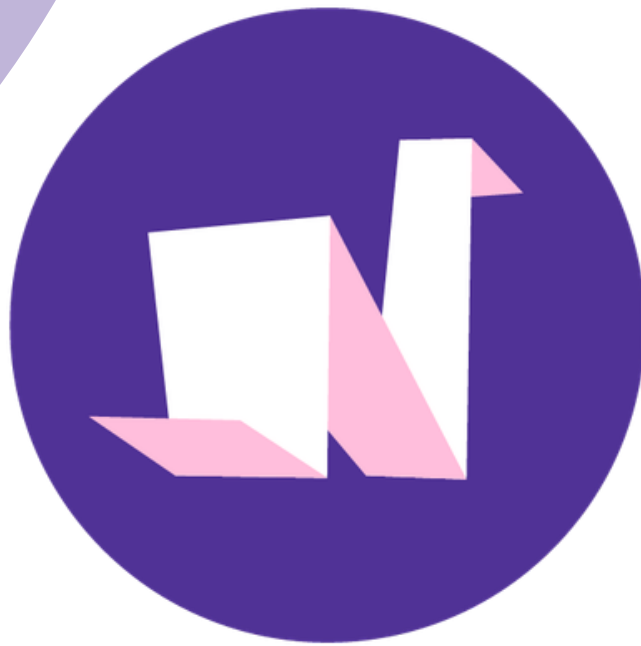


Mentors and Mentees **Presentation**



**NORDIC
AMBITIONS**

Mentor

Kristoffer M. Hansen

Kristoffer M. Hansen is an actor, director, playwright and theatre leader with experience across all areas of theatre practice. As CEO of Sjællands Teater, he led the establishment of the organization through the merger of three theatre activities. He is also an active voice in Danish cultural politics, advocating for regional access to culture and the role of performing arts in society.

Sjællands Teater is one of Denmark's largest regional theatres, operating venues in Holbæk and Slagelse along with touring throughout the country. The theatre produces family performances, drama, summer theatre, socially engaged work for young audiences and performances for schools. Around half of its audience consists of children and young people.



Mentee

Aslak Moe

Aslak Moe became CEO and Artistic Director of Teater Vestland in 2026. He has extensive experience as a director, dramaturge, playwright and artistic adviser, working across institutional theatres and independent performing arts in Norway, Sweden and Denmark. His practice includes documentary theatre, devised theatre, storytelling, musical theatre as well as productions for children and young audiences.

Teater Vestland is a Norwegian theatre based in Førde. The theatre develops and presents its own productions as well as co-productions. It serves audiences in western Norway and works within both local and touring contexts.



Mentee

Olka Horila

Olka Horila is a director, playwright, actress and Artistic Director of Riihimäki Theatre and Alexander Theatre. She has worked as a freelance performing artist since 2002 and has directed extensively at theatres across Finland. Her work spans drama, comedy, musicals and performances for children, and she has also written, adapted and translated numerous works for the stage.

Riihimäki Theatre is a Finnish producing theatre presenting its own work, co-productions and an extensive programme of guest performances. The theatre reaches a broad audience through a repertoire that includes contemporary drama, comedy, musicals and family performances



Mentor

Anna Sjövall

Anna Sjövall is CEO and Artistic Director of Teater Halland. She has extensive experience leading artistic institutions within politically governed structures and has previously held leadership positions at Borås Stadsteater, Tjörns Sommarteater and Regionteatern Blekinge Kronoberg. Her leadership combines artistic vision, strategic development and a strong commitment to democracy, inclusion, sustainability and a healthy working environment.

Teater Halland is a regional theatre based in Varberg, Sweden. Under Anna's leadership, the theatre has undergone significant development of its repertoire, organisation and identity, resulting in a growing audience, increased public funding and a stronger position within Swedish performing arts.



Mentor

Matilda von Weissenberg

Matilda von Weissenberg is Managing Director of & Espoo Theatre. She has a background in political science , and she previously served as General Manager of Viirus Theatre in Helsinki. Her work focuses on institutional development, international collaboration and creating a theatre that connects diverse artists, audiences and communities.

