

1911-12-07

SENDER

Henry D. Roberts

RECIPIENT

Jens Ferdinand Willumsen

FACTS

Document type:
Letter

Language:
Engelsk

Sender's location:
London (England)

Recipient's location:
Hellerup (Danmark)

Mentioned people:
Det Kongelige Danske Kunstakademi
Kunstnerforeningen af 18. November
Hugo Talbot
Laurits Tuxen

Archive:
J.F. Willumsens Museum
Arkivkasse: C/II/4 - Den danske
udstilling i Brighton

Mentioned exhibitions:
1912-4-13 - 1912-7-7, Modern
Danish Artist (Den danske udstilling i
Brighton 1912)

Kgl. Dansk General Konsulat,
Telegram-Adresse
"Danish Consulate, London."

Udst. 4/11



8 & 9, Byward Street,
Great Tower Street,
London, E.C.

7th December 1911.

Dear Mr Willumsen,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your kindly worded letter of 30th November.

It is perhaps not unnatural nowadays that the different sections of the Danish artists should fail to agree on one Committee. I am holding back the official reply from the Town Clerk, although my Committee are most anxious to have this matter finally settled either one way or the other.

Because I learned to appreciate you and your friends when I was in Copenhagen I am writing this letter to you privately. I quite give you credit for your good intentions by inviting a certain number of the artists of 18 November, but you have left out of your invitation one gentleman, who is the Chairman of the Painters' section of that society, which the members must consider a slight that must naturally prevent any of them from exhibiting with you as President, which I understand will be the case.

It was at the request of Professor Tuxen that the invitation

originally was addressed to you, but I was a perfect stranger in Danish art circles, or I would have known that the invitation should really have been addressed to the President of the Royal Academy, and I am a little at fault in not understanding why Professor Tuxen did not advise this course. Perhaps it is too late to do so now?

Rather than allow the whole exhibition to come to nothing I would, therefore, suggest to you to write another letter to the Town Clerk, as if you had not replied at all (the first letter I can return to you). In your new letter you can refer to the Corporation's invitation and say that you accept the invitation to exhibit half the pictures, suggesting that an invitation to exhibit the other half be forwarded to the society of the 18 November.

In this way ^{they} you would all get ^{their} your pictures censured by the sections to which ^{they} you belong, and everybody would in this reply (which ought to be published) realize the essential impartiality of the position that you have taken up.

My action and motives have been such that I have been anxious that the public of Denmark should understand that the invitation sent by the Corporation of Brighton was meant as a compliment for all the Danish artists, and not to the section which you have the honour to represent.

It may be also my fault that I did not point out to you that

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the names of the Swedish Committee were all submitted to us before they were made public.

I hope you will give this letter your very serious consideration and let me have your reply at your earliest convenience.

Yours very truly

Henry D. Roberts

J.F. Willumsen Esq

28 Strandagervej,

Hellerup,
Denmark.