



Plymouth Music Series of Minnesota
Philip Brunelle, Artistic Director and Founder

Kristina!

Saturday, October 12, 1996 • 8 pm
Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Sunday, October 13, 1996 • 4 pm
Chisago Lakes High School, Lindström, Minnesota

*With this production, the Plymouth Music Series
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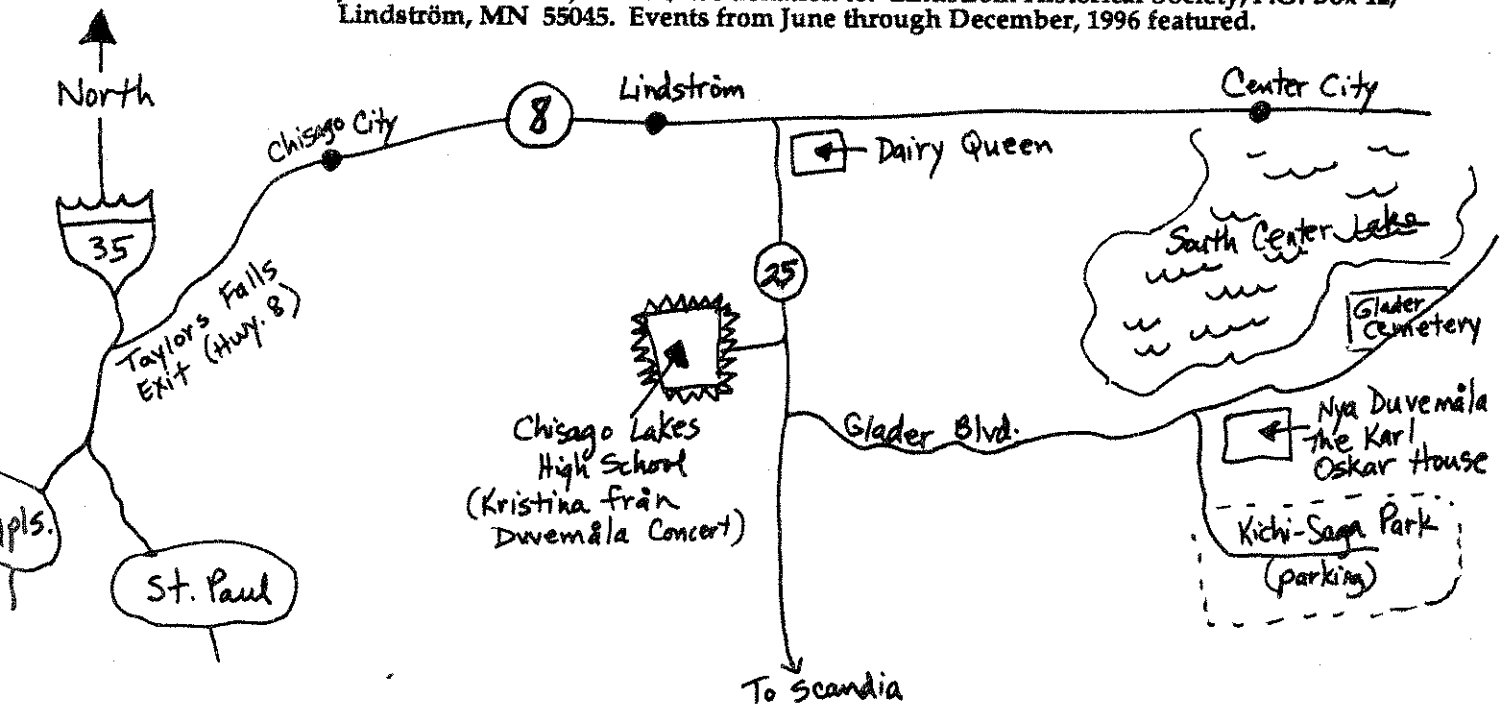
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Kristina från Duvemåla Concert Premier

Philip Brunelle and the Plymouth Music Series presents "Kristina från Duvemåla" Concert at Chisago Lakes High School in Lindström. The Greater Chisago Lakes Area Swedish Immigraton Jubilee "encore" will honor "The End of the Emigrant Trail" celebration with a concert performance of this hit musical from Sweden. Philip Brunelle will lead the Chorus and Orchestra of the Plymouth Music Series and the Northwestern College Choir in a performance of Kristina från Duvemåla. This production will be a concert performance of this Swedish hit musical composed by Benny Andersson, libretto by Björn Ulvaeus - both former members of the popular rock group, ABBA. Kristina från Duvemåla opened in Sweden in October, 1995 and has continued to perform for sold-out houses. Kristina från Duvemåla is a delightful story based on Vilhelm Moberg's book *The Emigrants*. This musical tells the story from Kristina's perspective. The four stars of the Swedish cast, Helen Sjöholm, Anders Ekborg, Åsa Bergh and Peter Jöback will leave the current production in Malmö, Sweden to be here for the U.S. premiere in Minneapolis and Lindström. (Minneapolis performance at Orchestra Hall, Saturday, October 12 at 8:00 PM.)

