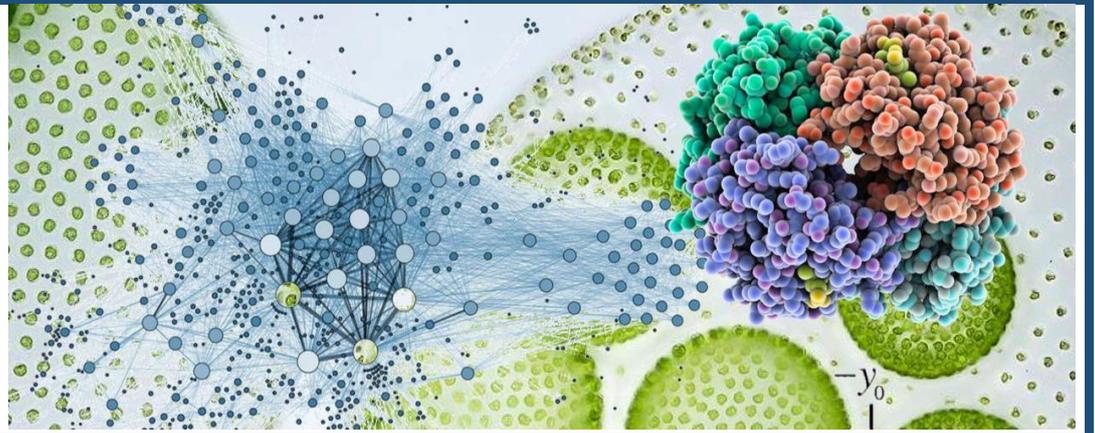


NEWSLETTER

Department of
Informatics



No. 16/2019
4th October 2019



Editor-in-chief: Pinar Heggernes. Editor: Linda Vagtskjold. Contributions or comments to the newsletter are very welcome.

Dear colleagues,

Last week our student council Echo organized their annual [career day](#). 30 companies prepared stands in the entrance of our building to present themselves to our students. Among the companies were several that came all the way from Oslo. There were banks and insurance companies, energy companies and broadcasters, and public sector organizations like nav, skatteetaten and difi, in addition to many IT consultancy companies. I was really impressed by how professional the whole organization was. In the morning, spots were marked on the floor where companies would place their stands. When everything was set up, it looked like it could have been an event at Grieghallen organized by an agency! What I enjoyed the most about the event was seeing so many of our former students again, joining the event as delegates from the companies they are working for.



I had the pleasure of talking to a few of the HR-directors of the represented companies, and I felt very proud and grateful to hear them speak so highly of our graduates. It turns out that we have built a great reputation in educating exactly the kind of IT work force that Norway needs. I have recently started to hear that people think our education must be very practical and company-life oriented, since our students are in so high demand by companies. This is not exactly the case; in fact we are following very closely our university's strategy of research based education. During their bachelor studies our students are put through heavy training in programming within various paradigms as well as fundamental theory, and during their master studies they focus on research problems. It is exactly this combination of solid programming education, combined with the ability to dive into deep problems, that make our students so versatile and suitable for a lot of different jobs in a variety of different branches. I would like to thank you all of my colleagues at the department for doing a great job in educating, training, supervising and giving administrative support to our students, and producing such excellent IT-specialists!

Our graduates are popular and many of our students get job contracts long before they finish their studies. One might think that this happens to all graduates of ICT-studies since there is a high demand of IT-specialists in Norway. However, the picture is quite different. Although there is a huge lack of IT-specialists, there is also a high percentage of ICT-graduates who are out of employment. In fact, this "paradox" is so challenging for the government that they have just appointed a committee to find out why this is the case. I think the answer is quite simple and obvious. They can simply look to us. Unfortunately there are many study programs nationwide that have "ICT" in the name, where the level of programming, fundamentals of theory and mathematics, is diminishingly low in the content. For prospective students it is not easy to figure out which study programs are the "right" ones. One of our most important tasks in the near future is to convey this information both to high school pupils and to authorities: companies are very happy with our graduates, and they want more!

