

**Name:** Mark Guscini, Historian and Author, Englishman living in Spain

## Questions:

1. **When** and **how** did you first hear about the Shroud?

While I was at school we were taken to see David Rolfe's film "The Silent Witness". I was hooked from the start.

2. What interested you about the Shroud?

Mainly its history, much more than any religious aspect.

3. Do you believe the Shroud is likely the burial cloth of Jesus Christ, a fake relic, or are you uncertain what to believe?

I personally believe that science and history can take us to a point that says "it is probably (and only probably) the burial Shroud of Christ", and any step further depends on one's own beliefs (whether Christian or atheist – both can be equally influenced by their belief).

4. What, if any, actions did you take after you first encountered the Shroud (e.g., conduct research, contact people involved with it, etc.)?

I joined the BSTS and the CES (Spanish Shroud Centre)

5. Have you ever seen the Shroud at any of the exhibitions? If yes, which years?

1998, 2000 and 2010

6. What did you experience when you were in the presence of the Shroud?

On the one hand, I thought how much better you can see everything in photos, so on the other, I just enjoyed its presence (and it most definitely has what we could call a presence)

7. Have you ever been involved in any scientific study of the Shroud? If yes, please describe **what motivated** your work and **why**.

Yes, I have been involved in historical research on both the Shroud of Turin and the Sudarium of Oviedo. Why? Because I love historical research and to apply it to the Shroud is a privilege and a challenge.

8. Have you ever written anything about the Shroud, either factual or fictitious? If yes, please describe **what motivated** your work and **why**.

Yes, I have written various books on both the Shroud and the Sudarium. Why? To share the results of my own work in the case of the Shroud, and with the Sudarium of Oviedo to make Spanish research available in English.

9. Do you favor or believe any of the current theories on how the image got onto the cloth? If so please name the theory.

Yes – I am heavily in favour of one particular theory – WE DON'T KNOW

10. Do you feel that you have a calling or vocation to be involved somehow with the Shroud? If yes, please describe **what motivated** you to make a commitment to the Shroud and **why**.

Not really. But it can do wonders for faith.

Please describe below any other *personal* reflections, experiences, insights, or thoughts about the Shroud of Turin that you would like to share.

### **Writings/Websites/Blogs:**

Books: The Oviedo Cloth (1998), The Burial Cloths of Christ (2000), The History of the Sudarium of Oviedo (2003), The Image of Edessa (2009), plus numerous papers at congresses and interviews for documentaries in both Spanish and English.