

## Insiders – Outsiders

Richard Steel and Vicky Syme

„Insiders – Outsiders“: A good title for research into present -day community life in and around Camphill? Yes, indeed! And there will be a retreat about this theme, entitled „Steps into the Unknown – Rebuilding Community out of the Camphill Impulse“ organised by Tilman Aichele in September this year....*not* in Camphill, but in the North German town of Lübeck! But that is actually *not* the reason for this article.

Right now I would like to share about an organization called „Insiders – Outsiders“ that was created in London just over a year ago. It is a nationwide arts festival celebrating refugees from Nazi Europe and their contribution to British culture - a festival planned to last the whole year from March 2019 to March 2020. We would have marked the end of this festival with an event about Camphill....of course this has to be postponed. Well, March 2020 should have marked the official end of the festival, but because of the popularity of their events, which have taken place all over Britain, including all the arts, many lectures and courses, it has now become the *beginning* of a longer-term commitment to celebrating the impact of this remarkable generation of émigrés under the Insiders/Outsiders umbrella. So because our event had to be cancelled due to pandemic regulations does not mean that we will not continue this interesting collaboration!

Let's start with the organization: „Insiders – Outsiders“ was created by a group of historians in and around London University. On their website <https://insidersoutsidersfestival.org/about-us/> you can read:

*While in no way underplaying the émigrés' experience of loss, dispossession and displacement, or the difficulties they encountered on arrival in Britain, the general tenor of the festival is affirmative and celebratory. With the plight of refugees and the rise of right-wing politics and racism being once again pressing and topical issues, 2019, as the 80th anniversary of the outbreak of the Second World War, is the ideal moment to take stock of Britain's debt to an earlier generation who found refuge on these shores. It is also a fitting moment to pay tribute to those British-born individuals who, in welcoming and working with the émigrés, chose openness and internationalism over provincialism and xenophobia.*

And Phillippe Sands QC comments:

*“This is an important and timely initiative, one that should help us to better understand the realities of life as a refugee – then and now – and the remarkable contributions to be made by Britain's more recent arrivals.”*

*Phillippe Sands QC*

Well, 80 years since the Second World War means 80 years since the beginning of Camphill! It was a little group of refugees from Vienna who created what became the Camphill Movement. And it just happens to be 50 years since the start of the The Mount Camphill Community - therefore we at the Karl König Institute decided on a cooperative project, working together with the architect and design consultant Sarri Tapales, Camphill Community The Mount. Soon Joan Sleight was on board from the Executive Council of the Anthroposophical Society in Dornach – because she is a granddaughter of Karl König and grew up in Camphill in South Africa. Judy Bailey joined the team – she has lived and worked for many years in The Grange Camphill Village and has been active

supporting an initiative in Palestine. We looked for ways to connect life – and people! - in Camphill today with the present stream of refugees, using art as a bridge\*..... and found a good starting point together with our friend Greg Tricker.

The cooperation between the Karl König Institute and the artist Greg Tricker began after the exhibition of his very special Kaspar Hauser pictures in Botton Village. Greg gave this whole collection of 35 paintings and 3 sculptures into the hands of the Institute and we have exhibited them now in over 25 places in Germany and Switzerland, including Ansbach and Dornach, working together with him in various places. Now this collaboration took a new step:

Greg Tricker started with a painting course in The Mount Camphill Community, centering on the theme „**The Refugee, a Messenger from Afar.**“

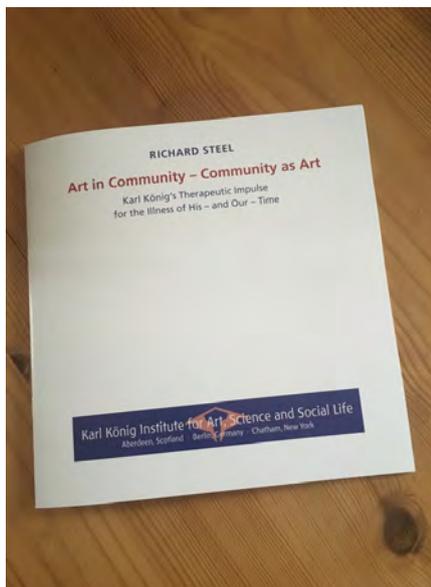
Vicky Syme, who is our partner in The Mount describes that in a special way and her account is the second part of this article. The painting should have been followed by two very special events this year – March 15th in London and May 17th at The Mount. I will describe them because we hope to reschedule them now and would like your support for that:

