



ANNA LÍNDAL

Draumurinn um að gleypa land

Dreaming about gobbling up land

"A GREAT NATIONAL OBJECT"



"I HAVE NO DOUBT ON THIS OCCASION TO REPEAT THE OPINION I GAVE IN THE AUTUMN OF 1804 TO MY FRIEND LORD LIVERPOOL, THAT IT IS EXPEDIENT ICELAND SHOULD BE ANNEXED TO THE CROWN OF ENGLAND AND NEVER HEREAFTER SEPARATED. THE OWNED OF THE CLARENCE OFFERS TO MAKE THE CONQUEST, WITH A PRIVATEER, IT MAY CERTAINLY BE EFFECTED BY A GUN BRIG AND PROTECTED BY A FRIGATE BEING ORDERED TO LOOK IN FROM THE GREENLAND STATION..."

SIR JOSEPH BANKS, 16 APRIL 1809

Myndlistarsýningin Solander 250: Bréf frá Íslandi er samstarfsverkefni Sænska sendiráðsins og félagsins Íslensk grafík. Haldin í tilefni af því að 250 ár eru liðin frá Íslandsleiðangri sænska grasafræðingsins Daniel Solander árið 1772. Verkin eiga í samtali við aðra sýningu, Paradise Lost, Daniel Solander's Legacy, sem haldin var af tilefni heimsóknar Solander til Eyjaálfu og Kyrrahafseyja árið 1769-70. Sýningin með verkum eftir 10 íslenska og 10 Nýsjálenska listamenn var sett upp á 11 stöðum á Íslandi frá 27. 8. 2022 til 3. 11. 2023.

Við gerð verks um heimsókn Solanders til Íslands 1772, leitaði ég upplýsinga um leiðangurinn, en forystu fyrir honum hafði Sir Joseph Banks. Þá kom í leitirnar grein eftir Önnu Agnarsdóttur með titlinum Ráðagerðir um innlimun Íslands í Bretaveldi á árunum 1785-1815. Ég hafði aldrei áður heyrt um þessar hugmyndir og sýnin um Ísland sem hluta af bresku krúnunni sat eftir í vitundinni. Hvar værum við stödd í dag ef draumur Banks um innlimun Íslands hefði gengið eftir? Hvernig litar þessi ágirnd á landinu þátttöku Solander í leiðangrinum? Kortið sýnir Bretland sem hefur stækkað um sem nemur einu Íslandi. Undir kortinu er hluti bréfs Banks til Bathurst jarls frá 1809.

„I have no doubt on this occasion to repeat the opinion I gave in the autumn of 1807 to my friend Lord Liverpool, that it is expedient Iceland should be annexed to the Crown of England and never hereafter separated. The owner of the Clarence offers to make the conquest, with a privateer, it may certainly be effected by a gun brig and protected by a frigate being ordered to look in from the Greenland station...”.

Heimild:

Anna Agnarsdóttir. „Ráðagerðir um innlimun Íslands í Bretaveldi á árunum 1785-1815.“ Saga (1979), 17, bls. 32.

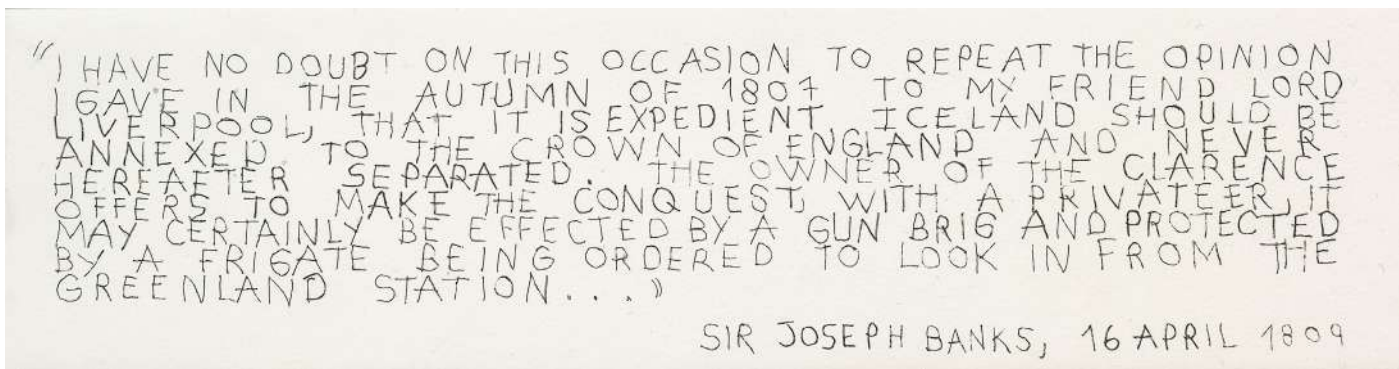
The exhibition Solander 250: Letters from Iceland is a collaboration between the Swedish embassy to Iceland and the Icelandic Graphic Association. Held on the 250th anniversary of an expedition to Iceland by the Swedish botanist Daniel Solander in the year 1772. Included in the exhibition are works by 10 artists from Iceland and 10 from New Zealand, put up in 11 locations in Iceland from 27.8.2022 – 3.11.2023. The works in the exhibition are in dialogue with another exhibition, Paradise Lost, Daniel Solander's Legacy, held on the occasion of Solander's visits to Oceania and Pacific islands in the years 1769-70.

While making a work on Solander's Iceland expedition in 1772 I searched for information on the trip, which was led by Sir Joseph Banks. While searching, I came across an article by Anna Agnarsdóttir under the title Plans on the annexation of Iceland into the British Empire 1785-1815 (translation of title, Anna Línadal, original title: Ráðagerðir um innlimun Íslands í Bretaveldi á árunum 1785-1815). I had previously never heard of such ideas and the image of Iceland as part of the British Crown remained in my consciousness. Where would we be at today if Banks' dream on the annexation of Iceland had come to be? How did this colonial desire affect Solander's participation in the expedition? The map shows Britain, which has grown by an area equivalent to the size of one Iceland (ca. 100.000 km²). Under the map is a part of Banks' letter to Earl Bathurst dated 1809.

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Solander 250: Bréf frá Íslandi er samstarfsverkefni félagsins Íslensk Grafík og Sænska sendiráðsins.

The exhibition Solander 250: Letters from Iceland is a collaborative project by The Icelandic Printmakers Association and the Swedish Embassy in Iceland.

Hafnarborg í Hafnarfirði, 27. 8. - 9. 10. 2022

Harpa, Arctic Circle, 10. - 17. 10. 2022

Eldheimar, Vestmannaeyjar, 20. 10. - 27. 11. 2022

Listasafn Akureyrar, 3. 12. 2022 - 29. 1. 2023

Sláturhúsið á Egilsstöðum, 3. - 24. 2. 2023

Íslensk Grafík, Reykjavík, 22. 4. - 13. 5. 2023

Listasafn Svavars Guðnasonar, Höfn, 20. 5. - 10. 6. 2023

Menningarmiðstöð Þingeyinga í Húsavík, 22. 7 - 12. 8. 2023

Gamli Spítalinn á Ísafirði, 19. 8. - 9. 9. 2023

Norska húsið í Stykkishólmi, 16. 9. - 17. 10. 2023

Kvikan Menningarhús í Grindavík, 13. 10. - 3. 11. 2023