& Espoo Theatre is Finland's international theatre, presenting original productions, partnerships and guest performances from Finland and around the world. With a festival-style repertoire, the theatre works across different forms of performing arts and aims to serve as a meeting place for people, ideas and artistic currents. It was named Finland's Theatre of the Year in 2025.

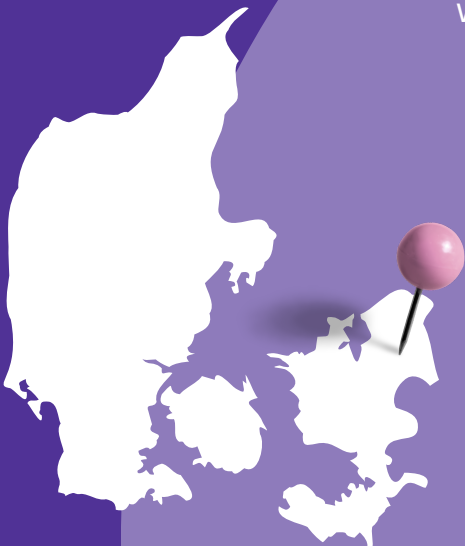


Mentee

Maja Ries

Maja Ries is Managing Director of Mungo Park and has more than two decades of experience in theatre management, production and organisational development. She previously worked for 18 years as Administrative Manager and Producer at Teater Grob and has produced and managed more than 120 productions. Her experience includes strategic leadership, HR, fundraising, audience development and extensive board work across Danish performing arts

Mungo Park is a Danish theatre with an acting ensemble and permanent technical and administrative staff. The theatre welcomes more than 30,000 audience members annually. Its activities include producing and presenting theatre, developing partnerships and managing a broad range of artistic, organisational and commercial activities.



Mentee

Maj Kullberg Øllgaard

Maj Kullberg Øllgaard is Managing and Artistic Director of Ensemble Storstrøm. With a background as a professional violinist, she has also completed diploma programmes in leadership and music management. Her work encompasses artistic programming, organisational strategy, fundraising, audience development, and international partnerships. Since 2011, she has also served as Artistic Director of the chamber music festival I Djurs og Mols.

Ensemble Storstrøm is a professional Danish chamber ensemble based at Fuglsang. The ensemble presents concerts, commissions and records new works and collaborates with Danish and international artists. Its activities include programmes for children and young people, audience development and partnerships across the four municipalities that support the organisation.

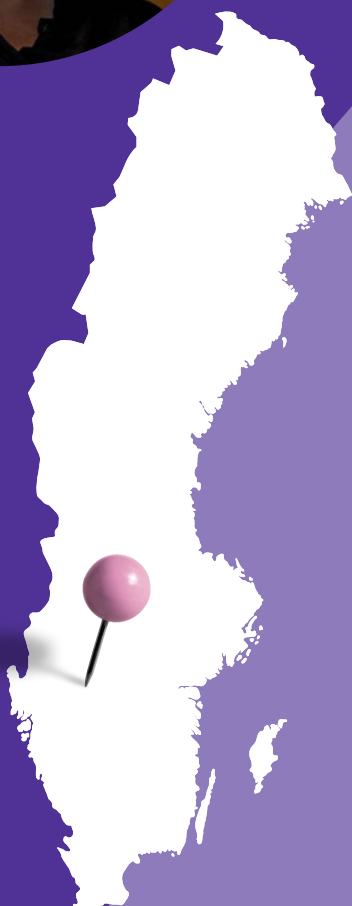


Mentor

Kjell Englund

Kjell Englund is CEO and Artistic Director of Wermland Opera and has led performing arts organisations since the 1990s. His previous roles include CEO and Artistic Director of Norrlandsoperan and Head of Music and Opera at Norrbottensmusiken. Trained as a violinist and conductor, he combines extensive artistic experience with strategic, organisational and institutional leadership.