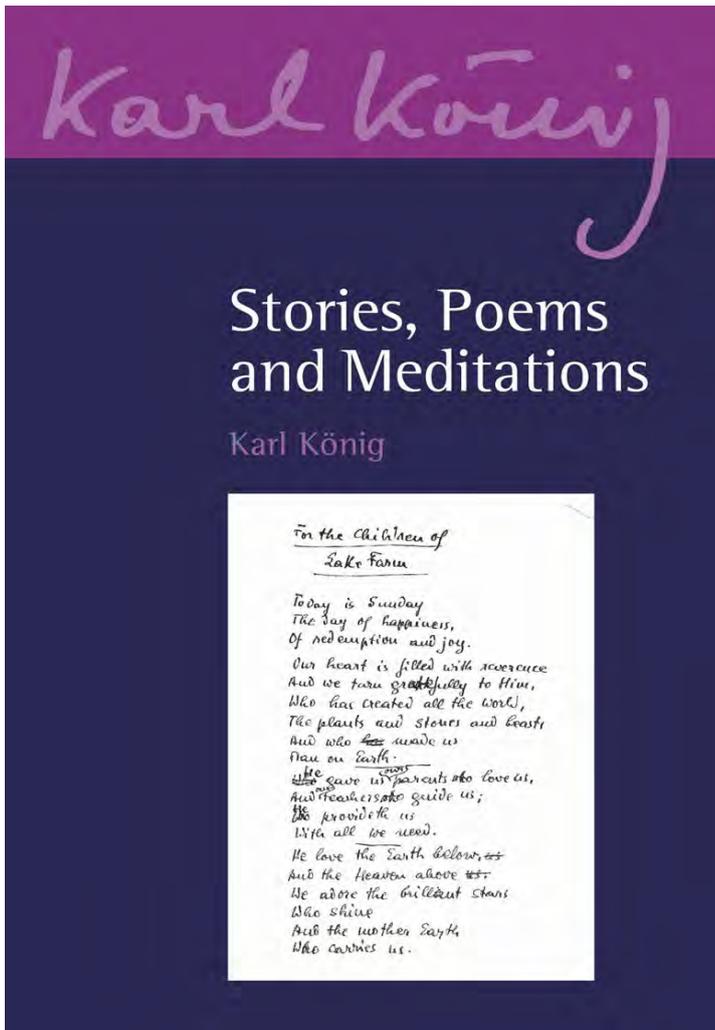
## Event 1:

### At „St. Ethelburgas Centre for Reconciliation and Peace“, Bishopsgate, London:

- Exhibition of paintings by residents of The Mount; slide show
- Karl König's pictures for the Calendar of the Soul; talk by Richard Steel
- “Camphill, Founded by Refugees”; talk by Joan Sleigh
- Growing Up in Community; podium discussion with Judy Bailey, Joan Sleigh, Richard Steel; slide show
- History of Camphill; various short videos of Camphill today;
- Karl König in Interview BBC 1964.

There would be information and a selection of books – including a new special publication - the booklet. „Art in Community – Community as Art“ about the refugee group that started Camphill and how their impulse included art - König himself spoke about creating „cultural islands“.





The new Karl König volume was also to be ready, but Floris Books did not manage, so they made a special offer (to be found in this issue of *Camphill Correspondence*).

Did they know about the postponement already?

The new volume: Karl König *Poems, Stories and Meditations* (including the *Christmas Story* too)

And of course, the CD with the 1964 interview with Karl König would also be there:

**Social Experiments of the Twentieth Century - Camphill Top of the List**

Intro: Richard Steel + Ronald Richter (en/de) (1:13)

Interview Rev. John Smith with Karl König, BBC-4, 1964 (en) (private recording/private Aufnahme) (13:43)

**10 Jahre Karl König Werkausgabe**

**10 years of the New Edition of Karl König's Works**

Interview Ronald Richter mit/with Richard Steel, 2018 (de/13:15 /en:15:51)

Herausgeber/Published by Richard Steel, Karl König Institut © Karl König Institut, Berlin Design: Winfried Altmann Fertigung/Production: Ronald Richter, Kult.Radio + Michael Menzel, darauf.audio|video|web Limited Edition. Not for sale

**Karl König Institut**  
für Kunst, Wissenschaft und Soziales Leben

Der Wiener Arzt und Heilpädagoge KARL KÖNIG (1902-1966) gründete 1940, auf der Flucht vor dem Nazi-Regime, in Schottland die CAMPHILL-Bewegung. Seine Bemühungen um moderne Gemeinschaftsbildung und um Dorfsiedlungen als therapeutisches „Gesamtkunstwerk“ regten sehr viele Menschen nachhaltig an, die inzwischen in vielen Ländern weltweit solche Initiativen ergriffen haben. Die Camphill-Bewegung umfasst heute über 100 solche Siedlungen. König hinterließ aber auch ein erstaunlich großes und vielfältiges Werk an Aufsätzen, Vorträgen, künstlerischen Werken, Briefen und Notizbüchern, das immer noch erschlossen wird. Dies ist die Aufgabe des KARL KÖNIG ARCHIVS. Das KARL KÖNIG INSTITUT in Berlin ist Träger dieser Initiative und Herausgeber der Karl König Werkausgabe. Mehr Information: [www.karl-koenig-institute.net](http://www.karl-koenig-institute.net)