I wish you a very nice weekend!

-Pinar



The Dean's Blog – Helge K. Dahle

[The Dean's blog](#) aims to inform us of ongoing work and processes at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences.

His latest postings: [Vi må strekke oss langt for å hindre frafall - Hun er en god rollemodell i vår satsing på IKT-fagene](#) - [Dypt gjemt i detaljene ligger det som er styrende for aktiviteten vår](#)



Welcome new colleagues!



Adriaan-Alexander Ludl

Adriaan is a new postdoc in Computational Biology at the CBU with Tom Michoel. The aim of his project is to build better machine learning algorithms for distinguishing cause from effect and causation from correlation across diverse human genetic, epigenetic and molecular datasets. In particular, by linking genetic risk loci for human diseases to causal gene networks inferred from genome, epigenome and transcriptome sequencing data from population-based studies, we aim to understand the molecular mechanisms by which these loci exert their effect on disease, and ultimately to translate these findings into new therapies and diagnostics.

Adriaan is from Austria. He holds a PhD in Chemical Physics at the Institut de minéralogie, de physique des matériaux et de cosmochimie, Université Pierre et Marie Curie from 2015. His latest position before he joined us, was Postdoctoral researcher at the Universitat de Barcelona.

Current Issues [På Høyden](#) - [Krono](#) – [News from NFR](#) – [News from UiB](#) – [Informatics on Facebook](#)

Honorary doctor Anne Canteaut

[Anne Canteaut](#) will visit our university during the week of October 14-18 to receive a honorary doctorate. Her field is cryptography and information and communication security. In addition to the official program by the university leadership, Anne will give two talks during her stay in Bergen (announcements follow in the next two pages).

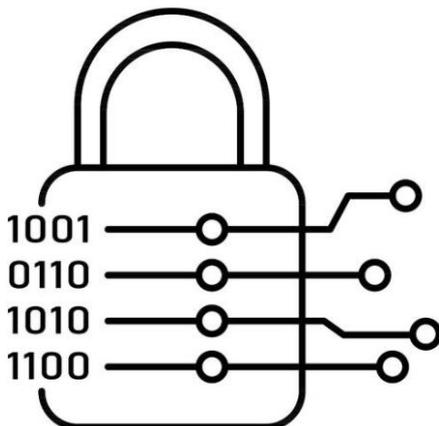
Please find related web news here:

[Kryptolog blir æresdoktor ved UiB](#)

[Kryptoanalyse - en uendelig historie](#)

[Join the event on Facebook: Cryptanalysis - a neverending story](#)

Prof. Anne Canteaut is research director at the Inria Paris Research Center (Paris Department of the National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Automation) where she also holds a senior research position as chair of the SECRET research group.



Foto/ill.: Anne Canteaut

Cryptanalysis – a never-ending story

16th of October, 10:15-11:15, VilVite large auditorium

OUR NEW HONORARY DOCTOR:

Prof. Anne Canteaut is one of the world's leading cryptologists and a new honorary doctor at the University of Bergen.

Prof. Anne Canteaut is research director at the Inria Paris Research Center (Paris Department of the National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Automation) where she also holds a senior research position as chair of the SECRET research group.



There are many examples of attacks which exploit weaknesses of the underlying cryptographic primitives. So when can we trust cryptography?

Cryptographic primitives, like encryption schemes, hash functions etc. are the core of most security applications. But the trust that users place in these algorithms has been repeatedly violated.

It should be clear that we cannot trust algorithms which do not have public design rationale and which have not been thoroughly studied. Most notably, the primitives recommended by the cryptographic community are those which have been chosen after an international competition.

Within such an open contest, all proposals have been carefully analyzed by all participants; their security margins have been evaluated.

This ongoing cryptanalytic effort is the only reliable security argument to consider when deciding which primitive to trust.

