

PROGRAMME

An Event in Honour of Björn Wittrock

Friday, 15 February, 2019

Venue: Room IX (09:30-17:00) and Kanslersrummet (17:00-19:00),
Uppsala University Main Building, Biskopsgatan 3, Uppsala

09:30 - 11:45

Welcome & Introduction

ANDERS MALMBERG (SCAS and Uppsala University)
CHRISTINA GARSTEN (SCAS)

The 1st Wittrock Lecture

Chair: Christer Nordlund (Umeå University)

JÜRGEN KOCKA (Freie Universität Berlin)
Historians and the Future

Q & A

Reflections

BJÖRN WITTROCK (SCAS)

Unveiling of Portrait

MIKAEL AHLUND, BO LARSSON, BJÖRN WITTROCK

11:45 - 13:15

Break

13:15 - 14:35

Symposium - *Expanding Horizons: Modernities, Globalities and Future Academes*, part I

Chair: Ericka Johnson (Linköping University)

MICHAEL J. PUETT (Harvard University)
Rethinking Globalization Theories

SIA SPILIOPOULOU ÅKERMARK (The Åland Islands Peace Institute)
Universality and Particularity in Law. What Ways Ahead?

BRUCE G. CARRUTHERS (Northwestern University)
What Does Financialization Mean for the Future of Capitalism?

Q & A

14:35 - 15:05 **Coffee/Tea Break**

15:05 - 17:00 **Symposium, part II**
Chair: Claes-Fredrik Helgesson (Uppsala University)

MIRJAM KÜNKLER (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle)
*Religion and the Secular Outside the West: Does Their Study Require a New
Social Science Vocabulary?*

HANS JOAS (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and University of Chicago)
Western Civilisation - A Good Idea?

Q & A

Symposium: Panel Discussion
Chair: Christer Nordlund (Umeå University)

**BRUCE G. CARRUTHERS, HANS JOAS, MIRJAM KÜNKLER,
MICHAEL J. PUETT, SIA SPILIOPOULOU ÅKERMARK**

Musical Performance
Chair: Christer Nordlund (Umeå University)

ANDERS HILLBORG

17:00 - 19:00 **Reception**

SHORT BIOS & ABSTRACTS

The 1st Wittrock Lecture

JÜRGEN KOCKA (Freie Universität Berlin)

Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. mult. Jürgen Kocka, M.A. (born 1941) has taught history at Universität Bielefeld and the Freie Universität Berlin. He was President of the WZB Berlin Social Science Centre. Presently he is a Permanent Fellow of the Centre “Work and Human Life Cycle in Global History” at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. He has published widely in the field of modern history, particularly the social, economic and cultural history of Germany and Europe as well as comparative history. His publications in English include *Capitalism: A Short History* (Princeton University Press 2016). Kocka was a Guest of the Principal in residence at SCAS in the spring of 2018. He is also Chair of the Collegium’s Academic Senate.

Historians and the Future

The relation between past, present and future has been a classical topic over the centuries. Can knowledge of the past enhance our capability of shaping the future? The lecture will turn the perspective around. It will discuss how visions of the future structure our ability to understand the past. “The future of today is the present of tomorrow and the present of today is the past of tomorrow. The lines of division between them are fluid and permanently on the move” (Norbert Elias). There is much future in the study of history.

Symposium - *Expanding Horizons: Modernities, Globalities and Future Academes*

MICHAEL J. PUETT (Harvard University)

Michael Puett is the Walter C. Klein Professor of Chinese History and Anthropology at Harvard University. His interests are focused on the inter-relations between philosophy, anthropology, history, and religion, with the hope of bringing the study of China into larger historical and comparative frameworks. He is the author of *The Ambivalence of Creation: Debates Concerning Innovation and Artifice in Early China* and *To Become a God: Cosmology, Sacrifice, and Self-Divinization in Early China*, as well as the co-author, with Adam Seligman, Robert Weller, and Bennett Simon, of *Ritual and Its Consequences: An Essay on the Limits of Sincerity*. Puett is a Non-resident Long-term Fellow at SCAS.

