

# INVITATION

## Towns as meeting places: Exploring urban encounters, networks and people in northern Europe 1000-1700 AD

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*13-14 October 2016, Moesgård, Aarhus University*



The research and public outreach project *Urban Encounters: Mobility, Migration and Networks in Pre- and Early Modern Scandinavia* and *Centre for Urban Network Evolutions* (UrbNet) hereby invite you to a conference exploring new perspectives in research into pre- and early modern urbanism in Northern Europe. The project *Urban Encounters* is funded by the Velux Foundation and is a collaborative project between the Museum of Copenhagen, Odense City Museums, the Nya Lödöse project in Gothenburg and UrbNet at Aarhus University, a Centre of Excellence funded by the Danish National Research Foundation.

The objective of the conference is to bring together researchers with an interest in pre- and early modern urbanism in Northern Europe to discuss the ideas behind the research initiative *Urban Encounters: Mobility, Migration and Networks in Pre- and Early Modern Scandinavia*. We wish to discuss methods and source materials but also theoretical approaches which can enlighten the overall theme. Ideas and materials from archaeology, history or other related disciplines are all welcome contributions, not least interdisciplinary initiatives.

Through a broad understanding of the concepts “migration”, “mobility” and “networks”, *Urban Encounters* aim to explore ways of studying urbanism by tracing different types of actors, meetings and networks in the material culture and seeing how these affected the urban places.

The multitude of encounters taking place in towns is part of what makes towns and town life different from life in other places. Seeing the town as an instrument or catalyst for meetings between people provides a perspective that puts focus on people, their motivations and experiences. This is an aspect of the study of pre- and early modern urbanism that holds great potential but is in need of further attention. Seeing the town as the sum of networks, people, actions and practices happening at a specific place will shed light on how towns, in their capacity as meeting places, have shaped life, affected people, life forms and the identities in the urban places.

The conference will be held **13-14 October 2016** and is hosted by *UrbNet* and *Urban Encounters*. It will take place at Moesgård Manor in the southern part of Aarhus (Address: Moesgård Allé 20, 8270 Højbjerg, building 4206, room 139). The venue is reached from the city centre by bus (18 or 100) in 25 minutes (see directions at the UrbNet website: <http://urbnet.au.dk/visitors/directions/>).

**Price: 900 DKK**, including lunch and coffee/tea both days, conference dinner and wine, entrance to Moesgaard Museum plus Book of abstract, but excluding accommodation.

**Register here:** <https://auws.au.dk/towns>

Location of building 4206 at Moesgård:

<http://www.au.dk/en/about/organisation/find-au/buildingmap/?b=4206>

Suggested accommodation in Aarhus:

Cabinn: <https://www.cabinn.com/hotel/cabinn-hotel-i-aarhus?gclid=CIXQkr2b4cwCFQXicgodCKENag>

Comwell: <http://www.comwellaarhus.dk/?gclid=CJTt7OOb4cwCFSezcgodZQYKRw>

## Programme

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**Thursday, 13 October, 2016**

