetry books, short stories, novels and children's books. Her biography of Thelma won the Icelandic Journalist Award 2005, bestowed by the Icelandic Press Association.

"Gives a devastating insight into the world of someone trapped in the vicious circle of madness and drug use."

Du NEWSPAPER



CLARE DICKENS

A Dangerous gift

A Dangerous Gift is a frightful tale of a very bright young man, whose outstanding talents were crushed before he had the chance to learn the crucial skills needed to keep his Bi-Polar manic depression at bay. This is neither a critical essay on the short comings of our Health Systems, nor is this a cry for help. This is simply a true story, unfortunately an all too common one. A story told by a mother, thrown into this confusing world of Manic Depression without any warning or training; trying to comprehend what her son, with this elusive, frightening disease, is trying to deal with on a daily basis.

HARDBACK

2007

235 pp

English translation available

Rights available



CLARE DICKENS was born in Scotland, raised and educated in England and lived in the United States for almost thirty years. As the wife of an American diplomat she has lived with her husband and two sons in Belgium, Iceland and the United States.

“An excellent book that reflects warm interest in and respect for society. It shows clearly that the guiding light of schools should be respect and care. The work is very useful for educational policy and for myself, not only in my role as minister of education but also as a parent.”

THORGERDUR KATRIN GUNNARSDOTTIR,
MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE, ICELAND (2003–2009).



HARDBACK
2007
537 pp
Chapters in English available
Rights available

SIGRUN ADALBJARNARDOTTIR
Respect and Care
– a Challenge for the 21. Century

Respect and Care is a unique work that describes the pathways to individual maturity and the guidance along those pathways provided by education and the action of teachers. Few things are more important than the education of young people. Here attention is drawn to the role of the educator in cultivating universal values for human interaction: respect and care, friendship and love, justice and tolerance. The main stress is on the importance of enhancing communicative skills and ethics of children and young adults and to lay the foundation for their skills in diversity and democratic citizenship. The book is a remarkable contribution to education in the spirit of democracy and citizenship, absolutely innovative and based on years of solid experience.



SIGRUN ADALBJARNARDOTTIR is a Professor of Education at the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Iceland. Her current research activities include a longitudinal study on the risk-taking behaviour of young people who have been followed for seven years since age 14. She has also conducted a long-term research project on the promotion of students' social and moral growth.

Nominated for the 2008 Icelandic Literary Award



TRADE PAPERBACK
2008
511 pp
Rights available

VILHJALMUR ARNASON
**A Successful Life,
a Just Society**
– Ethical Theory

In his book Vilhjalmur Arnason discusses several of the key ethical theories in Western history and also provides some insights into the contemporary debate on success in life and a just society. The book both focuses on established masters in the field of philosophical ethics such as Plato, Aristotle, Hobbes, Kant and Mill, and authors such as Hegel, Marx, Kierkegaard and Nietzsche. It also includes a detailed analysis of the key movements of the twentieth century: existentialism, logical analysis, virtue ethics, Rawl's theory of justice and discourse ethics.



VILHJALMUR ARNASON is a professor of Philosophy at the University of Iceland and his writing and lectures have focused primarily on ethics and contemporary ethical solutions. *A Successful Life, a Just Society* offers a comprehensive, pointed and highly readable study of the key movements in ethics and the reasoning behind them – issues that concern every individual and society as a whole.

*“Children are not an investment and time is not money.
A child is only a child for a short time, but childhood
is a period that remains stored in us.”*

ANDRI SNAER MAGNASON, AUTHOR AND FATHER



TRADE PAPERBACK
2009
203 pp
Rights available

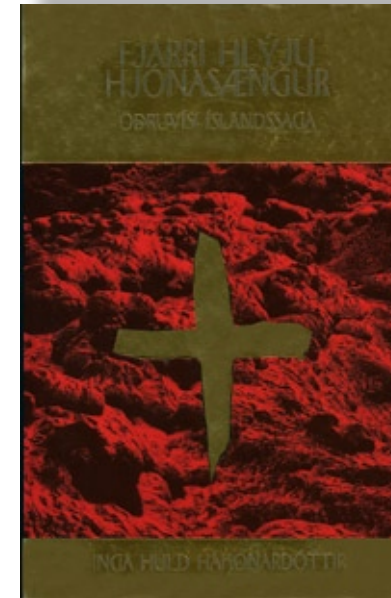
SAEUNN KJARTANSDOTTIR The Years No-One Remembers

We don't remember the first months of our lives, not even the first two to three years. Research however, is increasingly showing that it is precisely those first months and years that have a lasting impact on our lives from that point onwards. The child's every experience has a direct effect on its self-image and its relationships with others. The care and stimulation of those around them can be rewarded with incredible development. Our experiences later in life can never be equal to the first connections that are established, because they form the basis for the life that lies ahead. *The Years No-One Remembers* is a vital book for the parents of young children and all those who tend to little children.



SAEUNN KJARTANSDOTTIR is an independent psychoanalyst who has a long track record in individual therapy and counseling in the health service. She is also the author of *What Makes People? The Psychoanalytic Quest for Understanding* (1999).

Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Award



HARDBACK
1992
323 pp
Rights available

INGA HULD HAKONARDOTTIR Far from the Warmth of the Marital Bed A Different History of Iceland

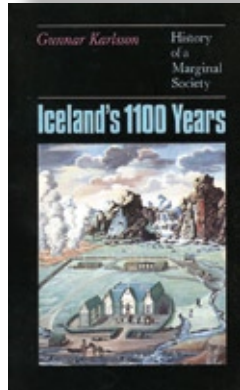
An overall picture of gender relations in Iceland from the earliest settlement until the 19th century with emphasis on the discussion of matrimony and extramarital relationships. The book analyses the attitudes which lay behind the restrictions imposed by both ecclesiastical and secular authorities on extramarital sexual relations and the punishments for crimes of adultery. Central to this discussion is her examination of the *Storidomur* – a criminal code covering moral offences of 1564 and its application in the centuries following, used by the authorities to control the sexual lives of the commoners.



INGA HULD HAKONARDOTTIR studied History at the University of Iceland and the University of Copenhagen. She has worked as a journalist for newspapers and magazines as well as a scholar specializing in Women's History. Hakonardóttir has written numerous articles, conferences and interviews and is the author of several biographies and works on History.

*“This is a truly important book
and there is nothing like it available ...”*

JESSE BYOCK, PROFESSOR OF ICELANDIC STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



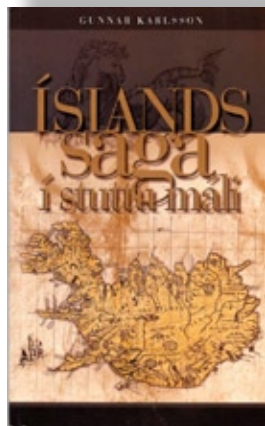
HARDBACK
2001
418 pp
Rights available

GUNNAR KARLSSON Iceland's 1100 Years

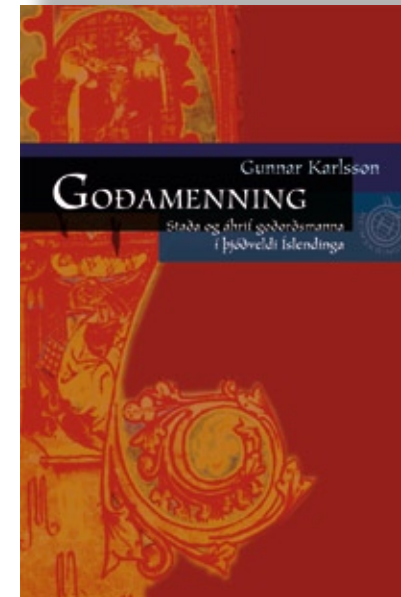
This volume recounts the history of a society on the margin of Europe as well as on the margin of reaching the size and wealth of a proper state – Iceland. Beginning with colonisation around the year 870, it concludes with the year 2000, having taken the reader through Iceland's period of foreign domination, by the Norwegians, then the English and finally the Danes, who ruled the country until 1944. Politics, religion, economics and technological innovation are covered in detail, while the role of women and literature, ancient and modern, including, of course, the sagas, are also discussed.

GUNNAR KARLSSON A Brief History of Iceland

The history of Iceland spans just over 1100 years, from the settlement of the country in the 9th century to the modern republic of today. This book gives a concise, clear and vivid overview of Icelandic history through these centuries, the main events, the people and their way of life, in times of glory and in times of degradation and natural disaster.



PAPERBACK
2000
72 pp
Available in:
English and Swedish
Sold to:
Japan (Waseda Daigaku Shuppan)

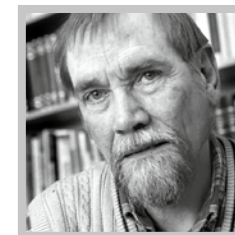


HARDBACK
2004
539 pp
The book includes
an English summary.

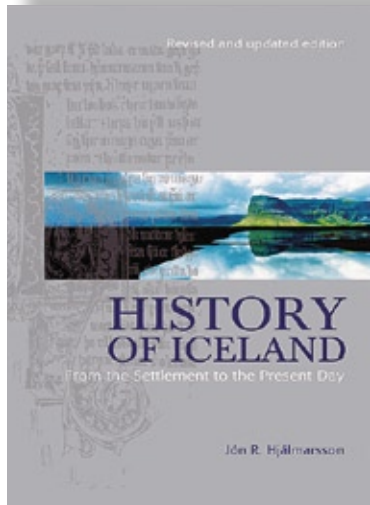
GUNNAR KARLSSON Chieftain Culture – the Status and Influence of Icelandic Chieftaincies on the Icelandic Commonwealth

Chieftain Culture is a multi-layered investigation into the role and social influence of the Icelandic chieftains (goðar) on the Icelandic Commonwealth. The book places a particular focus on aspects of this society that have been hailed by historical studies tainted by a nationalistic bias, highlighting distinctions between legislative and judiciary powers, the democratic nature of the chieftaincies, and the relationship between the chieftaincies and Icelandic literature in the Middle Ages.

The author's conclusion is that this was in many ways a unique and, in some cases, even remarkable society. This is not so much, however, attributed to the greatness of the Icelandic nation, as the nationalistic theories might have us believe, but rather Iceland's remoteness from the rest of Europe, and the difficulty of navigating the Atlantic ocean, which held royal authority at bay for centuries, after the settlers had assimilated a Christian literary culture.



GUNNAR KARLSSON is a historian and professor of History at the University of Iceland. He has written a wealth of books, articles, studies, teaching books and introductions to Icelandic history.



