

1912-03-09

SENDER

Henry D. Roberts

RECIPIENT

Jens Ferdinand Willumsen

FACTS

Document type:
Letter

Language:
Engelsk

Sender's location:
Brighton (England)

Recipient's location:
Hellerup (Danmark)

Mentioned people:
Valdemar Andersen
Ch. A. Been
Bing & Grøndahl
William Carington
Christian Cato
Den Kongelige Porcelainsfabrik
N.V. Dorph
Dronning Alexandra
Charlotte Knollys
P.S. Krøyer
Clara Melchior
Lili-Ann Ortmann
Pauline Thomsen
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)

POST OFFICE TELEPHONE.
No. 154.



B.W.

HENRY D. ROBERTS,
DIRECTOR.

*Public Library, Museums,
and Fine Art Galleries,
Brighton.*

March 9th, 1912.

J. F. Willumsen, Esq.,
Strandagervej 28,
Hellerup,
DENMARK.

Dear Mr. Willumsen,

I was very pleased indeed to receive your letter of the 6th instant, and am glad to know that you have got together a good and thoroughly representative exhibition of works by the best artists. I can quite understand that you have had much difficulty in the matter.

You will have received my letter about Mrs. Melchior's Kroyer, and I hope we shall be able to get that also.

You say there are 70 pieces of porcelain coming - are these exhibits from Messrs. Bing and Grondahl and the Royal Porcelain works, or are they separate? You have not said anything to me about the exhibits of these firms. I was looking forward to a rather larger exhibit from these firms, and was prepared to supply them with a case each about 170 cm. long, 68 cm. broad, and 110 cm. high - there would also be a stand to this case which could be placed in the middle.

We may have some difficulty in obtaining the two Coronation pictures by Professor Tuxen, but I shall probably know definitely on Monday when I am going to see Sir William Carington, Keeper of the King's Privy Purse.

I am sorry there are not any pictures of the King and Queen worth sending to the exhibition, but am glad we shall have representations of them and other members of the Royal family in sculpture.

I am a little disappointed that general permission cannot be obtained from the artists for their pictures to

J. F. Willumsen, Esq. Contd.

be reproduced. There are, as you know, many English illustrated papers who would wish to reproduce some of these pictures, and so give the exhibition a great advertisement, and probably be of much use to the artists, - but these pictures should appear when notices of the exhibition appear; for instance, we shall have what we call a Press View two or three days before the opening, and the notice will appear in many of the papers on the day of the opening. There will be no time to write to Denmark for permission of the artists, and then if an affirmative reply were received have the picture in question photographed. May I suggest that a letter be sent to each of the artists asking them if they have any objection to any of their exhibits being reproduced, then if you let me have the names of those people who will not allow their exhibits to be reproduced, I could tell the newspaper men which exhibits they may not reproduce. Probably most of the artists will agree. I should put in each case the copyright was strictly reserved by the artist, which is what is customary in England - as a rule, artists are only too pleased to allow their pictures to be reproduced.

I have duly received the sketch for the poster, by Mr. Vald Andersen, and I think it will make a very striking one, but we shall not want 1000. I should be very pleased to agree to Mr. Andersen's request to allow him to work out the design on the stones in Copenhagen, and have the poster printed in Copenhagen. I notice that Messrs. Cato ask 1 Kr. each for 200 copies; 50 öre each for 500 copies; and 34 öre each for 1000 copies. If they will do me 750 at 34 öre each, I shall be glad to give them an order for that number. You will perhaps let me know as soon as possible what they say about it. We only had 500 for the Swedish Exhibition.

I shall have the poster photographed down to a smaller size and use that as the cover of the catalogue. I enclose the lettering for the poster.

I think I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Been at Mr. Dorph's house when I was in Copenhagen - if so, will you please tell him that I am delighted to know that he will be good enough to write an introduction to the catalogue.

I quite understand that the Danish artists would like to have one of their own number to assist in hanging the

J. F. Willumsen, Esq. Contd.

exhibition, and of course have no objection. We shall make whoever comes very welcome, although I cannot promise the lavish hospitality which I received myself when in Copenhagen. I have no doubt I shall agree with the plan on which he proposes to hang the exhibition.

With reference to the busts of Mrs. Ortmann, I did not know they were above natural size, and thought from the photographs they were very good - they were exhibited at Brussels. As Mrs. Ortmann is prepared to pay the expenses of sending them over here, do you not think we might allow her to send one, say, "The Skagenfisker" - it will cost us nothing, and will please her. I hope you will agree.

I am pleased to know that you have accepted a picture by Miss Pauline Thomsen - I am sure she will be delighted.

I am pleased to think that the exhibits will be sent off on Thursday - they ought to arrive in Brighton about the end of the next week. The coal strike will not affect it at all because I shall probably send a van from Brighton to bring the exhibits down here from the docks.

I am pleased that you liked my lecture, but of course the newspaper account was very small - they did not print one tenth of what I said.

Finally, I am glad to say that I yesterday had a letter from Her Majesty Queen Alexandra's Private Secretary saying that she would be pleased to grant her patronage to the exhibition.

Yours faithfully,

Henry Thomsen