

Kids' Guernica Exhibition

at Zappion Megaron
in Athens
17 – 21.October 2007

jointly
with the ECCM Symposium:
“Productivity of Culture”

Organized by

POIEIN KAI PRATTEIN



Supported by

 STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION

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and

Eugenides Foundation

KIDS' GUERNICA in Athens

Place: in Zappeion Megaron

Time: Oct. 18/19 2007



Zappeion Megaron

Concept:

- A. Small exhibition (12 paintings outside, three inside)
- B. One peace mural shall be painted with children from the 108 Primary School of the Municipality of Athens under the coordination of **Thomas Economacos** (Arts Coordinator of Poiein kai Prattein)

Special members of Kids' Guernica present at the exhibition:

Takuya Kaneda, Coordinator of Kids' Guernica, Japan

Asit Poddar, Calcuta, India

Sara Lowndes, Dubai

Iman Nouri, Tripoli, Lebanon

Jad Salman, Palestine

Savina Tarsitano and

Yvette Galot, Martinique, Caribbean

Bernard Conlon, Belfast, Northern Ireland

Deniz Hasirci, Izmir, Turkey

Efi Lipari, Chios, Greece

Poiein Kai Prattein

Anna Arvanitaki, President

Hatto Fischer, Coordinator

Thomas Economacos, Art Coordinator

Maria Capari, Environment

Jan Brueggemeier, Weimar, Germany

Maya Fischer, Photography

Kostas Kartelias, Photography

Mike Ritter, Webmaster

After Picasso's Guernica – 70 years later Kids' Guernica

While it is important to highlight Picasso's Guernica 70 years after the bombing of Guernica, one thing is usually left out: the link to the present. Wars leading to bombing of innocent civilians have continued since Guernica in 1937. Consequently many more people are traumatized while entire cities like Baghdad have been silenced. In response to that there has come about the Kids' Guernica movement world wide: children paint peace murals the same size as Picasso, whether in Nepal, India, New Zealand, USA, or Japan where it began 1995, that is 50 years after the end of Second World War. Among the peace murals to be exhibited at the Zappion – Megaron, Athens in conjunction with the ECCM Symposium "Productivity of Culture" there shall be shown murals containing peace messages from children living in Afghanistan, Lebanon, Palestine, Dubai, Georgia, Australia, Chicago/USA, Martinique, India, New Zealand, Japan, Turkey and Greece. One of them is from Nagasaki with the title: "We are living in Nagasaki reconstructed after the destruction by Atomic bombing". Spyros Mercouris said that Picasso, the giant in painting, has been followed by many little giants. These children express with all their imagination the strong wish for friendship and trust. They conceive a world at peace and not one to be bombed from the air. Picasso set an important tone when he painted Guernica. As expression of human pain, it does not fit into one or the other political category. Human pain comes from within and cannot be expressed by simple political images or symbols. Only children seem able to enter seriously a peace process as they are still trust the others and do not need an enemy picture to justify their actions. They are free to go with their imagination into the future.

Hatto Fischer

Athens 17.10.2007



**Kids' Guernica Exhibition at Zappion – Megaron, Athens
17 – 21.October 2007**

KIDS' GUERNICA

International Children's Peace Mural Project

KIDS' GUERNICA is an international peace project for children through art in different places of the world to create peace paintings on huge canvases the same size as Pablo Picasso's "Guernica" (3.5 m × 7.8m).

KIDS' GUERNICA project was initiated by ART JAPAN NETWORK in 1995, the year of the 50th anniversary of World War II. More than 70 wonderful paintings were already completed for this project in 30 countries.

Το Kids' Guernica ξεκίνησε το 1995, 50 χρόνια μετά τη λήξη του Δεύτερου Παγκοσμίου Πολέμου με πρωτοβουλία του ART JAPAN NETWORK. Σε αυτό το διάστημα περισσότερα από 70 μοναδικές ζωγραφιές έχουν δημιουργηθεί σε 30 χώρες.



There will be exhibited 12 paintings (7,8 x 3,5 m) outside:

1. Dialog between cultures - the Chios-Turkey painting (2007)



Start of the Izmir – Chios painting in Chios, Greece May 2007



Received by Pupils of Takev School, Izmir + completed with Chios children and Students of University of Economics

in Izmir, Turkey Sept. 27/28, 2007

First Place: Platia of Chios, May 2007

Second Place: Takev Elementary School in Izmir, Sept. 26 – 28, 2007

Groups participating:

1. 8 children from Chios (2 boys, 6 girls)
2. 16 pupils of the Takev Elementary School
3. Students from the University of Economics, Izmir

Canvas was donated by **Takuya Kaneda**, Coordinator of International Kids'

Guernica in Japan during the Chios Workshop in May 2007

Coordinators: **Deniz Hasirci** and **Gulistan Banu Cel** from Izmir, **Thomas Economacos** and **Hatto Fischer**, Poiein kai Prattein, and **Efi Lipari** from Chios

All experienced this difference by going from national symbols i.e. flags on the first day to painting trees reaching into the sky on the second day.