PAPERBACK
 1994
 200 pp
Available in:
 English, Danish and German
Sold to:
 Russia (Ves Mir)
 Bulgaria (Riva)

JON R. HJALMARSSON
History of Iceland

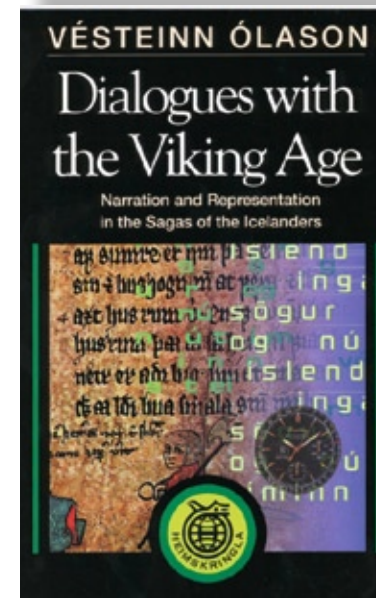
A lively and absorbing description of the development of the Icelandic nation from the settlement more than eleven hundred years ago and up to the present day. In concise and highly informative accounts, written with the general reader in mind, the book charts the glories and achievements of the Republic and Saga Age; the bitter and bloody civil war which led to humiliation and suffering under colonial rule; and the nationalist awakening which has created a thriving modern republic with deep attachment to its unique past.



JON R. HJALMARSSON is a historian and educator and served as a school principal and later as regional administrator of education in south Iceland for many years. He is well known as a broadcaster and as the author of several books on history and related subjects.

“An excellent work.”

SVENSKA DAGBLADET



HARDBACK
 1998
 297 pp
Sold to:
 Italy (Editoriale San Giusto srl
 – Edizioni Parnaso)
 English translation available

VESTEINN OLASON
**Dialogues with
 The Viking Age**

An introduction to and a critical discussion of the Sagas of the Icelanders or the Icelandic Family Sagas, as they are often called. The author presents the historical and literary background of the saga genre, analyses the narrative form and describes the world view expressed in the sagas. He sees the sagas as dialogues between the authors and their past, conversations between the Middle Ages and the Age of the Vikings. He joins in that conversation from a modern standpoint and leads the reader into the sagas step by step, gradually helping him to develop a deeper understanding both of individual works and of the genre as a whole.



VESTEINN OLASON has been professor of Icelandic literature at the University of Iceland, UC Berkley and the Universities of Copenhagen and Oslo as well as being the director of The Arni Magnusson Institute for Icelandic Studies. Olason has published numerous articles on Icelandic literature in Icelandic and foreign magazines as well as several books, amongst them Traditional Ballads of Iceland. He received the Icelandic Literature Award in 1993.



HARDBACK
2004
148 pp
Available in:
Icelandic and English
Also available in small format

NANNA ROGNVALDARDOTTIR Cool Cuisine

Favourite traditional Icelandic dishes are brought to life in this inspirational cook-book. A mixture of old and new, combined with excellent ingredients, provides a collection of mouth-watering recipes. Learn how the Icelanders cook puffin, reindeer or simple delicacies like fresh fish from the clean waters around Iceland or the famous Icelandic lamb, raised on aromatic mountain grasses and herbs. This book gives you a taste of Iceland's coolest cuisine with recipes which are easy to follow and fun to cook.



NANNA ROGNVALDARDOTTIR is Iceland's most popular cookbook author and food writer. She has among other things written a 700-page encyclopaedic work on food and cooking followed by a huge cookbook with over 3,600 recipes and a couple of books in English on Icelandic food, *Cool Cuisine* and *Icelandic Food and Cookery*. *Nanna's Home Cooking* was published in 2009 and became an instant bestseller in Iceland.



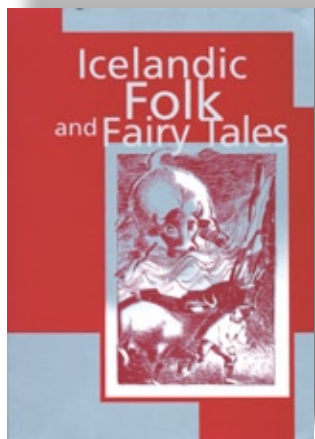
HARDBACK
2009
240 pp

NANNA ROGNVALDARDOTTIR Nanna's Home Cooking

Nanna's Home Cooking is a compilation of fifty dishes frequently cooked by Nanna Rognvaldardottir, Iceland's best known food writer, for her own family. Some of the dishes are variations on traditional Icelandic recipes, some are modern European or American, some a bit more exotic – but all are fairly simple, inexpensive and above all tasty. Besides the recipes themselves, this unconventional cookbook includes several suggestions for accompaniments to each dish as well as numerous suggestions on how to change the recipe according to individual preferences, advice on how to cook a smaller version of the dish for singles and what to do with the leftovers.

“For those who wish to know and understand the Icelandic people of today, there could be no better introduction.”

ALAN BOUCHER



PAPERBACK
1987
123 pp

Icelandic Folk- and Fairytales

In the mid-nineteenth century, Jon Arnason compiled a set of Icelandic folktales. Ever since that set was first published in 1862–64, it has been considered the foremost collection of Icelandic folktales and has provided readers with inspiration for works of art, adventure tales for recreational reading, and information about life and people of earlier times. The late professor Alan Boucher, former Chairman of the Department of English at the University of Iceland, translated a series of these tales, which we now present to the public in book-form. In his introduction to this selection, Alan Boucher expressed the hope that it would offer English-speaking readers a fair sample of some of the best Icelandic folktales.



