



Midgard  
Viking Centre

# Talks and Walks

Guided tours and activities offered by Midgard Viking Centre during Midgardsblot

12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> of August



David  
Thierree 2014

Illustration: David Thierree





# Midgard Viking Centre

Dear guests,

The volva keeps asking in Voluspá: Do you know enough? And the answer is: No, never! You have proved this by returning to Midgard Talks every year. It has been my pleasure to curate and host the seminars since 2017. Midgard Talks (previously Mimir Talks) was hosted by Midgardsblot until 2022, after which the Midgard Viking Centre took over.

It is nine years since the first edition of Midgardsblot in 2015 here at Borre and Midgard Viking Centre. The first edition in 2014 was called Eidsivablot and took place at Eidsvoll. Since coming here, the festival has often said, that the real headliner is Borre itself with the magical Borre park and the grave mounds. The "Borre beast" is at the back of the Midgardsblot hoodie, but did you know that it is inspired by a little detail from an archaeological find in the Ship mound burial close to the Midgard Centre? You can have a look at it in our exhibitions, and it is also carved into the fireplace in the Gildehall.

Knowledge is always central in Nordic Mythology, and the stories revolve around how to access knowledge or skills of different sorts. Odin sacrifices his eye to drink from Mimir's well of wisdom and hung in Yggdrasil to gain the runes. The volva performed seid and rituals, and the norns knew the fate of both gods and men. The French artist David Thiérrée is doing this year's official artwork for Midgard Talks, and has made his take of the impressive Torbjørg Lillevolve in the Saga of Eirik the Red. She is summoned to the farm Herjolfsnes in Greenland to foresee the future and uses seid to gain the knowledge. We don't know the details as to how our speakers have gained their knowledge, but they have agreed to share, and you are invited!

Please take note of our overall program here at the Midgard Viking Centre during the festival. We have guided tours, Viking crafts courses and a brand-new VR experience. Knock yourself out!

Everybody at the Midgard Viking Centre are eagerly awaiting you and wishes you all a warm welcome 14th - 17th of August 2024.

On behalf of the Vestfold museums; best wishes, til árs ok friðar,

*Vicky Mikalsen*

Project leader for the Viking Age Initiative



Foto: Caroline Smith



Foto: Erik Irgens Johnsen







# Midgard Viking Centre

## Talks and Walks - Overview

Guided tours and activities offered by Vestfoldmuseene during Midgardsblot

Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>
Exhibits and café at Midgard Viking Centre						
Midgard Talks						
Guided tours						
VR experience: 1238 – The Battle of Iceland						
					Viking activities	
Green vikings craft course: Coiled baskets	Green vikings craft course: Coiled baskets	Green vikings craft course: Looping technique	Green vikings craft course: Looping technique			
				Guided tour: Explore Edvard Munch		
Guided tours at Munchs house						
Guided tours at Slottsfjellmuseum (viking ship, the Middle Ages and WWII)						

For more information and ticket prices see relevant pages in this pamphlet or visit our website: [Midgardvikingsenter.no](http://Midgardvikingsenter.no)







Midgard  
Viking Centre

Included in festival pass

# Midgard Viking Center

**Price: Included in regular museum ticket, Midgard talks ticket or festival pass**

## **Regular opening hours**

11 am to 4 pm

## **Extended opening hours 14th to 17th**

9:30 am to 4 pm

Enjoy our exhibits *Mounds, Halls, and Oceans* and *From Mountains to Fjords*

## **The café**

9:30 to 11 am – Self-service (coffee and snacks)

11 am to 4 pm – Open café

12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> of August

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# Midgard Talks

Viking and Festival Seminar

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>**

**10 am**

*Beyond Viking metal: Heavy music and the Ancient North.*

Adam Kelly PhD Oxford university

**11 am**

*The Era of Early Modern Witch-hunts in Europe.*

Rune Blix Hagen, associate professor (emeritus) University of Tromsø

**12 pm**

*Snorre Sturluson and his relationship to Vestfold and Norway.*

Bjørn Bandlien, University of Southeast Norway

**1 pm**

*13.00 Travelling to death on horseback.*

Terje Østigård, Uppsala University

**2 pm**

*Panel: The Viking age in popular culture: "fake" history?*

Stefan Nyzell (moderator), Adam Kelly, Fredrik Bjønnes, Rune Rasmussen

Price: Included in museum ticket or 120 NOK for a day pass, 350 NOK for a week pass.  
MidgardTalks tickets also include guided tours and Viking activities at Midgard.