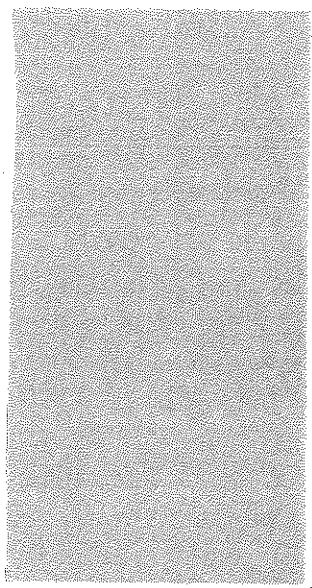
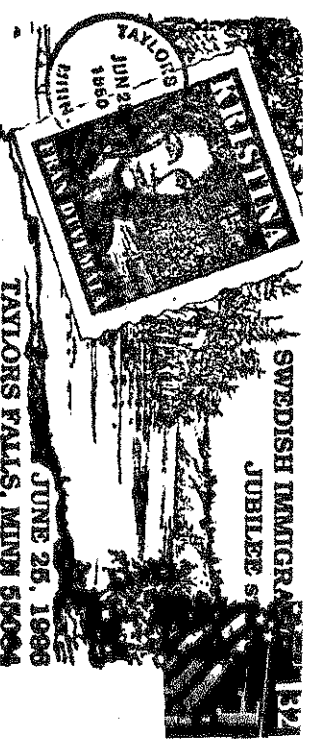
The Chisago Lakes High School gymnasium will be equipped with professional staging, lighting and sound by Plymouth Music Series for this performance. The invitation has been extended to Benny Anderson and Björn Ulvaeus to attend the concert. They are working to arrange their schedules to be in attendance. More information, contact: Sally Barott (612) 257-2700 or Barb Young (612) 465-6635.

- Performance:** Sunday, October 13, 1996 - 4:00 PM
- Location:** Chisago Lakes High School, 29400 Olinda Trail, Lindström, MN 55045 (see map) gymnasium bleacher style seating handicapped access
- Ticket Price:** \$15.00 per person - No refunds - No Reserved Seating - General Admission
- Payment:** Check, money order, VISA, Mastercard or Discover
- Tickets by Phone:** (612) 257-2991 in Minnesota or in Wisconsin (715) 294-2991. Ticket sales start May 20, 1996
- Seating:** Limited to 900 tickets
- Doors Open:** 3:30 PM - no earlier please
- Concert Length:** Estimated 90 minutes
- Karl Oskar House:** Nya Duvemåla - the Karl Oskar House, is a short drive from the High School location. (see map) The indoor tours will begin in 1997. The outside is being completed for the June 27 dedication at 2:00 PM in Kichi-Saga Park. Come see!
- Calendar of Events:** For a complete calendar of events for the Greater Chisago Lakes Swedish Immigration Jubilee celebration, mail a \$4.00 donation to: Lindström Historical Society, P.O. Box 12, Lindström, MN 55045. Events from June through December, 1996 featured.



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Jeffrey de Hart
American Correspondent
PO Box 2758
New York, NY 10116-2758 USA



Philip Brunelle, Artistic Director & Founder

PLYMOUTH MUSIC SERIES OF MINNESOTA

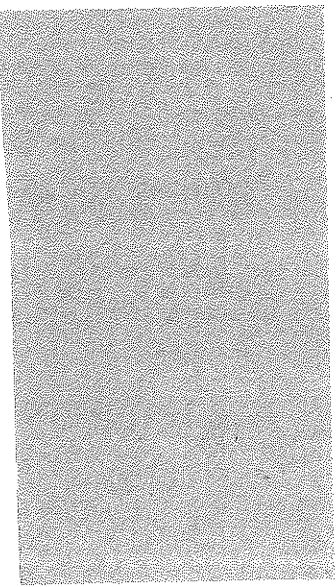
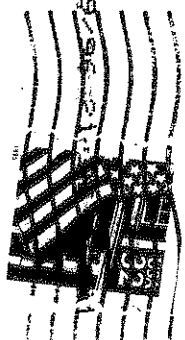
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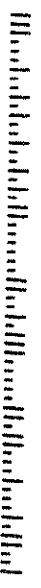
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USABBA

Jeffrey de Hart, American Correspondent
The Official International Agnetha Benny Björn Frida Fanclub
Reprinted with permission of the UK News Service ©1996

America is rolling out the red carpet for *Kristina från Duvemåla*! 1996 marks the 150th Anniversary of the massive migration from Sweden to the United States and the Swedish government has commissioned an international celebration – The Swedish Immigration Jubilee. The Swedish Council of America and the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis are coordinating the Jubilee in the US. There are many events scheduled all summer and continuing through December. Included are lectures on Vilhelm Moberg, a Karl Oskar Days celebration, film screenings of *The Emigrants*, a Kristina Fest, a ceremony at the Vilhelm Moberg Statue in Nya Duvemåla near the Karl Oskar House (complete with a royal visit by His Majesty King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia . . . could Frida be far behind?), commemorative postage stamp cancellations at both the Taylors Falls and the Lindström post offices and – yes! – the premiere of *Kristina från Duvemåla* in the United States!

