

Exploring the lives and minds of some of the most faith-driven, powerful and divinely inspired characters in history, who fearlessly carried out their sacred missions and paved the way for new ways of mankind.







Documentary Series Overview

Genre: Documentary series

Episodes: 6

Running time: 24 minutes

Writer/Director/Producer: Tobias Elvhage

Original Music: Universal Production Music and others

Format: HD (1080p)

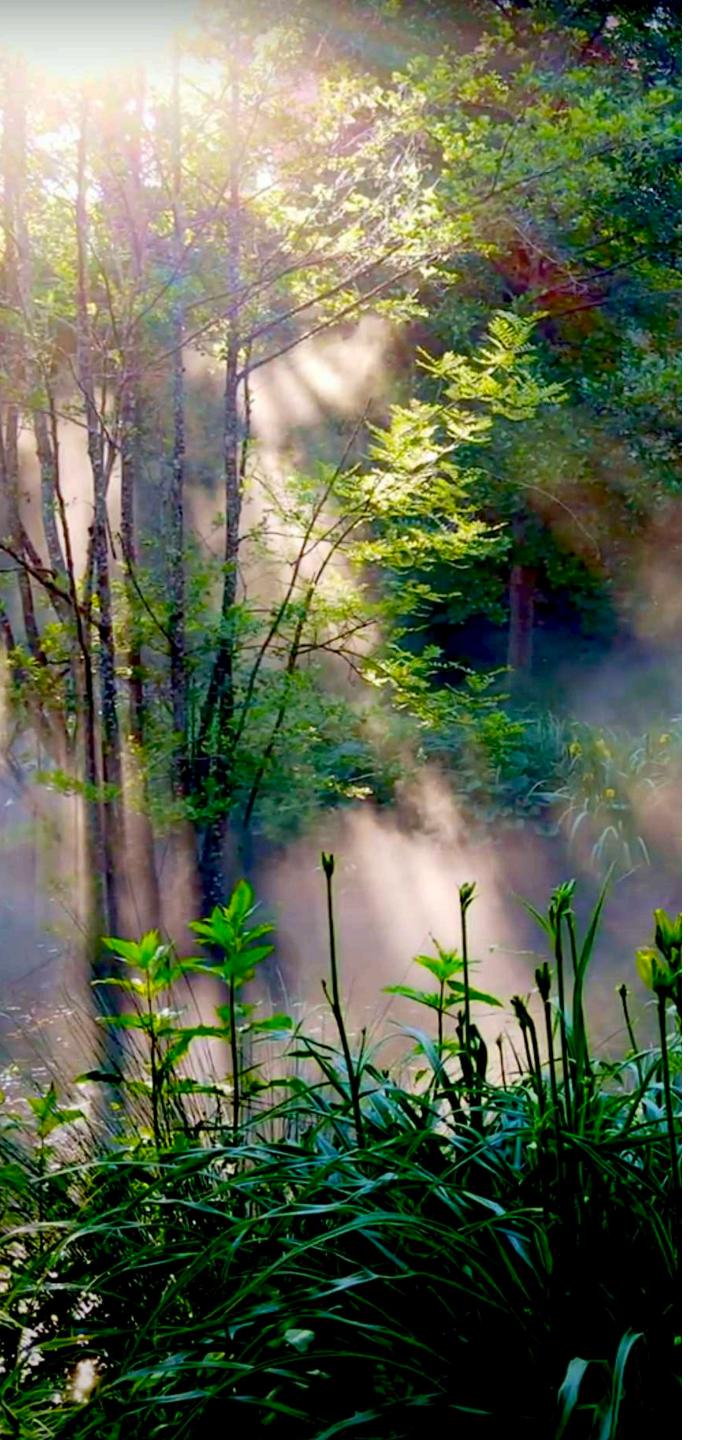
Languages: English, German, Greek, French, Swedish

