

Dear members of IASPM-Norden!

On behalf of the branch, I would like to express my gratitude to you all for participating in making 2012 such a successful year. In addition to organising a branch conference in Roskilde in late November, the branch revived itself as a publisher with a collection of essays on *Music, Business and Law*, an outcome of the 2010 branch conference. As a membership benefit, you will find the collection enclosed. The collection was co-published with the International Institute of Popular Culture.

In general, I am happy to note that the number of branch members has been on the rise during the past couple of years, no doubt because of increased activity since 2010. The branch aims to maintain its liveliness and hence provide its current and prospective members with additional and continuous benefits. Do remember that as an IASPM-Member you are eligible to attend all IASPM conferences, to subscribe to the association's electronic mailing list, and to submit your work to be published in *IASPM@journal*. To this end, I would like to remind you of the importance of renewing your membership; please refer to the branch's website (iaspmnorden.wordpress.com/how-to-join/) for details.

Regarding future activities, the next major branch event will be the 2014 conference, to be organised in collaboration with the Art of Record Production Conference in Oslo during the autumn. The exact dates will be confirmed later; please follow both IASPM and ARP websites (iaspmnorden.wordpress.com; www.iaspm.net; www.artofrecordproduction.com).

The next IASPM-Norden general meeting will be held during the 17th IASPM Biennial International Conference in Gijón, Spain, 24–28 June 2013. The exact date, time and location will be announced after the conference organisers confirm the overall programme grid.

Regarding publications, a committee has been established for the purpose of revitalising IASPM-Norden's own journal, *PolPop*. The committee is led by the branch's secretary Terhi Skaniakos, and the aim is to relaunch the journal as a webzine with the primary function of providing a platform for non-refereed articles, research and conference reports, book reviews and other 'lighter' pieces that deal with popular music in the Nordic region in particular. One of the main intentions is that the journal will feature writings based on undergraduate and graduate theses and thus foreground cutting-edge, future-oriented aspects of popular music studies. Details of the relaunch of the journal will be disseminated in due course. It is an aim of IASPM-Norden also to continue producing book-length publications; if you have an idea for a book, either an edited volume or a monograph, and think that IASPM-Norden would be a suitable (co-)publisher, please do not hesitate to contact the branch board. Also, if you plan to organise an event that connects to popular music studies in the Nordic region, please contact the branch in order to find out if there are possibilities for co-organising.

With the very best of wishes to all

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Antti-Ville Kärjä', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Antti-Ville Kärjä
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