



EMBASSY OF DENMARK
London

Cultural Newsletter

June 2026



***The Last Viking* in UK cinemas**

Filmmaker Anders Thomas Jensen's hugely successful *The Last Viking* from 2025 will be released in Picturehouse cinemas in the UK and Ireland. The film follows a thief, played by Nikolaj Lie Kaas, on a mission to retrieve his loot after spending 15 years in prison for robbery. He soon encounters a problem, as his brother, played by Mads Mikkelsen, has dissociative identity disorder and currently believes he is the Beatles' John Lennon – and he is the only one who knows where the key is.

The Last Viking is premiering in Picturehouse cinemas in the UK and Ireland on 26 June.

Photo: Picturehouse

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Granta 175: *Scandinavia*

The literary magazine *Granta*'s 175th issue is now available. Dedicated to Scandinavian writing, this issue features pieces by critically acclaimed Danish authors Helle Helle, Jonas Eika, Asta Olivia Nordenhof, Søren Ulrik Thomsen, Olga Ravn, Solvej Balle and Malte Tellerup, amongst many other Scandinavian writers and artists.

Originally founded by Cambridge students in 1889, *Granta* relaunched in 1979 and is one of the UK's leading literary magazines. *Granta 175: Scandinavia* also features photographs of life among the Kalaallit – the largest group of Inuit people in Greenland – by Greenlandic photographer Inuuteq Storch.

Photo: Granta

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Dreamers' Circus at Union Chapel

The internationally acclaimed Danish folk band Dreamers' Circus will perform in London on 4 June. Drawing on expertise in traditional music, classical training, and jazz improvisation, the trio seamlessly blends diverse musical influences. Featuring Nikolaj Busk on piano and accordion, Rune Tonsgaard Sørensen on violin and Ale Carr on cittern, their extensive international touring has earned them a growing reputation as musical ambassadors for the new Nordic sound.

Dreamers' Circus will perform at Union Chapel, 19B Compton Terrace, London, N12UN on 4 June, and tickets are available at a special, discounted price for subscribers of this newsletter via the link below.

Photo: Jesper Van

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Original H.C. Andersen manuscript exhibited at The British Library

The original Danish manuscript of *Svinedrengen* (*The Swineherd*) by Hans Christian Andersen from 1881 is currently on view at the British Library as part of their interactive exhibition *Fairy Tales*. Besides multiple works by H.C. Andersen, the exhibition includes books, theatre costumes, puppets, pop-ups, artworks and illustrations from iconic fairy tales throughout time.

The exhibition is suitable for children aged 3-10, and it is on until 23 August.

Poster: The British Library

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Richard Mortensen and Keld Helmer-Petersen at Rocket Gallery

Rocket Gallery presents the first ever solo London exhibition of the Danish modernist icon Richard Mortensen, consisting of 15 never before exhibited collages which Mortensen made in the last two years of his life. Richard Mortensen represented Denmark at the 30th Biennale in Venice in 1960 and he was the most famous abstract painter in post-war Denmark.

At the same time, Rocket Gallery will present a showcase of early vintage photographs by Danish photographer Keld Helmer-Petersen in the side gallery, as well as a presentation of the photographer's books.

The exhibition is open on Saturdays 2-6PM from 11 June-25 July and by appointment at Rocket Gallery, 4-6 Sheep Lane, London E8 4QS. Free tickets for the opening are available.

Photo: Copyright The Estate of Richard Mortensen, courtesy Rocket Gallery, London

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[OPENING TICKETS](#)

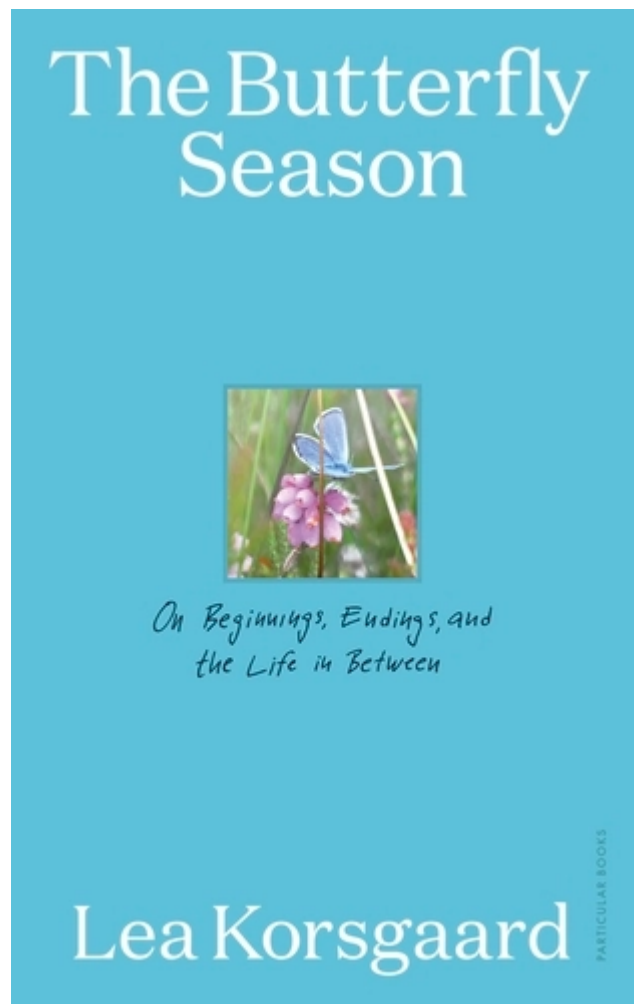
Book release: *The Butterfly Season* by Lea Korsgaard