Voice over/subtitles: English

Filming locations: Greece, Italy, Germany, France, Sweden

Production company: Fenix Film AB

Website: www.fenixfilm.se



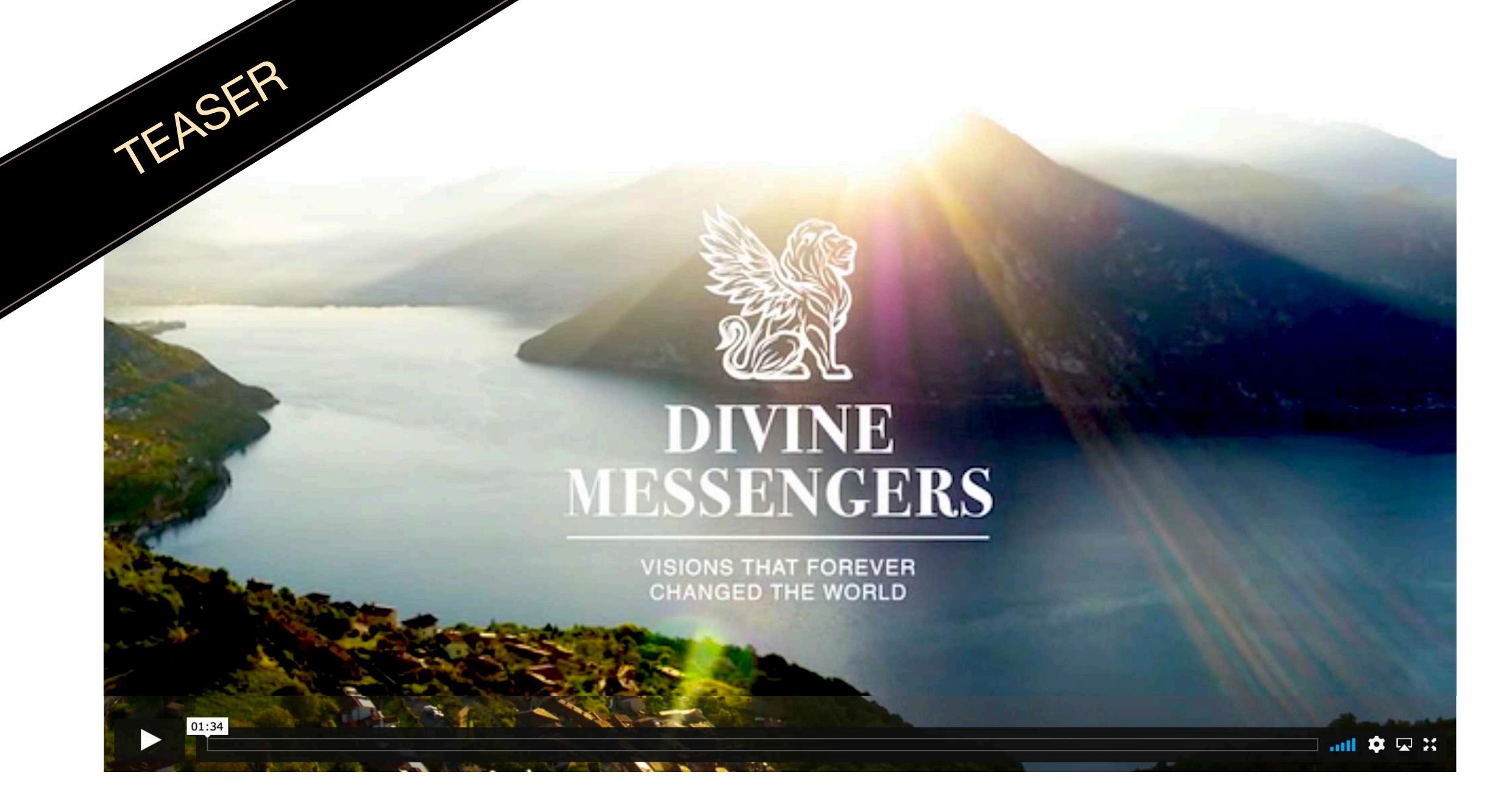
Synopsis

One single person is sometimes all it takes for a whole culture to take a turn and leave a lasting imprint in history. Through time and the history of Europe, we'll journey into the destinies of influential and fearless individuals, exploring their inner lives and deeper motivations. How come these truth seekers, hundreds or even thousand years apart in time, have had so similar convictions and visions?

