

**NEWSLETTER No. 5
MAY 2013**



**International Network of
Museums for Peace**

PEACE PHILANTHROPY AND THE PEACE PALACE CENTENARY (1913 - 2013)

As already mentioned in previous newsletters, the INMP is contributing to the centenary celebrations of the Peace Palace in The Hague, by the organisation of a symposium entitled “Celebrating Peace Philanthropy and Furthering Peace Education – In the Footsteps of Andrew Carnegie”, as well as by the production of an accompanying travelling exhibition.



The **symposium** is being organised in cooperation with the Carnegie Foundation, and will be held in the Academy Hall of the Peace Palace, on 2-3 September 2013. It will be opened by the honorary president of the Carnegie UK Trust, and great-grandson of Andrew Carnegie, William Thomson. Participants will also be welcomed by the city’s mayor Jozias van Aartsen. Among the invited speakers are several founders, presidents, or senior officers of leading peace foundations and similar organisations such as Steve Killelea (Institute for Economics and Peace, and founder of the Global Peace Index); Federico Mayor (Foundation for a Culture of Peace, and former Director-General of UNESCO); Jennifer Allen Simons (The Simons Foundation, promoting and funding work for nuclear disarmament); Gillian Sorensen (UN Foundation, established to manage Ted Turner’s gift of \$ 1 billion to the UN); Sakuji Tanaka (President, Rotary International 2012-2013); Cora Weiss (Hague Appeal for Peace). We are awaiting confirmation of the participation of senior representatives from such important organisations as the Carnegie Corporation (New York), the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (Seattle), the King Center (Atlanta), and the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation (Hiroshima). The full programme and registration form will be made available on the INMP website in the coming days. Registration fee is € 100 (students and INMP members will receive a 50% discount).

The **exhibition** entitled “Peace Philanthropy – Then and Now” shows the changing tradition of peace philanthropy, illustrated by cases of known and less-known individuals. After an introduction about

Continued on page 3



The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum reopened. Read all about it on page 5.



Tehran Peace Museum awarded best museum of the year by ICOM. Read more about it on page 8.

AGENDA

Call for Papers and Conferences

2 - 3 September 2013

Celebrating Peace Philanthropy and Furthering Peace Education - In the Footsteps of Andrew Carnegie, The Hague, Netherlands

12 - 14 November 2013

Engaging Deadly Conflicts in the Asia-Pacific with Nonviolent Alternatives (APPRA Conference) Bangkok, Thailand

14 - 17 May 2014

Taking it to the Streets Commonwealth Association of Museums and Glasgow Museums Scotland Street School Museum, Glasgow, Scotland

Temporary Exhibitions

Nobel Peace Center, Oslo (Norway)

8 March - 15 September 2013

European Identities

27 September - 23 February 2014

Hungry Planet

Humanity House, The Hague (Netherlands)

14 March - 28 July 2013

One Day I'm Gonna Make It

Gernika Peace Museum Foundation, Gernika (Spain)

23 March - 15 September 2013

Everyday Objects Transformed by the Conflict

25 April - 30 September

Essential Books on the Bombing of Gernika

Anti-War-Museum, Berlin (Germany)

26 April - 28 July 2013

After - Reflection on War

Maliebaan, Utrecht (Netherlands)

5 May - 28 July 2013

Making Peace

Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Kyoto (Japan)

14 May - 20 July 2013

Jimmy Tsutomu Mirikitani Retrospective

1 - 30 June 2013

A Picture for Peace

E. M. Remarque Peace Center, Osnabrück (Germany)

15 May - 4 August 2013

Erich Maria Remarque and Art

Dayton International Peace Museum, Dayton (USA)

9 June - 31 August 2013

Every Citizen a Diplomat

Nobel Museum, Stockholm (Sweden)

15 June - 17 November 2013

Making Peace

International Institute for Social Studies,
The Hague (Netherlands)

1 July - 31 August 2013

A Picture for Peace

Missing Peace Art Space, Dayton (USA)

5 July - 4 August 2013

Crossing Borders

Atrium, City Hall, The Hague (Netherlands)

15 August - 21 September

Peace Philanthropy - Then and Now

Tehran Peace Museum, Tehran, Iran

14 - 28 September 2013

A Picture for Peace

THE 8TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF MUSEUMS FOR PEACE

Date:

September 2014

Venue:

No Gun Ri Peace Park, South Korea



Host:

No Gun Ri International Peace Foundation

Info:

Details on the dates, theme, registration, etc. will be announced on our website and in following newsletters.

