



The Anglo-Danish Society

Scholarship Reports November 2018



Helene Holm Olsen - PhD War Studies



Ciaran McLaverty - PhD Marine Biology



Mikkel Bjørn - DPhil Particle Physics



Nicholas Thomas Lee - PhD Architecture

THE ANGLO-DANISH SOCIETY

Patrons:

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II

Protector of the Scholarship Programme:

HRH the Duchess of Gloucester GCVO

Honorary Presidents:

HE Lars Thuesen R1, Danish Ambassador

Baron Rupert N. Hambro CBE

Officers and Members of Council:

Wayne Harber OBE, K (Chairman)

Peter Davis OBE (Vice Chairman)

Alan Davey FCMA (Honorary Treasurer)

Bette Petersen Broyd (Hon. Secretary)

Kate Grønholm

Christian Rasmussen

Ex Officios:

Lone Britt Christensen (Danish Embassy)

Palle B. Pedersen R (Danish YWCA)

Pastor Flemming K. Poulsen (Danish Church)

Scholarship Committee:

Wayne Harber (Chair of Committee)

Lone Britt Christensen

Birger Jensen

Dr Kristian Jensen R

Dr Claire Thomson

Membership Subscriptions:

Single membership £25

Family membership £40

Corporate membership £200

Administrative Address:

Anglo-Danish Society

43 Maresfield Gardens

London NW3 5TF

Webpage & Newsletter layout: Margit Staehr

www.anglo-danishsociety.org.uk

info@anglo-danishsociety.org.uk

Reg. Charity No.: 313202

Dear Members

In the reports that follow you will see that we continue to support bright, talented British and Danish students in a wide range of research topics.

While our Scholars are an impressive group whose academic achievements are clear, I want to highlight the importance of our charitable work in providing these young men and women with an opportunity not only to study but also to enjoy the whole experience of living and working in another country - to quote one of our Scholars below 'we learn more than just the curriculum'.

It is clear from their comments here, and from talking to them at the excellent receptions hosted by HE the Ambassador at his residence in the Embassy, that our funding makes a real difference to the Scholars by enabling research and facilitating a broader educational experience.

As a charity, it is important to know that we are achieving the desired effect and, although we would like to do more, we do make a difference.

So, please read on and enjoy.

Wayne Harber OBE, K

Chairman

THE OVE ARUP FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP



The Ove Arup Foundation



Nicholas Thomas LEE

PhD Architecture

**Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts,
Copenhagen**

In 2016, I was awarded the Ove Arup Foundation Scholarship 2016/2017 by The Anglo-Danish Society, having started a PhD at The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, School of Architecture, Copenhagen in November 2015. The Scholarship enabled me to undertake a vital research trip to Japan in September 2016, that was connected with my PhD studies.

My PhD project, entitled 'Dwellscape' engages in an architectural discourse on the spatial qualities of the contemporary dwelling interior. Particular attention is given to the spatial organisation, treatment of threshold and the opportunities

for inhabitant appropriation within the domestic landscape. The dwelling interior has great significance given the central position that it plays in our daily lives regardless of cultural, geographical or economic divergence. Despite the importance of this built environment, the current architectural engagement with the dwelling interior is typically focused on the functionalist programming of space in order to optimise the plan layout based upon practical requirements. The PhD project aims to challenge this technocratic attitude to spatial planning of the contemporary dwelling that is still widely utilised in architectural practice today by engaging in a discourse on the domestic interior as inhabitable landscape.

During the study trip to Japan I made a qualitative analysis of 'Moriyama House' by Ryue Nishizawa, located in Kamata, which is a residential suburb of Tokyo, as well as Ninomaru Palace, which is located in Kyoto. The two buildings are considered to be 'influential' architectural examples within my project.

'Moriyama House' was designed by the Japanese architect Ryue Nishizawa for Yasuo Moriyama and the building was completed in 2005. It is located in a typical suburban neighbourhood of Tokyo called Kamata which is characterised by single family detached houses.

The mass of the house is fragmented into ten free standing box volumes varying in height between one and three stories. The individual buildings are all pre-fabricated utilising steel panels to make the walls as thin as possible in order to maximise the interior volume of the dwelling. A network of streets or 'Roji' weave in between the boxes allowing for inhabitation among the building fragments.

Mr Moriyama inhabits five of the buildings, switching among the various living and dining rooms depending upon the seasons and his personal circumstances. The remaining five units are currently rented out to tenants although the building fragments can be re-appropriated as one dwelling at any time in the future if required.