HARDBACK
2008
25 pp
Available in:
Icelandic and English

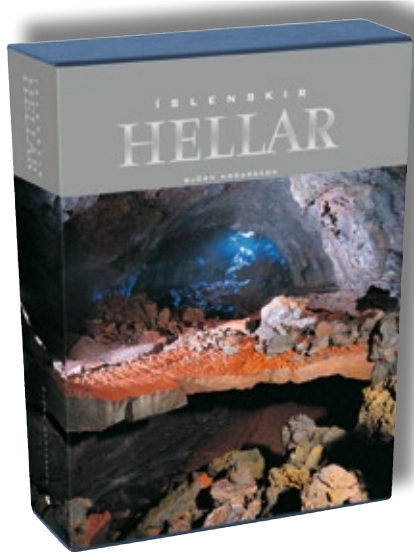
BRIAN PILKINGTON
TERRY GUNNELL

Hidden People

Shrouded in mystery, steeped in legend, the *huldufolk* (hidden people) of Iceland have inhabited the island at least as long as humans. Countless tales are told of these wondrous creatures, their hidden world, their customs and festivals and their interactions with human beings. Usually only seen when they wanted people to see them – often entering their dreams – they sometimes sought help from humans and gave rich rewards. The hidden people still demand respect in Iceland, where roads have been altered and construction plans changed to avoid disturbing elf-stones, large rocks housing *huldufólk* families. The hidden people have been known to avenge destruction of their homes with a vengeance ...



The Hidden People of Iceland is richly illustrated by award-winning artist BRIAN PILKINGTON. The text is written by TERRY GUNNELL, Associate Professor of Folkloristics at the University of Iceland.



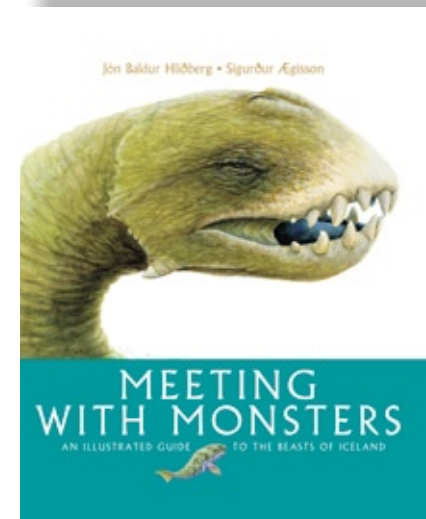
BJORN HROARSSON
Icelandic Caves

A vast portion of the volcanic island of Iceland is made up of lava fields. Until quite recently, however, very few people realized that there are over five hundred caves concealed below the lava, which jointly can be hundreds of kilometres in length. For the first time ever, the wonderful cosmos of these underground worlds is revealed in spectacular photographs, maps and detailed accounts, based on the most up-to date research. The book gathers the experiences of the daring explorers who have discovered these subterranean crypts over the past few years. Over a thousand photographs of stunning geological formations by some 40 photographers unseal worlds of breathtaking beauty that have never been beheld by human eyes before. This is a book about some of the few unexplored areas left on this planet, pooling the findings of many cave experts and specialists in various fields. Follow them on secret adventurous trails that so few have followed before.

- *Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Award in non-fiction in 2006*



BJORN HROARSSON is a geologist and cave expert, who has been researching lava caves for over a quarter of a century.



SIGURDUR AEGISSON
 ILLUSTRATIONS BY
JON BALDUR HLIDBERG

**Meeting with
 Monsters**

HARDBACK
2008
135 PP
Available in:
Icelandic and English
Sold to:
Russia (OGI)

Icelandic folklore heritage contains a wealth of tales about weird animals and ferocious monsters. These creatures terrified Icelanders in prior centuries but have hardly been noticed recently a least for the most part.

The main folk legends and stories of these monsters from in or around Iceland are recounted in this book, from both oral and written sources. The monsters and their peculiarities are described in the text in a detailed, insightful manner, and the locations where they have been spotted are shown on a map. The illustrations accompanying the text shed additional lights on this interesting part of Icelandic folklore.

Noted wildlife artist JON BALDUR HLIDBERG has thrown himself into a new arena illustrating creatures of legend.

SIGURDUR AEGISSON is a folklorist and theologian by training and has written over the years on the subjects of natural history and folklore.



JON BALDUR HLIDBERG has long been famous for his wild life illustrations, which have adorned specialists books and variety of other informative material in recent years. A portfolio of his stunning artwork is available at www.fauna.is, an image database of over 1800 images of various plants and animals he has painted over the years. Images are added to the database as Jon Baldur Hlidberg paints new ones or as older ones are freed for publication. The database can be searched by English, Icelandic and Latin names.



AEVAR PETERSEN
ILLUSTRATIONS BY
JON BALDUR HLIDBERG

Icelandic Birds

The most up-to-date and thorough book on Icelandic birds ever. Each species is described in independent chapters including distribution maps and an illustration of the every breed's egg and different plumages.

- *Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize in 1998*



HARDBACK
33 x 25.5 cm
312-344 pp
Rights available
Illustrations available on
www.fauna.is



GUNNAR JONSSON
& **JONBJORN PALSSON**
ILLUSTRATIONS BY
JON BALDUR HLIDBERG

Icelandic Fish

The book is written by the two of Iceland's foremost experts in this field. It deals with the 340 species of fish found in Icelandic waters and contains over 500 pictures, both portraits and details, most of them from actual specimens.



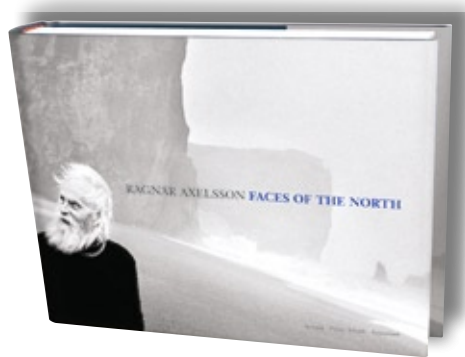
PALL HERSTEINSSON
ILLUSTRATIONS BY
JON BALDUR HLIDBERG

Icelandic Mammals

Over 60 species of mammals are analysed in this book, each presented in lively and interesting prose, and accompanied by stunning water-colour illustrations, in addition to a wealth of maps and diagrams.