A PICTURE FOR PEACE TRAVELLING EXHIBITION

Why are youth important in peacebuilding?

About 40 young people from all over the world answered that question by submitting pictures to the Facebook page of “A Picture for Peace”. On 13 August 2012, the United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY) launched this social media photo contest in honour of the International Day of Peace on 21 September.



A Picture for Peace at the Missing Peace Art Space

In collaboration with the INMP, the contest was transformed into a travelling exhibition. Winner Bárbara Pereira from Portugal received a Diana Mini Lomography Camera. Her photograph of a child in a school window in Nairobi, Kenya, is prominently displayed in the exhibition, followed by 10 other selected pictures. The aim of the exhibition is to spread the message that youth plays an important role in peacebuilding, by taking these pictures for peace on a world tour across various peace museums.

UNOY is a network of youth organizations working for world peace. Like the INMP, they have their secretariat in the Bertha von Suttner building in The Hague (Netherlands). It was an easy choice to start the travelling exhibition in the central hall of this building, showing visitors and other NGOs this successful collaboration.



A Picture for Peace in the Bertha von Suttner Building

After three weeks in The Hague, the exhibition was opened in the Missing Peace Art Space in Dayton (USA), and thanks to their efforts also

taken to a number of schools in the region. From Dayton, the tour continued to In Flanders Fields in Ypres (Belgium) and Pasos Peace Museum in New York (USA). Next up are the Kyoto Museum for World Peace (Japan), International Institute of Social Studies (The Netherlands) and the Tehran Peace Museum (Iran). The exhibition is also available online, in three virtual museums on three continents: the Museum for Peace and Nonviolence (Netherlands), Pasos Peace Museum (USA) and the Peacemuseum (Korea). Already, several tens of thousands of people have seen the exhibition.



A Picture for Peace at the In Flanders Fields

“A Picture for Peace” travelling exhibition was made possible by Dutch INMP member Museum for Peace and Nonviolence. They guided UNOY Peacebuilders towards the INMP and sponsored the exhibition in The Hague. We are very grateful for their commitment.

For more information about the exhibition or bookings, please contact the INMP secretariat at secretariat@inmp.net

PEACE PHILANTHROPY (Continued)

‘the gift of Carnegie’, important historical figures in the tradition of peace philanthropy will be introduced, including Alfred Nobel, Henry Ford and Hague banker Johan Wateler. This line is then extended to contemporary examples, such as Bill Gates, Akio Komatsu and Cora Weiss. The exhibition will be on display in the large Atrium of the city hall from 15 August until 21 September 2013, after which it can travel worldwide. The official opening is planned on 3 September, at the beginning of the academic year. Texts are both in English and the language of the exhibiting country.

PEACE PALACE PHILANTHROPY GALA 2013

During the evening of the symposium, the 2nd of September, the "Peace Palace Philanthropy Gala" takes place in the Hall of Knights. This special event is organised by the Carnegie Foundation and Communication Consultancy Winkelman Van Hessen.

The Peace Palace Philanthropy Gala will be an exclusive occasion with a splendid dinner at 19:30 in the Hall of Knights which has been inspired by the menu of the first Hague Peace Conference in 1899. The dinner will be preceded by a reception, which begins at 18:00.

Under the central theme of peace and philanthropy, leading international speakers will share their thoughts, including Gillian Sorensen (United Nations Foundation), William Thomson (great grandson of Scots-American philanthropist, Andrew Carnegie, Honorary President of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust) and Cora Weiss (President of The Hague Appeal for Peace). The evening will be enlivened by musical interludes.

PAZ - MHP AMANI - BARIŞ - HÒA - BÌNH - HEDDWCH - RAUHA



- Andrew Carnegie

"To try to make the world in some way better than you found it, is to have a noble motive in life."