Wermland Opera is a Swedish performing arts institution presenting opera, music and theatre. The organisation has a substantial permanent workforce and produces an extensive programme of its own productions, complemented by co-productions and visiting work for regional audiences.



Mentor

Fransesca Quartey

Fransesca Quartey is Executive and Artistic Director of Norrbottensteatern and brings more than twenty years of executive leadership experience in the cultural sector. She has extensive experience as an actor and director and is head of board of KLYS (the Artistic and Literary Professionals Cooperation Board).

Norrbottensteatern was founded in 1967 as Sweden's first regional theatre. Based in Luleå, it creates professional performing arts for audiences throughout Norrbotten, presenting productions both on tour across the region and on its three stages. Its repertoire includes stories intended to engage, challenge and entertain audiences of different ages.



Mentee

Jaakko Toivonen

Jaakko Toivonen is Theatre Director and Artistic Director of Dance Theatre Raatikko. He has more than 20 years of international experience as a choreographer, dramaturg, performer, educator and artistic leader. Before joining Raatikko, he led the Regional Dance Centre of Eastern Finland and worked extensively in Finland and the Netherlands, with a particular focus on artistic programming, collaboration and audience engagement.

Dance Theatre Raatikko is a Finnish dance theatre based in Vantaa. The organisation develops and presents contemporary dance and performing arts, with a strong emphasis on young audiences, education and audience engagement. Its programme includes original productions and collaborative projects.



Mentor

Mette Wolf

Mette Wolf is Theatre Director of Folketeatret and was previously Director of Nørrebro Teater for nine years. Trained in dramaturgy, she has worked across artistic development, audience engagement, organisational consulting, teaching and television drama. Her leadership experience includes major organisational change processes, strategic development and creating conditions for strong artistic work and a healthy working environment.

Folketeatret is a major Danish producing and touring theatre. It presents its own productions, co-productions and visiting performances and reaches a large national audience. The theatre operates with a substantial permanent organisation and presents a broad and accessible repertoire.



Mentee

Jonas Corell Petersen

Jonas Corell Petersen is a theatre director, playwright and the incoming Artistic Director of Rogaland Teater. Educated in directing at the Oslo National Academy of the Arts, he has created productions at leading theatres in Norway, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands. His work often combines directing, dramatic writing and adaptation, and several productions have received awards or nominations.

Rogaland Teater is a major regional theatre based in Stavanger, Norway. The theatre has a large permanent organisation and presents its own productions, co-productions and visiting performances. It welcomes more than 100,000 audience members annually and produces work across a broad range of theatrical forms.

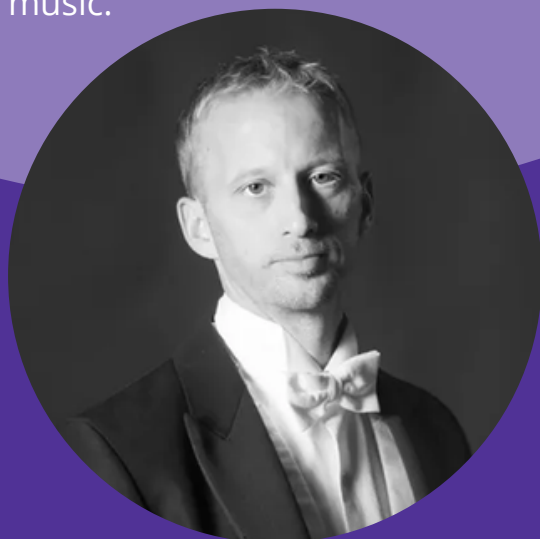


Mentee

Christian Sundewall

Christian Sundewall is Orchestra Manager of Musica Vitae. A professional cellist for more than 20 years, he previously performed with Malmö Opera and orchestras across Sweden, Denmark and Norway. He has also worked as a producer, founded Lunds Chamber Soloists and initiated projects connecting music, health and community engagement.