Statement by the eight Chios children on their return from Izmir
29. September 2007

Τρίτη από τέσσερις μέρες ήρθαμε στην Τουρκία. Όλα μας φάνο-
νταν τόσο περίεργα και διαφορετικά!!!, οι δρόμοι, τα σπίτια, τα φο-
ρέα καθώς και ένα σωρό άλλα πράγματα που δεν έχουμε εμείς
· αυτό το μικρό νησί που κατοικούμε, τη Χίο.

Επισκευτήκαμε σχολεία, μουσεία, ψιχρές Ελληνικές γειτονιές και
όλη τη μέρα κάναμε βόλτες στην πλάγια πόλη ως Σμύρνη.

Πέρασαμε αρκετά καλά!!! Τυπώσαμε παιδιά από την Τουρκία
καθώς επίσης παιδιά διαφορετικής θρησκείας από τη δική μας.

Μάθαμε πολλά πράγματα γι' αυτούς και αυτό που πιστεύουν. Δωχα-
ρίσαμε μαζί τους 6 "ένα Τουρκικό χαρτί" στα παιδιά του προ-
γράμματος "Kids Against" ένα τεράσιο καρδιά φέτρων 7x3,50.
με θέμα την Ειρήνη. Η συνεργασία μας ήταν πολύ καλή. Μάθα-
με τον τρόπο που εκφράζουν τα συναισθήματά τους για την Ειρήνη.

Τα παιδιά ήταν αρκετά φιλόξενα, εξοπλιστικά και εγγενικά.

Το ευχέλπημα που βγάλαμε από τη συνεργασία μας ήταν
ότι αν το θέμα ειρήνη ήταν στα χέρια των παιδιών δεν θα
υπήρχαν οι πόλεμοι ανάμεσα στους λαούς.

Για όλο αυτό όπως θα πρέπει να πούμε ένα μεγάλο ή ακόνη
ένα τεράσιο "ευχαριστώ" στην νοσηρχική οικογένεια Χίος,
δρουν κ. Νύχτα, στην κ. Λιπαρή και του σύζυγού της κ. Αντώνη,
των δασάρα μας κ. Σαρρή, του κ. Θωμά Οικονομάκο καθώς
και τον κ. Ηαττο υπέθυνοι του ενδιαφέροντος φορέα ΠΟΙΕΙΝ Ο
ΠΡΑΤΤΕΙΝ του ενδιαφέροντος φορέα που είχαν αναλάβει εδώ και
μίνες το πρόγραμμα αυτό.

7) Μιχάλης Νεώργιος
8) Κώστας Γιαννιόδης

1) Ευτυχία Τριχαούλη
2) Μαρίνα Φίκαρη
3) Σελιαζή Βρανά
4) Χριστίνα Σόσια
5) Αννιόλα Χαϊταί
6) Αμαλία Διαφάρα



TAKEV'li kardeş fırçalar

Barışın resimleri

■ Dünyanın dört bir yanında, çocuklarla birlikte Pablo Picasso'nun "Guernica" resmi ile aynı boyutlarda barış resimleri yapan "Kids Guernica" topluluğu İzmir'deydi. Çocuklar, anlamlı mesaj verdi.

● ● ● ●

Önemli mesajlar

■ Yunanistan'dan gelen çocuklar, İzmir Ekonomi Üniversitesi ve TAKEV'li öğrencilerle birlikte barışın resmini çizdi. Çocuklar, barış ile ilgili hissettiklerini fırça ve boyalarla dile getirdi.

The canvas for the painting was donated by Kids' Guernica International, Japan.



National symbols like flags surrounded by olive branches
- a detail in the Chios-Turkey peace mural -

"I am really, really happy to know the development of Chios - Izmir collaboration, which could make participant parents children. I appreciate your effort to realize my dream of such collaboration."