There will be two performances of a concert version of Kristina från Duvemåla featuring the four stars of the original cast, none of whom have ever been to America before: Helen Sjöholm, Anders Ekborg, Åsa Bergh and Peter Jöback. They will briefly leave the Swedish production for the US premiere in Minneapolis and Lindström. Benny & Björn have been invited to attend and they plan to do so. Phillip Brunelle will lead the Chorus and Orchestra of the Plymouth Music Series and the Northwestern College Choir. Mr. Brunelle first invited Benny & Björn to Minnesota in 1988 when he conducted the inaugural Midsummer Festival, part of a series sponsored by the State of Minnesota that would feature a different country every few years. The Midsummer Festival featured the Göteborg Symphony, prominent Swedish singers and a choral program that included ABBA music. Benny & Björn accepted the invitation to attend. Mr. Brunelle was later invited to Sweden to conduct the Royal Opera. While there, he remained in touch with Benny who discussed *Kristina* with him. As completion of the masterpiece neared, a concert version was suggested and following the premiere in Malmö, Benny & Phillip decided they must absolutely do this concert version in Minnesota. It was a natural evolution.

The Minneapolis concert will be performed at Orchestra Hall (seats 2,462) on Saturday the 12th of October at 8:00 pm and the Lindström show is on Sunday the 13th at 4:00 pm at the Chisago Lakes High School gymnasium (seats 900). (The name Chisago may sound familiar to those who have seen the musical as it is referred to as Kichi-Saga in Björn's libretto. Kichi-Saga is the Native American translation for Chisago which means fair and lovely waters.) The gymnasium is the largest venue close to Nya Duvemåla and the Karl Oskar House. It will be equipped with professional staging, lighting and sound that would meet with Benny's critical approval. The concert is estimated to be 90 minutes in length, considerably scaled back from the four hours in Malmö and Göteborg, as Benny wanted a solid concert from one song to the next following a brief introduction. Mr. Brunelle asked Benny to determine the program and Benny agreed to with Björn's help. Orchestra Hall tickets will go on sale the 1st of September and at that time inquiries can be made at the box office by calling 612.371.5656. Chisago Lakes tickets are now available by calling 612.257.2991 and cost \$15 per person (general admission, credit cards accepted, no refunds, no reserved seating). For information on the Plymouth Music Series call 612.870.0943.

Overall information on The Swedish Immigration Jubilee can be obtained from the Greater Chisago Lakes Area Swedish Immigration Jubilee Committee at 612.257.2700. If you can't call, write to the Lindström Historical Society, PO Box 12, Lindström, Minnesota 55045. A calendar of complete Jubilee events is available for \$4, many of which take place at the Karl Oskar House. This is the house that Vilhelm Moberg saw in 1948 while researching for more than one year for his books. He chose it as the house in which Karl Oskar would live out his later years and eventually die. Swedes have come to visit the house that represented Moberg's fictitious characters and the emigration of their families from their homeland. Moberg would ride a bicycle around the Chisago Lakes area each day and interview local residents about their Swedish heritage

and their journeys to America. His characters, Karl Oskar Nilsson and his wife Kristina, were created from the interviews. There are hopes for a celebration to rename the immigrants' path from Taylors Falls to Lindström the Benny & Björn Trail, although it is now truly a road. If you cannot make the trek to Minnesota, the *Kristina från Duvemåla* commemorative stamp cancellation is available by mail. It features the musical's logo depicting Kristina, her Astrakan apple tree and Taylors Falls postmark dated June 25, 1860. To receive the cancellation, send a self-addressed stamped envelope from the US. (If you are not in the USA, the cordial postal worker with whom I spoke said she thought it would be okay to send a self-addressed envelope and include an International Reply Coupon.) Send to Postmaster, Swedish Immigration Jubilee, Kristina från Duvemåla Station, PO Box 9998, Taylors Falls, Minnesota 55084-9998. The pictorial cancellation is one of twelve or so in observance of the Jubilee, although only two of them feature Kristina – Taylors Falls and Lindström – and the Taylors Falls cancellation is only available 30 days following the 25th of June.

Now a brief recap of recent usABBA events . . . On the 21st of June VH1 aired ABBA The Movie for the first time ever in the US on commercial television and then reaired it twice again within a week. It had been run only once previously here on Cinemax, a subscription cable channel, around 1980. VH1 aired an edited version (among the missing scenes was When I Kissed The Teacher) as part of its new Rock N' Roll Picture Show presentation and was featured prominently in TV and print ads for almost six weeks prior to its showing. It was interspersed with commentary by the show's host, John Fugelsang, who ate "ABBA Bits" cereal and quipped "Peace and Frida" at the end of the show. (John also hosted the recent VH1 Rock Names special.) There were also two clips featuring Björn who commented on ABBA's image: "They thought that this was a contrived image with two married couples and all that, but it wasn't. It was absolutely a coincidence." And the ABBA experience: "In hindsight I suppose you could say that the 70s was ripe for nostalgia. The more crazy it was the better it was and the higher the boots the better and all that – highly unsophisticated. I must say that I'm ashamed when I look at some of the costumes. But, then again, we had fun." VH1 plans another ABBA 8-Track Flashback episode in the near future with more plans on the horizon.

