

EDITORIAL NOTE:



Helene Schjerfbeck, *Haavoittunut soturi hangella* (Wounded Warrior In The Snow), 39 × 59,5 cm, oil on canvas, 1880, Ateneum Art Museum/Finnish National Gallery (A I 221), Helsinki, Finland.

*Johnni Langer*¹

Editor-in-Chief

Loneliness and Death. The painting that opens this editorial, made by the Finnish artist Helene Schjerfbeck (1862-1946) has already been analyzed in several aspects. Without a doubt, we cannot escape the theme that it objectively portrays: the war that took place in 1808 and 1809 between Russia and Sweden, leading to the creation of the autonomous Grand Duchy of Finland. Painted in 1880, in one of the heydays of European production on historical themes, it features a dying soldier leaning on a Birch tree (*Betula verrucosa*). The choice was anything but random: due to its extreme economic and utilitarian importance, this type of tree was one

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of the national symbols of Finland during the 19th century, especially in literature. Dying for the Fatherland was certainly one of the main themes present in Romantic art, but here too the author expresses her sensitivity to the pain of emptiness and isolation: war is an evil that afflicts human beings and from which only a few escape.

With this short introduction, we hope that the shadow of war, which returned to Europe in 2022, can be put to an end by means of diplomacy and good relations between countries. For our part, we hope that Art and Academic knowledge are able to collaborate for a better future in Europe.

The edition features a valuable **interview** with the scholar Thomas A. DuBois (University of Wisconsin Madison), *Northern European folklore and religion*, which presents us with a detailed overview of his investigations regarding various aspects of the beliefs of the Medieval Norse world.

Twelve **articles** make up the new edition: seven in English, one in Italian, in addition to four in Portuguese.

The fifth issue of Scandia Journal has three studies on **Icelandic sagas**: *Eastern European elements of Egils saga einhenda ok Ásmundar berserkjabana through the prism of greco-roman andgermanic myths*, by Vladyslav Kiorsak; *Ovid, Vergil, Dares and Haukr: the story of the Trojan war in 14th century Icelandic literature*, by Beatrice Bedogni and *È andata come pensavo': transgressione dello script rituale nella Gísla Saga Súrssonar*, by Angie Padilla.

Norse Mythology is analyzed in two articles: *Understanding a forgotten god: the role of Ullr*, by Matthew Edwards, and *The mythologie and cult of Freyja and her importance to Viking Age women*, by Juliette Friedlander

Three studies of **Archaeology** and **material culture** from Viking and Medieval Age Scandinavia are included: *Human after all: emoticons in Viking Age Museum Exhibitions*, by Francesca Stoppani, Kathryn A. Teeter; *Investigation the Viking Age landsape at Lunnasting Shetland: dating, characteristics, function*, by Caroline Whilhelmsson, and *On the wings of an axe Dating a unique axe through inter-object citation*, by Gustav Hejlesen Solberg.

Historiographic debates about periodization of the Viking Age, gender and historical recreationism are present in the following investigations: *Por uma crítica à naturalidade das cronologias: configurando um melhor enquadramento conceitual da periodização na Escandinavística*, by Caio de Amorim Féo and Patrick Zanon Guzzo, and *Vikings X neonazistas: crítica e contestação do recriacionismo histórico e da História Viva Vikings no Brasil acerca do neonazismo contemporâneo*, by João Batista da Silva Porto Junior.

The edition also received two studies involving **Norse incursions** in areas outside of Scandinavia during the Viking Age: *Majüis – os ataques Vikings ao Al-Andaçuç, entre os sécs. IX-X, e o seu impacto no Garb Al-Andaluz*, by Guilherme Mourão Marôco, and *A ira dos normandos: o papel da raiva na obra de Dudo de Saint-Quentin, uma emoção franca ou escandinava?* By Matheus Brum Domingues Dettmann.

The edition also features an Old Norse to French **translation** of the Eddic poem Hrafnagaldur Óðins, by Lyonel Perabo (Tromsø University Museum) and six Nordic-themed book and film **reviews**, all in Portuguese.

We thank all reviewers who contributed to this edition. In addition, we would like to invite interested researchers to send contributions for the next edition, scheduled for 2023.

List of reviewers – Scandia 5, 2022:

Dr. Carl Edlund Anderson ([Universidad de La Sabana](#))

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