

STICHTING VIKTOR IV



newsletter no. 7

November 2013



FRIENDS OF VIKTOR IV

It is a pleasure to update you on the festive presentation on Sunday afternoon 14 April of Ina Munck's new book about Viktor IV.

First of all, we would like to thank everyone for coming to the presentation, your enthusiasm and support are highly appreciated. We are also extremely grateful to Bodo and Jacqueline Douqué, who so kindly gave us the run of their impressive house on the Keizersgracht. At the gathering were 166 Friends, all of whom could be addressed from the monumental staircase. There was a small exhibition of Viktor's Ikons in the splendid basement, as well as a continuous showing of the film *Who Needs the Pacific Ocean*.



Of course everything centred on the book and not least on Ina Munck, who came over from Copenhagen for the occasion. With the special picture of Viktor that she sketched in her welcoming speech, and with the signing of the books she so generously handed out to us all, she was the radiant central figure of our gathering.

Thanks to an amazing coincidence we came across Wes Andrews, an old friend of Viktor since the early 1960s. Full of refreshing American enthusiasm, he was the brain behind the book presentation and he gave us his thoughts on the future of the Viktor IV Foundation (more about that later).

The new book was on sale in the period room at the front of the house, together with other objects related to Viktor IV. And a video presentation showed a selection of Viktor's Ikons tracked down so far.

That the presentation was a festive occasion, was due in no small measure to Floris van Helbergen's catering and the girls from Brasserie 'Klokspijs'.

During the gathering our special assistant Menne Bartelsman videoed 20 interviews with a random selection of guests, based on the question, Which part of Amsterdam do *you* associate with Viktor IV? The resulting fascinating anecdotes show just how much Viktor still lives on in many people's thoughts.

And finally, many thanks to our photographer Ole Eshuis, who videoed the gathering, and to Bodo Douqué, Wim Koen, Dirk van Leeuwen and Jet Boetje, who sent us photos, some of which appear in this newsletter.



WHAT DID THE GATHERING ACHIEVE?

After the gathering we received many enthusiastic reactions. Some Friends already knew each other, others became acquainted there. Friends from Deventer told us how delighted they were to be able to buy an Ikon at last, thanks to a meeting at the book presentation.

Unfortunately, however, a number of issues were not sufficiently discussed during the gathering.

Our intention was to get you involved in the Foundation's main goal and its elaboration in a long-term plan, for which Wes Andrews has drawn up an enthusiastic 'Vision Statement'.

At the top of our list is the necessity to find a permanent home for Viktor's extensive archive, as well as for the workspace/studio now stored in 17 removal boxes recently transported to the Netherlands.

We would also have liked to make an urgent request for help in finding a solution to this problem and we wonder whether you have any suggestions.

Basically what we need is a secure, dry storage space. One that is occasionally accessible by appointment for research and study. The plan for a Viktor IV café, modelled on Ina Munck's café in Copenhagen, is apparently too ambitious and has been dropped.

Expenses

The sale of Viktor's books and other articles during the book presentation raised app. €1,200. This amount plus various highly welcome donations are far from sufficient to cover expenses (for filing, photography, English translations, audio-visual activities, managing the website, the transport of 500 Viktor IV books and Viktor's workspace/studio from Denmark to the Netherlands, etc.).

Reason enough therefore to appeal to you to become an active patron as well as a member.

Fairly soon we shall ask everyone to make an annual contribution.

Fundraising



For years the question of how best to raise funds in these difficult times has been a serious issue.

Apart from the abovementioned expenses, we want to ensure that Viktor's grave at Zorgvlied is properly maintained and we are concerned about the state of the neglected boat near the Blauwbrug.

window display to Viktor IV. The new book is on sale at Egidius for € 35 and can also be ordered from the secretariat of the Viktor IV Foundation.

Finally...

The ill health of some board members of the Viktor IV Foundation has been cause for concern over the last six months. So we wondered whether the Foundation could continue to exist if we were to step back one by one. However it is now quite clear that a special group of Friends is still devoted to Viktor and Ina.

And we really hope to find new board members among you.

In the hope that this newsletter has given you food for thought, we look forward to hearing from you!

On behalf of the board of the Viktor IV Foundation,
Anne Marie Huibregtse