

SKAGERAK ISLAND STORIES 2017



SKAGERAK
DENMARK

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Gotland 2017



In 2016, Skagerak turned 40. A major milestone for most people and for us an opportunity to look back on some good years and reflect upon what the future may hold. From the beginning, our ambition has been to act responsibly in all matters we are involved in. Through the years, the continuing strive to act responsibly and the ambition to prove that making an effort pays off have become an integrated part of our DNA.

Therefore, we collaborate with numerous talented international designers, who we hand-pick, based on their skills, our chemistry and the right mindset. Designers, who are strong in their artistic expression and who, in collaboration with us, create designs that speak a simple and clear language. Designs that are the result of strong collaborations where things come together beyond expectations and seem so natural because all parties have the same goal and mindset. It is the same feeling we wish to create in the homes of the people who have chosen to live among our design – that the design is a natural part of everyday life.

As with the relationship between publisher and author, where the collaboration between the two is central for the story to be told, we are very interested in the stories of our design, which is the result of our collaborations with the designers. This year, we dug a little deeper with the stories we are telling and headed out on an adventure to the island of Gotland on the East Coast of Sweden in search of the wonder that can be found in small things. Gotland offers a sense of origin and originality by virtue of the people who live there, the wild Swedish nature and the many layers that can be uncovered when exploring modern island living, where the contrast between the compelling local stories, traditions, local gastronomy and 'contemporary living' is what makes all the difference.

Welcome to Skagerak Island Stories.

Best regards,
Vibeke and Jesper Panduro





























Previous pages: Drachmann Bench / Regatta Lounge Bench and Table / Reform Bench

























Selandia Armchairs / Edge Pots and Brass Plate







SKAGERAK
ISLAND STORIES
Gotland 2017



A curious mind has always been a core value for Skagerak – it can get you very far. This year, we travelled to the Swedish island of Gotland to expand our horizons. Here, we learned about the culture and nature of the island and the people who live there. Finding yourself on an island like Gotland is something special, whether you are there as a tourist or you have settled on the island. This island in the Baltic Sea is Sweden's largest and has been a trading centre for centuries, a pirate stronghold and has even been Danish. Currently, roughly 60,000 people live on the island. This number is far higher in the summer, when visitors from near and far come to absorb the special atmosphere of the place.

Our journey on the island was guided by family, friends and friends of friends, and people who we found interesting. They all helped us find a number of interesting places on the island, which tell stories that are rooted far back in history and, at the same time, stories about modern life, beautiful personalities, creativity and a sense of responsibility. Furthermore, we met an island with a magical power of its own, in the form of a raw but poetic landscape, a very special light caused by the reflection of the chalky soil and a wild vegetation of flowers and plants in a mix that can only be found here.

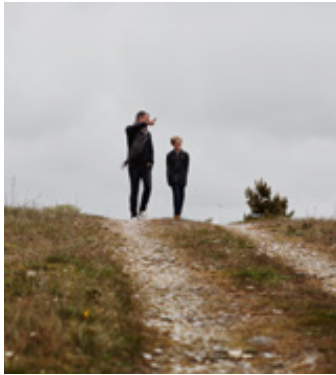
It is hard not to keep coming back.





Our Gotland Stories

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Sysne Udd

Christer Jonson and Anne Nilsson,
Jonas Michanek and Elin Haraldsson,
their kids Lowe and Mira.



Forty-two years ago, Christer Jonson made one of the most important decisions of his life. He uprooted from his Stockholm apartment and moved to Gotland, where he built his own house by the sea on the eastern part of the island on Sysne Udd. Today, he couldn't imagine living anywhere else than here, where he shares his life with his wife, Anne Nilsson. Christer's son Jonas Michanek was born in the house, and Sysne Udd has therefore always played a special role for him. Jonas works as both entrepreneur and author. He currently resides in the Västra Hamnen area of Malmö just a stone's throw from the Turning Torso, but he often returns home to Sysne Udd for weekends and holidays with his family of four.



Christer's house was designed in collaboration with two friends; an architect and a contractor and was built upon a basic concept that all materials should be able to be found on the beach.



– The light and nature of Gotland is comforting in the world in which we live. Here on the island, we live with a sense of unity that is based on community and solidarity. Everyone makes their contribution towards keeping Östergarnslandet (as the area is called) alive and everyone is needed. Nobody is anonymous.



Living here has become a lifestyle in which organic food and growing his own vegetables is an important part of the life Christer shares with his wife, Anne Nilsson. Together, they feel that they are contributing to increased responsibility for themselves and their surroundings.



Christer left behind a career in advertising and instead began to work with books and graphic design.







– I had an idyllic childhood on Gotland, surrounded by forest strawberries, football and the scent of the sea. For me, Sysne Udd epitomises freedom, silence and openness. I spent the first sixteen years of my life here in the house and I have returned every summer since.





Grenen Bench, Table and Chairs,
Edge Teapot, Cup and Mug



Miskito Lounge Chair



Anne is an artist and works with several techniques, including stylus engravings, woodcuts, painting and silkscreen. Her work with concrete in recent years has also kept her busy. She has her own studio in the grounds, from which she sells her works during the summer.