UNIVERSITETET I BERGEN
Det matematisk-naturvitenskapelige fakultet



Department of Informatics



Lightweight cryptography - when cryptography meets mathematics



Departmentseminar by
Honorary Doctor
Anne Canteaut
Thursday October 17th
Large Auditorium Datablokken
2nd floor at 14:15
Refreshments will be served
from 14:00

Abstract:

Symmetric techniques are widely used because they are the only ones that can achieve some major features such as high-speed or low-cost encryption, fast authentication, and efficient hashing. It is a very active research area which is stimulated by a pressing industrial demand for low-cost implementations. In particular an important challenge raised by several new applications is the design of symmetric encryption schemes with extremely good implementation performance (low-cost hardware implementation, low latency,...). This demand is reflected by an open competition initiated by the NIST on lightweight symmetric encryption.

These harsh constraints encourage designers to search for optimized building-blocks in order to minimize the implementation cost. However, these optimized transformations often correspond to extremal mathematical objects with a very particular algebraic structure which may also introduce new vulnerabilities.

ALLMØTE – Information meeting about IT services: Thursday October 10 at 14:15 – 15:00



Security of IT systems is an increasingly important issue. Department of informatics is in close collaboration with the University of Bergen's IT division to secure that all our IT services comply with the rules and regulation of our university and of the Norwegian state.

The IT division has now appointed a team to help us secure the IT services at our department. That team will visit each research group, and they will explain and perform the necessary changes in the computers used by the group, and services provided by the department, so that everything is secured. At the same time we will of course give high importance to flexibility and user friendliness, so that all research groups can continue to perform their research in the best possible way.

In this meeting Pinar will give more information about this process.

Picture rappot from yesterday's department seminar: speed talks

Speed talks from different research groups in informatics turned out to be an efficient and entertaining way of bonding and getting insight into each other's research. We thank you for very good and inspirering talks Sergej, Ahmad, Nikolay and Marc! Next speed talks seminar will be on 5th December.



New Service Portal at the UiB

The University of Bergen is introducing a new system for all types of user inquiries – a single, common service portal for employees and students. The new system will replace the current Issue tracker and will be an information base for user guides and descriptions of procedures. The new service portal is being launched on 11th November 2019.



From 11th November, it will no longer be possible to register new issues in IssueTracker. All submissions and handling of new issues will continue in the new Service Portal (TOPdesk). IssueTracker will still be active after 11th November, but only to finish active issues and for archival purposes. Everyone registered as service personnel in IssueTracker will be contacted for training as operators in the Service Portal instead.

Read more about [the Service Portal here](#)

Datablokken is 30 years old! Save the date November 29 for celebrations!



This fall, we are celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Department of informatics moving to the Datablokken of Høyteknologisenteret, which was completely new in 1989.

Save the morning of Friday November 29, between 09:00 and 13:00 for a celebration which will end with lunch. There will be special guests, old stories, new stories, long lost friends and colleagues, and many more things.

A detailed announcement will come later.

Next Faculty and Staff lunch 14th November

The next Faculty & Staff lunch is on 14th November in the fourth floor lunch room!

PhD Updates

PhD trial lecture – Kornel Labun



Kornel Labun will give the trial lecture “*Detecting RNA modifications in nanopore sequencing data*” on Friday 11th October at 11.15 in small auditorium, Datablokken.

Welcome all!

PhD trial lecture and defense - Katarzyna Anna Chyzynska



Katarzyna Anna Chyzynska will defend her thesis "*Insights into translational regulation from ribosome profiling data*" on Tuesday 15th October at 10:15, Large Auditorium, Datablokken. All are welcome! Please find [the press release here](#)

- Opponent: Anže Županec, National Institute of Biology, Department of Biotechnology and Systems Biology and ISBE.si (Slovenian Node of Infrastructure for Systems Biology Europe), Slovenia
- Opponent: David Fredman, Sonat Consulting AS
- Committee member: Professor Anagha Madhusudan Joshi-Michael, Klinisk institutt 2, UiB
- Leader of the defense: Associate Professor Chunlei Li, Dept. of Informatics, UiB

The trial lecture "*RNA secondary structure in gene expression regulation*" will take place on Monday 14th October at 11.15 in small auditorium, Datablokken.