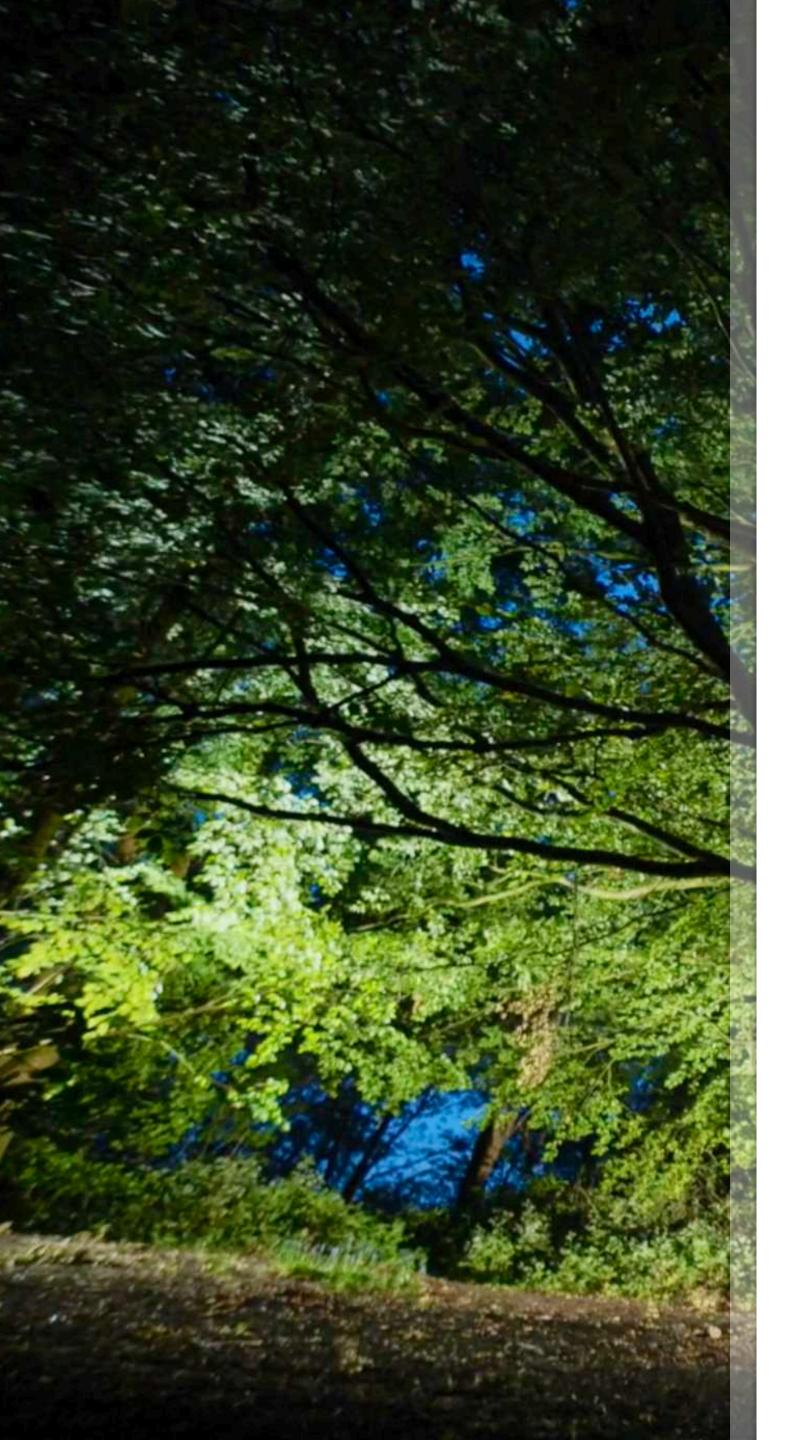
We'll look into how Socrates was ready to give up his life for them, the gripping visions of a nun, turning her into a world-famous genius, the unexpected twist in the viking prophecy of mankind's final fate, revealing the secret source of inspiration of one of the worlds greatest composers, a noblewoman's revelations that would shake the western world, and an artist's brave battle for true beauty.

These eminent characters and their destinies, together form an interweaved image, unsealing answers to the eternal mysteries – who we are, what our purpose is, and our final destination.