- Takuya Kaneda, International Coordinator of Kids' Guernica, Japan

2. “Enough. We want to live” – painting from Tripoli, Lebanon (2007)

Coordinator: **Iman Nouri - Mourad**



Voice of Lebanon

I hope a peaceful and positive energy will emanate from this painting, that it will give a positive vibration to every adult or kid who stops and looks at the right part of our painting. For that part depicts the beauty of our country when in a peaceful, wonderful and equally natural state from which emanates love, serenity, sunshine, natural beauty. It is a special place on mother earth called Lebanon.

Doing a Kids' Guernica peace mural entails such a learning experience which touches our kids' minds and souls, families, teachers and friends. It allows us to gather together, to create, to help, to put hands on the canvas in order to draw, to paint and even to write poems and messages. It lets us feel enchanted when listening to special songs, including the National anthem and explains why we get goose bumps on our skins when breathing the air of peace, loyalty, real independence, all while sensing a freedom to fly our kites high in a secure sky.

The effort, the time and support given to this undertaking are the first stones in redesigning a brighter and more peaceful society for our children.

We are the survivors of a horrible war, and in our hearts exist all the memories of all the people and organizations who try to help those who are seeking peace.

I wish that this special vibration will enter all minds and hearts so that each one is touched, moved to take a bit of time to think, to help, to act and to care.

We need your support.

Iman Mourad

That little extra effort

“In between all things there is always that small effort which can make all the difference between giving up and still trying.”

- Hatto Fischer

Children who participated:

Abd-El Hammed Khalil
 Ahmad Yahya
 Aijoud Mourhabi
 Andrew Raad
 Ammar Rey
 Alaa Daher
 Christine Safatly
 Gina Badawi
 Hala Kabbara
 Hayat Merhi
 Ihtidaal Bassyouni
 Jad Naaman
 Jad Bakri
 Karim Maaliki
 Karim El-soufi
 Lynn Sidawi
 Loubna Radwan
 Maxim Safieh

Moustafa Arab
 Miriam Mourad
 Mira Mohsen
 Michel Hajjar
 Miguel Chehade
 Mirna Barakat
 Nadia Baroudi
 Nicole Abed
 Nour Khawaja
 Nour El-houda Maarabani
 Omar Danawi
 Rami Kamareddine
 Ryan Moukadem
 Rahib
 Radwan Baroudi
 Suzanne Barakat
 Valia Mhaish



3. “Life hangs in the balance”, Dubai British School (2007)

Coordinator: Sara Lowndes



Our message of Peace

A Message of Peace from the Students involved in the Guernica Project at the Dubai British School in the UAE. These are the children’s words:

The whole experience has so far been a great team effort and we have, as a group worked together and discussed our ideas before we started the painting. It has been a chance to learn about the devastating effects of war on the human race, particularly the innocent children that always seem to be the victims of war. The experience has opened our eyes to the number of conflicts that are being fought around the world today.



Children: Adam, Patrick, Zara, Sandra, Elliot and
Teacher: Mrs Wendy Harris

Children which participated:

Adam Kerr
Elliot Byrne
Verity McSheaffrey
Claudia Rostek
Ashley Blandford-Newson

Patrick Sawirus
Zara Kana'an
Darina Shabana
Sandra Rico
Oliver Edelma

4. “Understanding borders”, Chicago, USA (2007)

Coordinator: Stacy Koumbis



Hellenic Museum and Cultural Center Kid’s Guernica Mural Making Program -- 2007 Classroom Exercises and Curriculum Mural making activity at the CCM

Theme: International Borders

To start off the painting action, educators were asked to engage their students in dialogue about the subject of International Borders, so that they become more aware of world events, and how borders impacts our daily lives. The culmination of this lesson brought together students from different schools throughout the Chicagoland area. They all participated in making of an oversized mural at the Chicago Children’s Museum on April 24th.

Step 1 - for the dialogue students were asked the following questions:

- 1/ Why are borders important?
- 2/ What do you know about borders?
- 3/ What would happen to the world if countries didn’t have borders?
- 4/ What happens to borders when there is a war?
- 5/ What happens to people who need to leave their homes because of war?
- 6/ What is a refugee?
- 7/ Which countries border the United States? Why do people who live in these countries they leave their homes to come to a new country? What are the obstacles they need to overcome?

Step 2 – Students were asked to make a journal in one of the following voices:

- Someone hosting a family who has left their home because of war
- A border guard
- A refugee who needs to find a new place to live...

Step 3 – Students visualized and created pictures related to Borders....

Step 4 – They painted together at the Chicago Children’s Museum.

The painting was first exhibited in Chios, Greece May 2007.