Ninomaru Palace was built between 1573-1603 as the primary residence for the Tokugawa Shogunate as part of the Nijo Castle complex located in central Kyoto. The residence has an archetypal 'Oku' plan layout where vacancy, layering and revealing are utilised within its spatial arrangement. In traditional Japanese architecture, the concept of 'Oku' is expressed through the tortuous approach that one must take in order to reach the 'centre' of a building.

The building is perhaps best known for its very well preserved 'Nightingale Floor'. The floor was constructed in such

a way as to make a sound that imitates the song of 'nightingale birds' when walked upon in order to alert the



Shogun's guards to unwanted intrusions into the residence by assassins and other threats to the Shogun. The spatial hierarchy within the building is highly sophisticated and ensures that privacy is maintained despite its free-flowing plan and lack of interior walls.

The notion of 'The Picturesque' is developed as an overriding concept that is then explored within the 'domestic landscape' of Moriyama House and Ninomaru Palace.

Through an unfolding of the ideas inherent within 'The Picturesque', importance is placed on a consideration of sequential visual experience by interrogating the dwelling interior as a landscape. An appreciation of threshold

THE ANGLO-DANISH SOCIETY'S SCHOLARSHIPS

places within a dwelling and the associated potential for inhabiting the In-between realm is revealed through example projects and the epistemic artefacts.

The value of functional ambiguity that can support broader opportunities for creative appropriation is discussed through a differentiation between ambiguous place and neutral space.

The PhD project reimagines 'The Picturesque' as a spatial agency within the contemporary dwelling interior where the domestic built-environment is considered as an inhabitable landscape composed of paths and atmospheric places. It is intended that the notion of a domestic picturesque contributes to a greater discourse on the spatial planning of the contemporary dwelling interior that goes beyond a functionalist approach to the programming of space based purely upon practical requirements.

I am so grateful to The Anglo Danish Society and to The Ove Arup Foundation for supporting my studies in Denmark and in particular my research trip to Japan that has been vital to my PhD project and studies in general.



Bryony BISHOP - MSc
Business Admin. & Bioentrepreneurship
University of Copenhagen & CBS

My time in Copenhagen over the past two years has been very rewarding. I feel that I have accomplished so much more than I anticipated was possible. I wanted to study abroad to increase my international exposure and enhance my professional network within the "bio-business" sector with the hope of securing a new career path.

Denmark is renowned for its strong life science industry and career opportunities for biotechnology graduates; however choosing to study a master's degree in Copenhagen came with more unforeseen benefits.

A master's degree in the UK, although highly accredited, is more intensive compared to a Danish master's degree which

MSc Business Administration & Bioentrepreneurship

CBS/University of Copenhagen

is spread across two years. This allowed me the time to gain more relevant work experience alongside my studies, as well as integrate into the scientific community in order to better understand my potential career pathway in Denmark.

The financial support from the Anglo-Danish Society gave me the opportunity to voluntarily work for exciting and innovative biotech start-up companies in Copenhagen, alongside my studies. This work experience undoubtedly helped me secure a graduate job, from September, in one of the largest Danish biotech companies.

The opportunities presented by the Danish scientific community and the Copenhagen Universities I attended also came as a pleasant surprise. I was invited to numerous competitions, seminars and case studies that opened doors to future employment opportunities and advancements in my own professional network. A WHO antibiotic resistance case competition that I entered a few months ago provided just that. I was part of one of the three winning teams who were allowed to present their case solutions at a conference in the Danish parliament. The Copenhagen Central Hospital has continued to develop this project and will hopefully implement our solution in the near future.



Mikkel Bjørn - DPhil

**Particle Physics Experiment at CERN -
University of Oxford**

The first year of my DPhil in Particle Physics at the University of Oxford draws to an end and I have just moved to Geneva, where, for the next year, I will continue my research at the Large Hadron Collider, CERN.

Thus, now is the perfect time to thank the Anglo-Danish Society for supporting me financially, thereby making this project possible, and to report on the

DPhil Particle Physics Experiment at CERN /

University of Oxford

research I have conducted and results obtained throughout the year.

My year in Oxford has been an exceptionally rewarding mixture of learning and conducting research among world class academics, and experiencing the life and culture in England, and in Oxford in particular.

