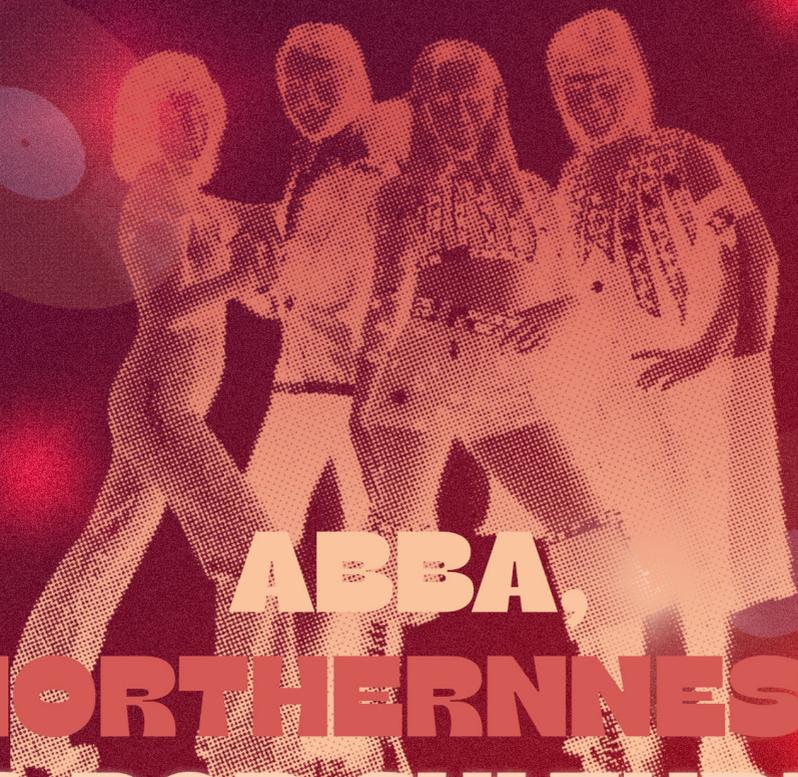


"WHAT'S THE NAME OF THE GAME?"



ABBA, NORTHERNNNESS & POP CULTURE

19-20th March 2026, Université de Lorraine
Salle G04, Campus Lettres et Sciences Humaines, Nancy



UNIVERSITÉ
DE LORRAINE

ALL
ARTS
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Programme

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

9:30 Welcome and opening words

10:00-11:00 Keynote address by Henrik Smith-Sivertsen,
Senior Researcher at the Royal Danish Library, Copenhagen
“Pretty much the title, I guess, “Waterloo” – the phonetic musicality of ABBA’s lyrics

11:00-11:30 Coffee ☕

11:30-13:00 PANEL 1 : SOUNDS AND SONGWRITING

Martin Knust, Linnæus University, Växjö
How to Write an ABBA Song: Influences, Models and Swedishness

Ville Vokkolainen, University of Eastern Finland, Kuopio
Inside the Musical Form: Reframing Contemporary Music Analysis through ABBA’s Sonic Constructions

Giuseppe Pantano, Université de Lorraine, Roma Tre University
The Piper and Its Enchanting Tune: Intermediality and Transmediality in ABBA’s The Piper (1980)

13:00-14:30 Lunch 🍽️

14:30-16:00 PANEL 2 : RECEPTION AND COMMERCIALIZATION

Stéphane Sawas, INALCO, Paris
Des îles grecques au désert australien : nouveaux ancrages territoriaux des chansons d’ABBA au cinéma

Jan-Olof Gullö, Royal College of Music, Stockholm;
Thomas Floren, Dalarna University, Falun;
Bo Westman, Royal College of Music, Stockholm
Transforming Failure into Fame: ABBA 1973–1974

Coffee Break ☕

16:00 INFORMAL ROUNDTABLE: “ABBA AND ME”

19:00 Conference dinner at La Petite Cuillère, 123 Grande Rue, Nancy

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

10:00 Welcome and coffee

10:30-12:00 PANEL 4: FANDOM AND CULTURAL IMPACT

Lars Kaijser, Stockholm University

Shaping History Through Exhibitions: On the changing biography of ABBA at ABBA The Museum

Shanika Ranasinghe, independent researcher, London

You Owe Me One?: the gift-debt and tensions created by ABBA's 35-year gap

Michael Rauhut, University of Agder, Kristiansand

Thank You for the Music: The East German Response to ABBA at the Crossroads of Politics and Fan Culture

12:00-13:30 Lunch ☺

13:30-15:00 PANEL 5: BEYOND POP

Gittit Pearlmutter, independent researcher

From Romantic Heartbreak to Social Alienation: Portishead's Reinterpretation of ABBA's "S.O.S."

Rose Barrett, Université de Lorraine

Gimme Gimme Gimme My Life Now: ABBA and Nationalteatern's paradoxical poetic relationship

Sverker Hyltén-Cavallius, National Collections of Music, Theatre and Dance, Stockholm

"Cut out Stikkan!" – ABBA as the commercial Other of Swedish prog

Coffee break ☺

15:15-16:15 Roundtable presentation

ABBA in Practice: Tribute, Photography, and Intergenerational Memory in the UK

Dr Barbara Barreiro Leon (University of Aberdeen),

Lisa Brunzell (independent),

Dr Shane Strachan (University of Aberdeen)

16:15 Concluding remarks

THANK YOU !

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE:

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