5. “The war is over” – POIEIN KAI PRATTEIN, Athens Greece (2005)

Coordinators: **Hatto Fischer + Thomas Economacos**



While children painting dancing figures and houses, there appeared suddenly to the left of the mural an unusual figure. It was filled with such sadness shown by the entire body but also by crying ‘red tears’. The hand gestures something to underline the look of the eyes. At first they did not know what to do.



Maya Fischer (16)



Then they painted one figure floating down holding in the hand a letter. It contains the message: “the war is over”. They think that will cheer up the sad figure. Indeed, children equate freedom from war with happiness!



What will the next generations say to the current youth?

The Children who participated in 2005:

The Children :

- Christos Bizios(3)
- Giorgos Bizios(4)
- Stella Kapari(7)
- Zoe Kasioumi(7)
- Andreas Kasioumis(7)
- Iris Alisandratou (4)
- Nefeli Papaioannou (16)
- Maya Fischer (16)



Maya Fischer outside Kindergarten Chocolate Dance

Adults

- Katerina Tsaligopoulou
- Fotini Kalamatianou
- Maria Kapari
- Maria Kasioumi
- Froso
- Mahe Kastanias

Arts coordinator: Thomas Economacos

Coordinator: Hatto Fischer

Chocolate Dance – Kindergarten

The children of the kindergarten were involved one whole day when they painted in the shade of the pine trees.

Director: **Dina Gianopoulou**

Teachers:

Areti Bakanaki

Dimitris Despoti

Natasa Karleri

Frangeska Louka

Nefeli Namali



Kids:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ■ Stergios Liapatis(6year) | ■ Nikolaos Louredas(7) |
| ■ Lefteris Sotiriadis (6 year) | ■ Tzorzina Bachlava(5) |
| ■ Lazaris Sotiriadis(6 year) | ■ Filippos Papachronopoulos(5) |
| ■ Stella Karathanasi(5 year) | ■ Alkmini Laiou(4) |
| ■ Dimitris Karathanasis (5 years) | ■ Giorgios Laiou(4) |
| ■ Anastasis Livieris(5) | ■ Giorgios Tsaganos(4) |
| ■ Thodoris Louredas(5) | ■ Kostis Stefanidis(4) |
| | ■ Konstandinos Aranitis.(4) |

6. **“Friendship”, Martinique, Caribbean Sea (2007)**
Coordinator: **Savina Tarsitano**



**The project has been realized in cooperation with the Caribbean Art Centre
Domaine Fonds Saint-Jacques, Martinique during the artist residence of Savina
Tarsitano supported by Odyssey Programme.**



Savina Tarsitano with youth from Martinique

1. SANDRINE BOURGADE *13 years old*
2. EDWIN PAM *14 years old*
3. MIKE ZELCA *17 years old*
4. JONATHAN BOURGADE *24 years old*
5. LIONEL SOTIER *22 years old*
6. ELODIE MASSEE *16 years old*
7. MYRIAME ICARRE *15 years old*
8. MASSÉE MAUD *14 years old*
9. RACHELLE BOURGADE *15 years old*
10. FRANK PICOUS *18 years old*
11. JERRY MOUFLAND *15 years old*
12. MARVIN VELASQUEZ *14 years old*
13. FLORIAN ROLLIN *14 years old*

LOIC SOTIER
JAMES YANN
SENOTTE DAURENT

«*OBSERVERS age: 20-21 years old*»

Director **Yvette Galot**

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Savina Tarsitano
www.savinatarsitano.com

7. “Never again war”, Kabul, Afghanistan (2006)

Coordinator: **Fatema Nawaz**



“Never again war”

The painting „Never again war“ was created in 2005 by pupils of a school in Kabul, Afghanistan.

In the collaborative work participated girls as well as boys in the ages between 8 and 14. The kind of work, on such a huge surface, the children liked so much that they brought with them ever more friends and the group grew into a considerable size over time. In part pupils took turns, so that everyone could paint at least once on the big canvas.

Not only the form of the painting, but also the theme was very stimulating to the children who had all despite their young ages experienced both war and peaceful times. Their imagination of war and peace is therefore concrete, the lived through experiences still present.

The children were therefore in a position in relation to these experiences and wishes to translate that into very real and little abstract pictures.

The mural “Never again war” is divided into two parts: on the left side the sky is grey, houses are destroyed, one sees tanks and airplanes, that is death machines but no human beings. Danger looms everyone, in the air and on the ground.

Peace means by contrast, that one can go to school, that in nature everything blooms, that one sees human beings and they treat each other in peace and with respect.