My first year of the DPhil programme in Particle Physics was spent as a “Probationary Research Student” with a significant time spent on courses, along with my research. I thoroughly enjoyed many of these courses, which were taught by very prominent researchers and very inspiring. Now, however, I have passed the first year “transfer of status” examination and I am thus a full-blown DPhil student. I am very much looking forward to being able to spend full time conducting research.

I am working on experimental particle physics, analysing data produced at the Large Hadron Collider at CERN in Switzerland. Under the supervision of Dr Sneha Malde and Professor Guy Wilkinson, I am trying to measure a specific parameter in the “Standard Model of Physics” describing the difference between matter and antimatter. When I am done, the measurement will be the most precise single measurement in the world,

and a small but important step in deepening our understanding of one of the most basic questions about our universe: what *is* the fundamental difference between matter and antimatter?

The project is progressing well, and we are planning to submit the first publication in the autumn, however there will be several related analyses to proceed with.

Another related topic that interests me greatly is the application of machine learning and AI techniques in particle physics (and in general), something that there will be ample opportunities to work with and develop while at CERN, where it is a very active research topic, and something I hope to pursue further.

Apart from my academic progress, I have enjoyed the very impressive experience it is, to take part in the social life at the University of Oxford. From the great welcome at my own St. Anne’s College, at formal halls in many other colleges, over a plethora of interesting talks and workshops, at events hosted by the thriving Scandinavian Society and many other places, where I have met a rich and engaging cultural and social life.

I have been especially active in the St. Anne’s College rowing club, earning myself the nickname “The Viking”, a Best



Newcomer award, and an unforgettable experience competing in front of thousands of Pimm's drinking students in the year's final inter-collegiate regatta, Summer Eights, on the stretch of the Thames running just south of Oxford.

For the next year or so, I will continue my research at CERN, where the particle collisions and analysing actually take place.

While continuing my work with my supervisors in Oxford, I will do my small part in making the LHC run properly and smoothly, and enjoy being in the world's epicentre of particle physics research. I will return to England and Oxford for the completion of my DPhil in early 2019, something I am also looking very much forward to.

Once again, thank you for your help in making this possible!



Agnes Tulstrup Henriksen

PhD History

**Domesticating the Sumerians
in Mandate Iraq (1922-34)**

The support I have received from the Anglo-Danish Society towards my PhD in History at UCL and the British Museum for the academic year 2016-17 has allowed me to pursue a number of opportunities, particularly volunteering opportunities. These have expanded my skill set and added a number of unforgettable experiences.

The biggest of these began in the summer of 2016 and culminated in a visit to the site in Iraq which is the focus of my dissertation. I was the volunteer assistant on the British Institute for the Study of Iraq's workshop organised as part of the celebrations on the occasion of the opening of the new Basra Museum in September 2016.

My job consisted of communicating with

PhD History - Domesticating Sumerians in Mandate Iraq

UCL / BRITISH MUSEUM



speakers and helping them organise their journey to and stay in Basra. I was present at the opening of the new museum and at the workshop the following two days.

The final day in Iraq consisted of a day trip to the archaeological site of Ur and sailing in the marshes. Both areas are on the UNESCO World Heritage list. I have studied Iraq's ancient history since 2004 and to finally be able to see some part of the country myself was without exaggerating one of the biggest experiences of my life.

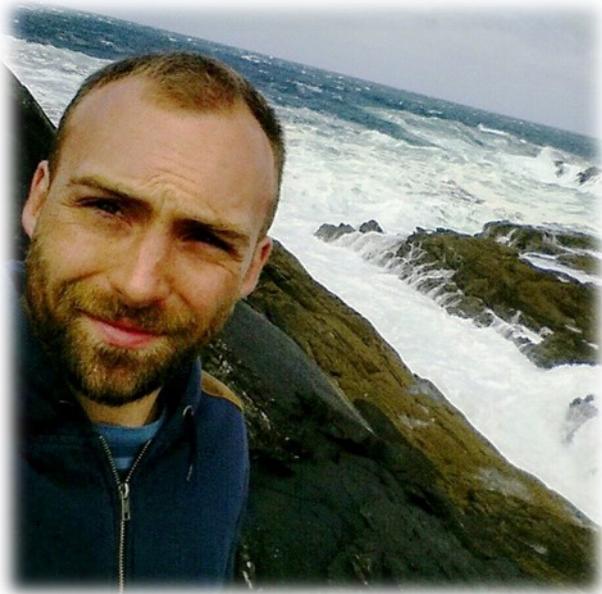
Another volunteering opportunity this year was as convener of History Lab, a

seminar series at the Institute for Historical Research. History Lab is a forum for history PhD students to test out their presentation skills in a non-specialist environment as we cover all periods and all geographical areas of history. One of the exciting challenges as convener is to select the speakers for the coming year and thereby ensure as broad a field of topics and approaches as possible. I have been attending History Lab regularly in my first year and one of the important things was the welcoming atmosphere and general curiosity that I found there. These are things that I have tried to promote this year as well.