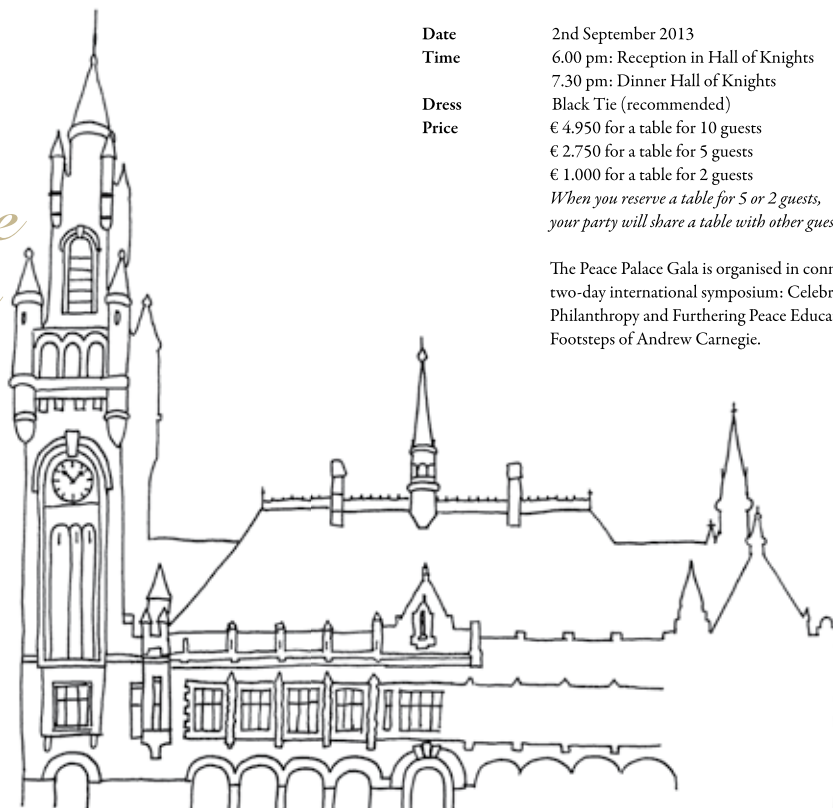
"I believe the true road to preminent success in any line is to make yourself master of that line."

CBET - KAPAYAPAAN - MÍR - PAU - PACO - RAHU - ειρήνη - CBIT

VREDE - PEACE - PACE - BAKEA - FRIEDEN - PAIX - מוֹלֵשׁ -

Invitation to Peace Palace Philanthropy Gala

2nd September 2013



Date 2nd September 2013
Time 6.00 pm: Reception in Hall of Knights
 7.30 pm: Dinner Hall of Knights
Dress Black Tie (recommended)
Price € 4.950 for a table for 10 guests
 € 2.750 for a table for 5 guests
 € 1.000 for a table for 2 guests
*When you reserve a table for 5 or 2 guests,
 your party will share a table with other guests.*

The Peace Palace Gala is organised in connection with the two-day international symposium: Celebrating Peace Philanthropy and Furthering Peace Education - In the Footsteps of Andrew Carnegie.

GERNIKA PEACE MUSEUM 15 YEARS

The Gernika Peace Museum Foundation is celebrating its 15th anniversary (1998-2013) by a varied programme of events and exhibitions throughout the year, stretching from the end of 2012 to the start of 2014.

“Flying Prohibited: Children and Armed Conflicts”, produced by Save the Children, brought together 36 pictures by 16 renowned photo-journalists. They show seven different aspects of the impact of armed conflict on childhood such as the indoctrination of children as future soldiers; the lives of child soldiers; the destruction of their families; the effects of antipersonnel mines; the harsh realities of post-war times, etc.



“Everyday Objects Transformed by the Conflict”, made by Healing through Remembering, will be shown until September. It brings together different views and experiences concerning the conflict in Northern Ireland through the objects displayed and the accompanying captions that have been contributed by the owners of the artefacts loaned.



Another exhibition that is on display until September is about “Essential Books on the Bombing of Gernika”. This will be followed by a display on “The Exodus of Basque Children to the Exile” that will be shown until March 2014.

The Gernika Peace Museum has become one of the best known and popular peace museums in Europe with an active cultural and educational programme. INMP is sending its congratulations and best wishes for the next 15 years.

IRCRCM GENEVA REOPENED



After 22 months of hard work, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum (IRCRCM) in Geneva (Switzerland) reopens its doors to the public, on 17 May 2013.

The new permanent exhibition “The Humanitarian Adventure” is an introduction to contemporary humanitarian action, breaking away from traditional museology. A visit starts as an experience and ends as a description of strong messages embedded in the visitors’ emotions.

Three internationally acclaimed architects from different cultural backgrounds used their talents for this new exhibition, organized around three different themes: ‘Defending Human Dignity’, ‘Restoring Family Links’, and ‘Reducing Natural Risks’. These contemporary issues are of concern in troubled, historical periods and present-day conflict zones, but also to each of us today, and in a wider perspective, will affect our common future for decades to come.