Naturally, The Movie spurred further sales of ABBA Gold which climbed to #133 the week of 30 June on Billboard's Top 200, its highest position since 11 February when it reached #125. Funny thing is, at #133 it sold 9,686 units but at #125 it only sold 8,579. However, the true gauge is that the 30 June sales are the biggest since the week of its Christmas peak of 17,443. Perhaps the most fascinating statistic since The Movie aired occurs on Billboard's Top Music Video chart. Not one, not two, but *three* videos are featured on 30 June! Gold jumps from #39 to #27 and Thank You ABBA reenters at #38 as does More ABBA Gold at #49. Odd, as the A&M/PolyGram commercial that aired on VH1 during The Movie concentrated on the Thank You For The Music CD box, ABBA Gold CD and the Muriel's Wedding soundtrack. It will be interesting to see if the success of The Movie will translate a return of The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert to the video sales chart and Muriel's Wedding to the video rental chart. The timing is ripe to release Muriel's Wedding as a video for sale. Despite ABBA Gold's recent double platinum CD award, the newly released More ABBA Gold CD is nowhere in sight of the charts thanks to A&M considering its release a catalog item.

As you may have read in the current Agnetha Benny Björn Frida Fanclub magazine, recording for ABBA Latino has begun and the first track has been completed. It is Triunfa El Ganador – The Winner Takes It All – which is performed by a prominent European singer who must remain unidentified until contracts for each track have been signed. However, the next two tracks are scheduled to be recorded this month and there are some major changes due in consideration of a strategic shift in the planning of the project. According to the producer of the record, this will not affect the exclusive competition Kathryn mentioned in the last issue which is planned for The Official International Agnetha Benny Björn Frida Fanclub. I hope to announce details in the next issue or two of the magazine and newsletter as the project progresses.

That's a wrap for this issue!

Love and kitsches, Jeffrey

Revue

A WEEKLY PREVIEW OF ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

How Swede It Is

The history of Swedish immigration to the Twin Cities is chronicled in a new permanent exhibition at the American Swedish Institute.

By Scott Briggs

THE TWIN CITIES' Swedish roots are no secret. Just look at the number of Carlsons in the local phone books (more than five pages worth in the Minneapolis edition alone). Enough to make you go "Uschi!"

But despite the region's clear identification with its Scandinavian heritage, most of the locals are probably a little cloudy on just how that heritage came to be. The American Swedish Institute (ASI) hopes to shed some light on the lives of early immigrants to the Minneapolis-Saint Paul area with "Swedish Life in the Twin Cities," a new permanent exhibition opening Oct. 16, with a public reception from 5 to 8 p.m.

Actually, the show's first visitors got in a little early. Sweden's current royal couple, King Carl XVI and Queen Silvia, officially dedicated the exhibit Sept. 13 during their U.S. tour commemorating the 150th anniversary of mass Swedish immigration to America. The monarch was particularly taken by the show's 78 rpm recordings of traditional Swedish songs, as well as by a 1938 photograph taken in front of the Institute of an earlier royal visit. The photo included the king's grandfather, Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf, who became king in 1950.

Those items were among many examined by exhibition coordinator Claire Selkurt, who spent two years selecting materials for the show. Except for a few photographs supplied by the Minnesota Historical Society, everything now on display came from the Institute's extensive collection

of artifacts and documents.

"I went through, literally, card by card, folder by folder, and selected objects that I felt would tell an interesting story," Selkurt said. "I particularly looked for things that had a little background information. We have many objects in the collection with very little documentation, so the objects that have a story with them — letters or journals — are real treasures."

"Swedish Life in the Twin Cities" concentrates on activity between the 1870s and the 1920s, the period which saw the heaviest influx of Swedes to the Twin Cities. Exhibit organizers strove to keep the show focused on urban communities, the stories of which they felt had largely gone untold.

"So much on immigration is done on rural immigrants that came and farmed," said ASI publicist Jan McElfish. "We wanted to do something that really showed what it was like for Swedes that settled here in the cities."

The exhibition's first look into that life takes place on a simulated dock, where two life-sized figures in recreated period costumes stand surrounded by photographic reproductions of immigration documents and actual wooden trunks that once carried precious belongings across the ocean. Nearby, a display case containing such objects reflects both secular and sacred aspects of early Swedish-American culture. A Bible sits by a concertina that was likely played in bars on Saint Paul's Payne Avenue, the main thoroughfare of the



During his recent U.S. visit, Swedish King Carl XVI toured "Swedish Life in the Twin Cities" and was fascinated by this 1938 photo, taken on the Institute's front steps, of a previous royal visit. Pictured seventh from the left is Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf, King Carl's grandfather.

