

Jelling - UK
DVT/TG/KH/ALA

It's a very special feeling
to stand here -

- two weeks before
the shielding is installed.

It's almost our last chance
to touch the stone out in the open.

My name is Erik Nobel.

I'm an architect and the owner
of the firm NOBEL arkitekter Ltd.

We're in Jelling
at Harald Bluetooth's runic stone -

- which was placed here
in approximately 965 AD.

It's placed at the centre
between two barrows -

- that lie on either side
of Jelling Church.

In essence, this runic stone marks
the Christianization of Denmark -

- so it's also called
Denmark's Birth Certificate.

As you can see, it has a fine runic
inscription, cut into the stone.

It says that King Harald
christianized the Danes in 965 AD.

And this marks the transition from
the heathen to the Christian period.

This stone is placed here
in an ancient heathen monument -

- as a manifestation
of this transition.

That is what this location expresses -

- and what King Harald
wants to convey.

These runic stones have been

out in the open for over 1000 years -

- which makes the task
of encasing them extra challenging.

We propose to shield the two runic
stones by shaping two angles -

- to form hands
that shelter the stones.

We're also working on a large
media house in Tallinn, Estonia -

- where Denmark had many activities
in ancient times.

The Danish flag Dannebrog
fell from the sky in Tallinn in 1219.

Estonia wants to gather their radio
and TV functions in a new building -

- which we're currently designing
after winning an international contest.

With that building we're also looking
for a simplistic, functional solution -

- which of course is far removed from
this project in scope and content -

- but it is based on
the same work method -

- where we as architects
aim for simplicity.

But the large studios inside the
building are like large stone volumes.

Five large radio and TV studios
that form a kind of village -

- around which
all the workplaces are organized.

Our aim has been to establish
close communication -

- between the various
editorial offices and studios.

Modern news dissemination
is characterized by -

- communication, contact and so forth.

Up to now in Estonia
they've worked in humble locations -

- and now they want a modern,
functional frame for their activities -

- viable for many years to come.

The Jelling monuments are featured
on the UNESCO World Heritage List