



TESTIMONIALS

The School for Life: N.F.S. Grundtvig on Education for the People

Edward Broadbridge (translator and editor), Clay Warren (editor), Uffe Jonas (editor).

440 pp., illustrated, 399.95 DKK incl. audio-cd

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“Edward Broadbridge and his dedicated team have delivered a long-overdue English rendition of Grundtvig’s educational ideas in a sensitive and highly readable translation that retains the power of Grundtvig’s voice and moreover brings the ‘living word’ alive in the accompanying audiobook. The volume is enhanced by Ove Korsgaard’s discerning overview of Grundtvig’s educational ideas, by the insightful introductions to each text from Uffe Jonas, and by Clay Warren’s authoritative essay establishing Grundtvig’s rightful place as a cornerstone of adult education.

In North America, as across the globe, a small but steady number of inspired individuals, communities, and institutions have long been ‘lifted by the Grundtvigian heart’. For people interested in lifelong learning beyond the Danish borders this volume will undoubtedly become *the* source-book for Grundtvig, renewing connections to, or establishing new relationships with, the founding father, while at the same time linking that inspiration with our own universal thinkers, our own ‘local’ heart, and, ultimately, the great wisdom of the world.”

Chris Spicer, Chair of Folk Education Association of America

“The goal of translation is the bridging of cultures otherwise separated by linguistic barriers. Few subjects pose a greater challenge to this project than Grundtvig, whose ideas inspired an educational reform movement that has spread across the Western world. Yet translations have been rare and sometimes uninspiring, leaving most of the world ignorant of one of its seminal intellects.

How wonderful, therefore, to welcome Edward Broadbridge’s remarkable new translation entitled *The School for Life*. The book draws together Grundtvig’s most important works on education, both prose and poetry, representing a major addition to the English-language literature on educational philosophy. It also, perhaps for the first time, really captures Grundtvig’s voice. Grundtvig’s energy and passion come through clearly in the prose, and the poetry – largely in the form of songs – retains the musicality that makes it so compelling in Danish.

The excellent introduction by Ove Korsgaard situates the reader in Grundtvig’s life and times, while Uffe Jonas’s commentaries frame each of the translated pieces. Clay Warren concludes with a comprehensive review of Grundtvig’s influence outside of Denmark. The result is a resource of profound value to the English speaking world, one that allows Grundtvig to speak directly to the world he did so much to shape.”

Andrew Buckser, Associate Professor of Anthropology at Purdue University, Indiana

“Though less well-known globally than his contemporaries Soren Kierkegaard and Hans Christian Andersen, N.F.S. Grundtvig, the theoretical architect of the Danish Folk High Schools, played an irreplaceable role in the Danish nation-building of the 19th century. Those non-Danish speaking or reading scholars who would like to delve into his pedagogical thinking will, no doubt, benefit from this wonderful English translation, through which we also get a glimpse of his reformatory understanding of the school’s relationship to church and state. The audio-book is an added and convenient bonus for those who like to listen – this is now popular both in China and abroad.”

Wen Ge, Ph.D. student at University of Aarhus, specialising in Grundtvig

“How good it is to have a fresh anthology of Grundtvig texts in English - some familiar, others not - making them available not only to scholars with little or poor Danish, but to those who will find a lively inspiration for life and work.”

Revd Dr Jack Dyce, Principal of Scottish United Reformed and Congregational College

“Education is above all what has made Grundtvig internationally famous. Also represented in this volume of the most comprehensive and reliable choice of Grundtvig texts in English are his contributions as a trinitarian theologian, an imaginative historian, an inspiring poet, and a visionary politician.”

Hans Raun Iversen, Associate Professor of Practical Theology, University of Copenhagen

“This is a long-awaited volume: An extensive translation of the Danish educator, philosopher of culture, and theologian N.F.S. Grundtvig. Grundtvig's theological maxim: "be first a human, then (perhaps) a Christian", is here pursued through his educational writings, which emphasize the need for a cultural self-awareness in tandem with a thorough tolerance towards all expressions of the humane in other cultural contexts. Thanks to Ove Korsgaard and Clay Warren, Grundtvig's ideas are here put in a historical as well as an international perspective.”

Niels Henrik Gregersen, Professor of Systematic Theology, University of Copenhagen