



Did You know that

*if Peter I had conquered Tallinn as early as 1703,
St Petersburg would not have been built?*

At the behest of Peter I, an Italianate Baroque palace and garden, something that was unique in the Nordic countries, was built at Kadriorg as a summer residence for the czars. In addition to the renowned Italian architect, Nicola Michetti, Czar Peter I was personally involved in the design of the palace. The entire palace and the park that surrounds it bears the name of the czar's consort, Catherine I.

In the twentieth century, the palace was the home of the first president of the Republic of Estonia, and for some decades afterwards it belonged to the Art Museum of Estonia. Currently, the palace houses exhibits which showcase Western European art, with the highlights being a collection of art from the Low Countries, a collection of Germany prints, and Russian art from the sixteenth to nineteenth centuries.

Tiesitkö, että jos Pietari Suuri olisi valloittanut Tallinnan jo vuonna 1703, olisi Pietari jäänyt rakentamatta?

Pietari Suuren käskystä kohosi Kadriorgiin Pohjoismaissa ainutlaatuinen, italialaistyylinen barokkilinna ja -puutarha keisarien kesäasunnoksi. Linnan suunnitteluun osallistui arvoistetun italialaisen arkkitehdin Nicola Michettin lisäksi myös tsaari Pietari Suuri henkilökohtaisesti. Linnan ja puiston kokonaisuus kantaa tsaarin puolison Katariina I:n nimeä.

Linna oli 1900-luvulla Viron tasavallan ensimmäisen presidentin koti ja sen jälkeen se on kuulunut vuosikymmeniä Viron taide-museolle. Tällä hetkellä linnassa on nähtävillä Länsi-Euroopan taidetta, josta tärkeimpiä ovat alankomaalainen kokoelma, saksalainen grafiikkakokoelma ja Venäjän 1500–1800-luvun taide.

Знаете ли вы, что захвати Петр Первый город Tallinn уже в 1703 году, ему не потребовалось бы возводить город Санкт-Петербург?

По воле Петра I на территории, которую потом стали называть Kadriorg, был выстроен уникальный для Северной Европы барочный замок с парком — летняя резиденция императоров. В планировании дворца наряду с известным итальянским архитектором Николо Микетти участвовал и царь собственной персоной. Дворец и парковый ансамбль был назван в честь жены Петра императрицы Екатерины I.

В XX веке дворец стал резиденцией первого президента Эстонской Республики Константина Пятса, а затем в его стенах разместился Художественный музей Эстонии. Сейчас во дворце можно увидеть западно-европейское искусство, в котором наиболее интересны собрания нидерландской живописи, немецкой графики, а также российского искусства XVI – XIX веков.

Kas sa teadsid, et kui Peeter I oleks Tallinna vallutanud juba 1703. aastal, siis oleks St Peterburg jäänud rajamata?

Peeter I tahtel kerkis Kadriorgu Põhjamaades unikaalne, Itaalia stiilis barokkloss ja -aed keisrite suveresidentsiks. Lossi kavandamises osales maineka itaalia arhitekti Nicola Michetti kõrval ka tsaar Peeter I isiklikult. Lossi- ja pargiansambel kannab tsaari abikaasa Katariina I nime.

Loss oli 20. sajandil koduks Eesti Vabariigi esimesele presidendile Konstantin Pätsile ja seejärel aastakümneid kuulunud Eesti Kunstimuseumile. Praegu saab lossis näha Lääne-Euroopa kunsti, millest olulisemad on Madalmaade kogu, saksa graafika kogu ja Vene 16.–19. sajandi kunsti.



Author unknown, after Georg Christoph Grooth (1716-1749)

EQUESTRIAN PORTRAIT OF EMPRESS CATHERINE I

Kadriorg Palace and its grounds were named in honour of Catherine, consort of Peter I, who rose from being a chamber maid to ruling the Russian empire.