- *Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Award in non-fiction in 2004*





HARDBACK
 23.5 x 30.5 cm
 152 pp
Available in:
 English, French, German and Icelandic
 98 tritone photographs

RAGNAR AXELSSON

Faces of the North

Amazing images from Iceland, Greenland and the Faroe Islands. It will give you the rare opportunity of witnessing some of the most extraordinary cultures, times and places in our world. The photographer is an indefatigable traveller, who does not hesitate to venture out into storms and blizzards, to wait for hours in temperatures of 40° below freezing, or risk his life on vertiginous cliffs, all for a good picture. Foreword by Mary Ellen Mark.



RAGNAR AXELSSON, known as RAX, has for many years been a leader among Icelandic photographers and has worked for Iceland's biggest daily, Morgunbladid. He has won a variety of honours around the world for his work and his photographs have been published in magazines such as National Geographic, Time, Life, Stern and Le Figaro.



HARDBACK
 2004
 197 pp
Available in:
 English, French, German and Icelandic

SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON UNNUR JOKULSDOTTIR

Icelanders

Over a period of two years, photographer Sigurgeir Sigurjonsson and author Unnur Jokulsdottir travelled the length and breadth of Iceland and visited people from all over the country. The result of their journey is the book *Icelanders*, which contains haunting photos of people and nature, amusing dialogue, and lyrical narrative spiced with gentle humour. Small-boat fishermen, jacks-of-all-trades, tourist farmers, fox hunters, rock collectors, hired women, and children of nature are among the people we meet – people who want to live their lives according to their own designs, in the environment they know best.

- *Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Award in non-fiction in 2004*



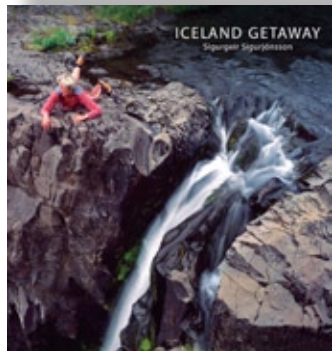
UNNUR JOKULSDOTTIR has worked in various fields, including horse-training, hotel management, business management, and writing. After sailing around the world, she chronicled her travels and has since then written several travel books and a novel for children.



PAPERBACK
19 x 19 cm
Available in:
English, French and German

SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON Made in Iceland

A treasure trove of wondrous photographs of the Icelandic landscape, of the forces of nature – and of ordinary people. This is nature photography at its finest. Sigurgeir Sigurjónsson demonstrates once more his ability to express the peace, quiet and solitude of the stark emptiness of the Icelandic landscape, and its brief glimpses of human life in harmony with nature.



PAPERBACK
30 x 29 cm , 220 PP
Available in English

SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON Iceland Getaway

Sigurjónsson's pictures and sensitivity to the awesome natural forces of the north, the splendour of the Icelandic highlands, and the magical power of waterfalls and hot springs have become part of Icelandic iconography.



HARDBACK
19 x 19 cm
Available in:
English, French and German

SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON Icelandic Horses

A unique book of beautiful photographs that shows the Icelandic horse in nature, in winter, summer, spring and autumn. The pictures are both of herds and individual horses, while superb photos of Icelandic competition horses can also be found.



SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON has worked as a photographer in Reykjavik for a number of years and is the author of several magnificent books of photography, all of which have enjoyed enormous success for Sigurjónsson's ability to express the unique qualities of the Icelandic landscape.

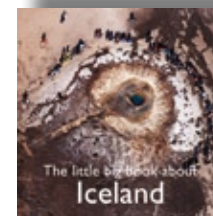


Over 50.000 copies sold!

HARDBACK
22 x 26 cm, 160 PP
Available in:
English, French and German

SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON Lost in Iceland

Tranquility, silence ... qualities that are becoming increasingly rare in our frenetic 21st-century world, a world in which we live and work to a persistent soundtrack of manmade noise. In contrast, the sounds evoked by Sigurgeir Sigurjónsson's photographs are the eternal sounds of nature – the sighing of the wind, the lapping of waves, the hissing of steam and the unchanging roar of a waterfall.



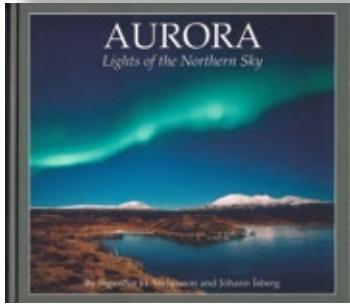
"A miniature dream."

ICELAND REVIEW.COM

HARDBACK
9x9 cm , 311 PP
Available in English

SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON The Little Big Book about Iceland

Iceland in a nutshell - or rather, a compact volume showcasing the raw beauty of this fascinating country, its nature and the volatile forces that shape it - and the people that inhabit it and are themselves shaped by their environment. Sigurgeir Sigurjónsson is justly famed for his photographic work and this little big book shows why.