Musica Vitae is a Swedish chamber orchestra operating within Musik i Syd. The ensemble consists of 14 musicians supported by an administrative team and collaborates with guest leaders, soloists and Artists in Residence. Its activities include concerts, touring, artistic partnerships and long-term development of chamber music.



Mentor

Jakob Holtze

Jakob Holtze is Artistic Director and CEO of Copenhagen Phil. His background combines orchestral leadership, cultural administration, music, public-sector management and artistic practice as a classically trained singer. Before joining Copenhagen Phil, he held leadership positions with the Danish National Symphony Orchestra and the Royal Danish Academy of Music. His work centers on artistic programming, organisational strategy, audience development and political advocacy.



Copenhagen Phil is a professional orchestra with more than 65 full-time musicians. It presents concerts and collaborative projects across Zealand and works strategically with artistic development, new formats, partnerships and audience engagement.

Mentee

Kristoffer Helmuth

Kristoffer Helmuth is Theatre Director of Kolding Egnsteater. Before moving into leadership, he spent ten years as an ensemble actor at Odense Teater and worked across theatre, television and animation. He brings extensive experience of artistic processes, dramaturgy and cross-departmental collaboration and is committed to developing strong artistic teams, new dramatic works and meaningful relationships with audiences.

Kolding Egnsteater is a Danish regional theatre with seven permanent employees and a changing group of freelance artists and production staff. The theatre develops new dramatic works and formats, presents visiting performances and works to reach both established and new audiences.



Mentor

Erik Eger-Schøyen

Erik Eger-Schøyen is Artistic Director of Østfold Teater. He has worked as a dramaturg, director and performing arts leader, and was previously Artistic Director of Haugesund Teater and Head of the Department of Performing Arts at Kristiania University College.

Østfold Teater is a regional theatre producing and presenting performing arts across Østfold. Its work includes touring productions, new Norwegian drama, artistic residencies and projects created for public spaces and specific local contexts. The theatre combines local engagement with international collaboration and has been part of the European IN SITU network since 2014.

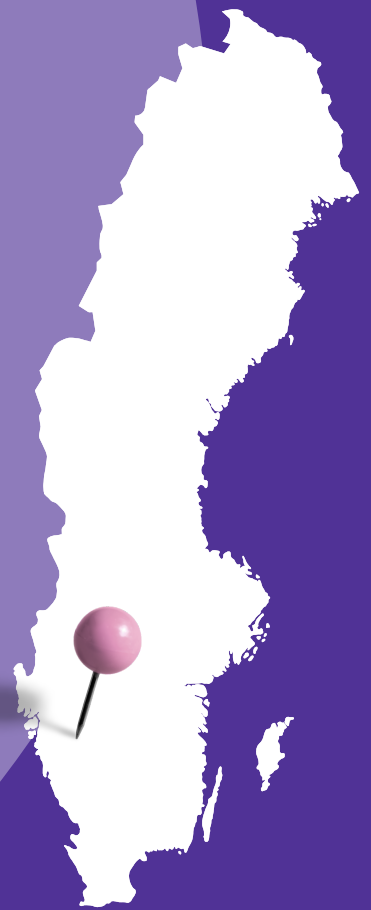


Mentee

Mikael Dahl

Mikael Dahl is Theatre Director and Artistic Director of Borås Stadsteater. He joined the theatre as an actor in 2013 and subsequently became a performing arts developer, production manager and Artistic Director. He has responsibility for artistic direction, repertoire, planning, personnel and budgets and has also directed productions for the theatre. He trained as an actor at Malmö Theatre Academy.

Borås Stadsteater is a municipally governed Swedish producing theatre. It presents its own productions, co-productions and visiting performances and works at the intersection of artistic development, municipal administration and public accountability. The theatre welcomes between 20,000 and 50,000 visitors annually.



Mentor

Janne Langaas

Janne Langaas is a Norwegian actor, playwright, director, producer and theatre leader. She founded the independent company Barske Glæder and served as Theatre Director of Teater Innlandet from 2011 to 2019. She became Theatre Director of Teater Manu in 2022.

