

ADAM HJORTHÉN

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Short Biography

I have a PhD in history from Stockholm University, and currently hold a dual position as Postdoctoral Researcher at the Free University of Berlin, Germany, and at Stockholm University, Sweden. I am the recipient of the Loubat Prize from the Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History, and Antiquities, and since 2016 I serve as the President of the Swedish Association for American Studies (SAAS). My research focus on public history—including commemorations, monuments, museum exhibitions, public festivals, and the popular movement of genealogy—and Swedish-American relations in the 20th and 21st centuries.

Education

PhD in History, Stockholm University, November 2015.
MA in History, Uppsala University, 2010.
BA in History/Psychology, Stockholm University, 2008.

Current academic position

Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of History, John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies at the Free University of Berlin, Germany, and the Section for History of Ideas, Department of Culture and Aesthetics at Stockholm University, Sweden, August 2017–(approx.) March 2021

Past academic positions

Postdoctoral Researcher in cultural history, the Section for History of Ideas, Department of Culture and Aesthetics, Stockholm University, January–July 2017.

Lecturer (part-time), Swedish Institute for North American Studies, Department of English, Uppsala University, fall 2016.

Lecturer (part-time), Department of History, Stockholm University, May 2016-January 2017.

Research Assistant, Linneaus University, November-December 2015.

Doctoral Candidate, The Research School for Studies in Cultural History (FoKult),
Department of History, Stockholm University, February 2011-May 2016.

Adjunct, Department of History, Uppsala University, fall and spring 2011.

Adjunct, Department of History, Stockholm University, fall 2011 and spring 2012.

Parental Leave

Paternity leave (fulltime): February–August 2018

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Books and Edited Volumes

Cross-Border Commemorations: Celebrating Swedish Settlement in America (Amherst:
University of Massachusetts Press, 2018), 296 pp.

Swedish-American Borderlands: New Histories of Transatlantic Relations, ed. with Dag
Blanck (manuscript in progress; under contract with the University of Minnesota Press)

“Special Forum: Sweden,” in *Journal of Transnational American Studies* 7, no. 1 (2016), ed.
together with Dag Blanck

Dissertation

“Border Crossing Commemorations: Entangled Histories of Swedish Settling in America
(PhD diss., Department of History, Stockholm University), 337 pp.

Winner of the 2018 Loubat Prize from the Royal Swedish Academy
of Letters, History, and Antiquities.

Journal Articles

“Svensk-amerikanska relationer: Om förnyelsen av ett forskningsfält,” in *Historisk tidskrift*
(forthcoming, no. 1, 2019), with Dag Blanck.

“Transnationalizing Swedish-American Relations: An Introduction to the Special Forum,”
Journal of Transnational American Studies 7, no. 1 (2016), with Dag Blanck. 16 pp.

“‘Here is the Beginning of Pennsylvania’: A Settler Commemoration and the Entangled
Histories of Foundational Sites,” in *Journal of Transnational American Studies* 7, no. 1
(2016). 19 pp.

“A Viking in New York: The Kensington Rune Stone at the 1964–1965 World’s Fair”, in

Minnesota History 63, no. 1 (Spring 2012): 4–14.

“Displaying a Controversy: The Kensington Rune Stone as Transnational Historical Culture”, in *The Swedish-American Historical Quarterly*, 62, 2 (2011): 78-105.

”En viking i New York: Kitsch, kommersialism och historiemissbruk på världsutställningen 1964/1965”, in *Valö: konstvetenskapliga studier*, no. 3–4 (2010): 19-33.

”Turkiet 1:25: Historiebruk och identitet i Miniaturk,” in *Valör: konstvetenskapliga studier 2* (2009): 3–14.

Book Chapters

“Searching for Printzhof: Touring the New Sweden Colony in 1920s Philadelphia,” in Ingrid Berg et. al (eds.), *Tidens landskap: En vänbok till Anders Andréén* (Lund: Nordic Academic Press, forthcoming spring 2019)

“Swedishness by Blood: Transatlantic Genealogy on Twenty-First Century Television,” in *The Dynamics and Contexts of Cultural Transfers: An Anthology*, ed. Anna Williams and Margaretha Fahlgren (Uppsala universitet, Avdelningen för litteratursociologi, 2017). Reprinted in *The Swedish-American Historical Quarterly* (forthcoming, fall 2018)

“Global Histories and Cross-Border Commemoration,” in *Commemoration: The American Association for State and Local History Guide*, ed. Seth C. Bruggemann (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2017)

“Örnen och flaggan,” in Mirja Arnshav (ed.) *Svenska Sjömanstatueringar* (Stockholm: Medströms, 2014)

“The Past is a Present: On the Rhetoric of Monuments and United States Universalism”, in Anna Källén (ed.), *Making Cultural History: New Perspectives on Western Heritage* (Nordic Academic Press, 2013).