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# Midgard Talks

Viking and Festival Seminar

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>**

**10 am**

*The Sami and Saami religion in the Viking Age.*

Marte Spangen, associate professor, Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo

**11 am**

*Sorcery and Shamanism in the witch trials of Arctic Norway, 1593 to 1692.*

Rune Blix Hagen, associate professor (emeritus) University of Tromsø

**12 pm**

*Grendel's Hoard: On History, Truth, and Fiction in Adapting Beowulf as an Art Project.*

Stefan Nyzell, associate professor/ head of department, Malmö University

**1 pm**

*The sagas are in earth as the Edda is in heaven: How the vikings orientated themselves in the world.*

Gísli Sigurdsson, Professor/head, Árni Magnússon Institute, Iceland

**2 pm**

*Panel: Spirituality and magical practises - past and present.*

Vicky Mikalsen (moderator), Rune Blix Hagen, Jone Salomonsen, Marte Spangen

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# Midgard Talks

Viking and Festival Seminar

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup>**

**10 am**

*The mystical far north: Magical encounters on the Arctic edge of the Viking world.*

Lionel Perabo, MPhil University of Tromsø

**11 am**

*Sex and the supernatural in Old Norse literature.*

Grace O'Duffy, PhD Oxford University

**12 pm**

*Viking plants as sources to cultural practice.*

Karoline Kjesrud, associate professor Museum of Cultural history, University of Oslo

**1 pm**

*Bloodletting, bodies in trees, bears and bullshit - can we believe Adam of Bremen's account of the pagan sacrifices at Uppsala in the eleventh century?*

Tim Bolton, PhD Cambridge University

**2 pm**

*Panel: A supernatural past? Are the sources lying to us?*

Karoline Kjesrud (moderator), Lionel Perabo, Grace O'Duffy, Tim Bolton, Josh Rood

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# Midgard Talks

Viking and Festival Seminar

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>**

**10 am**

*Buried in sledges – new light on Viking age burials.*

Ragnar Orten Lie, advisor Vestfold County Municipality

**11 am**

*A few of my favourite things. A tour through the new exhibitions at the Museum of the Viking Age.*

Ellen Marie Næss, advisor Museum of Cultural history, University of Oslo

**12 pm**

*The Vikings and the Irish.*

Caitlin Ellis, associate professor, University of Oslo

**1 pm**

*Tracing Threads - Digital illustration as a new method for re-interpreting the Oseberg tapestry fragments.*

Margrethe Havgar PhD, the Museum of Cultural History in Oslo

**2 pm**

*Panel: What's the hottest Viking news? Easy-going and informative on the latest Viking news.*

Margrethe Havgar (moderator), Benjamin Raffield, Ragnar Orten Lie, Ellen Marie Næss, Caitlin Ellis

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Included in festival pass



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# Guided tours at Midgard Viking Centre

**Price: Included in regular museum ticket, Midgard talks ticket or festival pass**

12 am - The Grave mounds

1 pm - The Museum Exhibition

2 pm - The Gravemounds

Meeting point for guided tours is by the rune stone outside Midgard Viking Centre.

14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> of August



Foto: Dean Hainovitz

For more information and ticket prices visit our website:  
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# Midgard's Green Vikings

## Coiled basket

12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>

Price: 550 kr

11 am-4 pm

## Looping technique

14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>

Price: 320 kr

11 am-2 pm

Our "Green Viking" courses focus on old crafts and the use of natural resources. These courses are designed to both teach about the Viking Age, but also practical skills and how to use and reuse material which many have in their homes, gardens and neighbourhoods.



Foto: Midgard vikings

12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> of August

For more information and ticket prices visit our website:  
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# 1238: The Battle of Iceland VR experience

**Price: 250 NOK**

1238 The Battle of Iceland is an interactive and immersive historical experience that brings you into the middle of Viking battles and historical events. Step back in time and fight alongside the Vikings.

The experience is located outside Midgard Viking Centre.

More info



For more information and ticket prices visit our website:  
Midgardvikingsenter.no



12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> of August





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# The Viking playground

**Price: Included in regular museum  
ticket or Midgard talks ticket**  
11 am – 4 pm

Try out fun Viking activities for all ages at our Viking playground outside Midgard Viking Centre.

