

My experience of organizing a ceremony of The Golden Sun

Sweden, August 28th 2016

To organize a ceremony of The Golden Sun was maybe the most rewarding and valuable thing I ever did. It was not easy, it was stressful for me, not knowing about a lot of things, and still I am so grateful that I arranged a Ceremony of The Golden Sun in Sweden September 2016. I learned a lot and I grew a lot. It felt so true and as "the right thing to do". As it happened it also propelled my integration into the community, as I myself as a new immigrant in Sweden.

It touched me deeply when I first heard about the ceremony, about this act and work of art for peace in Europe. I found the project and the ceremony so powerful and important, so beautiful and heart touching that I in summer 2015 I "signed up" to arrange a ceremony in september 2016 in my new homeland Sweden, where I, a Danish senior, live my quiet otium in the woods with my husband. I had only lived here for one year, and I was still a student of the Swedish language.

I had never done anything like arranging such a ceremony before. I used to be a teacher of science and researcher – coming from an entirely different background of experience. I have though worked with art (painting) in my free time for many years – and have experiences of the energy work through the Andean Tradition. The Andean tradition and art were my points of connection to Frouks work.

I soon learned that I had to meet people in person to show photos and to explain about the ceremony while connecting to the energy of the Golden Sun.

I had wonderful experiences with the all - embracing energy of the Ceremony of the Golden Sun, when being in sync with the tasks. It kept me up, when I struggled to find courage and to create occasions to talk about the ceremony. I am quite a shy and an introvert person – so this was not a straight forward process for me.

The first task was to find a suitable place for the ceremony – preferably a room 12m times 12m. I was guided to a very helpful and lovely woman in the cultural department of the municipality. I met her and explained to her about the project while showing photos representing the flow of the ceremony; she beautifully supported the work all way through and made beautiful advertisement for the ceremony in the municipality. I was so grateful for her being there. By May we had found a suitable location for the ceremony; other locations were looked at before that, but had to be abolished again.

In the middle of May information material was made - folders and posters etc. Posters were placed in meaningful places in the towns. In late May I lectured in the language café and in the Swedish language School I attended. In general many people found it interesting, but hesitated maybe due to feeling uncomfortable to speak in public.

Later in the summer I sent messages out on Facebook and sent mails out in a few local networks that I was part of. When the school started again few days before the ceremony I spend time there to meet and to talk – and I had a little success here.

In the municipality there was much information to find about the ceremony: on posters and on the information screens, in the house of culture and in the library.

The newspaper of the county made a short article informing about the ceremony – the ceremony and Frouks talk about her artwork on the weekly event list. At the day of the

ceremony they interviewed Frouk about her work with the Golden Sun; this resulted in a big fine article and photos from the ceremony. There was quite a lot of publicity around the event .

I felt a very big pressure on me in the task of finding 51 representatives of the countries; people were not queuing up to participate as I naively had hoped for and finally I/we had to accept that we would not likely be near 51 persons in the ceremony. We even arranged a stand in a local festival the day before the ceremony where we talked to many people about the ceremony.

Afterwards I have asked myself the question: how often we do something like participating in a ceremony like The Golden Sun, something that we have never done before and something that demands our deep participation? This may demand a certain level of courage to do that; and this is probably not for everyone.

I was of course quite anxious on the day of the ceremony : how many people would come, and how would it be, it is not predictable at all.

The people that came to the ceremony loved it; and they were very touched by it. They were people I know in the community, children and grown ups living in Sweden, coming from Sweden and from far away countries. It felt complete and the children danced around the sun after the ceremony.

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