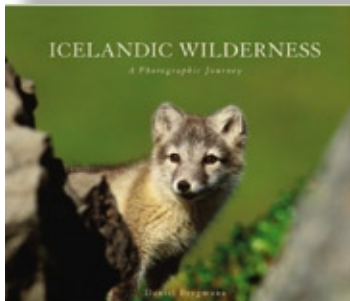
HARDBACK
 22 x 24,5 cm, 72 pp
 Available in:
 English, German and Japanese

SIGURDUR H. STEFNIßSON

Aurora

Lights of the Northern Sky

Magnificent photographs of the northern lights in their many different forms, with tips on viewing and photographing, as well as facts and myths about the aurora. Stefnißson's photograph of an aurora above and beyond an erupting volcano was selected as one of the 100 best photographs ever published in the National Geographic in 112 years of the magazine's history.

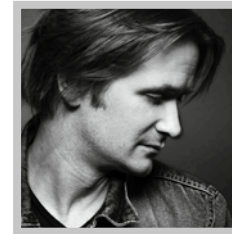


HARDBACK
 23 x 27 cm, 125 pp
 Available in English

DANIEL BERGMANN

Icelandic Wilderness

A true masterpiece, *Icelandic Wilderness* is a photographic journey made by Daniel Bergmann, who spent days and weeks in the wilderness trying to capture photographs of rare birds, wild animals and magnificent landscapes. This is the only collection of its kind.



THORSTEN HENN has lived in Iceland since 1998 after having first been enchanted by its beauty during a visit in 1985. He runs a photo studio in Reykjavik and his work has been printed in numerous well-known magazines in Iceland and abroad.



HARDBACK
 2009
 26,5 x 26,5 cm, 142 pp
 Available in:
 English, German and Icelandic

THORSTEN HENN

Iceland Up close and personal

Iceland Up Close is a fantastic, high-quality illustrated book that makes for a wonderful insight into Icelandic life. The book is divided into four parts: Land, a display of some of Iceland's greatest rock features, be they striking basalt formations or the lunar landscape of the lava fields; Water, a paean to Iceland's stunning waterfalls and the majesty of the sea; Air, a selection of aerial photographs, allowing you to see the huge scale of Iceland's incredible natural landscape; and finally People, expressive images of Iceland's hardy fishermen, urban trendsetters and political heavyweights alike.



HARDBACK
 23 x 27 cm, 127 pp
 Available in:
 English, French and German

THORSTEN HENN

Colours of Iceland

German photographer Thorsten Henn composes a unique and personal ode to Iceland with this impressive selection of magnificent photographs of the Icelandic landscape. With a foreword by Sigur Ros.



ARI TRAUSTI GUDMUNDSSON is a geophysicist and one of Iceland's foremost experts on volcanic activity and volcanoes. He is the author of some twenty books on geology, travelling, and nature, including a comprehensive study of all the volcanic areas in Iceland.



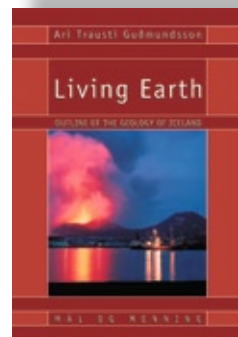
HARDBACK
2005
29 x 23 cm, 312 pp
229 color/b&w photographs
7 illustrations

ARI TRAUSTI GUDMUNDSSON Eruptions

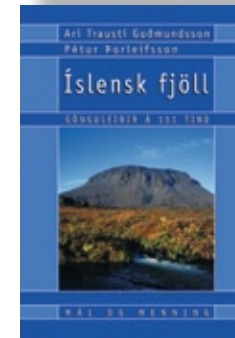
This beautiful book contains photographs of all the volcanic eruptions that Icelandic photographers have managed to capture over the course of the 20th century, with some truly phenomenal sights, including some world famous historical moments such as the Surtsey eruption which created a new island between 1963–1967 and the eruption on the island of Heimaey in 1973, which formed a new volcano on the outskirts of a town of 5.000 inhabitants.

ARI TRAUSTI GUDMUNDSSON Living Earth The Geology of Iceland

One of Iceland's most distinguished writers of popular geological and nature books has compiled international research into Icelandic geology, providing the reader with an overview of the pooled findings, which are explained in a clear and accessible style. An incredibly useful and readable handbook that will satisfy even the most scientific readers.



PAPERBACK
W/PLASTIC JACKET
2007
48 pp
Available in: English and German



PAPERBACK
W/PLASTIC JACKET
2004
334 pp
Rights available
Sold to: UK (Cicerone)

ARI TRAUSTI GUDMUNDSSON
PETUR THORLEIFSSON

Icelandic Mountains Walking Routes to 151 Summits

A wonderful book for trekkers and outdoor activity lovers. *Icelandic Mountains* contains walking routes to Iceland's major summits, which are indicated in a clear and entertaining way, with detailed maps of mountains and their surroundings areas, and precious information for travellers on the length of each walk, the level of difficulty involved and its duration.



PAPERBACK
W/PLASTIC JACKET
2009
240 pp
Rights available

ARNBJÖRG L. JOHANNSDÓTTIR Icelandic Medicinal Herbs

This beautiful and highly practical book, adorned with close to two hundred colour photographs, focuses on the healing properties of Icelandic and international herbs and how they can be used to boost human health. The characteristics of the plants are examined, as well as where they can be found, which parts of them contain the effective healing properties, the active ingredients in them, their effect on the human body and on specific disorders.

Other available books in this series:
The Icelandic Plants Handbook
The Icelandic Stones Handbook
The Key to Icelandic Geology
21 x 14,5 cm



HARDBACK
2008
125 pp
Available in English

JOHANN OLI HILMARSSON
The Puffin

This delightful book explores the life of the Puffin in words and pictures, and provides details of Iceland's best puffin-watching locations. With unique photographs that show aspects of puffin behaviour which have not been photographed before.

