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*Roar's Circle* is the story of the modern reconstruction of a Viking ship. In masterly fashion, Henrik Juel tells the inside story of how such complex hulls are actually put together on the bare earth and how these fast, open vessels handle. *Roar's Circle* paints a fine portrait of the young Danish team that built her.

In two years the team created *Roar* out of standing oak so precisely that her supple hull mirrors her forebear's lines to within millimetres. They used axe, hammer, plane and spoon drill, taking twenty years' research into the Skuldelev Viking ship find on into the fields of construction and handling. This was the Museum's 'master' replica, the first in a long programme that is still revealing the resources in men, material and time that building Viking ships demanded, and what they gave back in terms of performance at sea.

The ambition within the group was that each should master all of the many skills involved: techniques inferred from salvaged parts, from faint tool marks on the original or from the Bayeux Tapestry. Fierce debate frequently flared under the press of tailoring oak to the hull's elegant curves, but beneath the wrangling there lay a sinewy community of thought, a real style, about these people. Their good humour, tinged with the finest of Danish irony, smoothed all wrinkles in the end. For all that, it is *Roar* that commands the action, binding the strands of effort together, and emerging as the heroine – a voyager through time and a tangible reminder of the spirit of an amazing age.

The Author: Henrik Juel teaches Philosophy and Communication at Roskilde University. In addition to working as part of the team that built *Roar Ege*, he acts as her off-shore skipper.

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Roar's Circle

Henrik Juel

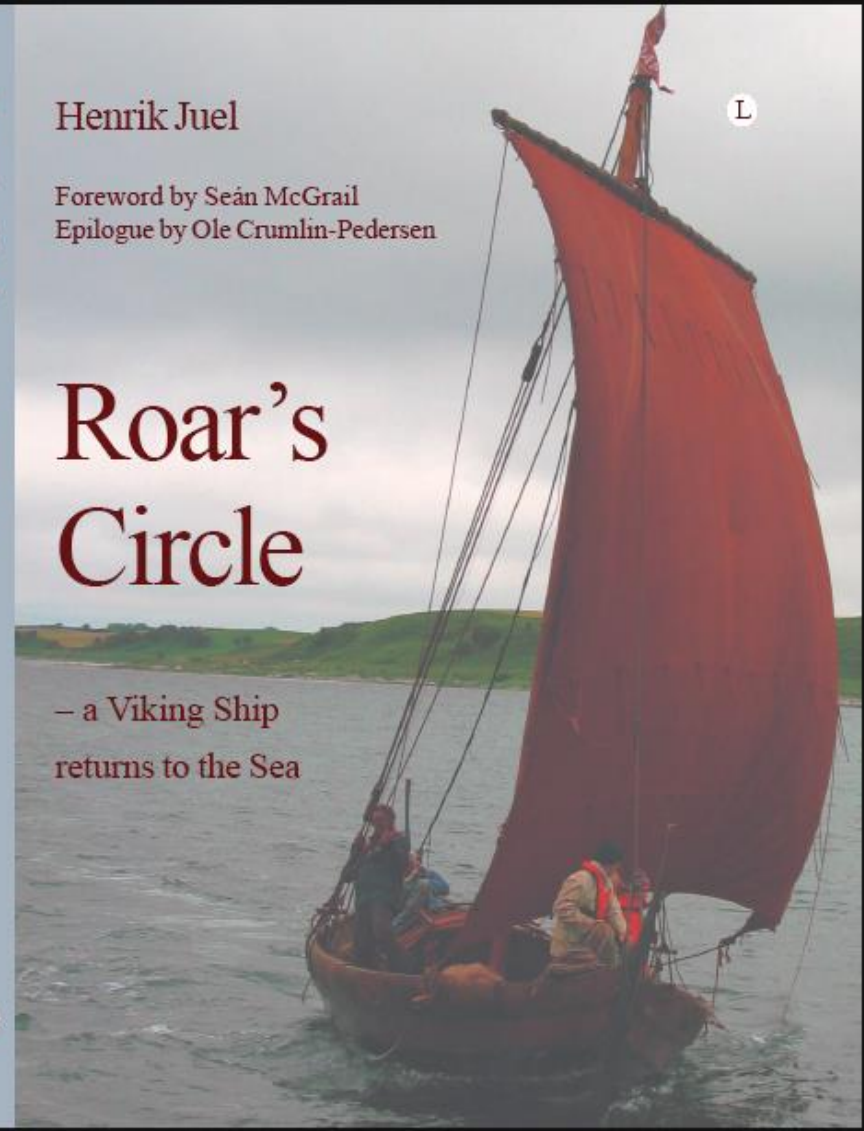
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Henrik Juel

Foreword by Sean McGrail  
Epilogue by Ole Crumlin-Pedersen

# Roar's Circle

– a Viking Ship  
returns to the Sea



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