Rethinking Globalization Theories

Recent events have thrown into question many of the theories of globalization that have been dominant for the past several decades. This paper will discuss alternate possibilities for thinking about global processes and lay out some of their larger implications.

SIA SPILIOPOULOU ÅKERMARK (The Åland Islands Peace Institute)

Sia Spiliopoulou Åkermark is Associate Professor of International Law and Director of The Åland Islands Peace Institute. Her interests are on issues of diversity, minorities, the use of force and the interplay between centre and periphery in law and life. In 2002 she was among the first scholars privileged by a Torgny Segerstedt Pro Futura Scientia Fellowship which allowed her to work at SCAS and at CASBS. Her most recent book is entitled *Demilitarization and International Law in Context: The Åland Islands* (Routledge 2018, co-authored with Saila Heinikoski and Pirjo Kleemola-Juntunen).

Universality and Particularity in Law. What Ways Ahead?

Like a Yin and Yang, universality and particularity have been constitutive elements of law and of international law from the very start. The idea of law itself encapsulates a universalistic claim. We witness, however, currently doubts about and challenges to law as a meaningful and empowering tool for ordering our societies, solving problems and aiming at justice. Constitutional crises occur all over the world while multilateralism and international organisations seem to be rather shaky. How can we understand this trend and what avenues may there be available for us?

BRUCE G. CARRUTHERS (Northwestern University)

Bruce G. Carruthers is the John D. MacArthur Professor of Sociology at Northwestern University. He works in the areas of comparative-historical sociology, economic sociology, and the sociology of law. He has written five books, most recently *Money and Credit: A Sociological Approach*, as well as numerous articles. Carruthers has been a visiting fellow at the Russell Sage Foundation, the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, the Kluge Center at the Library of Congress, the Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study, and was the recipient of a Guggenheim fellowship. He is finishing a book on the history of credit in the U.S..

What Does Financialization Mean for the Future of Capitalism?

Classical sociology was created to understand and explain industrial society. But economies change, and recently they have become “financialized,” that is financial markets, institutions and relationships have become increasingly important. Studies of contemporary economic inequality, for instance, must take account of the fact that much wealth is comprised of intangible financial assets. I document financialization and then propose how one might think about it sociologically. I focus on two particular examples: one organizational (the role of rating agencies in modern finance), and the other cognitive (the role of categories and classifications).

MIRJAM KÜNKLER (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle)

Mirjam Künkler (Ph.D. Political Science, Columbia University) is currently Mercator Professor at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle (Saale). Her books include *Democracy and Islam in Indonesia*, Columbia UP, 2013; *A Secular Age Beyond the West*, Cambridge UP, 2018; *Female Religious Authority in Shi'i Islam: Past and Present* (with D. Stewart), Edinburgh and Oxford UP, 2019; and *The Rule of Law and the Politics of the Judiciary in Contemporary Iran* (with H. Enayat), Cambridge UP, 2019. Before joining the MPI, she taught Near Eastern Studies at Princeton University, where she also directed the Oxford-Princeton research cluster on “Traditional Authority and Transnational Religious Networks in Contemporary Shi'i Islam,” and co-directed the Luce Program on “Religion and International Affairs” for many years. She is a founder and PI of the Iran Data Portal and sits on the boards of various academic journals. Künkler was a Fellow at SCAS in the academic year 2016-17.

Religion and the Secular Outside the West: Does Their Study Require a New Social Science Vocabulary?

The study of secularity has recently taken a decisively comparative turn towards the examination of the secular, religion and non-religion outside Christian-majority contexts. As most concepts in the classical sociology of religion were formed against the background of European experiences, the global comparative turn has prompted some social scientists to call for the formulation of new vocabularies that are free from their European baggage. Such new vocabularies, it is claimed, will be better suited to study faith, experience and doubt in religion and its cognates beyond the Christian West. In the area studies, such calls have mostly been met with bewilderment. The talk will explore why the latter is the case, what such vocabularies might be, and which potentialities and limits will likely inhere them.