JOHANN OLI HILMARSSON
Icelandic Bird Guide

An identification guide that can make your bird-watching in Iceland more interesting. It has over 500 photographs and diagrams and describes order, family habits and identifying features as well as locating the habitat, breeding areas, population, clutch size, incubation period of all species found in Iceland.

ASBJORN BJORGVINSSON
HELMUT LUGMAYR

Whalewatching
in Iceland

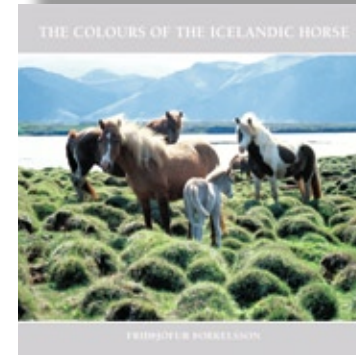
An informative and well illustrated book about the way of life of whales, their behavior and conduct as well as a brief description of birds and seals commonly seen during whale watching trips.



HARDBACK
14 x 22 cm, 193 pp
Available in:
English and German



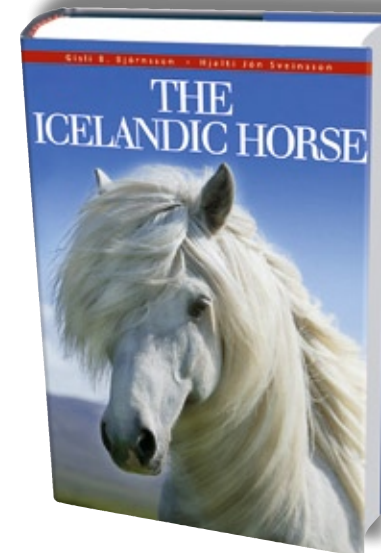
PAPERBACK
2002
61 pp
Available in:
English and German



HARDBACK
22 x 24 cm, 170 pp
Available in:
English and German

FRIDTHJOFUR THORKESSON
The Colours of the
Icelandic Horse

This is the first book of its kind to show the full range of possible colours to be found in the Icelandic horse. The book monitors the same foals from the moment of their birth to when they have acquired their definitive colour, and the changes in colour are shown, step by step.



HARDBACK
24 x 34 cm, 415 pp
Available in:
English and German

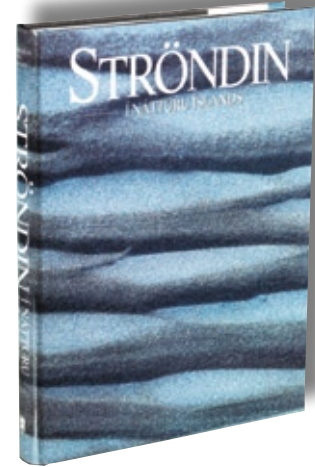
GISLI B. BJORNSSON
H. SVEINSSON

The Icelandic Horse

This magnificent book is the largest and most comprehensive book about Icelandic horses ever published. It contains information about almost everything that has to do with Icelandic horses. Also, there are chapters about how they are doing outside of Iceland, including competitions and shows. Finally, the book features a long chapter about breeding.



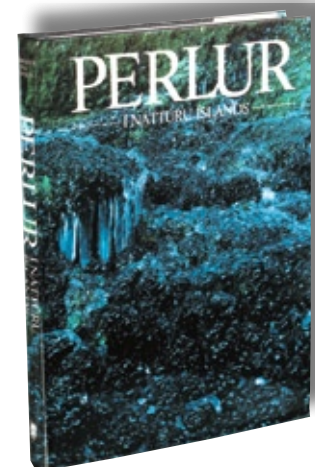
GUDMUNDUR PALL OLAFSSON has a B.Sc degree in biology from Ohio State University and is a doctor of marine biology from Stockholm University. He also has a degree in art from Columbus College of Art and Design, Ohio. He has worked as a teacher, a writer, naturalist, nature photographer, active conservationist, columnist and lecturer in Iceland, and sometimes abroad.



HARDBACK
1995
24 x 33 cm, 460 pp
Available in English

GUDMUNDUR PALL OLAFSSON
The Coast of Iceland

This all-round reference work opens up the world of the coast, its nature, its culture, its magic, describing the formation and endless evolution of the land; the influence of the sun, the moon and the weather on life on the shore; the mechanisms of tides and complex oceanic currents; and littoral life-forms, large and small. With stunning photographs showing both of the ocean depths and the flora and fauna of the coast.



HARDBACK
1990
24 x 33 cm, 419 pp
Available in English

GUDMUNDUR PALL OLAFSSON
**Iceland –
the Enchanted**

A comprehensive description of the extraordinary variety and magic of the Icelandic landscape, from chilling ice to fiery glory of the skies, from treacherous glacial melt water rivers to tiny meadow flowers, the unique and the everyday, even places of fond memories, or fearful ones.

The most comprehensive work ever published on the treasures of Icelandic nature. Entertainingly and informatively written, the books in this series are lavishly illustrated with stunning colour photographs and present the wonders of Iceland from all conceivable angles.

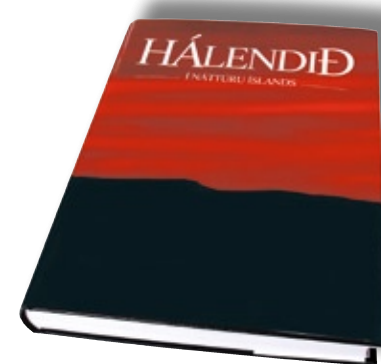


HARDBACK
2005
24 x 33 cm, 383 pp

GUDMUNDUR PALL OLAFSSON
Birds of Iceland

This outstanding book introduces the reader into the enchanting world of Icelandic birds, with descriptions of their behaviour patterns and way of life and flight, feeding habits, breeding and preferred habitats. The book enumerates each species of Icelandic breeding birds, in text and photographs, including references to folklore and fiction.