One of the highlights this year was when I was asked to present some of my work for the London Centre for the Ancient Near East (LCANE). It was my first attempt at an academic presentation of the research that I have been doing and it was a 45 minutes talk. I had to really think about the various different elements that I have found out so far and how to string them together in a cohesive narrative. Apart from some initial nerves it was a very enjoyable experience and I think it was well received by the audience.

PhD Marine Fisheries Ecology

Technical University of Denmark - Aqua



Ciaran McLaverty
Marine Fisheries Ecology PhD
Technical University of Denmark

My interest in marine biology came about during summer trips to visit my grandparents in Norway, where I would spend hours catching shore crabs along the pier down at the local beach.

These days not a huge amount has changed, I am still fascinated by marine animals. However, I have thankfully moved on from tormenting my subjects in a bucket of warm water, to studying these animals as part of my PhD studies.

Back in late 2015, I decided to leave my career as a marine environmental consultant, say goodbye to my life in Bristol,

and to move to Copenhagen to study at DTU Aqua (the Danish fisheries institute).

I am now just over two years into my three year PhD, where I research the effects of trawling on seabed ecosystems. Trawling is a type of fishing activity where nets are pulled along the seabed behind fishing boats, and it is a widely used fishing technique throughout the world's coastal and open seas. Although we have a good understanding of how this activity affects the target species - commercial fish and shellfish species - our understanding of the effect to the wider ecosystem is still deficient.

As part of my research, I am working with two important fisheries in Denmark – the Norway lobster (jomfruummer) fishery, and the blue mussel (blåmusling) fishery in the Limfjord and inner Danish waters. I have spent the first 2 years of my PhD extensively sampling the seabed where these fisheries take place. The aim of this sampling is to describe the community of species that live in these seafloor environments (typically invertebrate species such as crustaceans, starfish, worms, anemones, and clams).

This type of seabed sampling is done

“The Benthic Effects of Fishing”



using a variety of seabed cores, and video and camera systems. After the samples are collected, they are then processed in the laboratory, where I taxonomically identify the animals under the microscope or via video footage, and estimate their abundance, diversity, and biomass.

These data can then be used to understand how seafloor communities respond to manmade disturbance, such as trawling, as well as natural disturbance, such as currents and changes in salinity and temperature. The outcome of this work will be to provide new insights for

fisheries scientists and the ministry to help improve fisheries management.

The stipend provided by the Anglo-Danish Scholarship facilitated my attendance at a specialist ecological statistics course at the UK Marine Biological Association in Plymouth last year.

The trip included a week where I learned directly from the creators of the software package.

This trip would not have been possible without additional funding, and I am very grateful and thankful to the Anglo-Danish Scholarship.

PhD War Studies

King's College, London



Helene Holm Olsen
PhD War Studies
King's College, London

During my undergraduate degree at Roskilde University, I worked with various issues related to the state and violence, but it was not until I began my master's degree in War Studies at King's College London that I refined my area of research.

My research became focused on private actors of violence and their relationship with the state, and subsequently how intellectuals, policy makers, and the public have viewed these actors. This interest in states and the organisation of violence went beyond my immediate academic career as for several years I volun-

teered in the organisation Danish Model United Nations.

I chose to begin my PhD at the War Studies Department of King's College London because of the exceptional research community here. The experience and expertise of both my supervisor and the other members of the faculty is of the utmost world-class standard, especially in my field of studies.

My project is an investigation into the perception of mercenaries, wherein I have developed a framework to assess the moral objections most commonly expressed towards mercenaries.

The objections towards mercenaries can be divided into two overarching strands – deontological and consequentialist. Deontological objections and arguments against mercenaries are based on perceptions of mercenaries' values, intentions, monetary motives, and unwillingness to make the ultimate sacrifice in war. In sum, these objections are directed at the individual internal character of mercenaries.

