

THE ARTS ARE A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE. THE ARTS HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO FOSTER PEACEFUL RELATIONS AMONGST DIVERGENT CULTURES AND CIVILIZATIONS

By Stan Litz, artist (USA/JAV)

“Music is the Universal language of mankind” Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, American poet

“Football (soccer) fans share a universal language that cuts across many cultures and many personality types. A serious football fan is never alone. We are legion, and football is often the only thing we have in common.” Hunter S. Thompson

“Painting is the only universal language. All nature is creation’s picture book. Painting alone can describe every thing which can be seen, and suggest every emotion which can be felt. Art reteaches back into the babyhood of timer, and is man’s lasting monument” William Morris Hunt

We must address the issue of what is Art and what is not art. What are the Arts? For instance is spontaneous dance any less legitimate as carefully wrought orchestrated ballet. The same tensions holds true for the plastic arts, the language arts , theatre arts, architecture , sports, performance arts , design. Is gardening an art? Is nature ART? Is the mosaic of the universes Art?

When ducks walk single file in a straight line is that Art? If it is not an art then why do the ducks draw such attention from humans when they walk in a straight line. Why does the traffic stop when ducks decide to cross a street in their rhythmic straight line? We marvel at dolphins that dance and sing with one another and perform for humans. Is it Art if a parrot learns a language and sings in a human language? Is it Art when birds sing to one another?

It seems that art is all these matters and more. Art is the unleashing of the imagination.

All, cultures, civilizations have participated in the arts . The Arts define cultures and societies develop from the growth of their arts.

Societies exchange their arts. This exchange is present now. Historically, cultures have exchanged their arts. And the Arts are the only viable trans-historical norm.

Cultural exchanges amongst nations have the potential to ease animosities existing amongst conflicted and conflicting nations. .It takes integrity, dreams, imagination and creativity, the soul of the Arts, to forge a New World Order.

Albert Einstein remarked “I do not know what weapons World War III will be fought with but World War IV .will be fought with sticks and stones.”

Martin Luther King, American Civil Rights leader observed “Either we learn to live as brothers or we die as fools”.