Opinion and Miscellany

“Framtiden formas av de förfäder vi väljer,” Under strecket, *Svenska Dagbladet* (Swedish national daily newspaper), 7 March 2017.

“Chauvinistisk yra över svensk stöld,” Under strecket, *Svenska Dagbladet* (Swedish national daily newspaper) 13 February 2015.

“SVT går nationalismens ärenden,” SVT Opinion, www.svt.se/opinion (the news website of Swedish national public television), 20 October 2014,.

“Därför ska Sverige sluta fira sin koloniala historia,” in *Dagens Nyheter*, (Swedish national daily newspaper) Helsingfors DN Kultur, 15 May 2013.

”Välgörenhetens ogärningar,” in *Mana* 4–5 (2009), p. 7.

Book Reviews

Review of David M. Krueger, *Myths of the Rune Stone: Viking Martyrs and the Birthplace of America* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2015), in *Minnesota History* 65, no. 8 (December 2017).

Review of Lennart Pehrson, *Den nya tiden: Utvandringen till Amerika III* (Stockholm: Albert Bonniers förlag, 2015) in *Tidskriften Respons* 4 (August 2015).

Review of Yvonne Maria Werner (ed.), *Kristen manlighet: Ideal och verklighet 1830–1940* (Lund: Nordic Academic Press, 2008), in *Historisk Tidskrift* 1, (2010): 151–153.

Teaching Experience

Undergraduate courses

The Vikings, DIS Stockholm, guest lecture on “Vikings in America? On Viking Myths and the Kensington Rune Stone” (November 30, 2018)

Race and Ethnicity in the USA, the Swedish Institute for North American Studies, Uppsala university (7,5 hp), USA-kunskap A, head teacher, incl. course design.

Historiebruk: Möten med det förflutna (7,5 hp), Historia III, Department of History, Stockholm University. head teacher, incl. course design

Att forma historia (7,5 hp), Historia II, Department of History, Stockholm University, co-teacher

Kulturvetenskaplig uppsatskurs (7,5 hp), Kulturvetenskaplig baskurs, Department of History, Stockholm University, co-teacher

Global historia, Historia II, Department of History, Uppsala University, co-teacher

Advisor BA-theses, Department of History, Stockholm University (2011-2012)

Graduate courses

Istanbul: Kulturmöten, monument och identitet mellan öst och väst, Masterprogram humaniora, Department of Art History, Uppsala University, lecture on memory studies

Historia i samhället, fördjupningskurs, Historia IV för lärarstudenter, Department of History, Stockholm University, head teacher, incl. course design

Historiedidaktikens teori och metod, Historia IV för lärarstudenter, Department of History, Stockholm University, head teacher, incl. course design

Advisor MA-thesis, Department of History, Stockholm University (2015-2016)

Honors and Awards

The 2018 Loubat Prize (Loubatska priset) of the Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquity, awarded for my dissertation. The prize of 150 000 SEK, or ca. 16 000 EUR, is awarded every 3-5 years for “a publication in North American archaeology, history, ethnography, or numismatics.”

The 2015 Orm Øverland Prize, for best graduate student paper at the Nordic Association of American Studies (NAAS) conference in Oulu, Finland, May 11–13, 2015 (2 000 EUR)

The 2011 Dagmar and Nils Williams Olsson Visiting Scholar Award, selected as the fellow by the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center at Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois (\$2.500)

Thalins för historisk-filosofiska fakulteten, Uppsala University, awarded to “gifted and underprivileged student in the Faculty of History and Philosophy,” 2009 (SEK 65 000)

Grants and Fellowships Received in Competition

Magnus Bergvalls stiftelse, grant awarded for organizing the 10th Biennial Conference of the Swedish Association for American Studies, together with Bo G. Ekelund and Oskar Nordell (70 000 SEK)

Wenner-Gren Foundations, grant awarded for “Renewing the Study of Swedish-American Relations: A Theoretical and Methodological Workshop.” Together with Dag Blanck (70 000 SEK)

The Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Science, for the workshop “Renewing the Study of Swedish-American Relations: A Theoretical and Methodological Workshop.” Together with Dag Blanck, 2017 (\$21 000)

