

Book Review

Niels Svensson *Det Sande Ansigt: Jesus og ligklaedet I Torino*, Gyldendal, Denmark, 2007, 252 pages, with numerous full colour photographs throughout.

For most English-speaking people, including myself, Danish does not come into the list the languages of which they have some working knowledge. Nevertheless, this book is so up-to-date and so well illustrated (one of the very best that I have ever come across on the subject of the Shroud), that it deserves to be better known even for the illustrations alone.

Author Dr. Niels Svensson is a Danish physician who featured briefly in David Rolfe's recent TV documentary on the Shroud. He fulfils a great need for mainstream medical expertise on the Shroud in the wake of the deaths of Drs. Bucklin and Cameron, and in his book the numerous photographs and medical drawings concerning the injuries suffered by the man of the Shroud are extremely well-researched. To my direct knowledge he also took immense care getting very high quality photographs of a number of historical items associated with the Shroud, amongst these the Lirey pilgrim's medallion in the Musée du Moyen Âge, Paris, also the Robert de Clari in the Royal Library, Copenhagen.

Fully comprehensive in its coverage of the range of subjects touched on by the Shroud, Dr.Svensson's book incorporates discussion and photographs of Dr. Mechthild Flury Lemberg's conservation work carried out in 2002, also the late Dr. Ray Rogers' argument for the Shroud having been rewoven in the area chosen for carbon dating (although it is my personal wish is to see this fallacious hypothesis quickly disappear from Shroud literature).

Let us hope for an English language edition of *Det Sande Ansigt* just as soon as possible.

Ian Wilson