**09:45-10:15** *Coffee and registration*

**10:15-10:30** Welcome by project leader for *Urban Encounters* **Jakob Parby** (Museum of Copenhagen)

**10:30-11:30** *Presentations of projects within Urban Encounters*

**Hanna Dahlström** (Museum of Copenhagen/UrbNet, Aarhus University)

**Kirstine Haase** (Odense City Museums/UrbNet, Aarhus University)

**Christina Rosén & Mattias Öbrink** (Arkeologerna, Statens historiska Museum)

**11:30-12:00** *Presentation of Centre for Urban Network Evolutions (UrbNet)*

**Søren M. Sindbæk** (UrbNet, Aarhus University)

*Theme 1: Identity and mentality in material culture*

**12:00-12:10** Introduction by keynote speaker **Magdalena Naum** (Aarhus University)

**12:10-12:30** **Urban pulse: Time and temporality in early medieval towns**

**Sarah Croix** (Aarhus University / Museums of Southwest Jutland)

**12:35-12:55** **The worlds within: New aspects on social practice in the medieval townscape**

**Annika Nordström** (Uppsala University)

**13:00-13:50** *Lunch*

**13:50-14:10** **Engaging the Uppland townscape: Challenges, change and social identities in the material records**

**Joakim Kjellberg** (Uppsala University)

**14:15-14:35** **Shards from homeland? Glass finds showing foreign identities in premodern Scandinavian towns**

**Georg Haggrén** (University of Helsinki)

**14:40-15:00** **Personal items as a source to understand knowledge about the past**

**Ivonne Dutra Leivas** (Linnaeus University)

**15:05-15:25** **Why towns at all? A quest for the constitution of urbanism**

**Stefan Larsson** (Arkeologerna, Statens Historiska Museum)

**15:30-15:45** *Coffee, cake & fruit*

**Theme 2: Migration and mobility in material culture**

**15:45-15:55** Introduction by keynote speaker **Gitte Hansen** (University Museum of Bergen)

**15:55-16:15** **Encounters of third degree: A note on the role of movements and meetings as dynamic elements in the creation of imagined urban communities**  
**Axel Christophersen** (Professor, NTNU University Museum)

**16:20-16:40** **Mortality in a Changing World: The effect of increased mobility from a paleodemographic perspective**  
**Svenja Weise** (ADBOU, University of Southern Denmark)

**16:45-17:05** **Sea of gold: Migration and mobility of goldsmiths in the Baltic Sea region**  
**Maija Ojala** (University of Tampere)

*Short break (5 min)*

**17:15-17:35** **Hanseatic culture before the Hanse? The transfer of ceramic culture and technology from northwestern Europe to the western Baltic before c. 1250 AD**  
**Jesper Langkilde** (Roskilde Museum)

**17:40-18:00** **Scandinavian sailors in a metropole**  
**Asger Nørlund Christensen** (University of Southern Denmark)

**18:05-18:25** **The first Danish immigrants in Amsterdam: A collective biography of the Danish immigrants in late 16th century Amsterdam**  
**Max Pedersen** (The Fisheries and Maritime Museum in Esbjerg)

**18:30-18:45** *Summary of the day*

**19:00** *Conference Dinner, Moesgård University canteen*

**Friday, 14 October, 2016**

**Theme 3: The town as a meeting place**

**08:30-08:40** Introduction by keynote speaker **Carsten Jahnke** (University of Copenhagen)

**08:40-09:00** **Tracing Urban Encounters in the Premodern town: Considerations from the DFF-Research Project URBAN DIASPORA 1400-1700**  
**Jette Linaa** (Moesgaard Museum)

**09:05-09:25** **Visby : An international big town and meeting place**  
**Mats Anglert** (Arkeologerna, Statens Historiska Museum)

**09:30-9:55** **Networking, consumption and trade and their role in the urbanisation of the Copenhagen harbourside in the Medieval period and early Renaissance**  
**Stuart Whatley** (Museum of Copenhagen)

**10:00-10:20** **Urban politics and urban networks in late medieval Denmark**  
**Bjørn Poulsen** (Aarhus University)

*Short break (5 min)*

**10:30-10:50** **Holding the scales: The condition of foreign merchants in late Viking-age Denmark**  
**Michael H. Gelting** (The Danish National Archives)

**10:55-11:15** **To determine the provenance of pottery by using ICP-analyses**  
**Torbjörn Brorsson** (Ceramic Studies)

**11:20-11:40** **The Lisbon Connection: Traces of world trade routes in 17<sup>th</sup>-century Gothenburg**  
**Tom Wennberg** (Gothenburg City Museum)

**11:45-12:35** *Workshops (running parallel, participants choose which to attend)*  
Workshop 1: **Migration and mobility in material culture**  
Workshop 2: **Identity and mentality in material culture**  
Workshop 3: **The town as a meeting place**

**12:35-14:25** *Long break and lunch sandwich (time available to visit Moesgård Museum – ticket included in the conference fee - and also possibilities to visit UrbNet facilities)*

*Syntheses and discussion, with coffee and cake*

**14:25-15:00** Synthesis on **Theme 1** by **Gitte Hansen** followed by discussion

**15:00-15:35** Synthesis on **Theme 2** by **Magdalena Naum** followed by discussion

**15:35-16:05** Synthesis on **Theme 3** by **Carsten Jahnke** followed by discussion

Concluding remarks by **Jakob Parby**

**16:15** *Conference ends*