If one views the mural two years later, the actuality of the motif has not changed.

There are still happening in Afghanistan military confrontations and suicide bombers threaten the lives of people.

Nevertheless the situation of the children in Kabul can no longer be compared with the times of civil war. Despite all difficulties children can visit schools and the children live no longer in exile.

Fatema Nawaz



Interpretation of the painting:

Fatema Nawaz states that she started the painting with first a very small group outside of ordinary teaching hours. Every time when they met other and new children joined. She did not send them away, while these children waited patiently until it was their turn to paint themselves. In the end, there were, however, so many children interested, that she had to close the art room from inside, so that work on the painting could continue.

This situation is closely linked with the recent history of the country: due to war children did not attend any school. Moreover art did not a part of their daily life. Only slowly does art find now its place in the everyday life of the children and of the inhabitants of the people of Afghanistan.



That part of the painting with weapons being destroyed by a meat grinder reminds of Janusz Korczak who wrote about a weapon factory being transformed by children into a chocolate producing plant. Such utopian wish can also be detected in the Kabul painting with weapons being put into a meat grinder with things children need at school coming out at the other end. It is a simple message: don't spend money on weapons but on education. Instruments of peace are pencils, books and paper to write on. To deprive children from a proper education is like robbing them of chances not only to survive but to make any positive contribution to society.



What children can only do when war destroys their homes is become onlookers: imaginary witnesses. They can see the difference as well: a peaceful landscape compared to what is happening at home. That creates strong wishes for another world.

8. “Dialog between city and village”, Nepal (2005)



Painted at the foot of the Himalaya mountain in a village with almost all children participating together with children from the capital Kathmandou.





This peace mural came about due to collaboration between children from the city of Kathmandou and from a Himalayan mountain village.

In 2006, when Kids' Guernica exhibited the painting in Kastelli, Crete during Greek Easter, people who had been facing a kind of civil war for many years and in knowing that human rights had been seriously violated in Nepal took to the streets to demonstrate. Around the time when the painting was done bus services started to reach again the village but the access was still difficult. Anti-government group were living near the village.

Often children are caught between all fronts and outside any safety zone they do not know really where war zones begin or end. In her opening speech in Kastelli, Crete April 20, 2006 Sachi Kaneda from Japan and with a mother from Nepal describes such an incidence when soldiers stopped their car while searching for non governmental forces, as they are called.



Sachi's opening speech in Kastelli, Crete April 20 – 24, 2006

I am very happy to have a chance to come to Greece, especially, here Crete. In world history class, I learned about the Knossos palace in Crete and its peace-loving people.

Most of Japanese high school students don't think about "peace" so seriously, because we think peace is a quite natural thing like water or air.

I was born of a Japanese father and a Nepalese mother. Since I was a little girl, I visited my mother's country, Nepal many times. Nepal is known as the birth place of Lord Buddha. My mother always told me Nepal was a very peaceful country but today it became a country of conflict. The government and an anti-government group have been fighting each other for many years. I heard there are many young soldiers, the same teenagers as we are.

A few years ago, when I went to Nepal to attend my cousin's marriage ceremony, I faced a very terrible thing. On the way from my auntie's house to Kathmandu, our car was suddenly stopped by the army soldiers because an anti-government group attacked a village near the mountain road. I could hear many gun shots between the army and the anti-government group. We had to stop in the darkness for nearly five hours.

I felt the hours very long like a day. Luckily, we could reach Kathmandu and return to Japan. I never forget this terrible experience. Even though I go to Nepal, I can escape from Nepal to Japan anytime but most of Nepalese people can not leave their mother land.

Why peaceful Nepal has changed? There must be some reasons to fight such as poverty and social injustice. However, violence will never give a solution but worsen the situation. Such social disorder makes poor people much poorer as seen in the recent Nepal.

To create peaceful society, I believe imagination is very important. The imagination means to imagine others' suffering and happiness. Please imagine yourself to be a girl just like me, who has to face bombing every day, a girl who is forced to have a rifle, and imagine what she really wants to do, and how she could be happy.

With my father, I have participated in some KIDS' GUERNICA exhibitions in Nepal, India, Italy as well as Japan. It is no doubt painting in a huge canvas is a great fun. And that this project can give us wonderful opportunities to meet people from different places of the world. To know different opinions of people from different cultures is the first step toward the world peace. So I would like to have many friends during this peace event to know their cultures.

Thank you.

