

THE FRAM MUSEUM PRESENTS:



RAML 2025

THE 13TH ROALD AMUNDSEN MEMORIAL LECTURES

FRIDAY 28 NOVEMBER

17:00 Registration (Fram Museum reception).

17:30 Tore Topp & John Geiger: *The story of Ernest Shackleton's Quest*.

19:00 Welcome reception and inauguration of the Quest display.

20:30 FILM: *Voyage of the Nautilus. Sir Hubert Wilkins 1888–1958*.
Norwegian/Australian documentary. 52 min.

FILM: *Arctic Ghost Ship. The remarkable discovery of the HMS Erebus*.
US/Canadian documentary. 56 min.

22.30 End.

SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER

09:00 Coffee in Framheim Café.

10:00 Geir O. Kløver – Welcome.

10:30 Christine C. Akselsen: *The Fram Committee 1925 – 2025*.

11:30 Break.

11:40 Geir O. Kløver: *Captain CA Larsen – Uncovering a genuine Antarctic hero*.

12:40 Lunch in the Gjøa Building.

13:40 Cornelia Lüdecke: *German Exploration of Antarctica*.

14:40 Break.

14:50 Camilla Brekke & Jørgen Berge: *The Polar Sea 2050*.
Chris Bowler: *Tara Polar Station*.

16:10 Coffee break.

16:40 Jannicke Mikkelsen: *A New Generation Polar Explorer*.

17:40 Reception on the deck of *Fram*.

18:40 Recreation of the official dinner served on the evening of Roald Amundsen and his crew members' return from the Northwest Passage on 20 November 1906. The same 8-course menu and similar wine will be served, the same speeches will be held and the same music played.

To attend the Roald Amundsen Memorial Lectures 2025 register through [this link](#).

There are only 100 places available. Due to popular demand, it is only possible to participate in the full programme.

The fee of NOK 2900,- includes lectures, all meals and drinks.
Only advance booking before 13 Nov.

In 2026 the dates will be 27 & 28 November.



TORE W. TOPP

is an educated engineer and business economist and has had a long career with leadership positions and board memberships in the business sector. Today, he runs his own company, Polarekspedisjoner AS. As the son-in-law of Ludolf Schjelderup, he has written a book about the shipping company Schjelderup Sælfangstrederi, a story about risk and determination. He has conducted many expeditions in the Arctic, following in the wake of the shipping company's polar vessel, *Quest*.



JOHN GEIGER, CM

is the international bestselling author of seven books, including *Frozen in Time: The Fate of the Franklin Expedition*, and *The Third Man Factor: Surviving the Impossible*. His work has been translated into fourteen languages. The chief executive officer of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society, Geiger graduated in history from the University of Alberta and holds an honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Calgary. He is recipient of both the Polar Medal and the Order of Canada.



CHRIS BOWLER

is research director at the CNRS and director of the Phylogenomics Laboratory at the Institut de biologie de l'École normale supérieure in Paris. He received his PhD from the University of Ghent in Belgium, followed by postdoctoral studies at the Rockefeller University in New York. In 1994 he established his own laboratory at the Stazione Zoologica in Naples, Italy, and in 2003 he took up his current position in Paris. He has been a member of EMBO since 1995, received the CNRS Silver Medal in 2010, ERC Advanced Awards in 2012 and 2018 and the Grand Prix Scientifique de la Fondation Louis D de l'Institut de France in 2015. In 2016-2017 he was a Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute of Advanced Studies at Harvard University, USA. In 2018 he was elected member of the French Academy of Agriculture, and during the academic year 2020-2021 he held the annual chair as Professor in biodiversity and ecosystems at the Collège de France. From 2009-2013 he was scientific coordinator of the *Tara Oceans* project and he directed the *Tara Oceans* Polar Circle campaign, the first to go through the Northeast and Northwest passages in the same year. Currently, his main research interest is in understanding the response of marine diatoms to environmental signals, through functional and comparative genomics. Since 2021 he is the scientific director of the *Tara Oceans* project to explore the biodiversity, ecology and evolution of plankton in the world's ocean.



CHRISTINE C. AKSELSSEN

is the Board Chair of the Fram Museum. She has served on the board since 2016, and as chair since 2024. She is passionate about bridging the past, the present and the future of polar exploration and research.

Christine is the CEO of transparency and traceability technologies company, Kezzler, a role she has held since 2018. Prior to joining Kezzler, she was the CEO of outdoor sports gear company, Sweet Protection, and completed the sale of Sweet Protection to sports apparel and equipment group Active Brands.

Before this, Christine was Executive Vice President at Point Carbon, a leading news and analytics platform for global energy and climate markets, successfully sold to Thomson Reuters in 2010. Christine started her career in Schibsted, the largest media group in Scandinavia, in 2001. She received her Master of Science in Economics from Norges Handelshøyskole in Bergen and holds an undergraduate degree in Social Anthropology from the University of Bergen and the University of Oslo.



CORNELIA LÜDECKE

is a retired professor of history of natural sciences of the University of Hamburg. She is the leading figure in the history German polar research and history of meteorology. She founded and lead national and international groups on this topic and organized workshops and conferences. She gave the historical talk on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty in 2009.

She is member in the editorial board of several scientific journals and published 24 books and over 200 papers. 2010 she received the Reinhard Süring Medal and 2019 the Paulus-Preis award, both from the German Meteorological Society. In 2012 she was elected corresponding member of the International Academy of Science in Paris.

2024 she was awarded the Weyprecht medal of the German Society of Polar Research.



JØRGEN BERGE

Jørgen Berge is prorector for research and innovation at UiT The Arctic University of Norway, and head of the board for the new national programme Arctic Ocean 2050. Berge is a professor in Arctic Marine Ecology, and have worked for more than 20 years in the high Arctic and on Svalbard. His main research focus has been on how climate change impact arctic marine ecosystems, with special emphasis on sea ice, zooplankton and ecological processes during the polar night.



JANNICKE MIKKELSEN

Jannicke Mikkelsen is Norway's first astronaut and an award-winning filmmaker with an adventurous life story. She has worked on prestigious projects with NASA, Netflix, Paramount Pictures, the rock band Queen and the BBC, and has collaborated with icons such as Buzz Aldrin, Brian May and Sir David Attenborough.

She recently became Norway's first astronaut in space as commander of the *Fram2* space mission.



CAMILLA BREKKE

is appointed Director of the Norwegian Polar Institute (2023-). Prof. Dr. Brekke was Pro-Rector for research and development at UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Tromsø, Norway from 2021 to 2023. Brekke was Vice-Dean Research at the Faculty of Science and Technology from 2018 to 2021 and Deputy Centre Leader from 2019 to 2021 at Centre for Integrated Remote Sensing and Forecasting for Arctic Operations (CIRFA) at Department of Physics and Technology, UiT. She received the Cand. Mag., Cand. Scient., and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway, in 1998, 2001, and 2008, respectively.

She was an exchange student to National University of Singapore in 1998 (spring). In 2001, she was a System Developer with Ericsson, Asker, Norway. From 2001 to 2002, she was a Young Graduate Trainee with the European Space Agency, Noordwijk, The Netherlands. From 2002 to 2009, she was a Scientist with the Norwegian Defense Research Establishment, Kjeller, Norway. In 2009, she joined the Department of Physics and Technology, UiT as an Associate Professor. Brekke is a full Professor since 2016. From 2012 to 2013 (4 months) and in 2018 (4 months), she was a visiting scientist at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA, USA.

Her research interests include synthetic aperture radar and ocean colour remote sensing for Arctic and marine applications.