

Finnish Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies

Charlotta Wolff (president), Sofia Gustafsson (secretary)

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Activity report (2021–22)

Publications:

At the end of 2021, the 18th volume of *1700-tal – Nordic Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies* was published. The Finnish editors are Professor Johanna Ilmakunnas (articles) and PhD Sophie Holm (book reviews). The Swedish society for eighteenth-century studies coordinates the publication. In 2021, the journal was transferred to OJS (Open Journal Systems), and it is now published open access without embargo. The technical production of *1700-tal* is handled by Septentrio Academic Publishing, a service provided by the University Library of Tromsø in Norway.

Seminars and lectures:

On 29 October 2021, the Swedish and Finnish societies for eighteenth-century studies arranged a joint online event “Forskningsfront”, where four recently graduated doctors presented the topics of their dissertations. From Finland, the two speakers were PhD Kirsi Laine (University of Turku): “Agriculture, Enclosure and the Decision Making of Peasants in South-West Finland, 1750–1850” and PhD Anna Sundelin (Åbo Akademi University): “Expensive Living and Costly Entertainment: Britons as Aspiring Consumers in Jamaica c. 1750–1810”.

After the biannual meeting on 29 March 2022, Professor Elisabeth Mansén (University of Stockholm) gave a short lecture on Mary Wollstonecraft and the Nordic summer of 1795. This lecture was related to our ongoing theme for 2022, nature and perceptions of nature in the eighteenth century”.

Conferences:

The international conference *The Pleasures of Imagination – Art, Architecture, and Aesthetics in Eighteenth-Century Europe* was eventually arranged by the Finnish society of eighteenth-century studies as a hybrid conference 21-22 October 2021 in Helsinki and online. The conference was supposed to be in March 2020 but had to be postponed twice due to the pandemic. The conference had nearly 30 speakers and plenty of participants, both on site and online. The first day’s keynote

speaker was Hannah Williams (Queen Mary University, London). Her topic was “Devotional Pleasure: Art and Spiritual Aesthetics in Eighteenth-Century Paris”. The second the keynote speaker was Merit Laine (University of Uppsala) with the topic “Difficult to Imagine? Some Eighteenth-Century Antiquities between Facts and Fiction”. The conference was multidisciplinary and approached aesthetic culture from many different angles, including e.g., poetry, music, style, painting, antiquities, (ancient) objects, literature, urban environment, architecture, gardening, and religious artefacts, as well as concepts of beauty and pleasure. Our speakers came from England, Japan, Sweden, Portugal, and Finland.

Prizes and grants awarded

N/A

Collaborations:

The Finnish society for eighteenth-century studies continues its cooperation with the other Nordic societies for eighteenth-century studies. Together the Nordic societies publish the yearbook *1700-tal – Nordic Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies*. They also regularly organise Nordic eighteenth-century conferences together, although this year only a smaller Finnish-Swedish hybrid seminar *Forskningsfront* was arranged.

The Finnish society for eighteenth-century studies also has a delegate to the ISECS. In 2021–2022, our national delegate was MA Reino Haimi.

Outreach efforts (established social media presence, redesigned website, made public statements or interventions in matters of public concern, etc.)

Like before, we were present on Facebook. Our redesigned website 1700.fi is continuously being updated with new language versions (as by July 2022, it is available in Finnish, Swedish and French). After the Russian aggression on Ukraine, the society expressed its solidarity with the Ukrainian people by sharing the ISECS’s president’s declaration of support on the society’s website and social media channels.

Internal reforms (efforts to expand membership, Diversity/Equity/Inclusion initiatives, governance reforms, etc.)

N/A

Other notable activities or news (such as honors received by the society, funds raised, excursions, exhibitions, or performances organized)

N/A