Ομιλία της **Sachi Kaneda**

Είμαι πολύ χαρούμενη που βρίσκομαι στην Ελλάδα, ειδικά εδώ στην Κρήτη. Στο μάθημα της παγκόσμιας ιστορίας έχω μάθει για το αρχαίο παλάτι της Κνωσού στην Κρήτη και για τους φιλειρηνικούς της κατοίκους.

Τα περισσότερα παιδιά του λυκείου στην Ιαπωνία δεν θεωρούν την ειρήνη σοβαρό θέμα γιατί φανταζόμαστε την ειρήνη σαν κάτι το φυσικό όπως το νερό και ο αέρας.

Γεννήθηκα από πατέρα Ιάπωνα και μητέρα από το Νεπάλ. Από μικρό κορίτσι έχω επισκεφθεί την πατρίδα της μητέρας μου, το Νεπάλ, πολλές φορές. Το Νεπάλ είναι γνωστό σαν την χώρα που γεννήθηκε ο Βούδας. Η μητέρα μου πάντα μου έλεγε ότι το

Νεπάλ ήταν μια πολύ ειρηνική χώρα αλλά σήμερα έχει γίνει μια χώρα της σύγκρουσης. Η κυβέρνηση και μια αντικυβερνητική ομάδα πολεμούν μεταξύ τους εδώ και πολλά χρόνια. Έχω ακούσει ότι υπάρχουν πολλοί νέοι στρατιώτες, έφηβοι και αυτοί όπως εμείς.

Πριν από μερικά χρόνια, όταν πήγα στο Νεπάλ για τον γάμο της ξαδέρφης μου, αντιμετώπισα κάτι το φοβερό. Στο δρόμο για το Κατμαντού από το σπίτι της θείας μου, μας σταμάτησαν ξαφνικά οι στρατιώτες το αυτοκίνητο γιατί μια αντικυβερνητική ομάδα είχε επιτεθεί σε ένα χωριό κοντά στον ορεινό δρόμο. Μπορούσα να ακούσω πολλές τουφεκιές ανάμεσα στον στρατό και την αντικυβερνητική ομάδα. Μας ανάγκασαν να μείνουμε στο σκοτάδι για πέντε ώρες.

Οι ώρες μου φαινόταν πολύ μακριές, σαν μια ολόκληρη μέρα. Ευτυχώς, μπορέσαμε να φτάσουμε στο Κατμαντού και να γυρίσουμε στην Ιαπωνία. Δεν θα ξεχάσω ποτέ αυτή τη φοβερή εμπειρία. Παρόλο που πηγαίνω στο Νεπάλ μπορώ όποια στιγμή να ξεφύγω από το Νεπάλ στην Ιαπωνία, αλλά οι περισσότεροι κάτοικοι του Νεπάλ δεν μπορούν να φύγουν από την μητέρα πατρίδα τους.

Γιατί έχει αλλάξει το ειρηνικό Νεπάλ; Θα πρέπει να υπάρχουν λόγοι να πολεμήσεις, όπως η φτώχεια και η κοινωνική αδικία. Η βία όμως δεν μπορεί να δώσει λύση αλλά να χειροτερέψει την κατάσταση. Τέτοια κοινωνική αναταραχή κάνει τους φτωχούς ανθρώπους πολύ φτωχότερους, όπως βλέπουμε στο σημερινό Νεπάλ.

Για να φτιάξεις μια ειρηνική κοινωνία, πιστεύω ότι είναι πολύ σημαντική η φαντασία. Φαντασία σημαίνει να μπορείς να φανταστείς τον πόνο και τη χαρά του άλλου. Φανταστείτε σας παρακαλώ ότι είστε ένα κορίτσι σαν και μένα, που πρέπει να αντιμετωπίσει τους βομβαρδισμούς κάθε μέρα, ένα κορίτσι που είναι αναγκασμένο να κρατάει τουφέκι, και φανταστείτε τι θα ήθελε πραγματικά να κάνει και πως θα μπορούσε να είναι χαρούμενη.

Με τον πατέρα μου έχω πάρει μέρος σε εκδηλώσεις KIDS' GUERNICA στο Νεπάλ, την Ινδία, την Ιταλία και την Ιαπωνία. Χωρίς αμφιβολία, το να ζωγραφίζεις σε ένα τεράστιο καμβά είναι πάρα πολύ διασκεδαστικό. Και αυτή η εκδήλωση μπορεί να μας δώσει θαυμάσιες ευκαιρίες να γνωρίσουμε ανθρώπους από διαφορετικά μέρη του κόσμου. Το να γνωρίσεις διαφορετικές απόψεις ανθρώπων από διαφορετικούς πολιτισμούς είναι το πρώτο βήμα για την παγκόσμια ειρήνη. Έτσι θα ήθελα να κάνω πολλούς φίλους σε αυτή την εκδήλωση ειρήνης και να γνωρίσω τους πολιτισμούς τους.

