

PRESS-RELEASE

Monaco 2021-12-10

H.S.H Prince Albert II unveils Et Purus No 1 – a monument created to honor the Swedish Professor Arne Ljungqvist and his lifelong crusade for clean sports and a doping-free society.



Et Purus No 1: The gesture of a winner, with a symbolic window into a clean inner body. From left: Lord Sebastian Coe (President World Athletics), Bjorn Bertoff (Initiator of Et Purus Project), Sassona Norton (Sculptor of Et Purus), H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco, Professor Arne Ljungqvist and grand daughter Jessica Ljungqvist. Photo: janajulian.com

Monaco, December 2nd, 2021



The world's first Et Purus monument was unveiled on pier Jetée Lucciana in the marina of Monaco. The ceremony and lunch was hosted by H.S.H. Prince Albert II, member of the International Olympic Committee, and engaged in the anti-doping issues within sports together with Professor Arne Ljungqvist since the early 1990-ies.

Et Purus No 1 is a bronze monument by American Sculpture Sassona Norton. A second Et Purus will be unveiled in Stockholm in 2022 and the monument is intended in a series of 20 for cities around the world.

During the lunch at Yacht Club de Monaco, a video speech by H.M. Queen Silvia of Sweden was crowning the guest's acknowledgements of Professor Ljungqvist's achievements.

PROFESSOR
ARNE LJUNGQVIST
ANTI-DOPING FOUNDATION

Professor Ljungqvist, still active at the age of 90, started his anti-doping career in 1971 in Sweden. He has since then been fighting against doping in sports from leading positions in the major sports organizations: World Athletics (former IAAF), the International Olympic Committee and World Anti-Doping Agency. Professor Ljungqvist is today working actively with doping as a public health issue via his own foundation, initiating the world's first professorship in "doping and public health" together with the Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm, Sweden.

Professor Arne Ljungqvist

"To be honored on a day like this, together with dignitaries from the world of sports and our society, as well as dear friends and family, is truly overwhelming. And yes, it marks a 50 year long crusade, but more importantly it sheds light on our mission to come – the never ending work for pure health and clean sports."

ET PURUS

The bronze monument Et Purus is sculpted by Sassona Norton, a renowned sculptor with a fascination of hands – the subject of her monumental public artworks. The Et Purus project was created by Bjorn Bertoft in 2011 as a personal gift to Professor Ljungqvist, and Sassona Norton finalized Et Purus No 1 for Monaco in 2021. Et Purus No 2 is under production and will be ready for delivery to Stockholm in 2022. Et Purus No 3 and No 4 are being offered to other cities around the world.

The name Et Purus is inspired by the Olympic motto in Latin "Citius, Altius, Fortius" (Faster, Higher, Stronger). Et Purus means "and clean". The hand with a raised index finger is the gesture of a winner. The golden ring on the raised finger – represents a window into a clean inner body.



The sculpture Et Purus is intended to be placed in a series of cities around the world, with a mission to remind people about the conscious choice to stay pure, and away from doping. Monaco is hosting the head quarters of the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF), today World Athletics, which was Professor Ljungqvist's base for his international crusade against doping in sports.

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High-resolution images and info:

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