The Swedish Research Council (Vetenskapsrådet), International Postdoc, at Stockholm University and Freie Universität Berlin, 2016 (full-time research funding for three years; SEK 3 150 000)

K & A Wallenberg Foundation, travel grant, 2016 (\$1 400)

Salzburg Global Seminar, selected grantee for the SSASA 14 seminar “Images of America: Reality and Stereotypes,” September 23–27, 2016 (\$900)

Wenner-Gren Foundations, travel grant 2016 (\$1 400)

The Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Science, for initiating the network and conference “Swedish-American Borderlands: An International Research Network.” Together with Dag Blanck, 2016. (\$27 000)

Gålöstiftelsen, rewarded for research stint at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, PA, 2014 (\$3 500)

Sven & Dagmar Saléns Stiftelse, rewarded to enable six month period as a visiting scholar at George Washington University, 2012 (\$15 000)

Helge Ax:son Johnsons Stiftelse, rewarded to enable six month period as a visiting scholar at George Washington University, 2012 (\$7 000)

The Sweden-America Foundation and American-Scandinavian Foundation, rewarded to enable six month period as guest researcher at the University of Minnesota, 2012 (\$17 500)

Josef och Gunvor Anérs stiftelse, enabling of archival research in the United States, 2011 (\$3 000)

Prins Carl Gustafs Stiftelse, enabling a lecture at the American Swedish Institute, Minneapolis, MN, 2010 (\$1 200)

Prins Carl Gustafs Stiftelse, enabling archival research in the United States for completion of master's thesis, 2009 (\$2 000)

Carl-Erik Levins Stiftelse, enabling archival research in the United States for completion of master's thesis, 2009 (\$2 000)

Affiliations

Swedish Institute for North American Studies, Uppsala University, Associated Researcher, fall 2016–(present)

Department of American Studies, George Washington University, Washington, DC, Visiting scholar, July-December 2013.

Immigration History Research Center, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, Visiting scholar, January-June 2013.

Networks

Swedish-American Borderlands: An International Research Network, organized together with Dag Blanck and financed by the Swedish Foundation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, 2016–(present)

Swedish Network for Family and Kinship Studies, 2016–(present)

Critical Heritage Studies Network (CHSN), a network of heritage studies scholars Stockholm University, 2015–(present)

Indians and Immigrants: Concurrent Histories, Diverging Trajectories, 2010 – 2015

Swedish Association for American Studies (SAAS), 2010–(present)

Nordic Association for American Studies (NAAS), 2010–(present)

Svenska historiska föreningen (*The Swedish Historical Society*), 2009–(present)

Conferences Organized

“Open Covenants: Pasts and Futures of Global America,” the 10th Biennial Conference of the Swedish Association for American Studies (SAAS), 28-30 October 2018. Arranged together with Bo G. Ekelund and Oskar Nordell. Funded and supported by the Magnus Bergwall Foundation, the English Department at Stockholm University, the City of Stockholm, ABF Stockholm, and the U.S. Embassy in Stockholm.

“Swedish-American Borderlands: A Workshop,” 24–25 August, 2017. Arranged at Sigtunastiftelsen, together with Dag Blanck. Funded by the Swedish Foundation for the Humanities and Social Sciences.

“Swedish-American Borderlands: An International Research Conference,” June 9–11, 2016. Arranged at Uppsala University, together with Dag Blanck. Funded by the Swedish Foundation for the Humanities and Social Sciences.

“La Commune (1871),” symposium with invited screening of Peter Watkins’ film *La Commune (1871)*, a keynote by Professor John R. Cook from Glasgow Caledonian University, and a panel discussion. Arranged together with Daniel Strand at the ABF House in Stockholm, April 24, 2014.

Editorial Experience

Member of the editorial board, *American Studies in Scandinavia* (2016-), journal of the Nordic Association for American Studies (NAAS)

Editor (2011–2014), *Valör: konstvetenskaplig tidskrift*, a quarterly magazine in art history and visual culture based at the Department of Art History, Uppsala University.

Manuscript Reviewer

I have reviewed manuscripts for *Norwegian-American Essays*, *Minnesota Historical Society Press*, and *American Studies in Scandinavia*.

Invited Faculty Reviewer (in Sweden):

Half-time (50%) seminar, Christin Mays, PhD candidate in Sociology of Education, the Department of Education, Uppsala University, 27 September 2017.

