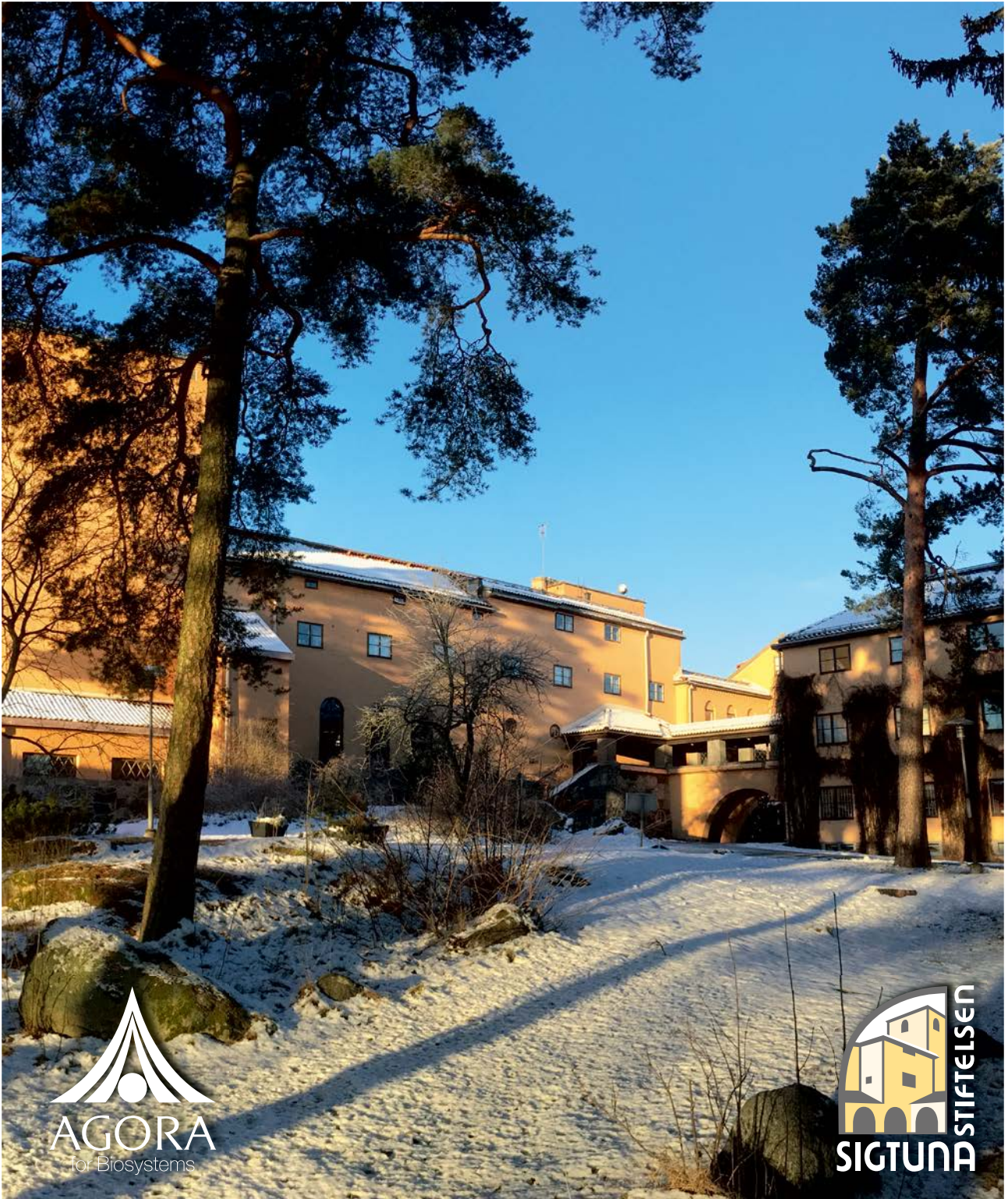


Music of Life

— the 20th anniversary of the Agora for Biosystems

The Sigtuna Foundation 8 – 9 December 2017





Music of Life

In conjunction with the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Agora for Biosystems, we are organizing a scientific conference around major challenges in modern biology, as well as a symposium for the general public on life in a larger perspective, also with musical elements.

Agora for Biosystems was created 20 years ago with the main objective to explore major problems in biology, primarily concerning the origin of life, evolution and the mind-brain problem. During the past years, we have wrestled with such problems together with many prominent scientists who have been invited for meetings of various topics and scope, and we have also published a number of scientific articles and books based on these meetings.

What does today's science say about these problems in biology? Have we made any progress in the past 20 years? Which view on life is dominating today? In both our anniversary conference and symposium, we want to highlight the major problems in biology in the light of current research. We also want to discuss to what extent holistic and reductionist approaches can complement each other, focusing in particular on what systems biology can bring to our understanding of life. The British systems biologist Denis Noble (Oxford University) will also talk about his books, *The Music of Life – Biology Beyond Genes*, and *Dance to the Tune of Life – Biological Relativity*.

Program Friday 8 Dec

- 09:00 **Coffee**
- 09:30 **Agora Vision and History**
Peter Århem and Hans Liljenström
With comments by Alf Linderman, Anders Ehrenberg, Sakire Pöğün, Rudolf Rigler, Bengt Gustafsson, Uno Svedin, Roger Svensson, and Dan Brändström
- 11:00 **A Systems Perspective on Biology**
Denis Noble
- 11:30 **Physics, Mathematics and Statistics for Biology**
Clas Blomberg, Hans Braun, Dietrich von Rosen
- 12:15 **Lunch**
- 13:15 **Origin and Evolution of Life**
Stig Olsson, Lars Rydén, Sverre Sjölander, Nick Winder
- 14:15 **Man and Mind**
Hugo Lagercrantz, Anne Runehov, Per Snaprud, Lars Terenius
- 15:15 **Coffee**
- 15:45 **Brain and Music**
Fredrik Ullén, Töres Theorell, Björn Merker
- 16:30 **Emotion and Cognition**
Kerstin Uvnäs-Moberg, Åsa Nilsson, Bo Göransson
- 17:15 **Man and Nature**
Stig Ollmar, Peter Sylwan, Malin Östman
- 18:00 **End of Conference**
- 18:30 **Mingle**
- 19:00 **Banquet** (Christmas buffet)
- 20:30 **Cultural event**
- 21:30 **Cheese and Wine**

Program Saturday 9 Dec

- 09:30 **Coffee**
- 10:00 **Welcoming** by Peter Århem, Hans Liljenström, and Alf Linderman
- 10:15 **Erling Norrby:** “Problems of Biology – Some Reflections”
- 10:30 **Denis Noble:** “The Billion Year Dance to the Music of Life”
- 11:30 **Ingemar Ernberg:** ”What is Life?”
- 12:00 **Sakire Pögün:** ”Individual Differences (in addiction)”
- 12:30 **Lunch**
- 13:30 **Hugo Lagercrantz:** “The Emergence of Consciousness”
- 14:00 **Åsa Nilssonne:** “Psychiatry - The Platonic Versus the Hippocratic Perspective, Still Worlds Apart?”
- 14:30 **Paus**
- 14:45 **Fredrik Ullén:** “The Polyphony of Neurons”
- 15:15 **Panel Discussion** (Joanna Rose moderator)
- 16:00 **Coffee**