Ευχαριστώ

Kids' Guernica attempts to be attentive to children in all parts of the world. It means interpreting these paintings as big letters carrying messages under which conditions the children painted the mural. Hence they can serve as bridge of understanding and basis of peace.



9. “After the bomb. Building a new life” – Nagasaki March (2007)



Seihi Junior High School at Seikai City, Nagasaki Prefecture
Coordinator: Art Teacher, Sizuko Kakimoto

The peace painting was finished in March, 2007. It took nearly four months to complete it. The painting depicted Urakami Cathedral and Peace Statue in Nagasaki. The Roman Catholic church is one of the biggest Catholic church in East Asia. The building was completely destroyed by atomic bombing on August 9, 1945 but it was rebuilt in 1959. The peace statue is ten meter tall and located in Nagasaki Peace Park near the hypocenter of the atomic bomb. Its right hand is pointing to the threat of nuclear weapons and its left hand is symbolizing the extension of eternal peace. Its right leg is showing meditation while its left is expressing an initiative action for world peace.

10. Sydney, Australia (2007)

School name: Port Hacking High School

Address: 637 Kingsway, Miranda NSW 2228 Australia (Sydney, Australia)

Teacher in charge: Ms Lisa Malcolm

Students involved: 10 students age between 14 and 15

Time spent on the work: Approx 4 weeks

Coordinator: Junko Sato

Pupils who participated:

Angelia News

Sean Klepzig

Dylan T

Caitlin Shanahan

Alison Hainey

Vicki Billingham

Angela Potestodes

Sarah Conceico

Kirsla Guintal

Vanessa Lyle

11. “Culture can save the world!” Georgia (2007)



Place of workshop: Georgia. Tbilisi. El. Akhvlediani Children’s Art Gallery.

School: Soliko Virsaladze Art School N1. and others.

Work time: September 11-16. 2007.

Project Manager: Nino Karumidze

Coordinator: Temur Chkhutishvili.

Teachers: Ketevan Barnabishvili, Salva Batlidze and Avtandil Popiashvili.

Theme: Culture can save the world

Message: Georgia is small country, located in the south Caucasus. Though our country is small, it has very old culture and traditions, script and language. During our history we had many wars, but we survive our individuality.

Nowadays Georgia endured civil wars and lost own territories, Ossetia and Abkhazia. Many children lost their fathers, brothers and were left without the roofs.

In Georgia live people of many nationalities: Armenians, Azerbaijani an, Abkhazians, Ossetians, Jewish, Greeks, Russians, Ukrainians, Assyrians, etc. In Tbilisi Christian church, Synagogue and Mosque are standing side by side.

Our peace message is: Love God, Love Motherland, respect the culture and traditions of our own and others and concern for nature and people’s well-being!

Participant children:

1. Nino Kokilashvili. 6

2. Ana Dvali. 7

3. Saba Eukidze. 5

4. Nata tsintsadze. 8

5. Mariam Chachanidze. 10

6. Tika Egiashvili 9

7. Kokilashvili Giorgi Oikashvili. 11

8. Marika Kukhianidze. 4

9. Giorgi Lomishvili. 11

11. Lili Kvinikadze.15

12. Mariam Popiashvili. 11

13. Anastasia Ianakopulos. 13

14. Nino Borchashvili. 14

15. Mariam Khutsishvili. 9

15. Nino Eukidze. 14

16. Mariam Kovziridze. 9

17. Teona Baghaturia. 17

18. Irina Khachaturova. 13

19. Nino Barnabishvili. 15

20. Nino kutsia. 15

21. Keti Kutsia. 15

22. Nino Khurtsilava. 19

23. Rati gverdtsiteli.14

24. Mariam Bibilashvili. 16

25. Salome Tvauri. 16

26. Saba Chkhutishvili. 15

27. Achiko Kordzaia. 20

28. Aleksandre Kvirkvia. 6

29. Sopio Jhgenti. 16

30. Giorgi Oikashvili. 11

12. Athenian Peace Murals: “Psyche of a peaceful world”
Coordinator: **Thomas Economacos**

Painting Action during the Symposium with 40 Children from the 108 Elementary School of the Municipality of Athens (2007)

Co-ordination: Thomas Economacos, Poiein Kai Prattein



A possible first design after children made sketches of their world and then were asked to clean up their sketches – a movement towards abstraction in order to return to a complex world with something calm and peaceful.