Within each theme, the visitors first of all enter a phase which aims at raising awareness during which they live through an intense emotional experience. A second stage provides them with information and historical background, reminding them that the Red Cross is the oldest and largest humanitarian organisation in the world.

An interactive chronology unfurls 150 years of humanitarian history, while ‘On the Spot’ enables you to track Red Cross and Red Crescent Operations right around the globe. A visit not to be missed.



PASOS PEACE MUSEUM BRINGS EXHIBIT A PEACE OF MY MIND TO NEW YORK CITY

By board member Joyce Apsel

Pasos Peace Museum, a member of INMP, continues its work building cultures of peace through its virtual museum



and its series of on-site activities to communities in New York City and its environs. During February and March 2013, Pasos sponsored the traveling exhibit “A Peace of my Mind: American Stories”, exploring the meaning of peace one story at a time, with interviews and photographs by John Noltner. The exhibit is on view at Kimmel Hall, New York University, and open to the public. Guided tours are being conducted by NYU seniors in the Politics, Rights and Development Concentration of the Global Liberal Studies Program who received a guided tour by the exhibit creator John Noltner and training from their course instructor Dr. Joyce Apsel.

This photo-essay exhibit by John Noltner features interviews and photographs of individuals from his Minnesota community. The exhibit pairs photographic portraits of his subjects with each person’s reflections on what peace means to them. The diversity of images and voices reflect a broad range of ways people think about peace. The goal is to use the collection of interviews to foster a larger public conversation on the subject. As John Noltner comments: *‘The project is based on the premise that we all have important thoughts to share. We all have a view of peace that is very personal ... whether that means political peace, spiritual peace, inner peace or something entirely unexpected. And the belief is that at the core, we are all the same ... we all long for and dream for the same things. More than 50 people have been interviewed for “A Peace of My Mind”.’*

‘In a world that asks us to focus on our differences “A Peace of My Mind” encourages us to consider the common good. This unique and interactive art project offers a stunning collection of portraits and personal stories to celebrate our shared experience. “A Peace of My Mind” invites you to a

timely dialogue exploring the human condition.’

The exhibit opening at the Kimmel Center (the NYU student center) on February 21, 2013 was attended by a range of students and general public along with Pasos Peace Museum’s supporters and board members, including peace educator Betty Reardon. The evening began with Pasos founder and board chair, Nitza Escalera discussing Pasos and its ongoing goals of bringing art and education together for peace. Pasos Peace Museum’s exhibits and programs emphasize connecting, inspiring and empowering peacebuilders. Executive Director, William Repicci spoke about the link between exhibits like “A Peace of My Mind” and the museum’s goals of promoting the voices of individual peacebuilders.

Through its online virtual museum of peacebuilding art, a prime focus is peacebuilding education for children, their families, communities and institutions. Promoting inner peace through the arts and contemplative practices are also part of Pasos’ goals. And, this exhibit continues working toward those goals. The museum is collaborating with New York City area public schools to arrange class trips to the exhibit.

The opening night, attendees were treated to readings from the exhibit. Five audience members transformed themselves into subjects from the exhibit and shared that diverse group’s musings on peace as live music accompanied their presentations. Artist John Noltner summed up the experience best: *‘The hope is that through conversation, we will begin to understand each other a little better. By sharing, we will create a sense of community, and in our own way, make a stand for peace ... in our own lives, in our communities, and in the world that we share.’*



MAKING PEACE

“Making Peace” is a major photo exhibition that pays tribute to the people who – all over the planet – devote their time, energy and resources to the cause of peace and how these persons and organisations have shaped and influenced the course of the 20th century. Despite two World Wars and many bloody conflicts, there have been significant triumphs, such as the end of the Cold War and the apartheid regime, the banning of antipersonnel land-mines and the creation of the International Criminal Court – all of which were in large part the result of civil society efforts.

At the same time the exhibition explains what five elements – shown in coloured sections – are necessary to create a ‘sustainable peace’:

1. Disarmament and Nonviolence
2. Conflict Prevention and Resolution
3. Economic and Social Justice
4. Human Rights, Law and Democracy
5. Environment and Sustainable Development

According to the International Peace Bureau, in order to create a sustainable peace, all five elements need to be present; if one is missing then peace will remain fragile.

“Making Peace” is curated by Ashley Woods and produced by the International Peace Bureau. In the words of Mr. Federico Mayor, president of the Foundation for a Culture of Peace and former Director-General of UNESCO, *“this is an extraordinarily powerful exhibition that pays tribute to a century of peace making and a wide range of peacemakers across the globe. At the same time it serves as a call to action for ordinary citizens to become involved in peace activities of all kinds, and in so doing to promote a global culture of peace”*.



