
TRIBUTE

Introduction of Prof. Dr. Claus-Frenz Claussen: Advances in Tinnitology, 1999

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Welcome to the Martha Entenmann Tinnitus Research Center, Inc., at the Health Sciences Center at Brooklyn, State University of New York. Today it is my great pleasure to introduce our guest of honor, Prof. Dr. Claus-Frenz Claussen, and to congratulate him on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday.

Prof. Claussen certainly needs no introduction to this group. Most of us have just come from the Twenty-sixth Annual Meeting of the Neurotological and Equilibriometric Society (NES) in Los Angeles, California, and heard Dr. Bertora's excellent and complete biography of Prof. Claussen, starting from his birth in Husum, Nordsee, Germany.

I have thought long and hard about what should be added to complete the picture of this complex man. And then one day it just came to me—that Claus can best be described as a Renaissance man.

The Renaissance describes the rich development of Western civilization that marked the transition from the Middle Ages to modern times. In outlook, the Renaissance brought new importance to individual expression, self-consciousness, and worldly experience: Culturally, it was a time of brilliant accomplishments in scholarship—literature, science, and the arts. The humanist emphasis on the individual was typified in the ideal of the Renaissance man, the man of universal genius.

Today we honor Prof. Dr. Claus Frenz Claussen, our Renaissance man—Professor Extraordinarius for Neurotology at the University of Wurzburg—on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday. Prof. Claussen's accom-

plishments in science are well-known to this group and include more than 450 original publications, among them books, articles, catalogues, and monographs. Since 1967, he has developed many objective and quantitative tests for noninvasive functional network analyses of the human sensory system, such as the following:

1. In equilibration: the Butterfly calorigram, the rotary intensity damping test, the kiteoptigram, the craniocorpogram (with head, neck, and body movement analysis), the cyclogram of adaptation of the vestibular evoked response system
2. In olfactometry: the target olfactogram
3. In gustometry: the five-component chemogustogram and incremented impulse electrogustogram
4. In audiometry: the stimulus impulse cross-chart for auditory evoked potentials and auditory late evoked potentials

Prof. Claussen has been instrumental in the development of international organizations devoted primarily to the discipline of neurotology. He also is the founder and president of the NES, which has just celebrated its twenty-sixth anniversary; this organization consists of more than 600 members worldwide and has spearheaded the introduction of new techniques for both the diagnosis and treatment of patients with complaints of hearing loss, tinnitus, vertigo, ear blockage, and taste and smell disorders. The uniqueness of the annual NES meeting is reflected in the free exchange of information and desire for learning. It provides a forum for new young scientists and researchers as well as for distinguished, seasoned professionals. The NES welcomes new concepts and original thinking and is open to all who wish to participate. Meetings have been held the world over, including in Germany, Japan, the USA, Israel, and India. Prof. Claussen's closing remark at the annual NES meetings, attended by an average of 275 individuals per meeting, is "Join the NES and see the world."

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In 1982, Prof. Claussen founded the 4-G-F, the Neurootologisches Forschungsinstitut der Gesellschaft zur Erforschung von Geruch-, Geschmack-, Gehör- und Gleichgewichtsstörungen, in Bad Kissingen, a non-profit foundation devoted to research of the sense of smell, taste, hearing, and equilibrium.

Collaborations, both in basic science and clinical medicine, have characterized the international efforts of Prof. Claussen as an academician. Among the collaborators are Prof. Sakata of the Tinnitus and Vertigo Institute, Tokyo, Japan; Drs. Abraham Shulman and Barbara Goldstein of the Martha Entenmann Tinnitus Research Center, Inc., Brooklyn, NY; Profs. Ribiero and Seabra of Centro Hospitalar de V.N. Gaia, Porto, Portugal; Dr. Trinus of the Department of Otolaryngology, Kiev, Ukraine; Drs. Bertora and Bergmann of the Neurootological Institute, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Profs. Malavasi and Caovilla of the Neurotologic Institute, Escuela Paulista, Sao Paola, Brazil; Prof. Haralanov of Medical University, State Hospital of Neurology and Psychiatry, Sofia, Bulgaria; Prof. Hahn of the Ear, Nose and Throat Department, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic; and Prof. Kirtane and Dr. Sandra DeSousa of Desai's Hospital, Bombay, India.

Both Dr. Shulman and I have been involved with Prof. Claussen in the development of the *International Tinnitus Journal (ITJ)*, the first peer-reviewed journal devoted to the discipline of tinnitology and now the official journal of the NES. Together with the Martha Entenmann Tinnitus Research Center in New York, collaborations have been established in neurootology that

are highlighted by investigations into the symptoms of tinnitus, hearing loss, and vertigo. The *ITJ* assures the dissemination of state-of-the-art scientific and medical information for the benefit of both professionals and patients. Prof. Claussen is chairman and co-chair editor for the publication.

Taking advantage of the modern electronic media, such as the World Wide Web and the Internet, we and Prof. Claussen have designed several home pages related to the International Tinnitus Journal, tinnitus, and vertigo-dizziness.

Prof. Claussen is a man who is highly respected and appreciated for his leadership qualities and teaching abilities. Certainly, the Professor's teaching is unique and original. His talent in sculpture and the fine arts has been integrated with clinical investigations of taste, smell, touch, sight, sound perception, and an orientation to one's environment. It reflects the emergence of a discipline that he has called *sensology*.

His fine arts park in Eisenbühl is ornamented with numerous steel sculptures, ranging in height from 8 to 10 feet, weighing 1–2 tons, and depicting the mythological gods, wagnerian characters, and the Ginkgo lead. He is called the *Eisenbildner von Eisenbühl*.

On behalf of the Martha Entenmann Tinnitus Research Center, Dr. Abraham Shulman and I are proud to present Claus with this award of excellence.

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