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AALBORG UNIVERSITY
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"High quality historical drama"

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KIM TOFT HANSEN
AALBORG UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF YORK
MARCH 17 2015

“HIGH QUALITY HISTORICAL DRAMA”

The Danish Case of *1864*

Conference: European Historical Drama in the Digital Age

television 'is the principle means by which people learn about history'

GARY R. EDGERTON

'the production of a high quality historical drama series', which should 'give Danes familiarity with historical events in Danish history'

MEDIA SETTLEMENT 2011-14

change in cultural and foreign policy

change in politico-cultural mentality

‘step out of the shadow of 1864’

Anders Fogh Rasmussen

three indicative scenes

1. present school teacher

2. reading Noah's Arch

3. past school teacher



KULTUR

KL. 11:14 | OPDAT. KL. 21:00

Anmeldelse: 1864 virker unødvendigt karikeret

Første afsnit af serien 1864 peger i retning af en entydig fremstilling af en af århundredets mest komplicerede konflikter, siger historikeren Mikkel Runge Olesen, der har anmeldt serien for DR Kultur.



THE DOUBLE STORY IN HISTORICAL FICTION

SUJET (PLOT)



MINIMAL FABULA (STORY)



MAXIMAL FABULA (HISTORY)



“It appears clear to me already from the first episode that it is not the balanced representation of the political drama in 1864 that has been the purpose of the series. That is a pity, because it is actually a damned exhilarating story that could easily have thrilled even a larger audience. / The first episode of the series points towards a one-sided representation of one of the most complicated high-political conflicts of the century as a simple Danish blunder. There were plenty of Danish slip-ups, but it was also to a large extent the result of deep national oppositions within the United Monarchy that consisted of Denmark, Schleswig, Holstein and Lauenburg until 1864. / The Danish situation was anything but simple and it did not become clearer by the fact that the position of the superpowers was uncertain for a long time. With the somewhat caricatured political representation I fear that we may confirm rather than challenge the existing myths about 1864.”

MIKKEL RUNGE OLESEN

‘goof police’
(Per Juul Carlsen)

‘historian-cop’
(Robert Sklar)

You refuse that the series politicises, but do you feel that the series has been taken hostage by a political debate between the left and right wing?

Not at all. That debate does not exist. It was only DF [Danish Folk Party, ed.] that inveighed against me with the opinion that I was one of those red henchmen. Everybody else kept silent. No political party or political spokesman of culture has expressed anything about DF's obvious attempt to interfere with how you should write historical drama in the future. DF has exposed a frightening vision and an unpleasant view of culture that tells me that cultural radicalism in Denmark is dead and DF will triumph.

Ole Bornedal

death of cultural radicalism

Poul Henningsen (PH)

Danmark (1935)