FOUNDER YI JUN PEACE MUSEUM HONOURED

The INMP sends its hearty congratulations to Mr. Kee-Hang Lee, one of its devoted members, who during a ceremony on 5th March 2013 in Seoul was honoured as a laureate of the KBS Global Korean Award. Instituted in 1992 by the Korean Broadcasting System (KBS), this was the 17th edition of this prestigious award which was established ‘to discover and applaud Koreans devoutly working for the social welfare of humanity and the promotion of culture, thus raising Korea’s status on the global stage’.



Mr. Lee was one of five recipients, chosen this year from a field of 99 candidates from 24 countries. The award is reserved for Koreans living abroad (7.2 million). Among the exemplary achievements for which Mr. Lee was honoured was the foundation (1995) and management of the Yi Jun Peace Museum in The Hague. Also through commemorative conferences and publications, Mr. Lee, together with his wife, Ms Song Chang-Ju (currently the director of the museum), has substantially contributed to keep alive the memory of a great Korean patriot and independence hero whose tragic death took place in The Hague during the Second Peace Conference (1907). Yi Jun died in the hotel which is now a most important shrine to his memory that also aims to contribute to peace education today.

Because Yi Jun is a hero in both parts of the still divided country, the museum is visited by Koreans from the north and south, and is a precious stepping stone to reconciliation between the two Koreas.

In Mr. Lee’s biography and record of achievement as detailed in the extensive publication about the 17th KBS Global Korean Award, mention is also made of his membership of the INMP. We are delighted that the work of Mr. and Mrs. Lee has been recognised in this way. It is mainly due to their incessant efforts and devotion over many years that The Hague, city of international peace and justice, is home to a museum which has rightly been called one of its jewels.

TEHRAN PEACE MUSEUM: PROMOTING THE CULTURE OF PEACE

Tehran Peace Museum awarded as the best and superior museum of the year by ICOM

In a ceremony held on 19 May 2013 to celebrate World Museums Day, and in the presence of representatives from different museums from all over the country, the Tehran Peace Museum was selected as the superior museum of the last solar year (spring to end of winter).

This selection was based on monitoring five different items of museum activities: 'Education', 'Number of Visitors', 'Creativity and Innovation', 'Introducing Cultural and Historical Legacy', and 'Collecting Cultural-Historical Belongings'.



Workshop Nuclear Weapons and International Law

Ten days before, a workshop on nuclear weapons and international law was held in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Among other participants, over 70 students of international law attended the seminar with speakers from law school, ICRC, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Physicians for Prevention of Nuclear War and International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons.

The seminar was part of a series of joined education programmes in the framework of collaboration between the Tehran Peace Museum, ICRC-Tehran and the National Committee of Humanitarian Law.

Book launch Atlas of Mustard Gas Injuries

A launching ceremony of the book "Atlas of Mustard Gas Injuries" was held 20 January 2013 at Tehran Peace Museum. The occasion was marked by the presence of many experts, scholars and government officials including Prof. Kouki Inai from Hiroshima, the chief editor, as well as Iranian authors of the book.

According to Dr. Shahriar Khateri, co-author and coordinator of the Atlas-project, this book is an exemplary work of international scientific collaboration for the purpose of humanitarian

assistance to war victims, and to promote a culture of peace, which makes it unique in its field. It is the result of about three years of endeavour and cooperation between Iranian and Japanese researchers and physicians, to collect and publish their experiences as a comprehensive study on the health impact of mustard gas, diagnosis and treatment of exposure related illnesses, as well as health advice for the survivors and their families. The medical exchange finally led to the compilation of the "Atlas of Mustard Gas Injuries", which has been written in three languages (English, Japanese and Persian) and published recently in Japan.



Tehran Peace Museum representatives visit The Hague

The above is but a small selection of the many activities and events that have recently been organised by the museum. During his previous visit to The Hague, Shahriar Khateri was interviewed by Herman Noordegraaf (leading peace historian and peace journalist) about the Tehran Peace Museum. The article can be read (in Dutch) here.

Tehran Peace Museum delegates Shahriar Khateri, Ahmad Zangiabadi, Mohammad Reza Taghipoor also visited The Hague early April 2013, together with young promising artist Nasim Taghipoor, to attend the "Third Review Conference of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons." During their stay they paid a visit to the INMP secretariat and Peace Palace.