17<sup>th</sup> of August



Foto: Georg Aamodt

For more information and ticket prices visit our website:  
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Guided tour

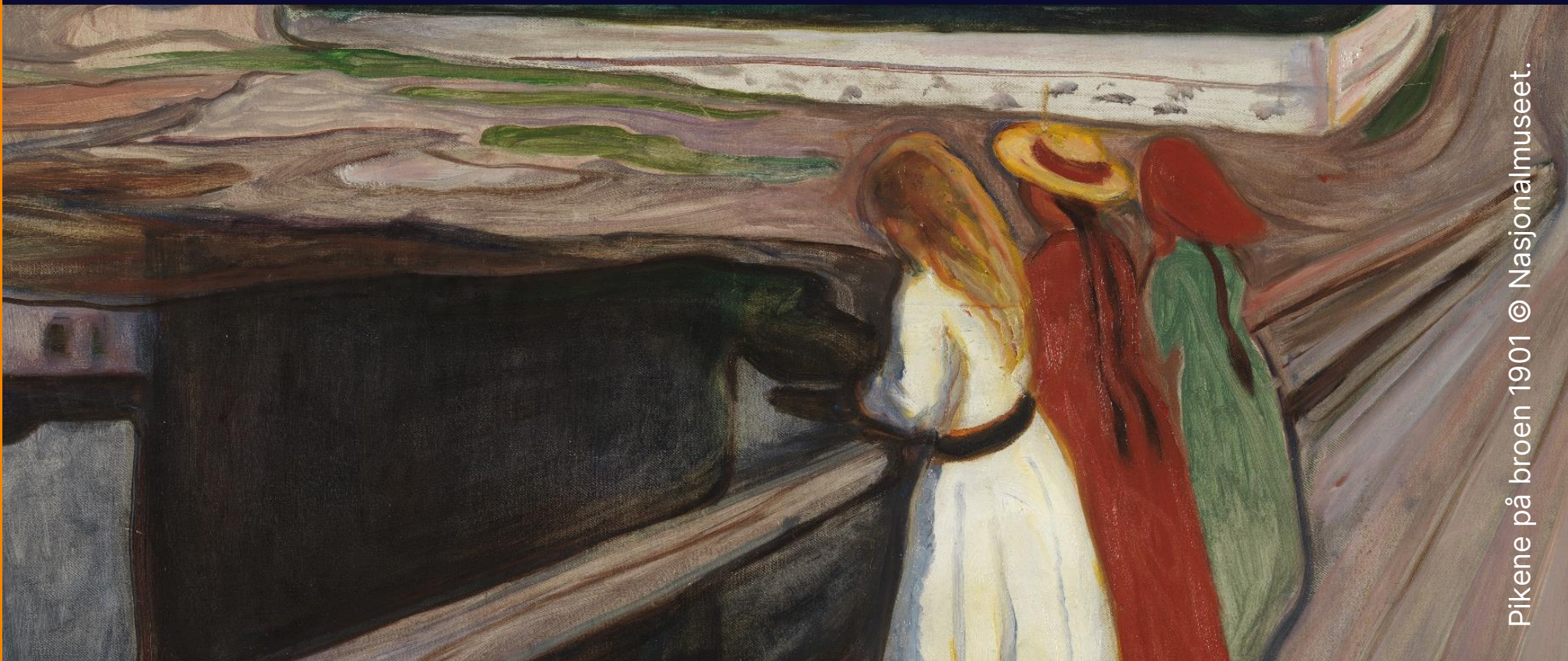
# Edvard munch: Towards the forest

**Price: 300 kr**  
12-1:30 pm

Meeting point by Borre Camping.

Learn about the life of the renowned painter Edvard Munch, known for his dramatic "Scream" painting. Munch spent a lot of time in the picturesque town Åsgårdstrand where he painted some of his most famous paintings. We walk through the beautiful nature reserve Fjugstad forest, along the seacoast to Åsgårdstrand and talk about how the forest and Åsgårdstrand inspired his work.

16<sup>th</sup> of August



Pikene på broen 1901 © Nasjonalmuseet.

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# Edvard Munch's House

*Where: Edvard Munchs gate 25, 3179 Åsgårdstrand*

## **Munch's house - opening hours**

- Tuesday – Sunday 11.00 – 17.00

## **Guided tours at the house**

- Tuesday – Sunday 12:30, 15.00 and 16.00

## **A walk in Munch's footprints, starting from Munch's house**

- Tuesday – Sunday 11.15 and 13.30

## **Digital experience and store**

- Tuesday – Sunday 11.15 and 13.30

Tickets: 120 NOK for adults, 100 NOK for children

13<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> of August



Foto: Georg Aamodt

For more information and ticket prices visit our website:  
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# Guided tours at Slottsfjell Museum

*Where: Farmannsveien 30, Tønsberg*

## Opening hours

Mon. – Sun.: 11 am – 4 pm (Thursday until 9 pm)

