***THE GREATEST RESEARCH AND PUBLISHING PROJECT EVER on the chosen few who came to be known as the LINNAEUS APOSTLES. During the 18th century, the Swedish naturalist Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778) inspired 17 of his*** ***scholars to travel to distant corners of the world to document local nature and culture. They travelled on their own or with expeditions across land and sea - their travels covered every continent between the years 1745 and 1799.***

Although Linnaeus and some of his apostles are known internationally, several of the apostles are relatively unknown despite their global pioneering work in the service of science and mankind. The publication of their journals - several of them now made available for the very first time - will for a long time to come stimulate fresh research, new thinking and not least provide exciting reading about cultures, landscapes and people of a bygone era.

**Linnaeus and his apostles**

In 1742, at the age of 35, the Swedish naturalist Carl Linnaeus began to lecture at Uppsala University on botany, natural history and medicine. The young professor broke with medieval scholastic tradition and moved his lectures outdoors. He focused on true and systematic science, presenting his theory of a natural order for plants. Linnaeus inspired seventeen of his students to travel to distant corners of the world to document local nature and culture. These travelling scientists became known as Linnaeus apostles. They travelled on their own or with expeditions across land and sea - their travels covered every continent during the second half of the 18th century. Conditions were difficult - some even perished in tropical diseases or other hardship. The vast material that was collected and brought back to Sweden proved that Linnaeus’ system could be applied globally to bring order in the sciences of natural history.

**DISCOVER THE WORLD WITH THE LINNAEUS APOSTLES**In connection to the 300 years anniversary in 2007 of Linnaeus birth a unique interdisciplinary project started. The publication of a major international series of eight volumes - in all 11 books and over 5,500 pages - which has been in preparation since the late 1990s under the overall title of **The Linnaeus Apostles - Global Science & Adventure**. All the accounts of the apostles' journeys to every continent have been published for the first time in English; those of the apostles who left no travel journals are described through their correspondence or other sources. In the introductory and concluding volumes world experts in various subject fields will provide accounts of the 18th century, of Linnaeus, of travelling and the hardships of field work, together with biographies and an index covering approximately 5,500 indexed printed pages, resulting in around 150,000 specific search terms and a considerable number of cross references or references to modern biological nomenclature.

**CONTENTS AND CONTRIBUTORS INCLUDE AUTHORS FROM THE 18TH CENTURY TO MODERN TIMES**
All the 17 apostles' complete texts, illustrations and maps have been published in this oeuvre mainly based on the original journals and, as an alternative where no such exist, previously printed old material or correspondence is used. This is the very first time this interesting and important material - about bygone horizons - is made public in its entirety; to the joy not only of interdisciplinary researchers into natural and cultural history, but also of everybody with a general interest in these subjects.

The main authors of the six volumes of this oeuvre (Vol. 2-7) are THE 17 APOSTLES (C. F. Adler, A. Afzelius, A. Berlin, J. P. Falck, P. Forsskål, F. Hasselquist, P. Kalm, P. Osbeck, P. Löfling, D. Rolander, A. Rolandsson Martin, G. Rothman, D. Solander, A. Sparrman , C. P. Thunberg, O. Torén and C. Tärnström).

We also present a number of leading scientific writers (G. Broberg, R. Edberg, U. Ehrensvärd, A. Ericsson, G. Eriksson, K. Grandin, V. Hansen, S. Helmfrid, C. Linnaeus, B. Nordenstam, H. Smethman, P. Sörbom and S. Sörlin) in the introductory (Vol. 1) and concluding (Vol. 8) volumes. Volume 1 (INTRODUCTION) is a descriptive volume. Here the reader will get a deeper understanding of the world in which Linnaeus and his apostles lived. The 18th century was both like and unlike our world today. It was during this era that the modern world first saw the light of day. The concluding VOLUME EIGHT, entitled ENCYCLOPÆDIA, contains factual information presented in reference form (text and maps) under three headings: BIOGRAPHIES WITH MAPS, INDEX VOLUMES ONE TO SEVEN and i[LINNAEUS.ORG](http://linnaeus.org/). It is in volume eight that general facts and search facilities relating to all the volumes and [www.iLinnaeus.org](http://www.ilinnaeus.org/) are to be found.