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IN MEMORY OF
BONNIE C. GARDNER,
1932-2003

KENNEDY (AND KLAGES) ON CANVAS

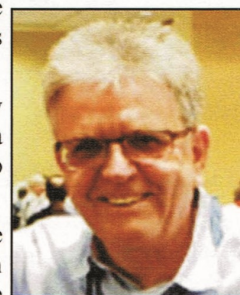
Over the Holidays I received a number of emails from KPIC member Peter Klages from Germany. Peter has been a member of KPIC for quite some time and in fact, was one of the first European members of the group. In any case, he emailed me with the news that he had treated himself to a present that had long been on his "want list".

Peter has an extremely varied collection of Kennedy items in his ever-growing collection. The many different types of items provide him with an extremely broad "Kennedy Experience". While some of us have a specific direction in our collecting, Peter enjoys it all. In fact, when we met at the APIC National Convention in Springfield, Illinois in 2018, he was experiencing a somewhat new facet to his collecting interests—Kennedy buttons. It was a sincere pleasure to watch his delight in person as he found new additions to the Klages Collection.



Artist Peter Engels

But there was one item that he still had not obtained... a JFK painting. A very good friend of his, Peter Engels of Frieburg, Belgium, happens to be an artist—a portrait artist of some renown. So Peter K asked Peter E if it was possible to create a "jugate painting", as it were, of him with JFK.



Collector Peter Klages

Peter (the artist) has painted portraits of many celebrities. He is considered to be one of the best contemporary portrait painters. He gained international fame with a portrait painting of Nelson Mandela. Portraits by artist Peter Engels are characterized by his black and white tones and sepia colors. He applies the paint with the palette knife, which gives the artwork a lot of texture and character. He pays special attention to the eyes, mouth, and nose in each portrait, to paint his subjects with "emotion and light in their eyes".

Also among Engels works are portraits of Roger Moore, Madonna, President Barack Obama, the Dalai Lama, Enzo Ferrari, Michael Jackson, Marlon Brando, Steve McQueen, Martin Luther King, Tom Selleck, Robert Redford, the Beatles, Tiger Woods, Winston Churchill, and, of course, John F. Kennedy, (left) just to name a few. He considers his portraits of Nelson Mandela



Engels JFK Portrait

(displayed on Reuters' largest billboard in the world on Times Square in New York on Mandela's birthday), along with that of Grace Kelly (bought by Prince Albert of Monaco), Nicole Kidman, Estee Lauder, and Richard Branson (painted 'live'

in front of an audience of 1,600 people), to be among his most important works. He can now add his portrait of Peter Klages and JFK (right) to the list.



Klages-Kennedy Portrait—approximately 39" x 47"

Peter (Klages) wrote, "I have fulfilled a small dream and presented myself for Christmas. I will get a portrait, painted by the Belgian painter and artist Peter Engels." The portrait will hang in the living room of the Klages home when it has been completed.



Clockwise:

1. Richard Branson
2. Dalai Lama
3. Grace Kelly
4. Barack Obama
5. Sean Connery
6. Nelson Mandela