



**ROYAL NORWEGIAN EMBASSY
TOKYO**

Our Date

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**Norwegian National Day at Aichi EXPO 2005
Monday 11 April
<Schedule>**

National Day Official Ceremony in EXPO Dome (11:00-11:20)

National Day Cultural Programme in EXPO Dome (11:20-12:00)

11:20-11:40 Ole Edvard Antonsen (trumpet)

11:40-12:00 Silje Nergaard (vocal)

Special Attraction - Presentation of Norwegian music (12:30-20:00)

12:30-13:30 Tord Gustavsen Trio

13:50-14:50 Ole Edvard Antonsen

15:00-15:30 Pohlitz / Thomas Stronen with Makigami Koichi

15:30-16:00 Cultural program for Children / Drawing competition award giving ceremony

16:20-17:20 Silje Nergaard

17:40-18:40 Farmers Market

19:00-20:00 Atomic

Press Conference at Nordic Pavilion (16:30-17:00)

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**Norwegian National Day at Aichi EXPO 2005
Monday 11 April
<Programme>**

On the occasion of the Norwegian National Day at Aichi EXPO, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Haakon and Minister of Trade and Industry Børge Brende will visit Japan and take part in the official National Day Programme.

Official Ceremony in EXPO Dome (11:00-)

National Anthems and hoisting of the Flag

Salutations by HRH Crown Prince and Japanese dignitaries

Cultural Programme in EXPO Dome (11:20-12:00, 12:30-20:00)

Presentation of Norwegian music

The world-renowned trumpet player Ole Edvard Antonsen will open the official cultural event in EXPO DOME, followed by a concert with Silje Nergaard (vocal). The music performance continues throughout the afternoon featuring 4 different artists/groups in addition to Antonsen and Silje Nergaard; Tord Gustavsen Trio, Thomas Stronen with Makigami Koichi, Farmers Market and Atomic. They represent a wide variety of the contemporary Norwegian music scene. Information on each artist can be found here attached.

Cultural Programme for children in EXPO Dome (15:30-16:00)

Drawing Competition

The Norwegian Seafood Drawing Competition has been organized by the Norwegian Seafood Export Council (NSEC) and Sobue Town Hall, involving all schools in the town of Sobue which is Norway's partnership town for the Aichi Expo.

228 6th grade pupils are taking part in the contest, and they have submitted drawings on the theme of "Norway" and "Norwegian Seafood". The drawings are judged by NSEC and Sobue Town Hall, and the winners will be announced on the Norwegian National Day. One winner from each school will receive a Norwegian Seafood Ambassadorship from HRH Crown Prince. All drawings will be on display at Aichi Expo.

Press Conference at Nordic Pavilion (16:30-17:00)

HRH Crown Prince and the Minister of Trade and Industry will meet with the press in the conference room at Nordic Pavilion.

Expo 2005 Aichi Norway National Day - April 11 Norwegian Music Day

At the Expo Dome on the National Day of Norway, 6 representative musicians/groups from Norway will perform classical, jazz and pop music.



Ole Edvard Antonsen

Ole Edvard Antonsen is regarded as one of the world's leading trumpet players. In his career, he has appeared with the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, the BBC Welsh National Orchestra, Orchestre Nationale de Belgique, the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra, etc. He has also worked with a number of renowned conductors. In addition to the classics, Antonsen also takes a keen interest in contemporary music.



Silje Nergaard

Although better known as a pop singer in Japan, Silje Nergaard has, within the last few years, established herself as one of the most original and interesting artists working within the European jazz arena. While still young, Silje became one of the most respected jazz vocalists in Norway, characterized by her unique heartfelt and passionate style of singing. Her original vocal improvisations have thrilled audiences and critics alike.

Tord Gustavsen Trio

A young trio of piano, double bass and drum. They play gentle, lyrical, immediately memorable songs, songs of an appealing freshness, yet sophisticated in their involvement with the melodic line. Their simple but sincere approach to explore new music fields has appealed to the wider public.

Pohlitz / Thomas Stronen + Koichi Makigami

Thomas Stronen (drum) plays a variety of music, from jazz and electronics to free improvisation. Koichi Makigami is well known as a voice performer and koto singer. Both artists have colorful careers as participants in a number of festivals around the world and working experience with various musicians.

Farmers Market

Michael Brecker once declared the following about Stian Carstensen and Farmers Market: "That's the best music I have heard in a year." Strongly inspired by Bulgarian folk music, Farmers Market plays a mixture of Balkan and jazz music which is ultimately uncategorizable. Their explosive rhythmic energy, super technique and warm humor have excited audiences all over the world. Except for the Bulgarian saxophone player, all the other members are graduates of the Trondheim Music Conservatory.

Atomic

Atomic presents the most exciting and creative new jazz, representative of the 'new wave' of Scandinavian jazz currently attracting much press attention. Atomic brings together five important young musicians from the adventurous jazz underground of Sweden and Norway. They play original compositions that mix a distinctive approach to "free" playing with grooves and modes, featuring the most startlingly fresh yet highly absorbing acoustic jazz on the scene today.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Haakon

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Haakon is the second child and only son of King Harald V and Queen Sonja. He was born on 20 July 1973 in Oslo to Crown Prince Harald and Crown Princess Sonja. On 25 August 2001 he married Mette-Marit Tjessem Høiby. Their daughter, Her Royal Highness Princess Ingrid Alexandra, was born on January 21 2004.

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Crown Prince Haakon attended the Officer's Candidate School/Navy in Horten and the first level course at the Naval Academy in Bergen. He received a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of California in 1999. In 2002-2003 he studied for a year at the London School of Economics, where he read international politics, concentrating on development studies.

Crown Prince Haakon attended the Council of State on 20 July 1991 for the first time, and presided over the Council of State as Regent on 22 May 1992. In autumn 1999 he attended the UN General Assembly as a member of the Norwegian delegation and spoke on racial diversity in society.

Crown Prince Haakon is Patron or Honorary Member of various organisations and societies. He is also a UNDP Goodwill Ambassador.



Børge Brende, Minister of Trade and Industry

Mr. Brende's career has been extensive. The former vice-chairman of Norway's Conservative Party and two-term elected member of the Norwegian parliament accepted in 2001 the appointment to Minister of Environment. In 2004, Mr. Brende became Minister of Trade and Industry. In addition to his duties as Minister, Mr. Brende has been Chairman of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development and has lectured at Harvard University and the University of Mainz.

Curriculum Vitae

Date of birth: 25 September 1965

Family: Married, 2 children

Education: B.A., Norwegian University for Technology and Science

Experience:

Minister of trade and industry 2004-

Minister of the Environment 2001-2004

Member of Parliament 1997- from Sør-Trøndelag County, member of the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs until 2001

First deputy leader, The Conservative Party, 1994-1998

Municipal Counsellor, Municipality of Trondheim and leader of the Conservative Party Group 1992-1997

Finance Director, Brende Entreprenør AS 1990-1992

Leader of Norwegian Young Conservatives 1988-1990, First deputy leader 1986-1988

Political adviser, Conservative Party Parliamentary Group 1986-1987

Political secretary, Norwegian Young Conservatives 1985