ICT Research School Annual Meeting 2019 (31 October - 1 November, Solstrand)

Every year, the Research School in Information and Communication Technology invites to a seminar where the PhD candidates have the possibility to exchange research ideas and experiences, to build and broaden their research networks, and to improve their presentation skills. The ICT Research School's annual meeting is organized by and for PhD candidates enrolled in the PhD program at the Department of Informatics.

This year's organizing committee includes Benjamin Chetioui, Isaac Andrés Canales Martinez, and Wrya Kadir. If you have questions about the meeting, you can contact them and/or have a look at the following website: [ICT Research School Annual Meeting 2019](#).

Research, Science and Seminars

Course in Collegial Teaching and Learning – in STEM Education

[Collegial Teaching and Learning – in STEM Education](#) is an elective course in teaching and learning in higher education given by bioCEED – Centre for excellence in Biology Education. The course consists of two separate units corresponding to two plus one (= three) weeks of full-time work and is given in Norwegian/Swedish.

This course introduces you to current concepts of teaching and learning in higher education in order to develop your ability to improve student learning. The course is focused on discussing pedagogical topics specifically related to teaching and learning in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and is designed for teaching staff and administrators within these subjects. The course requires no previous higher education teacher training and can be offered to both experienced and more novice personnel.

The main component of the course is the group project, addressing a teaching issue of relevance to the participants' own teaching and learning situation. The project work corresponds to 40-50 hours of work per person and is reported orally and in writing. In addition the other course participants will give adequate feedback on the project work.

On completion of the course, you will receive a diploma that states the content and extent of the course (5 ECTS).

Please notice that the main course director, [Roy Andersen](#), is a computer scientist and ICT didactics working at the Centre for Engineering Education and Dep of Computer Science LTH.

Registration deadline: 15th October. Registration is via [this link](#).



Visual Computing Forum

<http://vis.UiB.no/vcf/>



How are we going to work in the future?

The role of virtual reality, simulations and serious games in our everyday work



Friday, 11th of October, from 10:15

Thormøhlens gate 51 (ViLVite)

Konferanserom B

Ilona Heldal

Professor @ Western Norway

University of Applied Sciences

Abstract:

Virtual Reality, Simulation, and Serious Games (SSG) technologies and applications have made significant progress in the last centuries for different work purposes. For example, engineers and architects design virtual prototypes to experience and test out their suggestions, teachers use simulations to illustrate complex processes, and their pupils use games to get more involved in learning. While the number, diversity, and realism of representations of SSG technologies and applications get improved, and the excitement to apply them is increasing, the value of them for practical use by many users, especially for collaborative work, is often missing.

This talk focuses on using SSG for collaboration. I will present barriers to overcome and current challenges for SSG development, introduction, and adoption. These barriers and challenges are from the fields of innovation, user experience studies, and presence. Empirical examples come from collaborative projects with organizations engaged in developing and using SSG for health, learning or emergency training. Let's talk about visions for the future by looking back to the history of SSG in the past 20 years.



Research data breakfast meeting 23rd October

Get breakfast and an introduction to open research data and how to prepare your data for sharing. Sign up today!

When: Wednesday 23rd of October at 08:30-09:30.

Where: Realfagbygget, Seminarrom 1 (first floor)

Who: Researchers and research administration that are relative new to open research data

[Calendar event and sign up](#)

The culture of how we treat research data is changing. It is (soon) expected that researchers in all research communities share and curate/review research data in order for others to use and reference to it in their research. Some research groups such as the Bjerknes Centre and CBU have come a long way. For others open research data is a relative new term. The University Library will therefore introduce open research data in general and UiB Open Research Data, an archive for open research data at UoB.

Agenda:

08:30-08:40 Breakfast time!

08:40-09:00 Introduction to open research data

09:00-09:00 Break

09:10-09:30 How to prepare your data for sharing

Funding opportunities [Research support services](#) - [Upcoming funding opportunities](#)

On a monthly basis, the department releases a comprehensive overview over [upcoming funding opportunities](#) on its website for [research support services](#).