Turn Stool



– When my son Jonas was a year old and said the word "sea", it struck me that this upbringing by the sea would always be a part of him. The sea will always be a part of his life. Today he lives in the Øresund area.



Jonas' wife Elin Haraldsson and their daughter Mira find peace and quiet serenity in one of the many cosy corners inside the house.



Cutter Bench





– To have found this unique spot on earth is something that makes us feel extremely privileged.

Soup of Kajp

Kajp, *Allium scorodoprasum*, also known as rocambole or sand leek, is a wild onion that grows on the island of Gotland and is harvested during the spring as a delicacy.

2 cups kajp (chopped)

1 tablespoon butter

1 onion

1 carrot

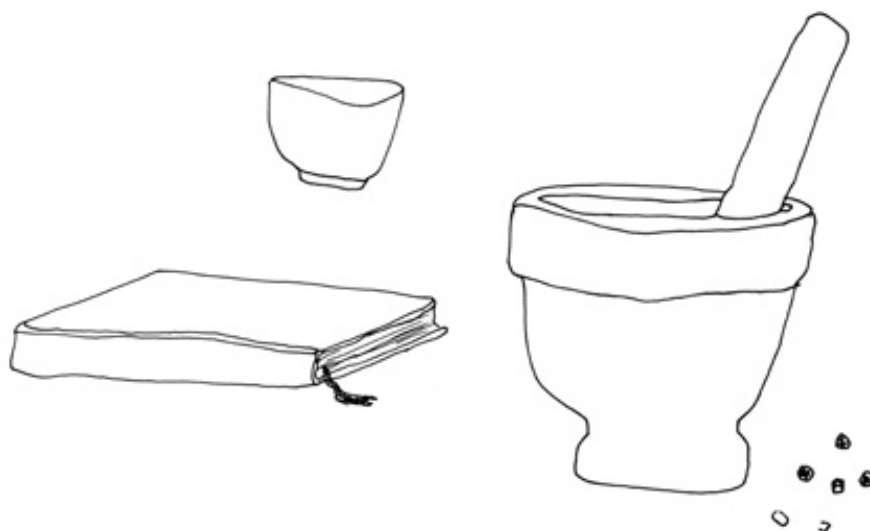
2 potatoes

2 l stock

1 1/2 cup cream

Boiled eggs for serving

Chop the kajp and the onion and sauté them in the butter in a saucepan until they are translucent. Peel the potatoes and carrots. Grate the carrot and dice the potatoes and add to the saucepan. Add the stock and cook until the potatoes are soft. Blend the soup, add the cream and season with salt and pepper. Serve with egg halves.













Visby

Skälsö Architects
skalso.se



Skälsö Architects have set up shop in an old bank in Visby alongside their team of employees. Despite a great deal of international attention and a gaze that is directed towards the outside world, it was quite natural that their base should be here on the island. Because if you ask them, Gotland is the best source of inspiration imaginable.



– When we started our studio here about four years ago, we were all connected to Gotland in some way or other. We grew up here, have family here and have generally spent a lot of time here. When we were working with Bungenäs, we got the chance to work on Gotland.





– We started on Gotland rather than in Stockholm because it was easier to maintain a clear thematic line in our work. This is a place where we are close to nature, in contact with local tradesmen and contractors and are even able to run a large workshop, multiple offices, etc. None of this would have been an affordable option in Stockholm.



Georg Stool, Jubilee Edition









Photo: Skälö Architects

One of the studio's biggest projects on Gotland to date is the development of the old industrial area and chalk quarry at Bungenäs, which has also previously been used by the military. The architects have a close working relationship with contractor Joachim Kuylenstierna, who bought the area back in 2007.

Nowadays it has been transformed with features such as a restaurant in the old chalk barn, which has been renovated with deep respect for the original construction, a shop, art gallery and a carefully detailed plan for the entire area, where new housing is to be built with respect for nature and the landscape.




Photo: Anna Sundström

– We never begin with a blank piece of paper, when we start our projects. It is always the unique location that serves as the catalyst for our architecture.



Photo: Skälö Architects



Champagne Table









Lauritse, Bøge

Maria and Joakim Lyth and their four children.
The farm was Maria's childhood home and now
serves as the family's holiday home.



Architect Maria Lyth's parents bought the Lauritse farm in the North-East of Gotland in 1960, where Maria grew up close to nature. She now lives in Malmö with her family, but returns to the farm as often as she can during holidays and weekends, where the family is helped by friends and neighbours to keep sheep and grow rye and wheat, which is eventually ground into flour.

– I love the contrast between my professional life as an architect at Wingårdhs and the Lauritse family farm here in Boge. Life stands still as soon as you land on Gotland and your breathing suddenly assumes a different, more gentle rhythm. Everything is right here, but on other terms than those I encounter within my professional capacity.





Champagne Table



Stripes Tea Towel



Drachmann Bench, Table and Chairs, Atlantis Umbrella

– My father has run a small-scale organic farm in the surrounding fields since the 1970s. Nowadays, we are doing our best to maintain that tradition with the help of our friends and neighbours. This means that areas and crops which would otherwise disappear on a larger farm can continue their existence here at least for a while. Hopefully it can eventually become something that can be translated into organic and economic sustainability.