Swede Hollow neighborhood, where many Swedish immigrants settled. The exhibit further examines that community with a video clip from the KJCA-TV production "Lost Twin Cities II," while the Minneapolis Cedar-Riverside area, once a centerpiece of Twin Cities Scandinavian arts and culture, is highlighted with a kiosk resembling one that used to stand outside the Southern Theater. Posted playbills use two languages to promote popular performers.

"Some of the comedians even combined Swedish and English — kind of a 'Swinglish' — that kind of made fun of the crossover between the languages," said Selkurt. "That was kind of a comic staple, actually."

"Swedish Life in the Twin Cities" also includes furniture, fine craft work, mementos from fraternal organizations and a display about the life of newspaper magnate Swan Turnblad, the original owner of the 90-year-old mansion that now houses the American Swedish Institute.

The exhibit, although permanent, will be far from static. Organizers will alter content on a regular basis, and they will even tailor the show to certain seasons. One display of furniture from a typical immigrant's parlor, for example,

Christmas decorations in December. Eventually, the show will expand. A planned second phase would take the story of Swedish immigration up to the present by featuring personal profiles of people with Swedish backgrounds — everyone from the famous (Gov. Arne Carlson and University of Minnesota President Nils Hasselmo) to the unknown, such as an anonymous shoemaker.

Selkurt hopes visitors follow the exhibit's lead, too, by making efforts to preserve their own family histories. "I hope it gets them thinking about the belongings in their own collections, family photographs, journals, and how important those are," she said. "I hope they start talking to their grandpas and grandmas and getting some of those stories recorded."

As "Swedish Life in the Twin Cities" shows, individual memories can help preserve a big picture of the past for future generations. ■

"Swedish Life in the Twin Cities" opens Oct. 16 at the American Swedish Institute, 2600 S. Park Ave., Minneapolis. Museum hours are Tuesday and Friday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.; Wednesday, noon to 8 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. Call 871-4907.

Art Murmurs

MORE FROM MOORE

After emerging as a painful thorn in the side of corporate America (and, conversely, a hero for the working stiff) with his sharply funny 1989 documentary, "Roger & Me," humorist Michael Moore is now waging his anti-corporate war in writing. In "Downsize This! Random Threats From an Unarmed American," Moore serves up a nasty little indictment of companies and policy makers that are forsaking workers for financial gain. Moore reads from "Downsize This!" Oct. 11 at the Oak Street Cinema, 309 Oak St., Minneapolis, at 7 p.m. His presentation will include clips of his unfortunately short-lived TV show, "TV Nation" and a screening of "Roger & Me." Call 391-8184.

FRANK HISTORY

Where are the black stories in American history? Why does it seem that African American history dates back only as far as Abraham Lincoln? These are the questions at the heart of "The America Play" by Suzan-Lori Parks, a fast-emerging New York-based playwright who wrote the screenplay for the recent Spike Lee film, "Girl 6." Maverick Twin Cities theater producer Wendy Knox is staging the area premiere of "The America Play" under the auspices of her heralded company, Frank Theatre. The production opens Oct. 10 and plays through Nov. 3 at the Minneapolis Theatre Garage, Lyndale and Franklin avenues. Shows are Thursday through Sunday at 8 p.m. Call 377-0501.

ALL THINGS SWEDISH

The Plymouth Music Series opens its 28th season by celebrating the 150th anniversary of Swedes in America. The program, "Kristina," features performances by four of the stars from the cast of the hit Swedish musical, "Kristina From Duvenala." Also featured are the show's composers Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvæus, known for their years with a Swedish band you might remember called ABBA. In addition to a concert version of "Kristina," which was adapted from the novel "The Emigrants," the Oct. 12 program features Swedish composer Wilhelm Stenhammar's choral favorite, "Sangen (The Song)." 8 p.m. at Orchestra Hall, 1111 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis. Call 371-5656.

FALL CRAWL

The Saint Paul Art Crawl makes its fall appearance Oct. 11 and 12. The Crawl takes place in and around the galleries and hundreds of artist studios that populate the Lowertown district of Saint Paul. Crawl hours are Oct. 11, 6 to 10 p.m., and Oct. 12, 1 to 6 p.m. For information, visit the Art Crawl Web site at <http://www1.stpaul.gov/artercrawl> or call 226-1048.

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Att man ska hålla utkik efter böcker märkta med ett "U" om man vill läsa om hajar och ormar, att det faktiskt inte gör så mycket om man lämnar tillbaka boken för sent och att man måste ha en vuxen med sig för att få låna videofilmer var några av de nya kunskaper barnen fick med sig hem efter visningen.

- Alla femteklasser i hela Malmö har fått en inbjudan om att komma hit och titta, berättar bibliotekarie Jane Sjöberg som är specialanställd på biblioteket för att man ska hinna med alla visningar.

- Vi har fått en halv miljon så kallade Perssonpengar för att kunna genomföra det här. Poängen är att alla barn i Malmö ska få en chans att komma hit och se vad vi har att erbjuda, och många av dem har aldrig varit här förut.

En halv miljon av de så kallade Perssonpengarna har avsatts till ett projekt som går ut på att alla femteklassare i Malmö ska tas med på en guidad tur i stadsbiblioteket.