THOMAS WECHS (1929 - 2012), PIONEER OF PEACE MUSEUMS IN GERMANY

By General Coordinator Peter van den Dungen

Thomas Wechs, who died on 18th September 2012, aged 83, was an ardent and tireless peace educator who had the rare distinction of having created and directed two peace museums. The first one, housed in a beautiful classical building in an idyllic location on the shores of Lake Constance (Bodensee) in Lindau (Bavaria, southern Germany), on the border with Switzerland and Austria, opened in 1980. Since 1976 he had been the driving force behind this project which became his life's work. At the time he was honorary chairman of Pax Christi (the Catholic peace movement) in the diocese of Augsburg and the museum was realised with the assistance of the local authority and Pax Christi. He conceived the idea and content of the museum, and was its honorary director for almost twenty years, until the end of 1998 (when it was decided to reconceptualise the museum, which subsequently was renamed Friedensräume, Peace Rooms).

Many of the artefacts in the Lindau Peace Museum belonged to Thomas Wechs and several were displayed in a smaller, private museum that he opened in a part of his family summer house that had been built by his grandfather in the mountain resort of Bad Hindelang, Allgäu, in the Bavarian Alps. Opened in the summer of 1999, the Friedenshistorisches Museum (Peace History Museum) aimed to show that many people have worked for peace and reconciliation in an exemplary fashion, deserve to be remembered and to be followed. The museum, which existed during the next ten years, and which was only open in the summer season, mainly displayed concise biographies and portraits of peace heroes and heroines from around the world, going back to ancient times. Art objects illustrating the theme of war and peace were also displayed. The opening of the museum coincided with the publication of his book, entitled (in translation) "Peace is possible: biographies and initiatives from two millennia", which reproduced many of the stories and illustrations displayed in the museum.

Like his similarly named (famous) father, Thomas Wechs was also an architect, and they collaborated on some projects, especially building churches. The son will be mainly remembered for his life-long

efforts to promote world peace, nonviolence, and reconciliation through peace gardens and parks, exhibitions, monuments, and museums. He often approached church, education, local, as well as museum authorities, especially in Bavaria, to create such peace memorials as essential components of the development of a culture of peace. He was also consulted by those who, inspired by the museums he had founded, wanted to create a peace museum, such as the project by the Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, the historic city on the Danube. Thanks to his initiative, a permanent and modest exhibition "War and peace in the 20th century" was opened in 2010 in the famous castle at Höchstädt on the Danube. Thomas's commitment to peace was deeply rooted in his Christian faith, and was also affected by the experience of war in his youth.

From the start, Thomas Wechs was a strong supporter of the network of peace museums. Together with his wife Erika and son Leonhard, he participated in the first conference in Bradford in 1992 and the second one in Stadtschlaining in 1995. His son designed the first directory of peace museums, the content of which was largely based on a survey undertaken by the father. It was published by the library of the UN in Geneva in 1995 (2nd ed., 1998). We salute a pioneer of peace education through peace museums who devoted much of his life to this great cause.



CULTURES OF PEACE IN COMMUNITY MUSEUMS

By Dr. Lotte Hughes and Prof. Karega-Munene

Since 2008, Kenya has seen the rise of a veritable peace industry devoted not only to forging post-election peace and reconciliation, but also to the prevention of renewed violence in 2013.

Critics may say that much of this has been top-down, however, and has not reached citizens at the grassroots, for whom national peace charters and the work of the National Integration and Cohesion Commission are mere abstractions.

Yet Kenyans already had rich indigenous peace traditions that were used for generations to forge peace and reconciliation between and within different ethnic communities. Also known as peace cultures, these shared traditions include the use of material artefacts such as gourds, stools, honey and tobacco containers that symbolise peace in many communities, and the planting of trees associated with peace in earth-cleansing rituals, for example at massacre sites. Intangible traditions include prayers. Why are they not being used today some may ask, to promote peace and prevent further conflict?

In founding the Kenyan peace museums movement in the mid-1990s, ethnographer Dr. Sultan Somjee (then head of the ethnography department at the National Museums of Kenya, NMK), aimed to do just that. Though Dr. Somjee now lives in Canada and is no longer directly involved in their running, community peace museums in different areas of the country are still going strong and have a vital role to play in promoting a peaceful and united nation – particularly in the run-up to the next elections. Of the original 23 museums, ten remain active. Many of their young curators were trained by Dr. Somjee as field assistants, who collected and documented different peace traditions by talking to elders. Initially known as the Material Culture Project, it focused on peace traditions among pastoralist groups in northern Kenya, during a time of ethnic conflicts. The project aimed to respond to these, and explored ways in which peace traditions could be used in community development work.



