

# REDISCOVERY OF A GENIUS

## The inventor of a century: Nikola Tesla

### • AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW\*

Nikola Tesla is one of the most important masterminds of the modern world. He created everything from electrical distribution to telecommunication, and our world would be very different without his inventions. But surprisingly, Nikola Tesla (1856–1943) is still relatively unknown; even schoolbooks often neglect his name. Now, however, the author Michael Krause has won acclaim for rediscovering this gifted scientist and visionary. A producer and a director by trade, Michael Krause is also a historian with a well-equipped archive on Tesla. After finishing his documentary film on Tesla, Krause dedicated himself to creating a fascinating portrait of Tesla in this new book.

Why are you so fascinated by Tesla? Why your dedication to his rediscovery?

Tesla is the key figure of the Second Industrial Revolution. Around 1900, Tesla was the “Wizard of Electricity”. Tesla anticipated and shaped our modern world like no other inventor. He painted the big picture of modern times; his ideas became the fundamental inventions of our technical world. He is well worth being rediscovered.

What are the most tremendous merits of Tesla, both as a researcher and an inventor?

Tesla invented the alternating current technology; he was the first to present radio transmission, radio control, Tesla coils and the foundations of high frequency and plasma research. Tesla’s cool logic discovered systemic relations and other related necessary developments. Tesla belongs to the same family as Faraday, Edison, and Einstein.

What enabled Tesla to achieve such accomplishments? How could this son of an Orthodox clergyman, who grew up in the countryside, become such a great inventor?

As a curious child, Tesla was fascinated by this wonderful world of ours. He went to



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the bottom of all things and started to ask: How does this work – and how could it work better? From his mother’s side came craft and diligence, from his father’s, mental strength and the will to fight for your beliefs.

*Actually it was initially thought that Tesla would follow his father’s footsteps to become a priest. But Tesla decided to become an engineer instead. What made him do so?*

Tesla never wanted to become a man of the church – and this was not the only point where Tesla had a conflict with his father. Tesla’s natural curiosity saw the world as a gigantic toy factory with a lot of toys to play with. Tesla always wanted to be the one to play around with the world and change it to the benefit of us all.

*In Tesla’s case, poetry and truth are hard to distinguish. To some extent Tesla himself was responsible for the creation of the myth surrounding his persona. How is this related to his personality?*

Tesla presented himself as a shy dandy. Behind this mask, he was a vulnerable, sensitive person. Tesla’s analytical brilliance alternated with self-mythologizing and otherworldliness. In his later years he suffered from OCD – obsessive-compulsive syndrome – and depressions. This is hardly surprising – he was a star that fell from grace.

*The most unbelievable rumors exist around Tesla. In what respect is it necessary to correct our perception of Nikola Tesla?*

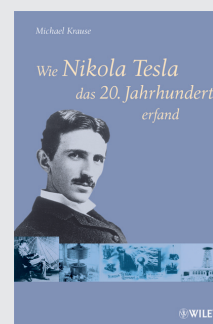
Tesla was not a mystic, was not a loon, but a quite “normal” genius saddled with everything that comes with such a mind. He left deep marks not only in the real world, but in the world of fantasy as well: without Tesla, there would be no AC system and no “Star Wars”. Tesla is a “missing link”, a blind spot in the history of mankind.

further info:

[www.michael-krause.org](http://www.michael-krause.org)

[www.allabouttesla.com](http://www.allabouttesla.com)

Nikola Tesla, the misunderstood genius, was a puzzle at all times. Accordingly, the wildest speculations have arisen around him as a person. In contrast, Michael Krause keeps to the historical facts, of which the author has gathered a great many—and they are all exciting enough. Michael Krause has journeyed to the many places where Tesla lived, and he has gathered together the biggest collection of Tesla items known worldwide. Michael Krause presents Tesla’s life story in a descriptive, illuminating manner, set before the grand background of factual history spanning from the huge changes of the western world in the middle of the 19th century to the formative influences of Tesla’s discoveries in the world of today. This book is an impressive personality profile that reads like a thrilling novel, but that nonetheless provides a lot of food for thought regarding current issues.



Michael Krause:  
How Nikola Tesla  
Invented the 20th century.  
Wiley, 2010