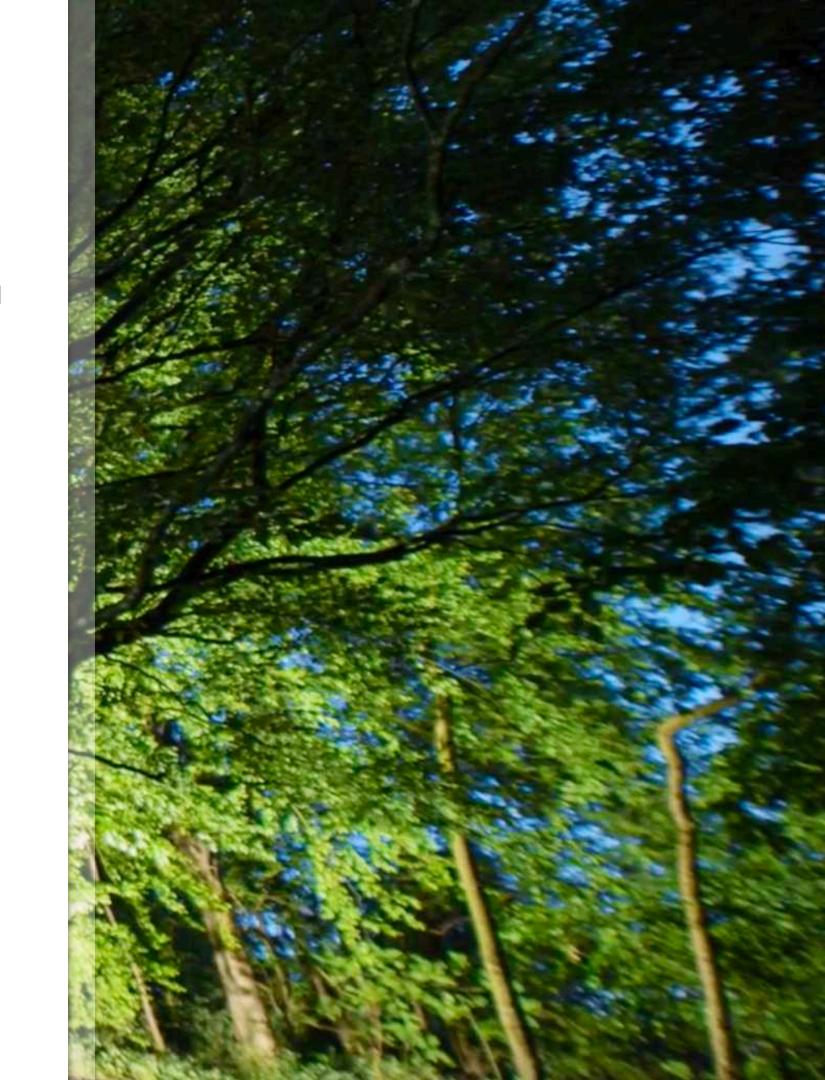


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Episodes

- 1 Socrates' Secrets
- 2 A Saint of Sorrows Saint Bridget of Sweden
- 3 The Ambassador of Fine Arts William Bouguereau
- 4 From Nun to Genius Saint Hildegard von Bingen
- 5 The Fifth Evangelist Johann Sebastian Bach
- 6 A Prophesy of Hope The Viking Seeress

