

INGMAR BERGMAN

On April 16, some 40 members were lucky enough to be welcomed at the home of Margareta Dubois-Ingelsson and her husband. Their marvelous apartment filled with Swedish tradition hosted a conference given by Professor Göran Wessberg on one of the most important filmmakers of the 20th century, Ingmar Bergman.

Bergman's name is known worldwide and familiar even to the younger generation. He is among the most influential and rulebreaking filmmakers ever. He is to cinema what Proust is to literature, you know their names even without having read or seen anything from them.

Prof Wessberg took us on a most interesting and fascinating tour on Bergman's life. A puppet theatre and a magic lantern received as a christmas present at the age of 8 were the first steps towards his future art. We all know Bergman as a film maker but do we know that he was one of the most important contemporary writers in Sweden with his autobiography *Laterna Magica* ? He wrote all his screenplays himself and some of them are played on stage worldwide and translated into many languages.

He also described his character , for sure not easy, a genius who got away with everything. He got married 5 times, with 9 children for whom he did not care, not even knowing their birthdays...

Ingmar Bergman is one of the most revolutionary filmmakers of the 20th century. He crept into the human nature showing strength and weakness, good and bad, in a way nobody had dared before. He was censured in many countries and scenes were taken out. What he created was more than cinema, it was art. Some of his films have entered film history forever and will remain among the greatest artworks in cinema.

Professor Wessberg made the audience want to discover or mostly rediscover the work of Bergman.

The evening ended with a charming reception where you could feel the spirit among the 'Femmes d'Europe' and who gave new members the opportunity to feel comfortable.

Our hosts showed great knowledge of Bergman and gave a very interesting input.

Many thanks to Margareta and her husband for giving us the opportunity to attend such an interesting conference and for opening their house.

Eva Vranyczany, Belgian group