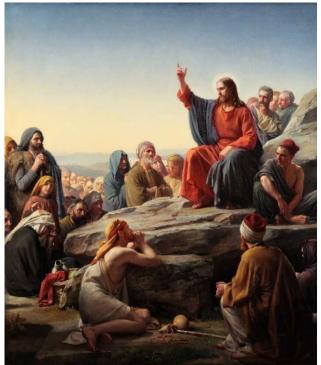
FREDERIKSBORG

Press Release, October 2025







Carl Bloch, *Healing the Blind Man*, 1871
Oil on copper, Frederiksborg Castle, Denmark

A Treasure of Faith:

Frederiksborg Castle and Museum, Denmark, launches podcast on Carl Bloch's Biblical masterpieces

To mark the 25th anniversary of "The Testaments of One Fold and One Shepherd," Frederiksborg Castle and Museum in Denmark — home to the 23 Carl Bloch paintings that have shaped how millions picture the life of Christ — has released its first English-language podcast featuring Danish actor Tomas Ambt Kofod, who portrayed Christ in the film. Kofod reflects on faith, art, and the power of Bloch's paintings — the very works that inspired the film's visual world and continue to move visitors at Frederiksborg today.

Hillerød, Denmark, October 2025 – Just north of Copenhagen lies Frederiksborg Castle, home to one of Denmark's most extraordinary treasures: 23 monumental paintings depicting the life of Christ.



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Created in the 1870s by the Danish artist Carl Bloch, these works form a coherent and deeply moving narrative – from the Annunciation and the Nativity to the Crucifixion and the Resurrection.

The paintings are housed in the King's Prayer Chamber, adjacent to the impressive Frederiksborg Castle Chapel, where generations of visitors from around the world have come to see them. The works have long transcended Denmark's borders: their expressive faces and luminous storytelling have shaped the way generations around the world picture the life of Christ.

Among those who know Bloch's paintings best are Latter-day Saints around the world. For more than a century, these images have illustrated the life of Christ in Church publications, lesson manuals, and artworks displayed in temples and meetinghouses – often without realizing that all 23 original paintings are preserved together in a castle in Denmark.

To mark the 25th anniversary of the 2000 film *The Testaments of One Fold and One Shepherd* – whose visual world was directly inspired by Bloch's art – Frederiksborg has released its first English-language podcast. The special episode features Danish actor **Tomas Ambt Kofod**, who portrayed the Savior in *The Testaments*. In conversation with editor Tore Leifer, Kofod reflects on faith, art, and the experience of portraying the Savior – in a visual language that millions already knew from Carl Bloch's paintings.

"When you look closely at these works," says Kofod, "you realize they're not just paintings of Christ — they're expressions of faith, of empathy, of humanity. Standing before them at Frederiksborg is profoundly moving."

Frederiksborg's Director Ulla Tofte sees the podcast as an invitation to rediscover the universal stories that connect art and belief:

"These paintings are part of Denmark's cultural heritage — but they belong to a global story about compassion, faith, and imagination. It feels only natural to share them now with the international audience that already holds them so dear."

The English-language episode of *PORTRÆT* is available on major platforms such as Apple Podcasts and Spotify. Just search for "Denmark's Hidden Treasure – The Paintings of Christ" or "Frederiksborg PORTRÆT." You can also listen directly from the museum's website:

https://frederiksborg.dk/podcast-tore-leifer/paintings-of-christ/

Press photos: the Carl Bloch paintings can be downloaded here: www.frederiksborg.dk/presse
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About Frederiksborg

Frederiksborg Castle is the largest Renaissance castle in the Nordic region and one of Denmark's most significant cultural landmarks. Within its grand halls, chapel, and galleries, art, history, and craftsmanship come together in one extraordinary setting. The castle is home to Denmark's National Portrait Gallery and Museum of National History — a living institution that invites reflection on identity, origins, belonging, and direction.

