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CONSTRUING CULTURAL HERITAGE: THE STAGINGS OF AN ARTIST

The Case of Ivar Arosenius

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CAMBRIDGE
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Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-79450-3 — Construing Cultural Heritage: The Stagings of an Artist
Mats Malm
Frontmatter
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CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India

79 Anson Road, #06–04/06, Singapore 079906

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108794503

DOI: 10.1017/9781108885652

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First published 2021

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-108-79450-3 Paperback

ISSN 2632-7074 (online)

ISSN 2632-7066 (print)

Additional resources for this publication at www.cambridge.org/malm

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Construing Cultural Heritage: The Stagings of an Artist

The Case of Ivar Arosenius

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DOI: 10.1017/9781108885652
First published online: May 2021

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Abstract: This study examines how an artist construed himself as cultural heritage by the turn of the nineteenth century, how this heritage was further construed after his death and how the artworks can be made to further new approaches and insights through a digital archive (aroseniusarkivet.dh.gu.se). The study employs the concept of 'staging' to capture the means used by the artist, as well as by reception, in this construal. The question of 'staging' involves not only how the artist has been called forth from the archives, but also how the artist can be called forth in new ways today through digitization. The study first elaborates on the theoretical framework through the aspects of mediation and agency, then explores how the artist was staged after his death. Finally, the artist's own means of staging himself are explored. Swedish painter Ivar Arosenius (1878–1909) is the case studied.

Keywords: cultural heritage, staging, archive, reception, media

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ISBNs: 9781108794503 (PB), 9781108885652 (OC)
ISSNs: 2632-7074 (online), 2632-7066 (print)

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This Element contains a number of images, but refers to many more. For a fuller experience the reader is advised to download the file with all images in colour and have it alongside while reading: aroseniusarkivet.dh.gu.se/construing.pdf and also available at www.cambridge.org/malm.

At aroseniusarkivet.dh.gu.se, the reader will also be presented with a wealth of material for further exploration.

This study was written as part of a project funded by The Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities and Riksbankens Jubileumsfond.