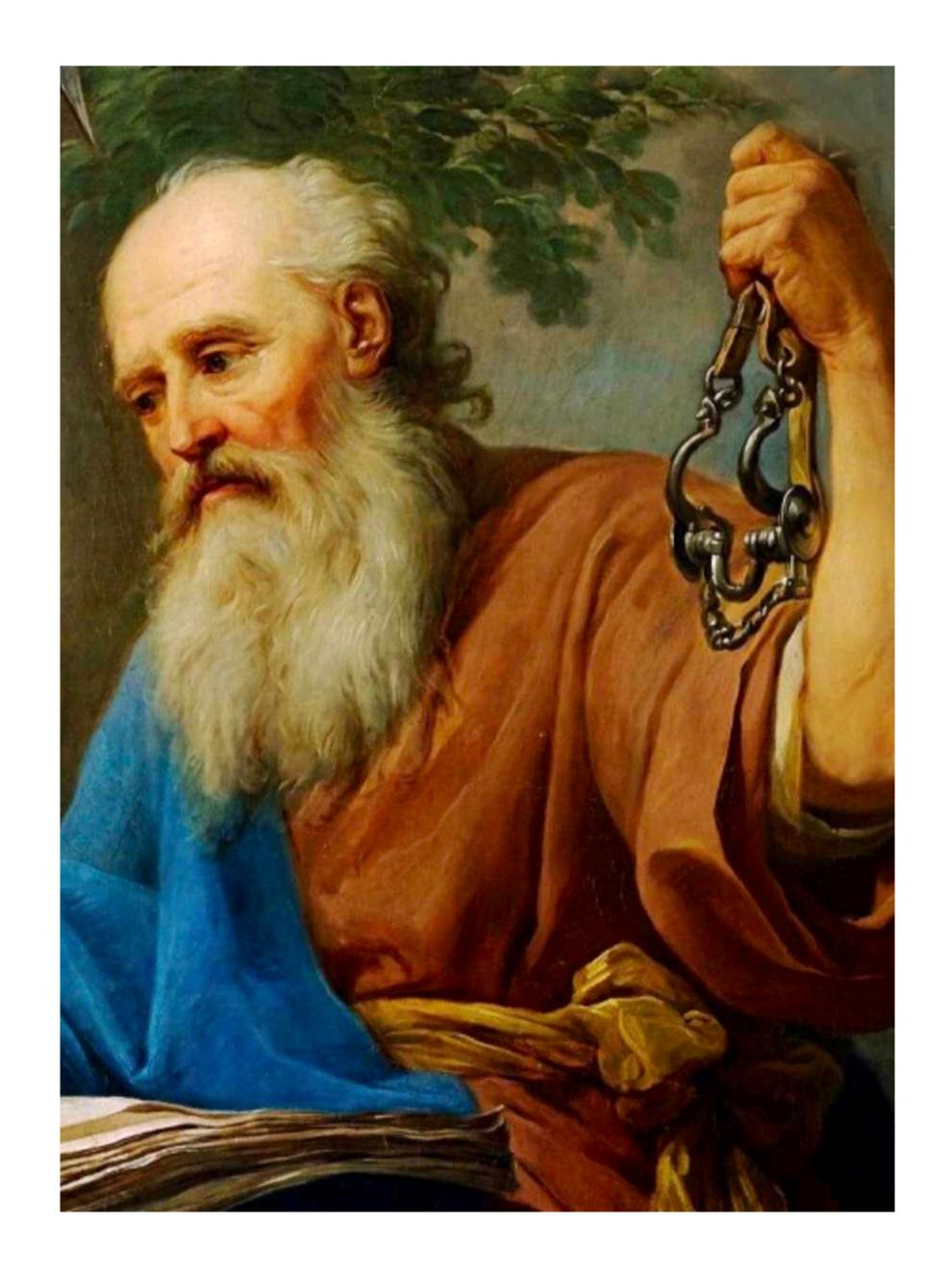


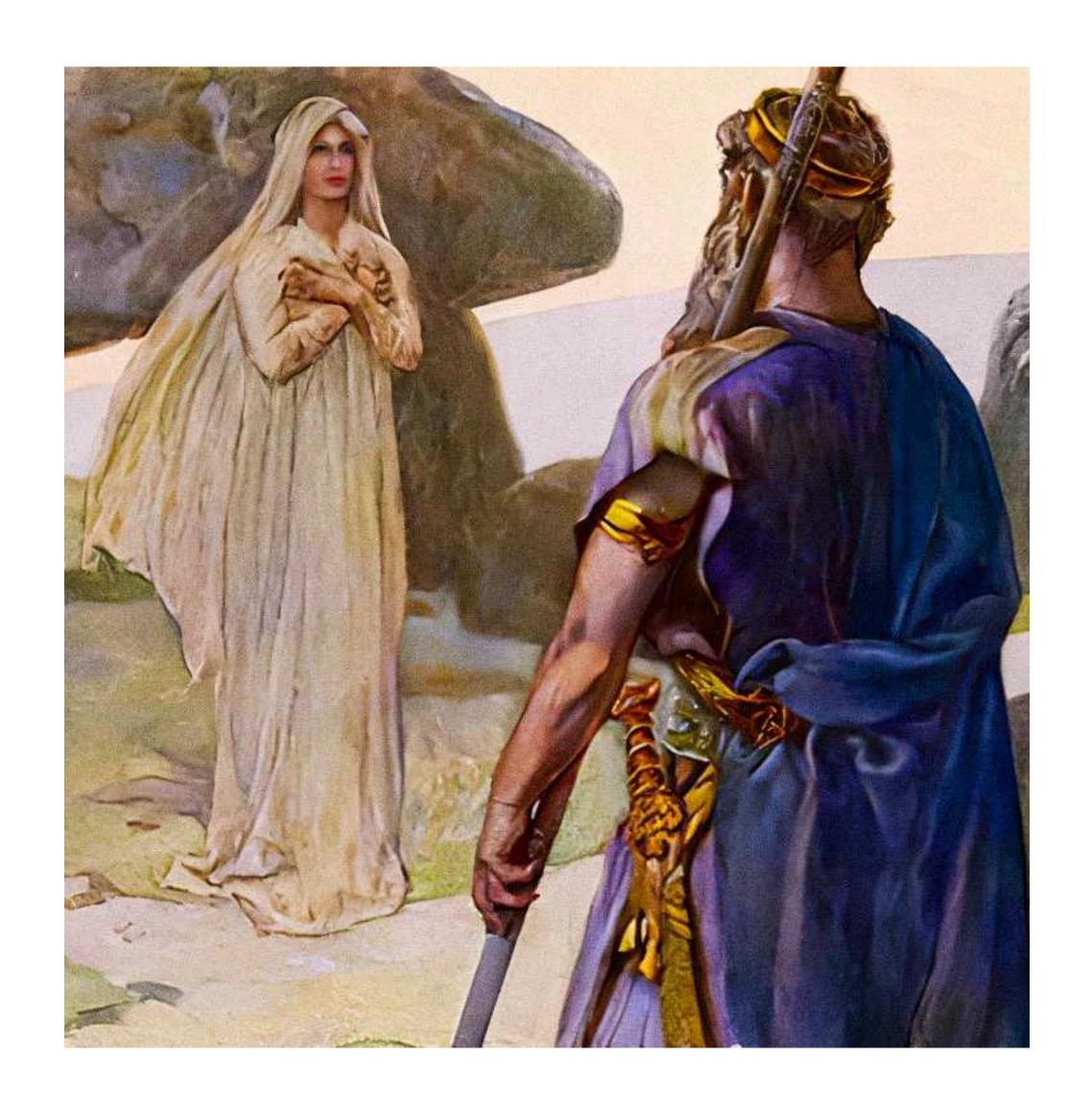
Socrates

Scholars agree that the ancient Greeks laid the foundation for Western civilisation in various areas - art, science, theatre and democracy. In the centre of all of this, was a man who would become one of the most well known Greeks throughout time, and maybe one with the greatest influence on our thinking in the Western world.

We'll dive into the mind of the father of philosophy. Socrates spent his whole life in the quest of understanding ourselves, the world and the Divine. Sadly, his life ended with a death sentence where the rulers claimed he had corrupted the young. But Socrates regarded this as just another lecture to the world, and continued to share his knowledge with his disciples and even his perpetrators. In this episode we aim to get a closer look at what his visions really meant.







The Viking Seeress

The Vikings were known for their commitment to truth and loyalty. They also had a strong tradition of storytelling by the fire, where tales of wisdom were transmitted from generation to generation. One such story stands out from the rest, and seem to be a deep source of inspiration for the lives of the Vikings in all of the Nordic countries.

It's the poem called Völuspá of the poetic Edda, considered to be the most well known and written 600-800 AD. It has served as inspiration for many writers, and tells the story of how the Viking god Odin meets with a powerful seeress who imparts her visions and deep knowledge.

The seeress reveal many things, from the creation of the world, to the end-time battle Ragnarök, but also a not equally well known prospect - for those who follow the universal rules, there is hope of something better after Ragnarök.



