



Heads— You Win

Hullo, this is Herman, the con creators. We'd like to tell you something about our plans for Worldcon Scandinavia 1983. We plan to hold the convention in Copenhagen, the capital of Denmark, and definitely the city to be in in Scandinavia. Copenhagen has the facilities for an arrangement of this size, it has the unique, easy-going mixture of a cosmopolitan, European big city and what the Danes call gemyt (geniality), which is more than just a word, it's a genuine way of life. This, in combination with everything of a mundane nature that the city and the surrounding countryside offers, and spiced - or spiked - with Herman's ideas, will, we believe, make Worldcon Scandinavia a convention to remember.

THE COMMITTEE

The bidding committee calls itself Herman - if you didn't know already. This is the beginning of our ideas - Herman has existed under that name and with an intact nucleus since 1968; it also signifies the fact that we're not just a collection of individuals, we're a unit, we've been working together for so long we're almost a gestalt. When was the last time you ran across a convention committee that was so close-knit it appeared under a name of its own?

Certain people have 'accused' us of being nothing but a bunch of students from Lund University, Sweden. That was correct at one time, but not any longer; we've grown, and Herman with us - but not some of our critics, apparently.

Nowadays we're a Dano-Swedish group of mainly professional people. Our Chairman is a writer, translator and veteran of three trailblazing Herman cons. We have among us one of Sweden's leading SF scholars, an accountant and

computer expert, a Ph D in astronomy and one in literature, a lawyer, a cinema and photography expert and general technical genius (the man behind the apparatus at the Bob Show) - to mention some of our qualifications. And our Treasurer's got an ulcer. How's that for seriousness? And then we do have some students - to replenish the cadres; after all, we don't want to lose contact with our roots, they made us what we are.

THE CONVENTIONS

Herman didn't just create Bacon, although Bacon has been our biggest and best to date. But we've been at it before. Already with our first convention, Con 69, we earned a reputation for doing the unexpected. A breathtaking opening ceremony (monolithic encounters of the immediate kind) was followed by the welcome speech made by a gramophone - with the Chairman doing a creditable job of miming to it. We had the first disco ever at a Scandinavian convention and the first - and only - fireworks. All right, it was a very laid-back con - but we had made our mark.

With the con we created in 1973, Logcon, our ambition had grown. Another breathtaking - and overwhelming - opening ceremony culminated - after the Phantom had revealed himself to be Tarzan in the first ever strip act at a con - with a most fabulously riotous banquet to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Swedish fandom.

Then in 1978 we created Bacon, which convinced us we were capable of tackling a worldcon - as it convinced all the participants. Bacon took its members on a space flight to the end of the universe and to the core of matter - for starters. The Bacon Boys brought a novel Terpsichorean dimen-

sion to SF conventions. But the chef-d'œuvre was the Bob Shaw. Other conventions stick their GCH's in panels; we decided to stick Bob Shaw in the guest chair of a lavish show, where we could mix serious talk with inventive entertainment and have scholars, mad scientists, space ladies, singing monsters and robots for guests, complete with filmed material - and commercials. The result? There just ain't been nothing like it! Johnny Carson, eat your heart out!

That's what Herman has done so far. Our Danish friends, who have helped Herman extend its versatility for the worldcon bid, have to their credit, among other things, Fabula, a fabulous convention in wonderful Copenhagen, and, with an attending membership of 1500, the biggest convention by far in Scandinavia and one of the biggest in Europe. So who says we can't handle large numbers? Herman not only has ideas, Herman knows the ropes as well.

THE FACILITIES

Copenhagen has two major convention facilities in connexion with hotels: the Copenhagen Sheraton and the Falkoner Centre, both in the 1000 banquet guest and 2000 theatre guest bracket. We have an option on both of them.

They're situated right in the heart of Copenhagen, where hotels are dense. In the area there are over 4000 first class hotel beds, and all of Copenhagen's attractions within comfortable walking distance.

THE HOTELS

Apart from its wonderfully flexible convention facilities, the Copenhagen Sheraton offers you the services you'd expect from a Sheraton hotel. There's a pub, a piano bar, a gourmet restaurant, a smart moderately priced restaurant, a disco/night club, a sauna, gift shops, AP newsprint service. Plus the inimitable Danish smile.

The complex which is the Falkoner Centre sports an integral luxury cinema and the large Conference Hall, which at first sight is a beautiful theatre with a rotating stage. With a capacity of over 2000 spectators, this is the place where the greatest names in world entertainment perform when in Copenhagen - and a few hours later it has been transformed into a level banquetting hall with room for over 1000 dining guests. It's magic!

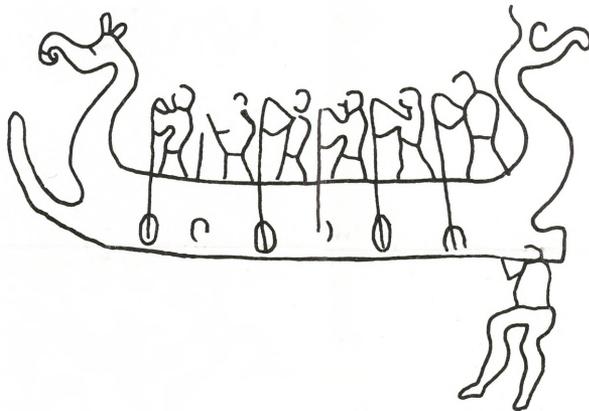
In the same block that houses the 3 Falke hotel and the Convention Centre, you'll also find restaurants, a cocktail lounge, a bank, hairdressers, a florist, doctors, a dentist, an art gallery, etc.