Foto: CLAES HALL



Strid om "Kristina" stoppar USA-planer

Nu har den svenska musikalsuccén "Kristina från Duvemåla" hamnat i Stockholms tingsrätt!

Bakgrunden är en tvist om vem som egentligen skrivit originalmanuset till stycket.

Björn Ulvaeus och Benny Andersson hävdar att det är regissören Lars Rudolphsson och dramaturgen Jan Mark med hjälp av dramatikern Carl Johan Seth. Seth å sin sida menar, att det är han och ingen annan som står för originalmanuset.

- Det hela är en mycket olustig historia som medfört att planerna på att föra "Kristina från Duvemåla" till USA har stannat upp tills vidare, sa en upprörd Björn Ulvaeus till Arbetet Nyheterna i går kväll.



Malmö ska bli snällare mot cyklisterna

I en enkät som gatukontoret i Malmö nyligen färdigställt framgår det att många upplever cyklisterna i stan som ett stort trafikproblem.



Gatorna vid Triangeln är ett ställe i Malmö där cyklisterna får samsas med bilar om utrymmet.

Foto: PER ROLAND

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Benny Andersson
Kristina from Duvemåla

Wilhelm Stenhammar
Sången



Saturday,
October 12, 1996

Kristina!

Orchestra Hall

8:00 pm

What did Benny Andersson and Björn
Ulvaeus do when their Swedish pop quartet
ABBA dissolved? They took a chance.

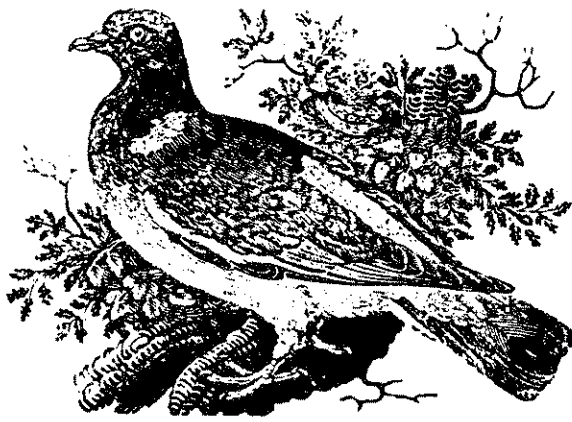
And did it ever pay off!

The musical geniuses that made ABBA the
biggest-selling music group ever teamed
up to bring to the musical stage the story
of Swedish immigration to America.

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of
Swedish immigration, Philip Brunelle will
lead the Chorus and Orchestra of the
Plymouth Music Series along with the
stars of the Swedish cast, **Helen Sjöholm**,
Anders Ekborg, **Åsa Bergh** and **Peter
Jöback**, in a concert performance of
Kristina from Duvemåla. Hear the U.S.
premiere of this hit musical which
continues to play to sold-out audiences
in Sweden since its opening last fall!

Wilhelm Stenhammar's *Sången* opens the
program, enchanting the audience with this
magical Swedish tale. The Northwestern
College Choir will join the Chorus of the
Plymouth Music Series for this stirring
tone poem.

telephone preview
612.288.2088 *Press 1*

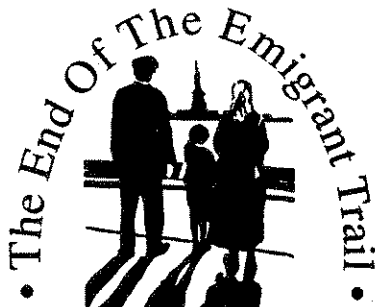


Kristina från Duvemåla

October 13, 1996

*Premiere United States performance at
Chisago Lakes High School, Lindström, Minnesota*

The Swedish Immigration Jubilee celebrated in Sweden and the United States tells the Emigrant's and Immigrant's Swedish History. The End of the Emigrant Trail commemorates the Greater Chisago Lakes area and its rich Swedish history and the strong desire to maintain and strengthen ties between Sweden and Minnesota. As we think back and celebrate our heritage, let us also think ahead and build a program designed to pass this precious heritage on to the next generation.

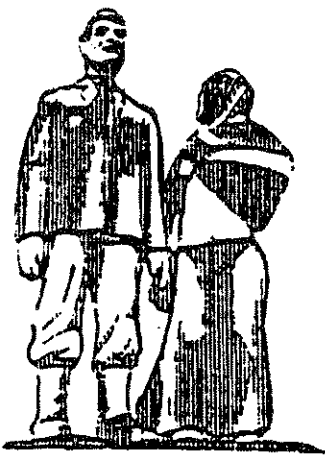


Greater Chisago Lakes Area
Swedish Immigration Jubilee
1846 - 1996

← 1846 →
996

Left: The End of the Emigrant Trail logo for the Greater Chisago Lakes area, incorporating the United States National Swedish Jubilee logo, and above, the Swedish Jubilee logo for the country of Sweden. The logos commemorate the 150th anniversary of the mass migration from Sweden.