Saint Bridget of Sweden

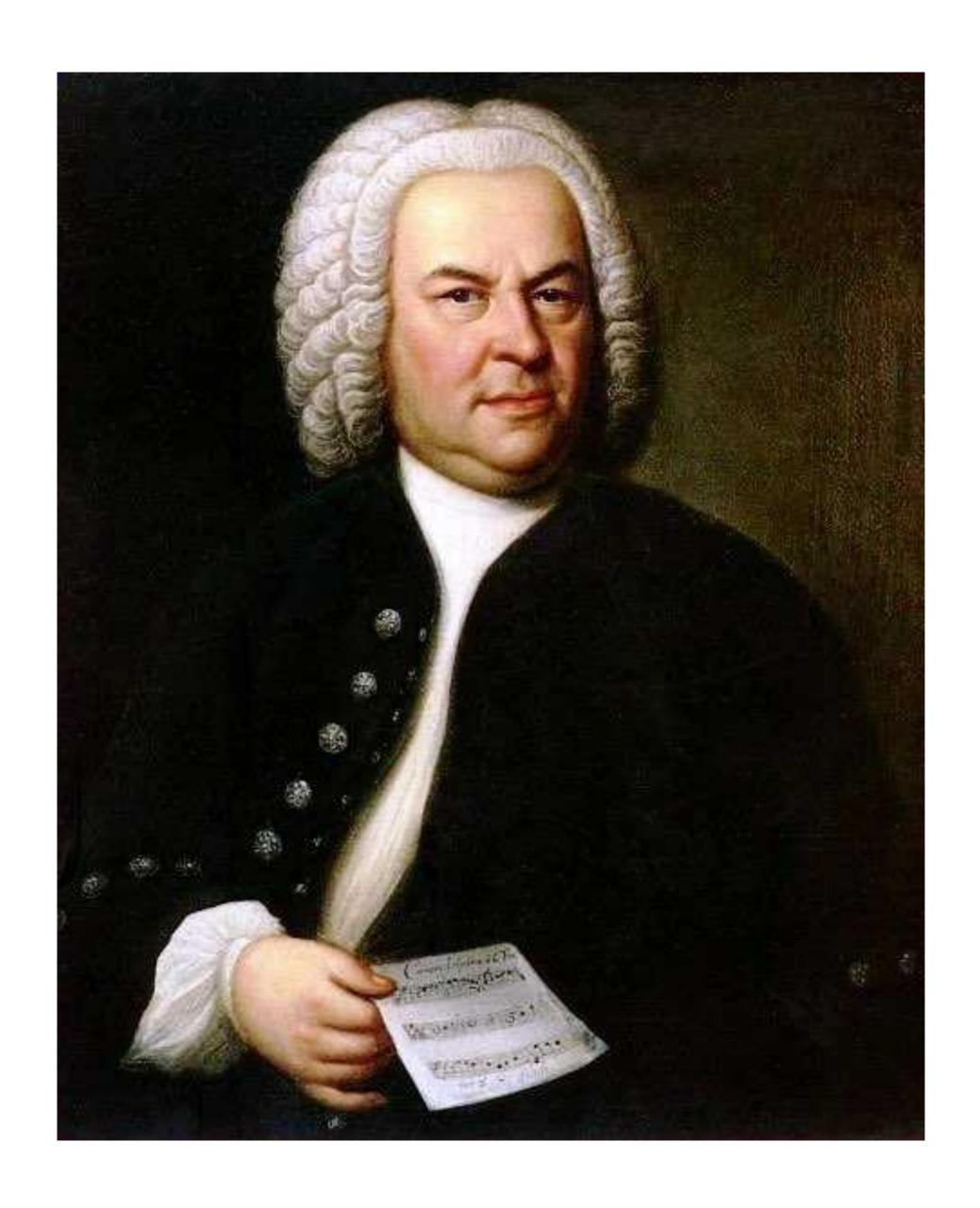
Saint Bridget (Birgitta) is one of the six patron saints of Europe. She lived in the 14th century just when the plague hit Europe and received revelations from God. She never backed down from speaking the truths that had come to her, and even lectured the Swedish king and the pope due to their sins and misbehaviours.

We'll tell the intriguing life of Saint Bridget, her passionate faith and dedication to charity, and the incredible strict discipline she had towards her self, to maintain a pure faith. Her courage and faith took her from Sweden all the way to Rome, living next to the pope.

In this episode we'll take a closer look at some of her revelations, that contained a lot of theological answers, including why there is a heaven and hell, and the narrow path back to the Divine that only a few people choose.







Johann Sebastian Bach

Besides being the baroque era's greatest organist and composer, and one of the most productive geniuses in the history of Western music, Bach was also a theologian who's expression of inspiration was music. Nearly three-fourths of his 1,000 compositions were written for use in worship, and Bach's deep religious faith could be found even in his secular music.

Between his musical genius, his devotion to God, and the effect of his music, he has come to be known in many circles as "the Fifth Evangelist."