Please inform research coordinator [Stefanie Meyer](#) about all planned and ongoing funding applications!

At this point, we would like to highlight the following upcoming calls and funding-related events:

Local funding

[UiB SPIRE \(Strategisk program for internasjonalt forskningssamarbeid\)](#)

[SPIRE-funds](#) are strategic funds that are meant to help facilitating international research collaboration. One can apply for funds in two different categories: 1) international research collaboration, and 2) invitation of guest researchers. **UiB application deadline: 1 December 2019.** Please note that the actual deadline for the departments/researchers may be a few days before the UiB deadline.

[UiB POS: Positioning funding for Horizon 2020/Horizon Europe](#)

The PES2020 scheme is designed to relieve the cost burden related to the preparation of project proposals to H2020 (including ERC applications, MSCA applications, COST applications, Societal Challenges applications etc.). The [PES2020 scheme at UiB](#) involves support for the following categories: PES - Project Support for researchers and POS - Positioning funding (including category 1: POS for researchers who are positioning themselves towards a H2020/Horizon Europe-application). **The next UiB POS application deadline is 1 December 2019.** Please note that the actual deadline for the departments/researchers may be a few days before the UiB deadline.

National funding

[Research Council of Norway: Funds for research stays abroad and for inviting guest researchers](#)

[For researchers going abroad](#): The RCN funds research stays with a duration of minimum three months, and maximum 12 months at research organizations abroad. [For PhD candidates and Postdocs going abroad](#): The RCN funds overseas research stays for PhD candidates and Postdocs that are financed by the Research Council (for at least 24 months) as part of an ongoing project with a Norwegian research organization as the project owner, or under the Industrial Ph.D. Scheme or the Public Sector Ph.D. Scheme. The research stays abroad need to be between 3 and 12 months. [For inviting researchers to Norway](#): Funding is available for researchers from other countries to carry out a research stay at a Norwegian research organization that has a duration of minimum one month, and maximum 12 months. **RCN application deadline: open-ended**

International funding

NordForsk: Nordic Programme for Interdisciplinary Research

"The aim of the Programme for Interdisciplinary Research is to promote high-quality bottom-up research that combines and integrate skills from multiple disciplines. Key assessment criteria under the programme will be excellence, interdisciplinarity, and Nordic added value. The programme is specifically aimed towards genuinely interdisciplinary projects that combine disciplines which are far removed from one another and rarely collaborate, or that pursue an original research question requiring the exact combination of competencies from different disciplines proposed in the application. [Projects awarded funding under the programme](#) are required to encompass research within at least two of the three areas of science as used by the European Research Council: Life science; Physical Sciences & Engineering; Social Sciences and Humanities." **Application deadline: 13 November 2019**

NordForsk: The Research and Innovation Programme on Digitalisation of the Public Sector

"The [Digitalisation Programme](#) focuses on three interrelated areas that enable and shape the digital transformation of the public sector: (1) the enabling factors of digitalization; (2) digital innovation; and (3) society and the end-user perspective. The overarching aim of the call is to combine and integrate knowledge-based, digital innovation efforts related to the public sector with research on the related drivers, effects and impact on society and end-users." **Application deadline: 16 January 2020**

Horizon 2020: FET Proactive: emerging paradigms and communities

"Proposals are sought for cutting-edge high-risk / high-reward research and innovation projects that aim to demonstrate a new technological paradigm within the scope of [several] sub-topics, [including] a. [Future technologies for social experience](#). This sub-topic explores new technologies for interaction that are based on new kinds of immersion for virtualised or augmented social interaction and that will lay the basis for the social media in 10-20 years from now. [...] c. [Digital twins for the life-sciences](#). The sub-topic aims at the close integration and real-time interaction of dynamical models of biological structures (from biochemical pathways to cells, tissues, organs and individuals), with imaging and sensing technologies for biological mechanisms and processes." **Application deadline: 22 April 2020**

