

Editor's Note

All must end, I guess. This is my last issue as the editor of this fine journal and I have to admit, these past few years have been a whole lot of fun. People don't often tell scholars contemplating of becoming editors how comprehensive an experience it is. You not only get to work with would-be authors and reviewers, keeping the whole process respectful, courteous, and double-blind. You also do plenty of editing as you try to polish the articles and come up with solid issues, a process which throws more than a few curveballs at you. You also get to promote the journal and apply and administer funding. Then there is the people at the press, the editorial board, the NAAS board, our online repository, an array of indexing sites, permission and reprinting requests, etc, etc. At some point you realize that this job is as much about networking and communicating with and beyond the community of Nordic Americanists, as it is about getting two journal issues out every year. I have been in contact with dozens and dozens of scholars, sometimes asking for their expertise and at other times working in processing their thoughts and arguments, and I feel much richer (intellectually I mean, no salary involved here) because of it. Thanks to all the authors and reviewers. Thanks also for inviting me and showing the ropes Ari Helo, thanks for supporting me Mikko Saikku, thanks for being my book review editor Pirjo Ahokas, and thanks for taking over, and becoming, I am sure, a superb editor for this journal Anders Bo Rasmussen.

So, the pallet for this issue. It looks intriguing, a motley crew of boundary-pushing, parameter-testing, and mind-bending scholarship. We move toward new methodological frontiers, question established paradigms, and challenge our collective memory. Our first article by Rani-Henrik Andersson, Francis Flavin, and Saara Kekki discusses migration and community formation by adapting an experimental network analysis model to the study of the Finnish community on Sugar Island, Michigan. Then Juan Antonio Suárez and Juan Francisco Belmonte-Ávila take us deep into the world of queer American experimental films of the 1940s and 1950s, reinterpret-

ing them as urban subculture's style of dwelling and transit, as queer psychogeography. Dissecting the diary of Nicholas Roosevelt, an American diplomat and journalist operating with the Coolidge Commission, Zoltán Peterecz shows a private, unconstrained, American perspective on the ethnic makeup and political tensions of post-World War I Central Europe. Mikael Blomdahl in turn brings us to US presidential politics, discussing the presidential decision-making processes of the Obama administration. He examines the forces and persons shaping the decision to send U.S. armed forces into Libya in 2011 and not to send them to Syria in 2013. Frida Stranne turns the spotlight on Donald Trump, analyzing his foreign policy as a continuation of established patterns of expanding US spheres of influence and its dominance. Finally, it is only fitting that the previous editor of this journal, Ari Helo, concludes this volume by taking a closer look at public spaces, memory politics, and tensions embedded in interpreting historical monuments from the present. I wish all of our readers a wonderful time reading these wonderful texts. So long, and thanks.

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Janne Lahti

Dr. Janne Lahti is an Academy of Finland Researcher at the University of Helsinki. He specializes in global and transnational histories of settler colonialism, borderlands, and the American West. His books include *Wars for Empire: Apaches, the United States, and the Southwest Borderlands* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2017) and *The American West and the World: Transnational and Comparative Perspectives* (Routledge, 2018). He can be reached at janne.lahti@helsinki.fi.