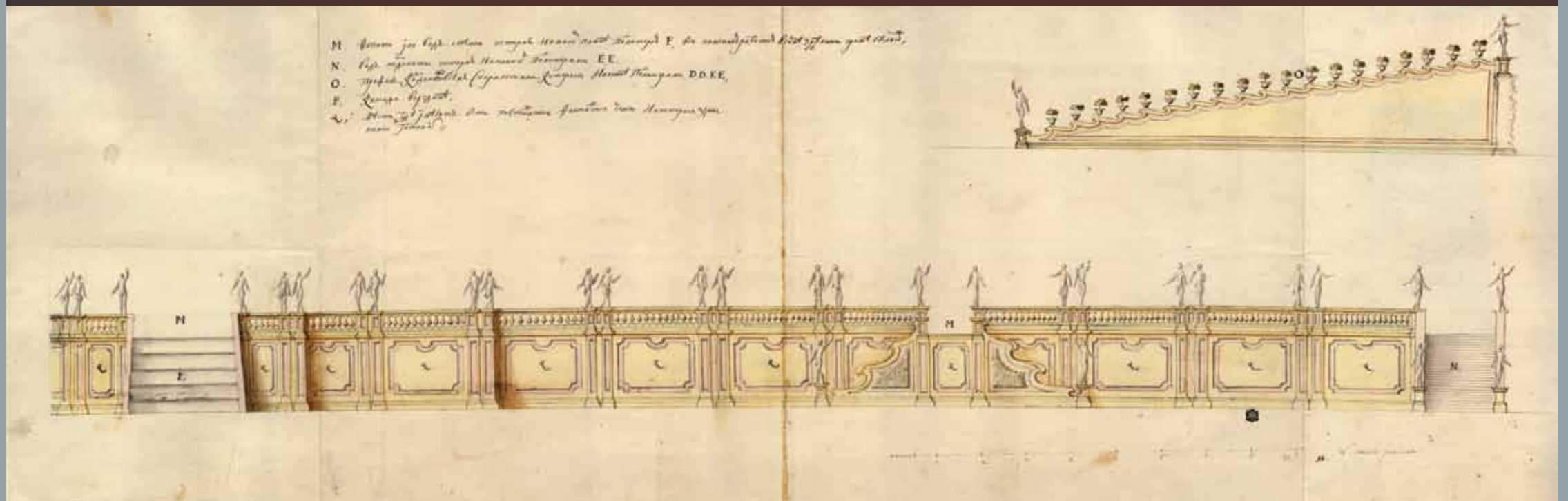
Author unknown

PORTRAIT OF PETER I

By wanting to build his summer palace at Kadriorg, this ruler wanted its windows to provide simultaneous views of the sea with his navy on display and the European Old Town. Peter I, who visited Tallinn a total of eleven times, is reported to have said that St Petersburg would not have been built if Tallinn had been captured by him ten years sooner.



Catherine I was mother to eleven children by Peter I; however, only two of them reached adulthood. One of the reliefs in the main room of Kadriorg Palace was meant to console the ruling couple, depicting as it does a story from antique mythology showing the handsome Trojan, Ganymede, who was abducted by Zeus to serve as a wine bearer on Mount Olympus.



Kadriorg Palace was designed by the Italian architect, **Nicola Michetti**, who came from Rome to serve Peter I for almost five years. After completing Kadriorg Palace, he built Peter I a palace and grounds at Strelna and constructed a number of fountains at Peterhof.

The drawing is in the collection of the State Hermitage Museum in Russia.



The only surviving authentic ballroom interior from the age of Peter I showcases the highest levels of art from this time, along with the ideology of the evolving empire. The monograms of the sovereign couple - Peter I and Catherine - are surrounded by winged genies declaring eternal glory, the imperial crown, and the eagles of Russia's coat of arms.



The ceiling painting in the palace's main room depicts a story from Ovid's "Metamorphoses" in which the hunter Actaeon, changed into a deer, sees the hunting goddess Diana and nymphs bathe and is mauled to death by his own hunting dogs. In the courtly art of Peter I, the scene was an allegory of Russia's victory over King Charles XII of Sweden.



L H Peteren

FLOWER GARDEN AT KADRIORG PALACE

Peter I wrote to Catherine: “The garden which was planted two years ago has grown to be so lush that one dares not believe it, since similar big trees, which you saw, have joined their branches over paths in places...”



The tiled stoves with their blue paintings at Kadriorg Palace are the only surviving examples of such tiles outside of St Petersburg, being made at Strelna in 1720. They depict Dutch-style landscapes and scenes that are reminiscent of popular Russian imagery, including animals, birds and human figures in their displays.



From 1929, the palace was made the residence of the head of state. At the time, a banquet hall, dining hall, and orangery were added for official receptions.



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