Events

ERC Proposal Reading Day in Bergen

Participants will have the opportunity to [read successful ERC grant applications](#) in order to see how a proposal might be structured. The event will take place at UiB on 6 November 2019. **Registration deadline: 27 October 2019**

How to write a successful ERC Consolidator grant application (in Oslo & Trondheim)

The workshop has the following objectives: To provide researchers with a good understanding of the evaluation criteria and how to analyze them; what makes an excellent PI according to the reviewers of the different domains/panels; how to write a competitive scientific proposal considering panel specifics and type of project. The course is targeting those who want to apply for a Consolidator Grant in February 2020, but is also relevant for researchers planning to apply for a Starting Grant (StG) or Advanced grant (AdG). The next workshops will be held in Oslo (25 October 2019) and Trondheim (18 October 2019). **Registration deadline: 21 October 2019 (Oslo) and 14 October 2019 (Trondheim)**

Seminar on challenges for health research arising from the GDPR (in Brussels)

"The seminar will take place 18 months following the application of the regulation on 25th May 2018 and just over a year in advance of the launch of the Horizon Europe research programme on 1 January 2021. The meeting therefore will provide an [opportunity to raise key issues with policy and decision-makers](#) in advance of Horizon Europe and other EU and EU Member States/Associated Countries funded research programmes. The seminar will include participants from the EU, European Free Trade Associations Countries, the United States, South Africa, Canada, amongst others." **Meeting date: 19 November 2019.**

Vacant positions

Postdoctoral Research Fellow position in Algorithms

Closing date: 15th October. Here you will find [the announcement](#).

Postdoctoral Research Fellow position in informatics: logic and graph theory

Closing date: 20th January 2020. Here you will find [the announcement](#)

Consent for use of photos

When publishing or sharing photos or video where people are the subject, you must comply with the Personal Data Act. The person using/sharing the photos or video must be able to document that consent has been provided. Consent must be voluntary, unambiguous and informed. Please find detailed information and instructions of how to proceed [here](#).

For questions related to GDPR and consent, contact [UiB's privacy ombud](#) E-mail: personvernombud@uib.no

For other questions - contact the [Communications Department](#) E-mail: post@ka.uib.no

Fire Safety course

All employees at the UiB are required to complete a fire safety course. The course lasts two hours – 1 hour of theory and 1 hour of practice. If you have not attended a course previously, you are required to do so as soon as possible. Please notice that this fall there will be one course in English intended for non-Norwegian speaking staff: Thursday December 5th - 09:00-11:00. [Follow this link to sign up](#). For «Fakturadresse» use this code: 121200

Report it – so that safety and security can be improved!



REPORT IT

Report any undesirable incidents (deviations). Your place of study or work needs to know what is going on. This is necessary to ensure that undesirable incidents are followed up and safety and security improved.

Examples of incidents that must be reported:

- Personal injuries (accidents and near-accidents)
- Bullying, sexual harassment, threatening situations and criminal offences such as violence, theft, robbery etc.
- Computer fraud and sensitive information in the wrong hands
- Failure or deficiencies in safety and security procedures or technical security measures
- Violation of laws, regulations and internal procedures

Check where you can report undesirable incidents (deviations) at your place of study or work.

■ READ MORE

- [Website for those who have experienced internet defamation \(slettmeg.no\)](#) (NO)

[Please find the UiB system for reporting of deviations here](#)

Yoga on Wednesdays

Yoga is a great way to reduce stress and tensions from work. Yoga classes are held at our department on Wednesdays at 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 pm at the Meeting room in 5th floor.



Our professional yoga instructor, Kjersti Næss, is teaching in English. No signing up, and no participation fee. Please bring your own yoga mat. We also have some mats for loan. All employees are welcome – also those of you who never tried yoga before.

WENDY & PETER PAN

Et magisk eventyr med spenning, humor og stjernestøv.

