

Photographic Exhibit –

GREENLAND: BETWEEN TWO WORLDS

**Presented by
EMBASSY OF DENMARK
WASHINGTON, DC
March through May 2008**



Greenlandic village of Qaarsut on north side of Nussuaq Peninsula overlooks Ummannaq Island as iceberg majestically but quietly floats through fjord on way to open sea. And, the land is alive.

Greenlanders use two words with which to identify their home land: *Kalaallit Nunaat*. In Greenlandic, *Nunaat* translates as “land” and *Kalaalit* as “people”, thus meaning the country of the Greenlanders. *Kalaallit Nunaat* is part of the Danish Realm called *Rigsfaellesskabet*, which consists of Denmark, the Faroe Islands, and Greenland

Greenland: Between Two Worlds expresses Greenland’s transitional status between Europe and North America, geographically, culturally, historically, and biologically. Images in the exhibit, for example, portray traditional and modern Greenlandic dress, architecture, and boat styles. All have roots on both sides of the Atlantic. Greenland’s environment also includes migratory birds, seals, and polar bears which migrate east and west as well as north and south, such as Harp Seals, Narwhals, Atlantic Puffins, various species of Goose, and Arctic Terns. The exhibit is derived from Dr. Richard’s forthcoming book *Beyond Borders in the Far Northeast: Maine to Greenland*. The concept of “The Far Northeast” region represents the historical practice of vessels plying

the Downeast wind from the Gulf of Maine to the west coast of Greenland. The Far Northeast proceeds from the State of Maine northeast along the eastern edge of Canada to Greenland.



Double Woolly lousewort is one of the many floral species that accentuate the hillsides of summer in Greenland.

For seven years, Wilfred Richard has traveled extensively in Greenland and Nunavut to observe and learn how climate change in the Arctic is affecting the lives of people and of their culture's resiliency to change. To this end,

in Greenland, he has photographed life in communities from Narsaq and Qaqortoq in the south to Nuuk, Sisimiut, Ilulissat, Uummannaq, Qaarsut, and Upernavik in the north. This exhibit features twenty-eight images of villages, people, flora, and fauna. The geographic focus concentrates along the west coast from about North Latitude 60⁰ to North Latitude 73⁰.

The Smithsonian Institution's Arctic Studies Center has collaborated with the embassy of Denmark and the Greenland Home Rule Government on many previous projects, including the exhibition *Vikings: the North Atlantic Saga* (2000-2003) and the *Festival of Greenland* (2005), both presented at the National Museum of Natural History. The ASC and Dr. Richard greatly appreciate the opportunity to continue our collaboration through this photographic exploration of Greenland peoples, culture, and environment.

Carver Johannes works on a piece of soapstone at Sisimiut Workshop of Arts.





Co-sponsored by
Smithsonian Institution
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Greenlandic girl in Kangaamiut practices
the art of *ajarraaq*.



The Arctic Tern is equally at home in Arctic as well as subarctic and Antarctica.