108 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OF ATHENS	
CLASS E ₁	
1.	Ali Pamela
2.	Ardiol Luka
3.	Assenova Camelia
4.	Vassilopoulos Akis
5.	Voglis Marios
6.	Getsi Steven
7.	Ivanova Theodora
8.	Kiorai Entri
9.	Konomi Elena
10.	Konomi John
11.	Mangou Effie
12.	Mertiri Elena
13.	Mouskas Orestis
14.	Bissara Katerina
15.	Bobeika Adrian
16.	Pappa Vassiliki
17.	Rashid Roman
18.	Roussiti Christina
CLASS E ₂	
1.	Vessai Piro
2.	Villios Andreas
3.	Georgadellos Thanos
4.	Koroudi Agelos
5.	Douri Polichronis
6.	Papas Agelos
7.	Vassilopoulou Katerina
8.	Theodoropoulou Ioanna
9.	Kleftoyanni Giota
10.	Kolokouri Eleni
11.	Kirli Fei
12.	Metjo Maria
13.	Mitopoulou Mirto
14.	Pattakou Athina
15.	Karavokiri Despina
16.	Gevorgian Diana
17.	Deliou Maria
18.	Vogli Ioanna
19.	Atanasoae Victor
We are particularly thankful to the primary school teacher Mr. Ioannis Fotinos	

Teacher:
George Michalopoulos

Teacher:
Vassiliki Gavriilidou

1. Ali Pamela
2. Ardiol Luka

13. Blind Boys Guernica, Calcuta, India (2007)

Coordinator: Asit Poddar



The painting can be touched as well and the boys were amazed what each one of them had done.

Blind Boy's Academy, Rama Krishna Mission, Narendrapur, Kolkata, India

From the very beginning of the Kid's Guernica Peace mural project, that is since 1995 I am involved. In the last eleven years children have done many Kids' Guernica paintings across the world. They express their views of peace for the future world. Many of the paintings are even done by mentally challenged children in Japan, India and many other countries. This year in my country we are celebrating the centenary of Great Blind artist Binod Bihari Mukherjee. Of course he was not blind at birth but had a poor vision and later he became blind. Even though he became blind he continued with his work and painted many big murals with his inner eye.

I felt that blind children can also make a Kid's Guernica mural. I went to the Blind Boys Academy Rama Krishna Mission, Narendrapur located at the outskirts of the city. I spoke with the principal of the school and with the blind children. The children agreed to do it and at last they did it. During the 3-day workshop in the hot summer at the end of April 2007 they enjoyed a lot but of course this workshop was different as the children who participated were blind. With the help of thread and gum they made it possible.



Sumita Samanta – Associate coordinator

Samik Saha – Documentation

Sujit Naskar – Instructor

Assit Poddar

Participants:

1. Santanu Sardar 14yrs
2. Bijoy Purokayet 11
3. Sabirul Islam 14
4. Ranjan Das 12
5. Sudip Das 13
6. Mrityunjoy Purokayet 13
7. Pankaj Sinha 14
8. Sadhan Basu 14
9. Tiya Ghosh 14
10. Rajesh Halder 11
11. Mahesh Jadav 14
12. Swarup Das 14
13. Sk. Arit Hussain 11
14. Jasimuddin Sekh
15. Bamanadipta Paul 14
16. Rajdeep Nayek 11
17. Subroto Pandit 10
18. Gouranga Das 12
19. Riju Mahato 10
20. Sujon Bose 12



14. “Life is beautiful and short like the cherry blossoms”, Higashikurume, Japan (2003)

Coordinator: **Takuya Kaneda**

This is a very special painting because done on rice paper and therefore very light. 80 people were involved ranging in ages from 2 to 80.



15. Children drawings from Palestine (2007)

Coordinator: **Jad Salman**

The canvas on which the children were painting was stolen. Jad Salman in Palestine decided to carry on with the children, but this time on paper.

A symbol of peace for the Middle East is what children painted in Paris, the atelier where Picasso painted Guernica.



Links and references



Spyros Mercouris – special advisor to Kids' Guernica

“The giant amongst painter, Picasso, has been followed by many little giants, the children of Kids' Guernica”



Takuya Kaneda

International Coordinator of Kids' Guernica
in Japan

www.kids-guernica.org



Hatto Fischer

Coordinator of Poiein Kai Prattein

www.poieinkaiprattein.org