The Viennese physician and pioneer of anthroposophical social work KARL KÖNIG (1902-1966) founded the CAMPHILL Movement in Scotland in 1940 while fleeing from the Nazi Regime. His efforts with modern community building and founding holistic healing communities with people with special needs enthused many who carried this impulse into the world. Today there are over 100 such settlements in many countries world wide. Karl König also left a very extensive and diverse estate of writings, lectures, letters, notebooks and artistic works that are still being processed and made available for research in the KARL KÖNIG ARCHIVE in Aberdeen. The International KARL KÖNIG INSTITUTE carries this task and is publishing a New Edition of König's works. For more information: [www.karl-koenig-institute.net](http://www.karl-koenig-institute.net)

**Karl König live**

**CAMPBILL**  
A Social Experiment



**Karl König - An Interview**  
BBC, London 1964

*Including an Interview with Richard Steel:*

**10 Jahre Karl König Werkausgabe / 10 Years of the New Edition**

Of course you can have these special items too!  
Your order to [office@karlkoeniginstitute.org](mailto:office@karlkoeniginstitute.org) will help us going forwards

So, even without events we don't come empty handed: We can deliver to anywhere postage free and you will be contributing to our future cooperation with „Insiders Outsiders“, then we can also give books to refugees.

The second event would have taken place in May in The Mount so that the refugees and other guests could see a Camphill Community in real life! There would also be exhibitions: 80 years of Camphill; 50 years The Mount; Greg Tricker's picture series "Anne Frank"; the residents' refugee paintings and: The Mount Today. As highlight of the day the community of The Mount have prepared Karl König's Play for Good Friday, which would be performed after a short introduction.

Well – as you will see – we cannot just cancel these wonderful events, so do please support our endeavour to reschedule! And thanks to those who have already contributed!

[\* The Karl König Institute is cooperating with two initiatives that have grown out of the Camphill Impulse connecting social therapy and refugee work: One has done amazing work since 1980 at The House of Peace in Ipswich, Massachusetts, the other is a new start-up in Oslo, Norway: find them through our website: <https://www.karlkoeniginstitute.org/en/SubjectAreas/Social-Questions> and look at „Partners and Collaborations“]

## The Mount Camphill Community turns 50

Vicky Syme

The Mount Camphill Community was founded in 1970. As a community we have a wish to celebrate and honour this milestone in many ways. We started our celebrations with an extraordinary weekend workshop with the acclaimed artist Greg Tricker entitled,

### *“The Refugee, a Messenger from Afar.”*

During a very special few days, groups of students, cohousers and coworkers from the community heard a talk and were guided to paint their own responses with Greg through his inspirational works for Anne Frank and Bernadette of Lourdes.

We studied three major works by Greg for Anne Frank and St Bernadette from which our own pictures were created and shared. Along side our painting experience we had the wonderful



opportunity to explore the poems about Anne Frank by Nick Naydler through Eurythmy. This was led by our inspirational community Eurythmist, Chystal Hayn. The workshop arose out of a wish to extend the boundaries of our community building and connect with other groups who would be interested in the work of Camphill. To celebrate 80 years of the Camphill movement and what it has offered to art in social care over these many years and what it still has to offer now.

Greg Tricker shows one of his pictures: *Journey to Le Cachot*



Greg's workshop was the seed for a collaboration with the Insiders/Outsiders Festival and the Karl König Institut to explore the story of the Camphill refugees of WW2, pioneering a new form of community that forever transformed the care of people with special needs. An event in London was scheduled for this collaboration to take place and sadly this has now been postponed due to the world pandemic we are all a part of.

We have also had to take the decision to postpone the second workshop which was to be hosted by The Mount Camphill Community in May to share our work with migrant and refugee groups. It is our hope that both events can be rescheduled in the near future.

We at The Mount Camphill Community wish to thank Greg for his inspirational work and weekend workshop. We are all changed by this creative experience and we hope to share our exhibition with others soon.



**If you would like to be on the mailing list for the events that we hope to be able to reschedule soon in London and in The Mount please contact us at:**  
**[office@karlkoeniginstitute.org](mailto:office@karlkoeniginstitute.org)**