HANS JOAS (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and University of Chicago)

Hans Joas is Ernst Troeltsch Professor of Sociology of Religion at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and Professor of Sociology and Social Thought at the University of Chicago. Recent book publications in English include *The Sacredness of the Person. A New Genealogy of Human Rights* (2013), *War in Social Thought. Hobbes to the Present* (with W. Knoebl 2013), *The Timeliness of George Herbert Mead* (ed. with D. Huebner 2016). He holds honorary doctorates from Universität Tübingen and Uppsala University. Among his numerous awards are the Max Planck Research Award 2015 and the Prix Paul Ricoeur 2017. Joas is a Non-resident Long-term Fellow at SCAS.

Western Civilisation - A Good Idea?

There is a wide gap between the self-perception of „Western Civilisation“ and its image in the eyes of those affected by European and American expansion. How can we deal with this gap without denigrating the ideals of moral universalism? My talk intends briefly to explicate the contributions of Björn Wittrock's research program to these questions and its considerable overlap with my own interest in the global genealogy of moral universalism from the Axial Age to the present.

Unveiling of Portrait

MIKAEL AHLUND, BO LARSSON, BJÖRN WITTROCK

Bo Larsson

Björn Wittrock, 2019

Oil on canvas, 82 x 65 cm

Portrait commissioned by SCAS

Bo Larsson (b. 1945) is one of Sweden's most prominent portrait painters. With a starting-point in a classical portrait tradition, he has captured a number of faces from our own time - royalties, members of parliament, representatives of learned societies, writers, artist colleagues and many others. He is represented in a number of museums and collections, such as Nationalmuseum, Moderna museet, and Bonnier's portrait collection, in Stockholm.

A historical reference for the image of Björn Wittrock is the detail-sharp portraiture of the early 19th-century, where the background and depicted objects suggest information about the model. In the portrait, Björn Wittrock sits in the Thunberg Dining Room at SCAS in Uppsala. This 18th-century setting, where the Linnaeus disciple Carl Peter Thunberg lived and worked, is marked by the engraved portrait of Thunberg in the left corner. The flower engraving below, pinned to the wall, suggests the presence of botany also in the history of the Wittrock family.

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Mikael Ahlund (PhD, Associate Professor) is Acting Museum Director and Keeper of the Art Collection at Gustavianum, the Uppsala University Museum.

Musical Performance

ANDERS HILLBORG

Anders Hillborg is a fulltime composer since 1982. He composes in all genres, but his main focus is on orchestral music. Hillborg has been a Composer-in-residence at SCAS. A selection of his works include:

Mouyayoum (1983-85), mixed choir;

Celestial Mechanics (1982-85), 17 solo strings and percussion;

Violin Concerto 1 (1991-92);

Liquid Marble (1994), orchestra;

Påfågelsögonblick (1997), clarinet and piano;

Peacock Tales, Clarinet Concerto (1998);

...lontana in sonno... (2003), mezzo soprano and orchestra;

Exquisite Corpse (2002), orchestra;

Eleven Gates (2005-6), orchestra;

Sirens (2011), 2 sopranos, choir and orchestra;

The Strand Settings (2012-13), soprano and orchestra;

Beast Sampler (2014), orchestra;

Violin Concerto 2 (2016)

I will present two pieces of music:

1. An excerpt from my *Bach Materia* for solo violin and strings (audio).
Pekka Kuusisto, violin, Swedish Chamber Orchestra, Thomas Dausgaard, conductor.
This recording will be released on Swedish label BIS later in the spring.
2. JS Bach's organ prelude *Ich ruf zu dir* in my arrangement for solo violin and strings (video).
Lisa Batiashvili, violin, Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra, Karina Cannelakis, conductor.