SUSTENANCE (EATS AND DRINKS)

If the nourishment offered you by our convention hotels does not satisfy you, chances are you'll find satisfaction without having to forage far. This is the area of Copenhagen where not only the hotels are wall-to-wall, but also the restaurants. You'll find

the cuisine of virtually all nationalities represented here: International, French, Italian, Chinese, Indian, Danish - of course - and many more. And if that's your proclivity, you'll find Burger King and Wimpy established right next door.

And from solids to liquids. You know it as schnapps, the Danes call it 'a little one': celebrated Aalborg aquavit. And don't forget the world famous fair Danish lagers, Carlsberg and Tuborg. And those are just the ones you've heard about abroad. If a pint is your passion, Copenhagen is the satisfying choice. You'd probably even find Foster's here.



ATTRACTIONS (MUNDANE)

A world metropole, Copenhagen offers entertainment and activities of every kind. The music scene has everything from classical to rock, and even if Copenhagen isn't the Big Apple, when it comes to jazz it's at least Little New York. Nowhere outside the US are your chances of listening to jazz legends as great. Copenhagen has art and fabulous baroque architecture, and if your taste runs to the historical, she sports, among other things, the finest collection of mummies outside Egypt and the British Museum in the Glyptotek (paid for by all that Carlsberg; who says beer doesn't preserve you?).

There's theatre and world class ballet, and the Danes don't dub their films (that's culture!). Furthermore, there are night clubs, discos, cabarets and the marvellous Nyhavn, where you can get your Worldcon Scandinavia tattoo in a jiffy (although we think you'll remember it anyway).

The Tivoli, just across the street from the Sheraton, is the world famous amusement park, which may not have the world's biggest roller-coaster, but has an enchanting atmosphere that would be hard to find anywhere, particularly during the dark evenings of late summer and early autumn. Yes, it can be a very romantic place. And when you tire of the convention wild-life, you can visit the Copenhagen Zoo (next door to the Falkoner Centre) to see, for example, some of those polar bears we don't have running around in the streets here in Scandinavia.

THE SURROUNDINGS

Copenhagen is situated on the east coast of Zealand, the biggest of the Danish isles. Some twenty-five miles up the coast (Denmark's Riviera) you'll find Elsinore, with the Kronborg Castle, the genuine setting for Shakespeare's Hamlet, and just south of Elsinore is Louisiana, the well-known modern art museum. Yes, Denmark is a country of charming contrasts; you'll see thatched, half-timbered houses next to ultra-modern villas (Danish design is just as Scandinavian as Finnish and Swedish design).

And from Copenhagen you can reach exotic Sweden by hydrofoil in forty minutes and see for yourself that Swedes aren't nearly as gloomy as Bergman would like to make them out.

We can't promise you sunshine during the convention; Copenhagen isn't in one of those parts of the world. But chances are you'll encounter warm (not hot) and calm late summer/early autumn weather, with a clear and limpid sky, which enhances the atmosphere that is, we believe, unique to Copenhagen.

COMMUNICATIONS

Copenhagen's International Airport, Kastrup, has excellent services to and from all major North American cities, including those on the West Coast and in the Midwest (after all, it was SAS that pioneered the Polar Route to San Fran and LA). And thanks to Sir Freddie et al, it has never been possible to cross the Atlantic as cheaply as now, which state of affairs we hope will still obtain in '83. You can combine a European holiday with worldcon participation. Australian, Far East, Middle East and European services are also excellent. And from England and the Continent you can take the boat train,

have a pleasant, leisurely trip, get off at the Copenhagen Central Station, cross the street - and you're at the Sheraton, or at virtually any of the overflow hotels in the area. If you travel by car you reach Copenhagen via Jutland and the Great Belt ferry or from Germany via the Puttgarden-Rødby ferry. So if you don't make it to Copenhagen in 1983, it won't be for lack of transport.

THE CONVENTION (FINALLY)

A few words about the convention itself. Since we are at the bidding stage, we haven't, as yet, given detailed thought to the programme, but we can tell you this: All those items required by World Science Fiction statutes will, naturally, be on the programme, but apart from that... Well, we have this reputation, you see, and we'll be working hard to keep it. You may expect anything, but whatever you get, it won't be dull, it won't be old hat, and above all, it'll carry the Mark of Herman.



Create Great Cons



WORLD CON
GANDINANIA
1983

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This is printed by Kindbergs Grafiska Inc in Jönköping, Sweden — publisher of the SF-bookseries "alpha science fiction" and the SF-magazine "HÄPNA!" — first in Swedish science fiction since 1954. We provide you with lists of our books if you send your address to me:

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