"The Swedish Circle"



The Karl Oskar and Kristina Statue
in Lindström, Minnesota on U.S.
Hwy. 8, The Moberg Trail

This year's Swedish Immigration Jubilee established the eight local towns in the Greater Chisago Lakes area that have significant Swedish history and sites. They include: Chisago City, Lindström, Center City, Shafer, Scandia, Taylors Falls, Almelund and North Branch. Each town celebrates a hometown festival and/or has an historic site for touring for individuals and group. The sites include: Taylors Falls boat landing, Gammalgården Museum, Chisago Lake Evangelical Swedish Lutheran Church, the Karl Oskar and Kristina Statue, Lindström's Swedish Coffee Pot Water Tower, and more!

Maps and sites of the Swedish Circle are in the Swedish Jubilee Souvenir booklet (with a Swedish Jubilee Minnesota souvenir magnet). They are \$3.00 which includes postage, and are available by request to: Lindström Historical Society, P.O. Box 12, Lindström, MN 55045.



Chisago Lake Evangelical
Swedish Lutheran Church in
Center City. See the archives
room and Swedish tapestry.

U.S. Hwy. 8 from Taylors Falls to Forest Lake has been designated as The Moberg Trail - watch for the brown and white markers as you travel Hwy. 8, featuring the Karl Oskar and Kristina silhouette. Glader Blvd. will be symbolically named "The Benny & Björn Trail" today at a 3:00 PM ceremony.

Swedish Immigration Jubilee Souvenirs - Don't leave without several!

The following souvenirs are available in the lobby before and after the concert. They include:

- Mary Pettis commemorative print, "Currents of Change" (Gift to the King and Queen of Sweden)
- Kristina från Duvemåla Commemorative Oil Lamp by Leif Bjornson, Astrakan Apple Design
- Jubilee T-Shirts, baseball caps, Minnesota magnets, water bottles, souvenir booklets, tote bags

Nya Duvemåla - Karl Oskar House Fund Raising

Nya Duvemåla - the Karl Oskar House was moved to the Kichi-Saga Park site on November 29, 1995 and has undergone stabilization and partial exterior restoration during Phase I. Work will progress on a phase basis. All monies have been privately raised and volunteers have worked on the house. Additional funds are needed for interior restoration. If you would like to donate to the project, contributions are tax deductible and can be sent to: Lindström Historical Society, c/o Karl Oskar House, P.O. Box 12, Lindström, MN 55045.

Tack så mycket till alla!

We sincerely thank Philip Brunelle and the Plymouth Music Series for including Lindström as one of the premiere sites of the Swedish concert of *Kristina från Duvemåla*. We are honored by the attendance of Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvaeus and thank them and the cast, Helen Sjöholm, Anders Ekborg, Åsa Bergh and Peter Jöback for this performance. We extend our thanks to the Chorus and Orchestra of the Plymouth Music Series. Chisago Lakes School District Offices, Chisago Lakes High School and Mike Savold.

A special thank you to the following businesses for helping to sponsor this concert. They appreciate your patronage:

- St. Croix Valley Memorial Hospital, St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin 800-642-1336
- River Valley Medical Clinic, St. Croix Falls, WI MN toll free: 465-6345 or 800-828-3627
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The Events of The End of The Emigrant Trail Celebration

Our Swedish Immigration Jubilee Committee has created a year long festival which offered the visitor and local residents the opportunity to see, touch and feel our rich Swedish heritage as it was in the past, and how we celebrate it in the present. A two-ton Swedish boulder from Småland was placed at Nya Duvemåla on May 15, 1996, to symbolize the hardships the Swedes experienced in their homeland, and a plaque quotes Karl Oskar about the "kingdom of stone." The Swedish Jubilee festival started on June 21 in Taylors Falls with an 1851 immigrant boat landing re-enactment on the St. Croix River. The summer months were filled with Vilhelm Moberg lectures, workshops, demonstrations, Swedish entertainment, music, dance, theatre, concerts and a set of 14 commemorative postal cancellations from each town. The closing ceremonies were held at Chisago City on September 7 in the newly dedicated Moberg Park. A full-sized bronze statue of Moberg and his bicycle, by local sculptor Ian Dudley was dedicated on that day. The statue commemorates Vilhelm Moberg's stay in the Chisago Lakes area in 1948.

Emigrant Re-enactment of the 1851 Andersson party landing at Taylors Falls, Minnesota.



The Vilhelm Moberg Statue, by Ian Dudley in Moberg Park, Chisago City, Minnesota.

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The Royal Visit, September 13, 1996

Their Majesties King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia honored Chisago County with three royal stops. The first at the Vilhelm Moberg Statue in Chisago City. They viewed the statue, greeted the crowds and then dedicated the renaming of Central Park to Vilhelm Moberg Park. The motorcade traveled slowly through Lindström to greet the well-wishers on Main Street. They proceeded to Glader Cemetery for a private visit of the historic cemetery, placing wreaths on the oldest grave of Elin Glader and at the stone of Willard Smith, the last burial granted by Chisago Lake Lutheran Church in 1975. The last stop was at Nya Duvemåla - The Karl Oskar House in Kichi-Saga Park, Lindström. Welcomed by the

Chisago Lake High School Band, officials from the Chisago County cities, County Commissioners and area dignitaries, they were presented with the official gift from Chisago County (painting by Mary Pettis, "Currents of Change"). The Kichi-Saga Jr. Swedish Dancers performed and the King and Queen viewed the interior of Nya Duvemåla. Enthusiastic crowds waving Swedish flags welcomed them to Chisago County - Vilhelm Mobergland!