Edge Pots and Brass Plate



– Gotland's meadows and fields have to be raked for foliage. In the local dialect of Gotland, this is called *Fagas*. This is done in the spring and again after midsummer, when the grass has grown up. The sheep are introduced later and finish the job. This serves to preserve the unique flora for which Gotland is known.



Reform Bench



Gotlandslimpa

Classic Gotland Rye Bread

Day 1, *Scolding*

225 g rye flour
 225 g sifted rye flour (50% rye, 50% wheat flour)
 6 dl hot water
 1/2 dl raw sourdough (can be bought ready)
 20-25 g dried bitter orange peel

Mix the flour, add the hot water, and turn into a sticky dough. Leave to cool down to 37°C. Boil the bitter orange peel for 30 minutes, cut away the white part and then mince them. Add the sourdough and the minced peel to the dough and cover with plastic – allow to rest for at least 24 hours.

Day 2, *Step 1*

1 dl hot water
 1/2 dl lukewarm water
 50 g yeast (40 g if sourdough was used for scolding)
 5 g anise
 5 g fennel seed
 50 g brown sugar
 200 g sifted rye flour (50% rye, 50% wheat flour)
 25 g salt

Pour the hot water over the dough from Day 1 and stir to warm the dough. In a separate bowl, mix the yeast with the lukewarm water and add to the dough. Grind the spices and add these to the dough together with the brown sugar, sifted rye flour and salt. Mix everything and allow to rise for 45 minutes.

Step 2

150 g dark syrup
 300 g sifted rye flour (50% rye, 50% wheat flour)

Mix syrup and flour into the dough until even. Allow to rise another 45 minutes. Turn the dough out onto a lightly floured surface and knead. Add more flour if needed, until the dough is smooth and elastic. Divide in two parts and continue to knead. Allow to rise on the table for 20-30 minutes.

Knead the two parts and shape each into a round or oval loaf. Let rise for 30 minutes on an oven tray or in a proving basket if you have one. Heat the oven to 250°C and put a roasting pan on at the lowest level. Put the loaf in the oven, add 1/2 dl water to the roasting pan and lower the temperature to 200°C. Bake for 50 minutes. Turn off the oven but leave the bread in for another 10 minutes. Leave to cool on a rack before slicing.









Faludden

At Faludden in southern Gotland stands an old mill, where Maria and her sister have a shared place to shelter in the midst of nature.



Aito Lounge Chair



Nordic Tray and Plates



– When we are at the mill, we are completely at the mercy of the weather. When it is windy, it is very windy. When it rains, it pours down. When the sun shines, it becomes incredibly hot. The silence is also striking. Birds and the odd cow accompany the wind from time to time.



Messina Umbrella,
Aito Lounge Chair, Mira Armchair,
Vendia Chair



Vendia Chairs



– The mill at Faludden is the best place to be. We play games and cook food, go to the water and swim. There is no electricity installed in the mill, no mobile phone coverage and no running water. You get to know each other in a way that is different and closer. It becomes a break from modern life and everyone loves it. Not least our children.



Spider Web, Stripes Tea Towel












Hamra

Architect Morten Johansson and family.
dinelljohansson.se



The most simple house you could imagine. Just as simple as the barn he and the family first dreamed of doing up as a summer home, but were never able to find. A house with a generous open space, many sleeping places, food workspace in the middle, toilet and shower outside ... And not much else, beyond the wild nature of Gotland, which was supposed to be visible from all sides. This was the idea behind Morten Johansson's summer residence, located on the southernmost tip of Gotland in the town of Hamra, designed by Morten himself and built in collaboration with local contractor Allan Wahlby, who himself only lives a few kilometers north of Hamra.

A close-up photograph of a concrete floor corner. A wooden formwork edge is visible, creating a sharp 90-degree angle. The concrete surface is light gray and textured. The lighting is soft, casting a gentle shadow along the edge of the formwork.

– To design and construct your own house is a joyful thing when allowed to be a slow and ever-changing process. It has been an ongoing dialogue with a rare skilled and very interested contractor with whom we have developed new ideas on an ongoing basis. This has led to a better final result.



Edge Teapot and Cup



– The house has openings facing all corners of the world:
a window to the North, glass doors facing East, West and South,
all in the same size and in no order of priority.



Miskito Lounge Chair



Edge Teapot and Cup

– The house was built over the course of three summers a lot of work being done with the help of some wonderful friends. Sometimes the work was just left to the simple passage of time, as in the case of the high steel bar that traverses the house. Its installation was postponed and it was therefore left in the blacksmith's yard for two years. The passing of time, wind and weather gave it a surface that it is not normally possible to order.





Indskud Tray Tables, Tube Candleholder





Goodbye Gotland,
hope to see you again soon...





Kuvert Shelf, Georg Console Table, Nomad Pen Holder













Tube Candle Holder / Champagne Table









Edge Vases / Cutter Bench







































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to find detailed information on our products.

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