The consequentialist objections focus on the consequences and outcomes of employing mercenaries. Among these are concerns over human rights abuses, the possible erosion of the state's knowledge of security and threats, the erosion of



democratic values, and a lack of a regulatory regime to effectively control and check the conduct of mercenaries.

My research will help broaden our understanding of the utilisation of mercenaries. By bringing to light the often-subconscious objections we have towards both the use of mercenaries and being a mercenary, my research will provide insight and clarity into the ongoing debate regarding the use of mercenaries and other private actors of war. Therefore, the impact and wider implications for my project consists of a heightened awareness in the use of mercenaries and

the possibility for policy makers to reflect more critically before engaging these actors in warfare.

The funding generously provided by the Anglo-Danish Society has allowed me to focus on my academic pursuits and engage actively with my academic community. I have been able to strengthen my academic focus and subsequently develop my academic skills due to the funding received. I expect to finish my PhD in January 2020, and my ultimate goal is to return to Denmark to teach my specialist subject.

MA Directing Fiction

National Film & Television School, RCA



Sigurd Kølster

MA Directing Fiction

National Film & Television School, RCA

Cinema is a way of communicating through images and sound, that has the ability to connect people from all backgrounds and cultures. However different they may be on the surface. And it is an art form that gives voice to the wordless.

However, as with every art form, it is when it is most personal that it becomes universal. And that is the goal of every filmmaker: to lure audiences into the darkness of the cinema, for a short moment in time to be illuminated by the silver screen, to identify with its

characters, and feel *seen* and *heard*.

To get there as a filmmaker, one has to know and struggle with oneself. And to understand what we are made of, we have to leave our homely shores. In order to return. Changed.

This spring I have graduated as a film director from The National Film & Television School. Amongst other film schools and vocational training opportunities in the film industry, it is considered to be the best film school in the world.

The application process was extremely competitive. Filmmakers from all over the world applied and I was one of only eight students of my year who was chosen to enter the school as part of the film director's program.

Fifty percent of the students at the school are foreigners. This diversity creates a unique environment where the vast and ever changing pool of cinematic cultures and traditions continuously and mutually inspire. To go new ways. And also understand what you already have.

“SKIPPER”

Sigurd Kølster’s Graduation Film



The film is written by Kølster and co-writer Kasper Schlüter and is based on a short story by Danish author and filmmaker Daniel Dencik. It stars the young Scottish talent Sorcha Groundsell, and experienced Swedish actor Simon Berger.

That is to me now the Anglo-way. And I will forever be that, Anglo-Danish, and I wish to send my warmest thanks to the Society for all the kind help and support in making these studies possible.

Editor’s note: Sigurd is currently developing a Danish feature film with a prominent Danish producer and including a collaboration with a London-based film company.



MA Migration & Diaspora Studies

with Intensive Arabic Language - SOAS, London



Serena Hebsgaard

**MA Migration & Diaspora Studies
with Intensive Arabic Language**

The Anglo-Danish Society's support for my studies at SOAS, University of London, has been essential to the completion of the first year of my Master's programme. My studies here have been rewarding and stimulating to an extent which I have never before experienced throughout my education. I have been challenged academically and I have received intensive Arabic language courses as well as exceptionally good teaching and supervision in Migration Studies.

My year in London has offered many different impressions and I have learned much both academically and more generally speaking. I am delighted to have achieved a distinction in both my taught subjects (Migration and Diaspora Studies - and Arabic) and I look very much forward to another year with my British Master's degree.

Furthermore, I spent this summer in Jordan doing an intensive two-months' Arabic course at the Qasid Institute in Amman. This course is an integral part of my Master's at SOAS and my Arabic has improved significantly from my studies there. I effectively only spoke Arabic during my stay in Jordan and I am excited to reach a near-full proficiency in the language towards the end of my MA in September 2018. Although London is slightly hectic, it has been a pleasure and a great experience to live in the city as a student. I have learned a lot about British culture and politics.

I would recommend studying at the University of London to all Danish university students, partly because of the high quality and broad opportunity to specialize in a vast array of bachelor's and master's programmes, and partly also because I believe we learn more than just a curriculum when studying in another country.

I believe that my studies in London have given me a good and solid basis for finding a place in my future career, and my professional horizon has also broadened notably through various acquaintances and a whole new network. Of course, I have also developed tangible competencies within my field of migration studies and Arabic. None of this would have been possible without the help of the Anglo-Danish Society and I thank you sincerely for your support which has really meant a lot in the fulfilment of my studies.