Teater Manu is Norway's national professional sign language theatre and a touring institution based in Oslo. Rooted in Deaf culture and the Norwegian Sign Language community, the theatre creates visual performing arts in sign language and develops methods for translating and adapting dramatic works into a scenic sign language.

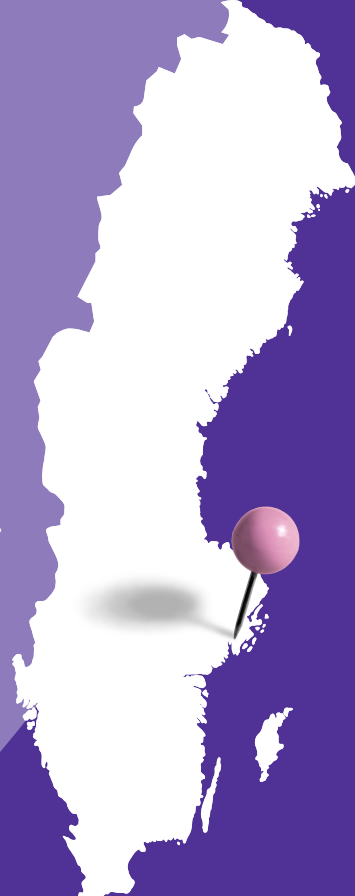


Mentor

Anders Frennberg

Anders Frennberg is CEO of Teateralliansen and has worked in the performing arts since the 1980s. He previously led Cirkus Cirkör for more than a decade and served as Artistic Director and Managing Director of Stockholm City Theatre Skärholmen. His career spans theatre, contemporary circus, production, education, audience engagement and organisational development, with a strong emphasis on social relevance and sustainable artistic environments.

Teateralliansen supports professional performing artists through employment, competence development and sector-wide initiatives. The organisation works to strengthen the long-term conditions and professional sustainability of freelance performing artists and collaborates extensively across the Swedish performing arts sector.



Mentee

Peter Tulinus Krarup

Peter Tulinus Krarup is an internationally experienced cultural leader whose career spans Denmark, Norway, England and Germany. Since 2019, he has served as Director of Harstad Kulturhus and will become Director of the Nordic House in the Faroe Islands in 2026. His experience combines cultural policy, artistic practice, administration, business development, orchestral management and international cultural cooperation.

Harstad Kulturhus operates three cultural venues: Harstad Kulturhus, Harstad Cinema and Gallery of Northern Norway. Together, they present concerts, cinema and contemporary art to audiences in the Harstad region. The organisation has approximately 20 annual work units and an annual budget of around NOK 26 million.



Mentor

Jyrki Karttunen

Jyrki Karttunen is Director General of Dance Theatre Hurjaruuth. He is an experienced choreographer and performer who has worked with organisations including Helsinki City Theatre, the Finnish National Ballet and his own company, Karttunen Kollektiv. He holds a Master's degree in Dance as well as a degree in Social Sciences with a qualification in Early Childhood Education.

Dance Theatre Hurjaruuth is a Helsinki-based theatre specialising in dance and contemporary circus for children and families. Founded in 1981, it produces performances at the Cable Factory, tours nationally and internationally and presents Finland's largest annual contemporary circus production, Winter Circus. The theatre reaches approximately 40,000 audience members through around 140 performances each year.



Mentee

Marina Mascarell

Marina Mascarell is Artistic Director and CEO of Dansk Danseteater and an internationally established choreographer. She has worked across Europe, Asia, Australia and the United States with organisations including Nederlands Dans Theater, Sydney Dance Company and Ballet de l'Opéra de Lyon. Her leadership brings together artistic creation, institutional development, international collaboration, touring, audience engagement and cross-disciplinary practice.

Dansk Danseteater is Denmark's national contemporary dance company. The organisation has a permanent ensemble of approximately 10–12 dancers and an administrative team of around ten employees, expanding through project-based collaborations. It creates and tours contemporary dance performances and develops national and international partnerships, outreach activities and new artistic work.