Lea Korsgaard's *The Butterfly Season* is being published in the UK by Penguin. In this book, the Zetland co-founder and editor-in-chief is on a mission to see all 64 species of butterflies in Denmark. This mission takes the author on a journey all around Denmark, to places and landscapes she never knew existed. The book poses big questions of life; why are we here, and what are we living for?

The Butterfly Season is translated by Sherilyn Nicolette Heiberg and will be out in the UK on 11 June.

Photo: Penguin

BUY THE BOOK



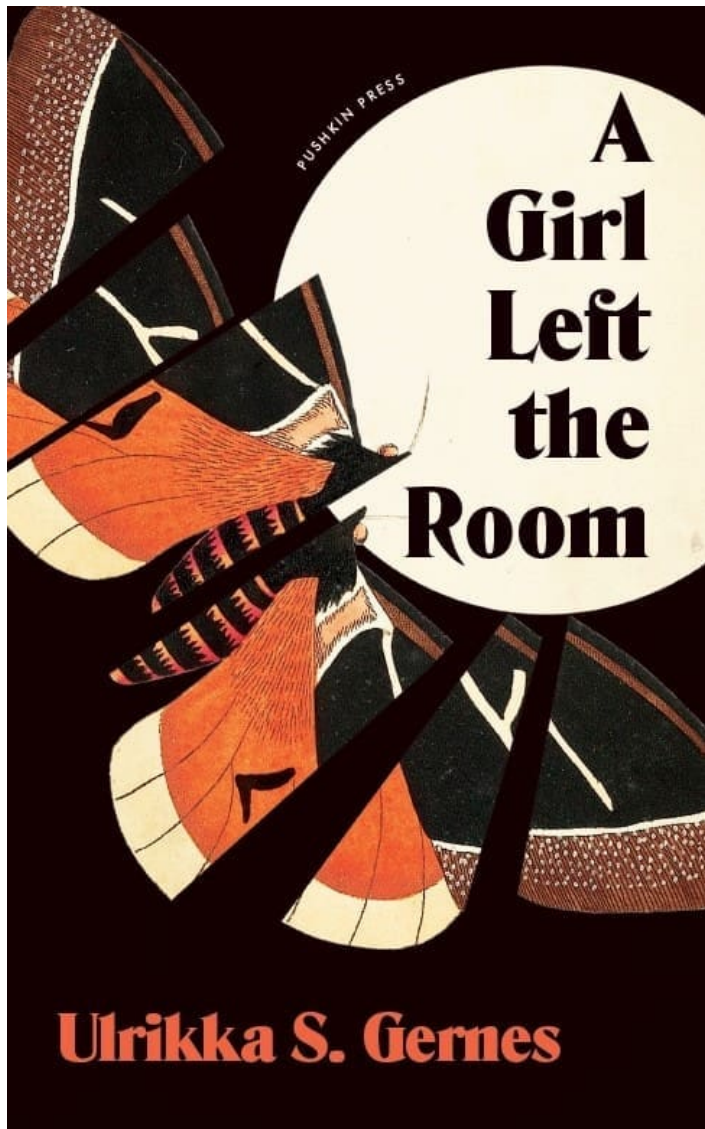
Danish String Quartet at Wigmore Hall

The Grammy-nominated Danish String Quartet will perform at Wigmore Hall on 8 June. The quartet consists of Rune Tonsgaard Sørensen, Fredrik Schøyen Sjölin, Asbjørn Nørgaard and Frederik Øland. As a string quartet, they are at the core of the classical music world, and they primarily delve into works by masters such as Beethoven and Mozart, but will do the occasional folk gig. The three of them have been playing together as a string quartet since they were teenagers, and were joined by Norwegian Fredrik Sjölin in 2008.