Timothy Gachanga is coordinator of the umbrella organization the Community Peace Museums Heritage Foundation (CPMHF) and a lecturer in justice and peace at Tangaza College, Nairobi. The CPMHF is an organisational associate of the INMP.

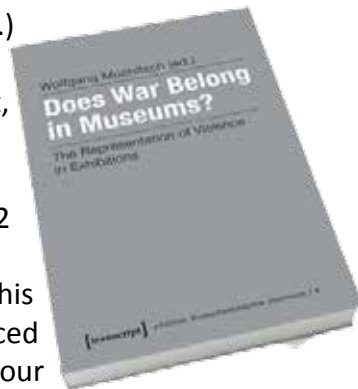
New research by British and Kenyan scholars shows that these museums appear to be unique in Africa, though community museums exist in other parts of the continent, notably West and South Africa. Unlike Kenyan state-run and private museums the community peace museums are not targeted at tourists, but local citizens, including school children. They are usually small, non-profit making and run on a shoestring. As well as promoting traditional peace cultures, they are simultaneously cultural resource centres that function as storehouses of material and intangible heritage, and aim to conserve indigenous knowledge.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Does War Belong in Museums? The Representation of Violence in Exhibitions

Wolfgang Muchitsch (Ed.)

Publisher: Transcript,
Bielefeld (2013)
224 pages
ISBN 978-3-8376-2306-2



The arresting title of this handsomely produced volume, with many colour illustrations, is likely to evoke among readers of this newsletter the reply *'Museums are the **only** place where war belongs'*. *'War belongs in a museum'* is indeed the motto of the Dutch National War and Resistance Museum in Liberty Park, Overloon, where the biggest tank battle in the country's history took place towards the end of World War II.

War, as a social institution and practice, has today largely become illegal, immoral, and irrational. This theme can be powerfully illustrated in peace and anti-war museums, which can also inform about campaigns, organisations and groups and individuals who have significantly contributed to humanity's long and noble struggle for a war-less world. In this way, these museums themselves become important instruments furthering this cause.

However, this is not the theme of the book which contains virtually no references to peace and anti-war museums (also no mention is made of the museum in Overloon). Only Ernst Friedrich's Anti-War Museum in Berlin, and the museums in Hiroshima and Caen are briefly mentioned in Jay Winter's opening chapter entitled "Museums and the Representation of War". The only so-called peace museum discussed in the book is the Turkish Cypriot Museum of Peace and Freedom that was established in Northern Cyprus in 2010. In reality a war museum, it commemorates and celebrates the arrival of Turkish soldiers on the island in 1974 – known as the Peace Operation by Turkish authorities, and as the Turkish invasion by Greek Cypriots.

Many of the chapters contain similar case studies of war and army museums and their authors (often museum directors or curators) discuss traditional as well as innovative ways for displaying artefacts in order to illustrate particular themes. What is said of the German Tank Museum in Münster has wider applicability: *'The horrors of past and future war were kept out of the museum ... by actively using the technical fascination of the objects to cloud visitors' viewpoints ... Thus, war was hidden behind the war machines.'*

With the exception of the US Holocaust Museum, all the museums represented are European. A few chapters address general subjects such as the use of photography in war museums, and new forms of memorialisation. The volume contains a selection of papers presented at a conference organised by ICOMAM, the International Council of Museums and Collections of Arms and Military History. Despite the comments above, and the absence of an index, it can be highly recommended for the perspectives it provides on the important question raised in the title.

One of the next publications of INMP should perhaps be a companion volume, entitled "Does Peace Belong in a Museum?" A call for papers from among the INMP members may follow in the near future; expressions of interest will be gratefully received.

Projecting Peace Through History and Museums

Peter van den Dungen
Peace Review: A Journal of Social
Justice
Volume 25, Issue 1 (2013)



La Paz, Partera de la Historia (Peace, the Midwife of History)

J.M. Jiménez Arenas & F. Muñoz
(Eds.)

University of Granada, Institute
of Peace and Conflict (2012)

With a contribution from Peter
van den Dungen "The Role of
Peace Museums in Promoting a
Culture of Peace".

