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PRESS RELEASE

New Book Sheds Light on Søren Kierkegaard's Dramatic Engagement to Regine Olsen

The captivating and tragic engagement story between the philosopher Søren Kierkegaard (1813–1855) and Regine Olsen (1823–1904) is now portrayed in a new, thought-provoking book.

Through Kierkegaard's letters and diary entries, as well as Regine Olsen's own recollections, the reader gains a rare insight into one of Denmark's most mythical love stories.

Søren Kierkegaard proposed to the young and charming Regine Olsen in September 1840, but already the following year he broke off the engagement – a decision that came to shape both of them for the rest of their lives.

To spare her – or perhaps to save himself – he portrayed himself as an emotionally cold and fickle figure. But behind the consciously constructed mask hid a soul in existential turmoil.

Regine Olsen later married the jurist Johan Frederik Schlegel, but the relationship with Søren Kierkegaard continued to cast long shadows – not least in his authorship.

In the book, we meet the two lovers in their own words, without interpretative filters: the longing, the doubt, the hope, and the pain.

The book is edited by mag.art. Jens Staubrand, who has selected the letters and diary notes, and illustrated the publication with historical images and accompanying commentary that places the material in both a biographical and philosophical perspective.

An indispensable book for anyone interested in Søren Kierkegaard, the conditions of love – and the choices that shape a human life.

SØREN KIERKEGAARD

My Regine! Søren Kierkegaard and Regine Olsen – A Love Story

"To step out of the relationship with Regine as a scoundrel, if possible as the very epitome of a malicious and vile villain, was the only thing to do."

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Kind regards,
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