

1911-10-18

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:
Dronning Alexandra
Vilhelm Hammershøi
Valdemar Irminger
P.S. Krøyer
Julius Paulsen
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.*

Enclosure

October 18th, 1911.

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

Dear Mr. Willumsen,

I thank you for your letter of the 13th and am glad to know that you are now back in Copenhagen and are making arrangements with the Danish artists.

I have so many meetings and engagements during the winter months that it is very difficult for me to get away for more than a day or two at a time, and I do not want to make only a very short stay in Copenhagen ^{and} also wish to visit other places on my way there.

X

You ask for conditions to tell the artists. These are very simple. We will pay carriage on all the pictures from Copenhagen to England, and will also send them back to Copenhagen free of charge. The Committee have up till now insured the exhibits in our various Continental exhibitions, but they are not anxious to do this in the future. They feel that in most cases the pictures are already insured by the artists, and that the additional risk of damage etc. during the transit might also be borne by them, but we are not prepared to insist upon this. If the pictures sent over here are not too large or too expensive, we shall have no objection to paying the insurance, but in that case we should ask the artists to have them insured at as small a sum as possible. The cost of insurance for the French and Swedish exhibitions was very large.

We will also pay the cost of packing the pictures in the cases to be sent over here. All the pictures may be for sale, but if any sales are effected while the pictures are here, the Committee ask for a small commission of 5 per cent on the price obtained. This is not with the idea of making

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any profit on them, but they do it with all the English exhibitions. There is no charge made for admission, and it is expected that about 30,000 or 40,000 people will see the exhibition.

X Unless there are special reasons to the contrary, we prefer that all the pictures etc. should be by living artists or artists only recently deceased, as we wish to show what the modern Danish artists are doing. We do not wish for only the "impressionist" or very modern type of picture, but all kinds and conditions of pictures which are now being painted. It is of course understood that all pictures sent over here will be subject to the approval of the Committee, and also subject to the fact that the space may not be sufficient to hang everything sent over. We wish for about 200 pictures. I send you a catalogue of the Swedish Exhibition, and also one of the Guides to this Institution which gives a plan of the exhibition galleries which I have marked on Page 6. We should be glad to show oil paintings, water colour drawings, etchings, and pen and pencil drawings if considered necessary. We do not wish to show much sculpture - small pieces of sculpture and small bronzes we shall be glad to have, but not large and heavy ones as the cost of carriage and insurance of these things is very high. If necessary, we should be glad to show some Copenhagen porcelain, but that will have to be insured by the people who send it.

The exhibition will be opened about the end of March, and will close about the end of June. We have asked Her Majesty Queen Alexandra to become the protectress of the exhibition, but have not yet received her reply. The exhibition will be the first exhibition of only modern Danish pictures ever held in England, so I believe. The Guildhall exhibition a few years ago included artists who were deceased, as well as living artists.

I hope that your Committee is now formed, and that if I am to be asked to Copenhagen as their guest I may know the date as early as possible since I have so many arrangements to make before I can leave.

We should of course like some pictures by Kroyer, Paulsen, Hammershoj, Irminger, and Tuxen - these are well-known names in England. I hope Professor Tuxen will have his Coronation picture finished in time and that we shall be

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able to have this in the exhibition.

There is no need for you to excuse your English - it is very excellent. I wish I knew half as much Danish.

I am looking forward with a great deal of pleasure to my visit and am sorry to appear to hurry you in any way, but the artists themselves ought to have as long notice as possible.

I am sending you with this a copy of the circular which we sent to the French artists and to the Swedish artists. A similar letter ought to be sent to the Danish artists asking them to contribute. Of course it may be that certain well-known artists may not have pictures to lend us in March, in which case of course I have no doubt you will be able to arrange for some private person to lend us examples.

I hope I have written you sufficiently fully - if not, please tell me what other information you would like.

Yours faithfully,

Henri Matisse

Please return this to me