Saint Hildegard

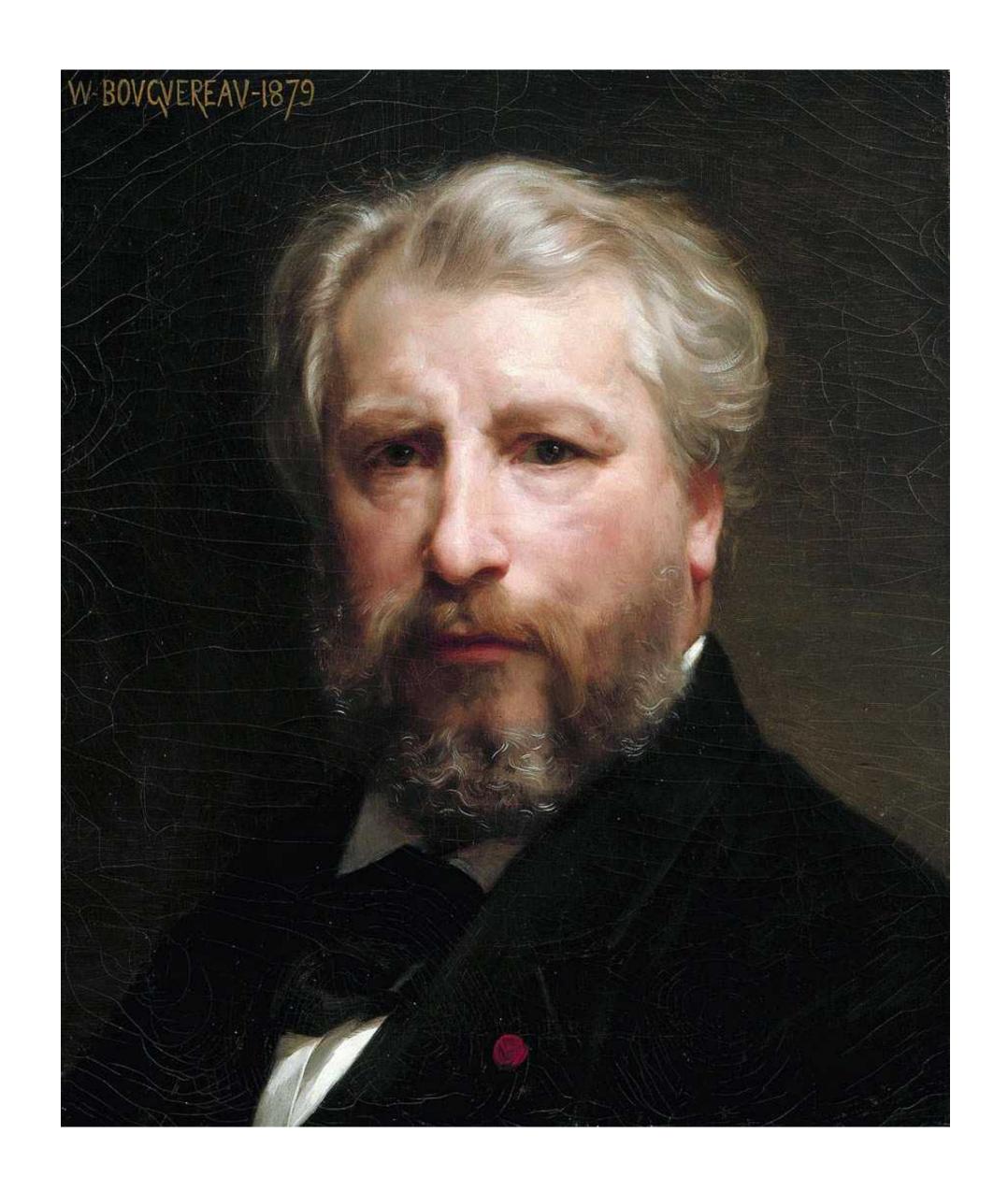
Saint Hildegard was not only a nun, poet and musician, but also a divinely inspired philosopher who observed the patterns in our universe, from microcosm and macrocosm. She had remarkable visions, and was consulted by kings, emperors, noblemen and the clergy.

Hildegard wrote theological, botanical, and medicinal texts and there are more surviving chants by her than by any other composer from the entire Middle Ages. She emphasised that her writings and music came from visions from God, and was later recognised as a saint as well as "Doctor of the Church" by the pope.

While she is very well known for her incredible contributions to classical music and literature, she is not as known for her prophesies. Hildegard first saw "The Shade of the Living Light" at the age of three, and by the age of five she began to understand that she was experiencing visions and divine revelations.







William-Adolphe Bouguereau

The19th century artist William Bouguereau, saw, just like his predecessors Michelangelo, Da Vinci, and Rafael, art as a divine calling. He not only transcended the techniques and colors even further, but also produced over 800 delicate works of arts during his lifetime and was greatly cherished all over Europe and the United States.

Even though William Bouguereau became highly awarded and was truly appreciated by the people, he also found himself at the very center of brutal attacks from the new art movements that had risen at this time. In the coming years it would make his prestigious name to almost vanish from the eyes of the public. The revival of interest in figure painting in 1980, led to a rediscovery of Bouguereau and his works.









Meet The Producer

Tobias Elvhage

Producer, director, cinematographer and editor

Tobias is a filmmaker, director and editor with a passion for engaging and touching stories. He has studied at Berghs School of Communication and Media Cross-Producer in Stockholm, and has held lectures for NTD TV-station in Stockholm, Kiev and New York. He also holds well-attended seminars for companies and organisations that aim get started with film production for social media and web communications.

In 2010/2011 he directed and produced the Scandinavian episodes for the branded entertainment series <u>World of Education</u> and Travel the World, both broadcast on NTD Television's Chinese channel.

Some of his engagements also include a documentary about the renovation of the Church Maria Magdalena, that was broadcast on <u>Axess TV</u> in 2017. He has recently produced the <u>Taste of France</u>-series and four of the episodes for <u>Taste Asia</u>, broadcast on <u>NTD America</u> spring 2020.







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