Professional Service

To Research Field

President of the Swedish Association for American Studies (2016-present)

Board member of the Nordic Association for American Studies (2016-present)

Committee member for The Henry Wasser Travel Grant, awarded by the Nordic Association for American Studies, 2017

Committee member for the Orm Øverland Graduate Student Prize, awarded by the Nordic Association for American Studies, 2017

Secretary of the Swedish Association for American Studies (2014-2016)

Deputy board member of the Swedish Association for American Studies (2012-2014)

Advisory Board Member, for organizing the Stockholm University Centre for Advanced Heritage Studies (SUCAHS) (2016-present).

Topical prize judge, National History Day, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 4 May, 2013.

Session chair at conferences with the Swedish Association for American Studies, the Nordic Association for American Studies, and Svenska historikermötet

To Stockholm University

Co-chair of the Higher Seminar in the History of Ideas, Department of Culture and Aesthetics, Stockholm University, spring 2017.

Seminar series co-organizer, Global and Transnational History, co-arranged by Department of History at Stockholm University and Uppsala University, 2012

Treasurer of the Doctoral Student Council, Department of History, Stockholm University, 2011-2012.

To Uppsala University

Conference administrator, “The United States and China: Friends, Foes, or Frenemies?,” arranged by the Swedish Institute for North American Studies, Uppsala University, 25-26 May, 2012.

The Work Group for Strategic Planning, student representative, Department of History, Uppsala University, 2009-2010.

The Work Group for Equality, Diversity and Accessibility, student representative, Department of History, Uppsala University, 2008-2010.

Board of the Department, student representative, Department of History, Uppsala University, 2008–2009.

Invited Talks

”Friendship, Power, and Innocence: Cross-Border Commemorations of Swedish Settlement in America,” the History Department Colloquium, JFK Institute for North American Studies, Free University of Berlin, November 26, 2018.

”Framtida perspektiv på forskning om svensk-amerikansk historia,” Board Meeting of the Swedish Emigrant Institute, Växjö, 24 May 2018.

”Transatlantiska jubileer: Om firandet av svensk bosättning i Amerika, 1938-2013”, Historiska klubben, Stockholm University and the National Archives, 1 December 2016.

”Transatlantisk svenskhet? Svensk-amerikanska jubileer under 1900-talet”, the Swedish Emigrant Institute, Växjö, 10 September 2016.

”Historiebruk i rörelse: aktuell forskning och exemplet Kensingtonstenen”, the Vasa Museum, Stockholm, 14 March 2012.

”The Dala-Rabbit? Uses of History in Swedish America,” Jensen gymnasium, Stockholm, 14 April 2011.

“Exhibiting a Controversial Rune Stone: The Kensington Phenomenon”, the American Swedish Institute, Minneapolis, MN, 13 March 2011.

“Exhibiting a Controversial Rune Stone: The Kensington Phenomenon”, the Department of Scandinavian Languages, Uppsala University, 18 May 2010.

Conference Papers and other Presentations

Roundtable participant, “Swedish Footprints in the U.S.: New Perspectives on Swedish-American History, George Washington University, Washington, DC, 2 November 2018.

“A Folk United: Swedish-American Genealogy and Nostalgia in the 1960s and 1970s,” at the Swedish Association for American Studies (SAAS) 10th Biennial Conference, Stockholm, September 28-30, 2018.

“Transatlantic Genealogy: A Cultural History of Swedish-American Ancestry,” at the History Department Colloquium, John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies, Free University of Berlin, Germany, January 15, 2018.

