

Icons of Sweden

How would you rank the top-6 Icons of Sweden among the 29 names proposed in the alphabetical list below?

Icons of 'great culture' = cultural and scientific figures of renown and lasting stature in the fields of Art, Music, Literature, Science, Vision.

List by Helena Wallemo, Nobel Museum and Icons of Europe asbl.



- ABBA (1972-1982): pop/rock group writing own songs and music
Carl Jonas Love Almqvist (1793–1866): poet and social critic
Svante Arrhenius (1859-1927): scientist, Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1903
Gunnar Asplund (1885-1940): pioneering architect
Per Daniel Amadeus Atterbom (1790-1855): romantic poet
Carl Michael Bellman (1740-1795): poet and composer
Ingmar Bergman (1918-2007): film director and producer*
Den heliga Birgitta (Bridget of Sweden, 1303-1373): mystic, a patron saint of Europe
Jussi Björling (1911-1960): tenor, opera singer
Fredrika Bremer (1801-1865): writer and feminist activist
Anders Celsius (1701-1744): astronomer
Albert Engström (1869-1940): artist, humorist and critic
Greta Garbo (1905-1990): film actress*
Erik Gustaf Geijer (1783-1847): writer, historian, poet, philosopher, composer
Dag Hammarskjöld (1905-1961): diplomat, economist, author, Nobel Peace Prize 1961*
Selma Lagerlöf (1858-1940): author, Nobel Prize in Literature 1909 | 20-krona banknote issued 1992
Carl Larsson (1853-1919): painter and interior designer
Jenny Lind (1820-1887): soprano, opera singer | 50-krona banknote issued 1996
Astrid Lindgren (1907-2002): author and screenwriter*
Carl von Linné (1707-1778): naturalist, botanist, zoologist, physician | 100-krona banknote issued 2001
Birgit Nilsson (1918-2005): soprano, opera singer*
Lennart Nilsson (1922-): photographer and scientist
Alfred Nobel (1833-1896): chemist, inventor, founder of the Nobel Prize
Lars Norén (1944-): playwright, novelist and poet
August Strindberg (1849-1912): playwright, novelist, poet, essayist and painter
Evert Taube (1890-1976): author, artist, composer and singer*
Esaias Tegnér (1782-1846): poet, bishop
Tomas Tranströmer (1931-): author and psychologist, Nobel Prize in Literature 2011
Anders Zorn (1860-1920): painter, sculptor, printmaker

Please reply to @IconsEurope and/or @NobelMuseum / @HelenaWallemo with Twitter hash tag #icons_se. Comments may also suggest a revision of the whole proposed list of 29 Icons of Sweden.

Art = visual and performing arts (including film):	7 or 8
Music = composers and songwriters:	2 or 3
Literature (including poets and playwrights):	11
Science = wide range (incl. pioneering architecture and economics):	6
Vision = visionary thinking, diplomacy, peace advocacy:	2

Source: Helena Wallemo, Curator, Communications Officer, Nobel Museum, Stockholm developed an initial proposal of 25 Icons on 29 May 2012 at the suggestion of Icons of Europe asbl, Brussels. The alphabetical list has subsequently been revised for comments by a wider audience, most recently on 15 June 2012.

* Portrayed at the new Swedish banknotes. Introduction will begin in October 2015 (collage by the Swedish National Bank). However, why is no great Swedish (20th C) scientist portrayed? Linné no longer there, and Hammarskjöld not Arts or Sci rep. Improved acknowledgement of **Sweden's science legacy and capability** would stimulate education, innovation and exports.