Their concert on 8 June is one of two concerts at Wigmore Hall in 2026, as they will return to the venue on 23 September. Tickets are available.

Photo: Caroline Bittencourt

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Book release: *A Girl Left the Room* by Ulrikka S. Gernes

The Danish author and poet Ulrikka S. Gernes' bestselling novel *A Girl Left the Room* is being published in the UK on 4 June by Prototype Publishing. At 14, Tanja meets her parents' friend Eg, who soon begins sending her letters. This is the beginning of a relationship that pushes her into adulthood with no way of returning.

A Girl Left the Room is powerful and deeply personal, and it marks Gernes' debut as a novelist. It is translated from Danish by Caroline Waight.

Photo: Pushkin Press

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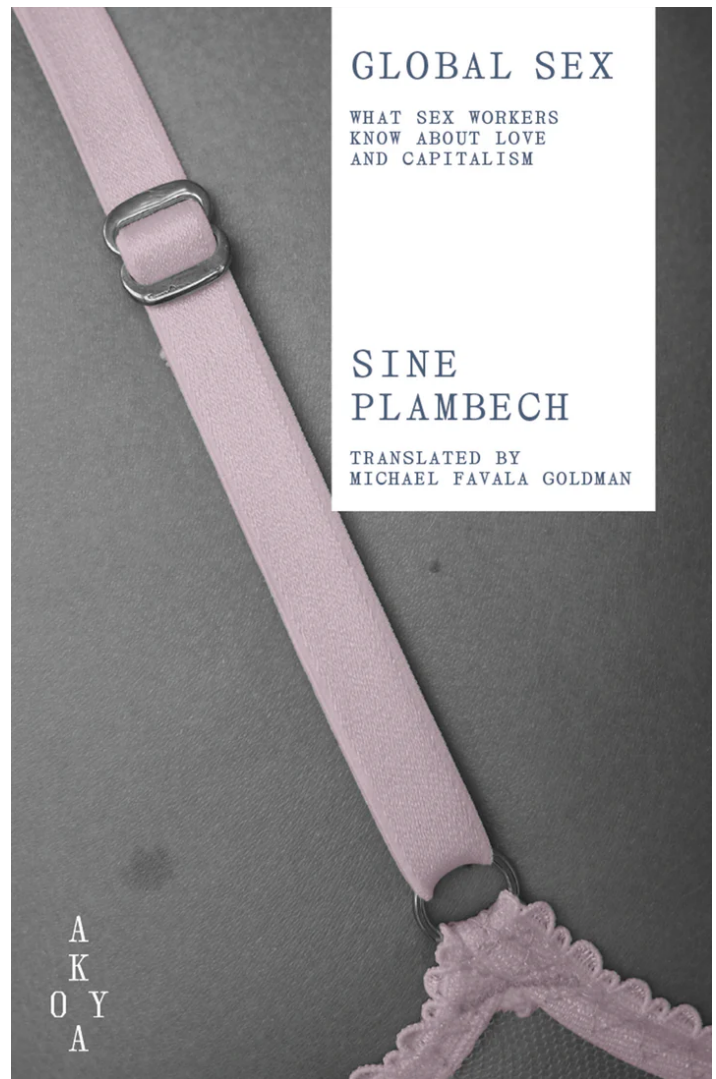
Book release: *Global Sex* by Sine Plambech

The Danish Anthropologist Sine Plambech's book *Global Sex: What Sex Workers Know About Love and Capitalism* is being published in the UK by Akoya Publishing on 11 June. The book explores the complex issues at the intersection of sex and capitalism through the powerful stories of five women. *Global Sex* is translated by Michael Flava Goldman.

Sine Plambech will be guesting BBC Radio 4's *Woman's Hour* on Monday 15 June, and doing an event that evening at Libreria in East London where she will be in conversation with Bidisha about her new book. Free tickets are available.

Photo: Akoya Publishing

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[EVENT TICKETS](#)



Erika de Casier at Southbank Centre

Erika de Casier will perform at the Royal Festival Hall at the Southbank Centre on 13 June as part of Harry Styles' Meltdown.

Erika de Casier is a Danish-Portuguese musician known for blending R&B, pop and electronic music. Her fourth studio album, *Lifetime*, was released in 2025. She has previously collaborated with British musician Blood Orange, who will also perform at Harry Styles' Meltdown.

Photo: Colin Solal Cardo

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