”American Homecomings: Swedish-American Genealogy on Twenty-First Century

- Television,” at the Nordic Association for American Studies, Odense, Denmark, May 22-24, 2017.
- ”Den transatlantiska familjen: svensk-amerikansk släktforskning och historisk tillhörighet över nationsgränser,” Department for Studies of Social Change and Culture, Linköping University, January 18, 2017.
- “The Transatlantic Family: Swedish-American Genealogy and Historical Belonging across Borders,” Midwest Popular Culture Association/Midwest American Culture Association, Chicago, IL, October 6-9, 2016.
- “Den transatlantiska familjen: svensk-amerikansk släktforskning och historisk tillhörighet över nationsgränser, ca 1945-2016,” Department of Culture and Aesthetics, Stockholm University, September 14, 2016.
- “Swedish-American Remembrances: On Cross-Border Commemorations and Genealogies of a Transatlantic Family,” Scandinavian-American Encounters Workshop, University of Southern Denmark, Odense, May 25-27, 2016.
- “The Transatlantic Family: Swedish-American Genealogy and Historical Belonging across Borders,” Swedish-American Borderlands Conference, Uppsala University, June 9-11, 2016.
- “Rethinking Histories of Immigration and Indigenous Peoples in North America: An Eye to Sources,” panel presentation at workshop, Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History, and Antiquities, Stockholm, April 4–5, 2016.
- “Taking Pride in Taking Land: Sweden, the United States, and Border-Crossing Commemorations of Settler Colonialism, at the Time, Memory, Representation conference *The Ethos of History* in Sigtuna, September 10–12, 2015.
- “Settler Colonial Commemorations: Business, Politics, and Pride in Swedish Land Taking in America,” at the ACSIS conference ”In the Flow: People, Media, Materialities” in Norrköping, June 15–17, 2015.
- “Dining With Friends, Bonding With Kin: Commemorating International Swedish and American Relations Through Settler Colonialism and Race, ca. 1930-1950, at the Nordic Association for American Studies conference in Oulu, Finland, May 11–13, 2015.
- “‘Here is the Beginning of Pennsylvania’: A 1938 Commemoration and the Entangled History of Sweden as an American Foundational Site,” at the Swedish Association for American Studies conference in Örebro, September 26-27, 2014.
- “Imperialistisk fotspår: Hur delegationsresor i USA har representerat det förflutna,” paper at Svenska Historikermötet, Stockholm University, May 8-10, 2014.
- “Sammanflätade minnesfiranden: Historiska representationer av kolonialism och migration mellan Sverige och USA, ca 1930-1950,” workshop on transnational and global history, Lund University, April 22, 2014.

- “Commemorating Settler Colonialism: New Sweden, Pioneers, and the Entanglements of Mutual Pasts,” paper at the American Studies Department, George Washington University, December 5, 2013.
- “From First Settlement to Commercial Venture: Merging Histories in Commemorations of New Sweden”, the 375th New Sweden Anniversary Conference, University of Delaware, Newark, DE, 8-10 November, 2013.
- “Traveling in the Footsteps of the Past: How Modern Sweden Coproduced the Vanishing Indian”, Conference “Indian and Immigrants: Entangled Histories,” Augustana College, Rock Island, IL, 4-5 October, 2013.
- “Commemorating Movements: Sweden, the United States, and the Making of Entangled Histories, ca. 1930-1950,” Immigration History Research Center, University of Minnesota, 7 May 2013.
- “Manifest Friends? Swedish-American Colonial Commemorations in 1938 and 1988”, paper at Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA) conference at Mohegan Sun, CT, 3-6 June, 2012.
- “Civilisation på *The Rocks*: Millesmonumentet och historiens betydelser,” Nordiska museet, Stockholm, 25 November 2011.
- “Commemorating Presence: Swedish-American Jubilees in Transnational Perspective, 1938–1996,” at the UCD Clinton Summer School, the Clinton Institute for American Studies, University College Dublin, 10-17 July, 2012.
- “Past (of) the Presence: Exploring Bilateral Swedish-American Jubilees”, the Nordic Association for American Studies conference, Oslo University, 27-29 May, 2011.
- “The Kensington Rune Stone on Display: Constructing Identity Through the Uses of History in Sweden and the United States,” the Swedish Association for American Studies (SAAS), the Mid Sweden University, Härnösand, 16-18 September, 2010.

Media Appearances

- “Nya Sverige: Drömmen om et svensk Amerika,” interviewed in *ABC Nyheter* (Norwegian journal), March 29, 2018.
- “Det finns alltid nåt att firar!,” interviewed in *Dagens Arbete*, 12 September 2017.
- “Nya Sverige,” interviewed in *Bildningspodden*, 4 May 2017.
- “Valloner och deras ättlingar,” interviewed in *Vetenskapsradion historia*, Sveriges Radio P1, 14 March 2017.
- “Hallå där...,” interviewed in *Släkthistoria*, February 2017.

“Jubileumsfrossa,” interviewed in *Vetenskapsradion historia*, Sveriges Radio P1, 15 June 2016.

“Förtryckande festligheter,” interviewed in *Gaudeamus*, 7 March 2016.

“Bara Sverige firar sin koloniala historia,” interviewed in *Stockholms Fria Tidning*, 15 January 2016.

“Svenskamerikaner berättar om oss själva,” interviewed in *Vetenskapsradion historia*, Sveriges Radio P1, 24 December 2015.

“Jonas Bronck: entreprenör eller kolonialist?,” interviewed in P4 Sveriges Radio Jönköping, 17 February 2015.

Aftonbladet TV, commentary on the celebration of Sweden’s national day, 6 June 2014.