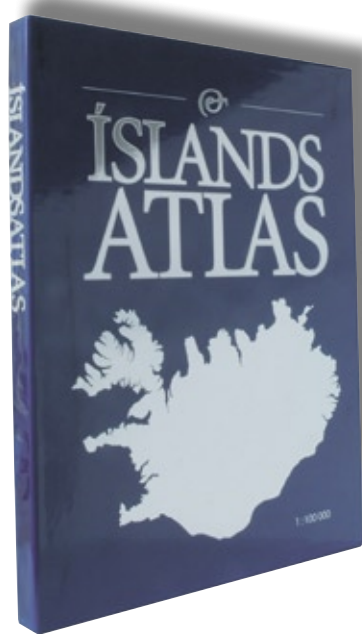
- *Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Award in non-fiction in 2005*



HARDBACK
2000
24 x 33 cm, 439 pp

GUDMUNDUR PALL OLAFSSON
**The Icelandic
Highlands**

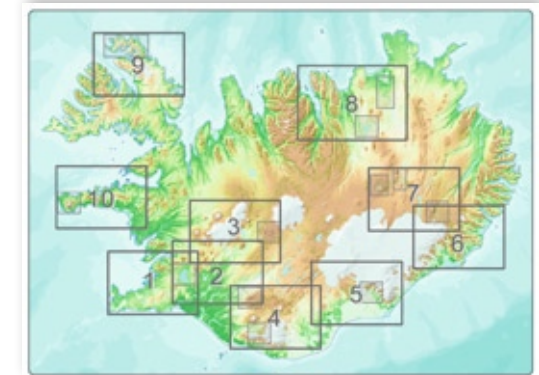
The mountainous centre of the island, with its rocky deserts, jagged mountain peaks, ice caps, volcanoes, hidden valleys and hot springs, is an awe-inspiring and untouched wilderness. This magnificent book presents the Icelandic highlands in all their splendour.



HARDBACK CASED EDITION
47 x 36 cm, 208 pp

Icelandic Atlas

The Icelandic Atlas is the most extensive atlas of Iceland ever published, and marks a turning point in Icelandic cartographic history. The entire country, from the highest peaks to the outermost headlands and islands, is depicted on 132 magnificent maps in the scale of 1:100 000. The maps are highly detailed, including over 43.000 place-names, along with an introduction on the history of Icelandic mapmaking and on the country's nature. Using the ArcGIS geographic information system from ESRI, the surface of the country could be reproduced with extraordinary accuracy, so that the height of mountains, the depth of valleys, and the endless expanses of the wilderness are perceived as if one were flying over the landscape. The Icelandic Atlas is a unique reference work on the geography of Iceland, which has been warmly welcomed by the people of Iceland. The Icelandic Atlas won three awards at the ESRI Conference in San Diego in 2006, the world's largest geographic information conference, with more than 1000 companies competing in 10 categories, where the Icelandic Atlas had the honour of being chosen absolute favourite.



Hiking maps

The Hiking maps are produced for those who travel in Iceland's most popular natural regions. The maps focus on enjoyable driving and walking routes, and include a variety of information, including many place-names. On the reverse of the maps are descriptions of the main natural attractions of the regions, together with more precise maps of individual walking routes, etc.

Ten maps in this series have now been published:

- Map 1:** Reykjanes – Thingvellir 1:100 000 / 1:50 000
- Map 2:** Gullfoss – Geysir – Hekla 1:100 000 / 1:50 000
- Map 3:** Kjölur – Langjökull 1:100 000 / 1:50 000
- Map 4:** Landmannalaugar – Thorsmörk – Fjallabak 1:100 000 / 1:50 000
- Map 5:** Skaftafell 1:100 000 / 1:50 000
- Map 6:** Lonsoræfi – Snaefell 1:100 000 / 1:50 000
- Map 7:** Askja – Herdubreid – Kverkfjöll 1:100 000 / 1:50 000
- Map 8:** Akureyri – Myvatn – Dettifoss 1:120 000 / 1:50 000
- Map 9:** Hornstrandir 1:100 000 / 1:55 000
- Map 10:** Snaefellsnes 1:100 000 / 1:55 000

Please note that a fund for the promotion of Icelandic literature operates under the auspices of the Icelandic Ministry of Education and Culture and subsidizes translations of literature.

For further information please write to:
The Fund for Icelandic Literature
Austurstræti 18 | 101 Reykjavík | Iceland
Phone +354 552 8500
bok@bok.is | www.bok.is

Iceland will be Guest of Honour at the Frankfurt Book Fair in 2011. This will provide a unique opportunity to present Icelandic literary culture to the book world as a whole.

For further information please write to:
Ministry of Education, Science and Culture
Solvholsgata 4 | 150 Reykjavík | Iceland
info@sagenhaftes-island.is
www.sagenhaftes-island.is



*For further information please contact
the foreign rights department:*

VALGERDUR BENEDIKTSDOTTIR
vala@forlagid.is
UA MATTHIASDOTTIR
ua@forlagid.is



FORLAGID

FORLAGID PUBLISHING · BRÆÐRABORGASTÍGUR 7 · 101 REYKJAVÍK · ICELAND
+354 575 5600 · WWW.FORLAGID.IS