Helen Sjöholm stars as Kristina från Duvemåla

Kristina! United States Premiere, October 13, 1996

Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvaeus adapted *Kristina från Duvemåla* from Vilhelm Moberg's novel *The Emigrants*. His novels also served as the basis for the movies *The Emigrants* and *The New Land*, starring Liv Ullmann and Max von Sydow as the fictional characters Karl Oskar and Kristina Nilsson. *Kristina från Duvemåla* is a classic tale of the heartbreak of leaving home and hoping for a better life, a theme which speaks richly of the love of the homeland and the challenge of making a new start. But the musical differs from the novels and movie in that it explores the story from Kristina's point of view. "This is her story," says Björn Ulvaeus. "And it is a fantastic story, how she stands in the center, grows, holds her family together. She doesn't want to move to America, but she is forced to go. The musical is about this conflict, about her longing for home, a theme that is relevant even in today's world."

Philip Brunelle, the artistic director and founder of the Plymouth Music Series brings the cast from Sweden, the Plymouth Music Series Orchestra and Chorus to premiere in Lindström, Minnesota at Chisago Lakes High School!



"Currents of Change" painting by local artist Mary Pettis. The painting was the official gift from Chisago County to Their Majesties King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden on September 13, 1996 at Nya Duvemåla, Lindström.

The Emigrant Trail and the New Land

Erik Norberg from the Bishop Hill Colony in Illinois arrived in Taylors Falls in 1850 and spent the fall and winter in what is now Center City. ***"The spot on the peninsula where he dug a hole and protected himself from the winter with branches and bark drawn over the opening was for years after called Norbergholmen and is the site of the present city of Center City."*** Per Andersson's party of the first four Swedish families arrived at the Taylors Falls landing on April 23, 1851, and were met by Erik Norberg, whose letters had enticed them to come by steamboat from Moline, Illinois.

Shelter was found for the women and children in the then sparse settlement of Taylors Falls. The men, with Norberg showing the way, headed west cutting a path through the woods to Norberg's promised land by the big lake. After 10 days of hard work, the way was open for families, wagonloads of chests, and provisions to come to Chisago Lake. At the lake, the men built a 10 foot square cabin in one day, which sheltered the entire party of 16 the first winter. ***"For the first few years everything raised was needed for survival. In many ways their lives in the new land didn't seem much better than the ones they had left behind in Sweden."*** Quotes from Lloyd Hackl, author of *"The Wooden Shoe People"* and local historian. Historic Chisago Lake Evangelical Swedish Lutheran Church was organized on May 12, 1854, in Per Berg's haymow east of the current site in Center City. By 1855 the Colony had a population of almost 500.



Vilhelm Moberg, Swedish author of *"The Emigrants"*

Telling the Emigrant Trail Story

The history of this first immigration party came alive in Vilhelm Moberg's novels *The Emigrants, Unto a Good Land, The Settlers, and The Last Letter Home*. The books introduce his fictitious characters, Karl Oskar Nilsson and his wife Kristina. They are based on the many immigrant families that settled in "The Land of Kichi-Saga", Minnesota in the mid-1800s. Karl Oskar and Kristina fled from a life of constant struggle in their homeland of Småland, Sweden, crossed the Atlantic ocean, found unclaimed territory in Minnesota and patiently began to rebuild their lives.

In 1948, Vilhelm Moberg visited the Chisago Lakes area to research the area and the local people for his novels. He would ride bike from town-to-town and interview the old Swedes for stories and information about their relatives who immigrated to the Chisago Lakes area in the 1850s - 1900s.



Nya Duvemåla - The Karl Oskar House

One day, Moberg discovered an old homestead south of Lindström. The historic house and nearby Glader Cemetery helped him to visualize the place where Karl Oskar and Kristina would live out their later years. The old house now stands in Kichi-Saga Park on the edge of Lindström city limits. Since the first printing of the Moberg books, this woodframe structure has become famous in Sweden as The Karl Oskar House. It is a popular tourist attraction for Swedes and Swedish-Americans alike. The house was built by the Linn family, circa, 1880s. Historic Glader Cemetery is near the house. The house was donated by Gerald Holt of Lindström and Urban Holt of Colorado to the Lindström Historical Society. The area's Swedish Immigration Jubilee Committee and the Lindström Historical Committee have taken on the task of restoring this old house as part of the 1996 Swedish Immigration Jubilee celebration. Planning and restoration of the house and grounds will be completed in phases. It will become an historic interpretive museum telling the immigrant story. It was dedicated on June 27, 1996 as Nya Duvemåla - depicting Karl Oskar and Kristina's new home in the new land.