Familieforestilling: La barna bli med i eventyret når Wendy og hennes yngre brødre flyr over nattehimmelen sammen med Peter Pan! De møter blodtørstige pirater, frodige feer, en glupsk krokodille og skumle Kaptein Krok!
Alder: fra 6 år

UIB-pris kun 150,- (ord 220/290,-)

Lørdag 19.oktober kl 16.30. Store Scene

[Klikk her for å bestille billetter til 19.oktober](#)

[Klikk her for å lese mer om Wendy & Peter Pan og de medvirkende](#)

Fredag 25.oktober kl 16.30. Store Scene

[Klikk her for å bestille billetter til 25.oktober](#)

eller ring oss 55 60 70 80 innen 5.oktober

Alder: fra 6 år



PEER GYNT DUB

Peer Gynt DUB – en tankevekkende bearbeidelse av Ibsens mesterverk signert den prisbelønte Tore Vagn Lid.

Gjennom en miks av skuespill, hørespill og konsert aktualiseres tema i «Peer Gynt» som går rett til kjernen i menneskesinnet og samfunnsstrukturer.

Det blir en tankevekkende, musikalsk og visuell teateropplevelse som i tillegg til å følge Peer Gynts livsreise,

løfter frem nye sider ved det verdensberømte verket og rører ved spørsmål som treffer rett inn i våre liv og vår samtid.

UIB-pris kun 240,- (ord 390,-)

Torsdag 28.november kl 19.30. Teaterkjelleren

[Klikk her for å bestille billetter til 28.november](#)

eller ring oss 55 60 70 80 innen 15.november!

[Klikk her for å lese mer](#)



Å BERGEN BERGEN

En musikalsk hyllest til byen og alle de som befinner seg mellom de syv fjell.

Musikkteater: En festforestilling med nye hits og gamle slagere, hvor frodige karakterer og gjenkjennelige episoder bindes sammen på finurlig vis og gir oss skråblikk på byen vi bor i.

Kom og møt buekorpsgutten, brannsupporteren, hip hop-dronningen m.fl

i en helt ny teaterkonsert, med og for bergensere i alle fasonger.

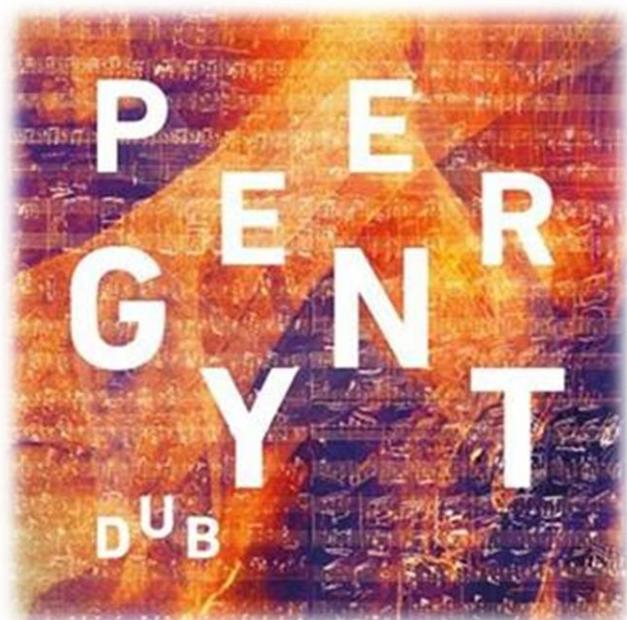
UIB-pris kun 290,-(ord 480,-)

Fredag 15.november kl 20.00. Store Scene

[Klikk her for å bestille billetter til 15.november](#)

eller ring oss 55 60 70 80 innen 1.november.

[Klikk her for å lese mer om Å Bergen Bergen](#)



Putti Plutti Pott i Grieghallen



Det er reservert billetter til årets Putti Plutti Pott i Grieghallen:

Fredag 29.november kl 16:30

Lørdag 30.november kl 12:00

Søndag 1.desember kl 15:00

Pris per billett er kr : 305,-
(ordinær kr 380,-)

Billetter kjøpes i billettkontoret i Grieghallen

Telefon nummer 55 21 61 50

UIB ansatt kort må fremvises ved kjøp

Varighet 1 time & 50 minutter, inkl 20.min pause

Passer fra 3 år