## Guided tours – every day

11:30 am: World War II bunker

12:00 am: The Castle ruins

1:30 pm: The Exhibitions

2:30 pm: World War II bunker

3:00 pm: The Castle ruins

Tickets: 120 NOK for adults, 100 NOK for children



Foto: Georg Aamodt

12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> of August

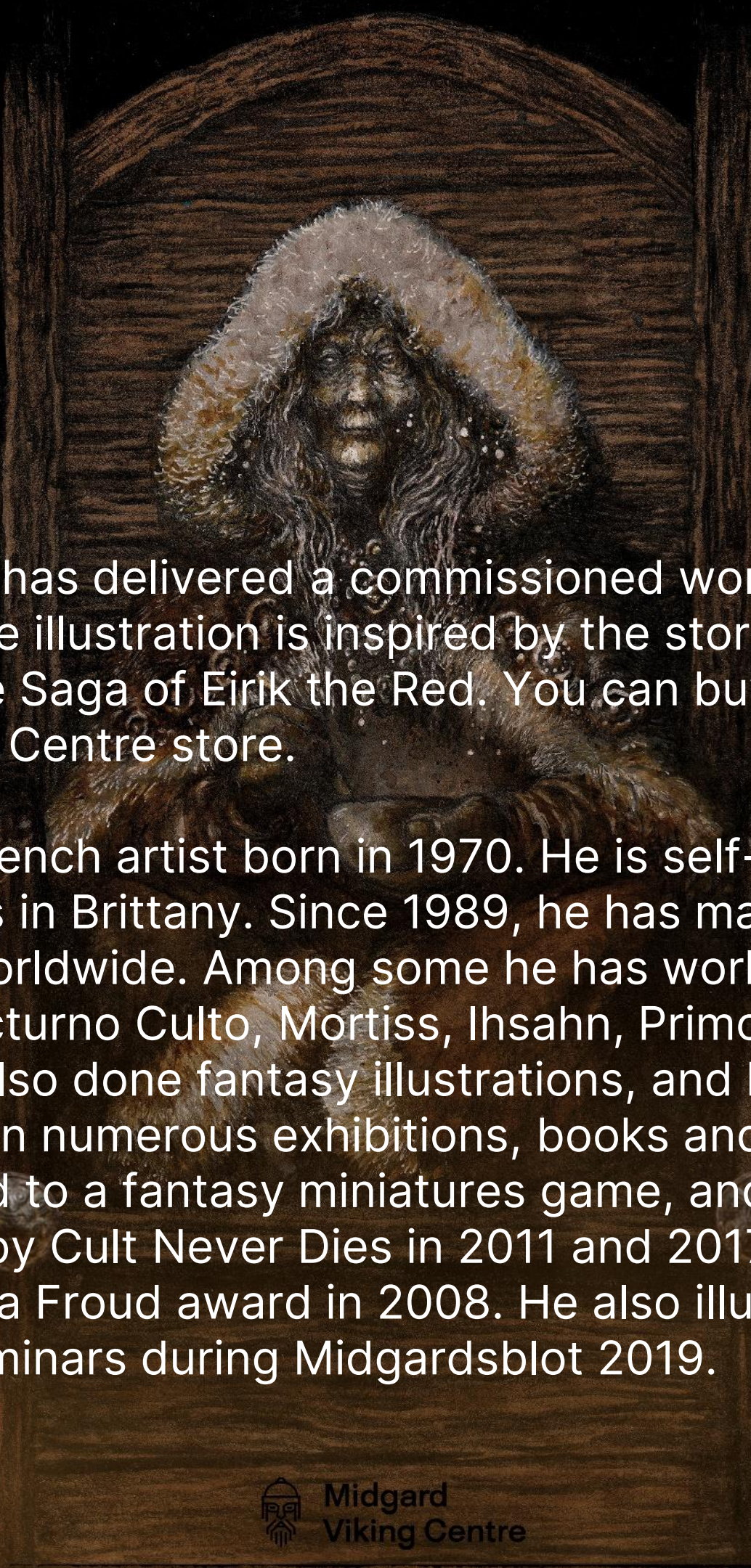
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# MIDGARD TALKS

AUGUST 14TH - 17TH 2024



David Thiérrée has delivered a commissioned work for Midgard Talks 2024. The illustration is inspired by the story of Torbjørg Lillevolve in the Saga of Eirik the Red. You can buy prints at the Midgard Viking Centre store.

Thiérrée is a French artist born in 1970. He is self-taught and works and lives in Brittany. Since 1989, he has made artwork for metal bands worldwide. Among some he has worked for Behemoth, Nocturno Culto, Mortiss, Ihsahn, Primordial and many more. He has also done fantasy illustrations, and his works have been featured in numerous exhibitions, books and magazines. He has contributed to a fantasy miniatures game, and has published two art books by Cult Never Dies in 2011 and 2017. He was honoured with a Froud award in 2008. He also illustrated the Mimir Talks seminars during Midgardsblot 2019.



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