MUNDANEUM IN MONS (BELGIUM): A PAPER GOOGLE WITH A PACIFIST AGENDA

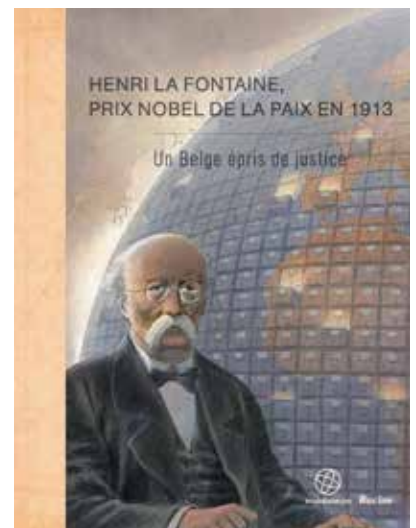


One of the most remarkable institutions dedicated to the peaceful unification of the world - in the first place, by gathering together in one place the whole of the world's knowledge and making it freely available - was the Mundaneum, the origins of which date back to the late 19th century (1895). This amazing project was the brainchild of two outstanding Belgian personalities. Paul Otlet (1868-1944) was a pioneer of bibliography and information science, and an internet visionary who networked knowledge decades before Google. His collaborator and friend Henri La Fontaine (1854-1943) was a scholar, prominent parliamentarian and peace activist, and laureate of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1913.

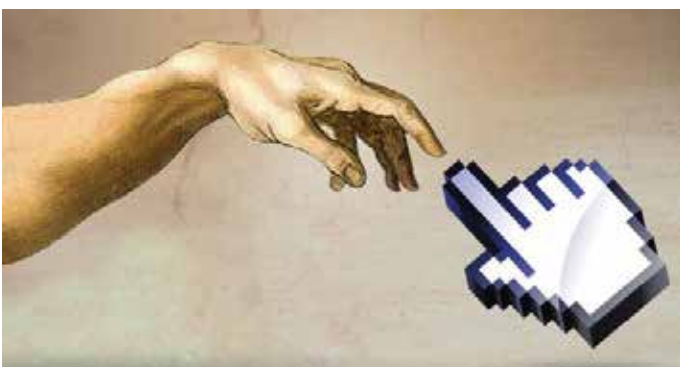
The Mundaneum became a unique documentation centre that, during the first half of the 20th century, gave rise to several institutions dedicated to international humanist knowledge and to global cooperation and solidarity (making Belgium the main host country of the international movement). A key organisation founded by Otlet and La Fontaine is the Union of International Associations (UIA, 1907) to document the nature and evolution of international society. Today, the UIA (with secretariat still in Brussels) maintains a database with more than 65,000 intergovernmental as well as international nongovernmental organisations and publishes the invaluable "Yearbook of International Organizations". For the 1910 World Fair in Brussels, the UIA created the International Museum. Afterwards, together with other institutions, the museum was accommodated in the World Palace in the Cinquantaire Park where the Mundaneum occupied up to 50 rooms. Since 1998 it has found a home in the heart of the historic city of Mons.

Until 1 July, an exhibition entitled "Renaissance 2.0: A Journey Through the Origins of the Web" shows, e.g., that the Mundaneum's visionary founders, especially Otlet, anticipated already in the 1930s virtual networks, with participative encyclopedias, search engines, web-conferencing, etc. The exhibition documents the evolution of the information society and how far we have come in the process of indexing human knowledge and making it instantly and globally available. While Otlet's dream of universal access to knowledge has taken shape in the Internet, the exhibition also invites speculation about its further evolution. In recognition of the remarkable Belgian precursors of Internet search engines, the exhibition has been partnered by Google.

The legacy of the Mundaneum in Mons can be regarded as a museum for peace of a special kind whose founders were passionate about creating a world of peace and justice for all. Otlet's utopian spirit inspired him to work towards an ideal society; with



the help of the famous architect Le Corbusier, he also devised an ambitious plan for a World City. La Fontaine was co-founder and long-serving president (1907-1943) of the International Peace Bureau, as well as a leading member of the Interparliamentary Union, an association of parliamentarians promoting the peaceful settlement of international conflict through arbitration and the development of international law. Both organisations continue to be active today. This year's centenary of La Fontaine's Nobel Peace Prize is being celebrated through a range of events such as the unveiling of a bust in the Belgian Senate in Brussels, an international colloquium in Mons, new publications, etc.



FORMER UN-SECRETARY GENERAL U THANT'S HOME A MUSEUM



In early April, at a ceremony in Yangon, Myanmar (Rangoon, Burma), the family of the third United Nations Secretary-General (U Thant), government officials, and diplomats met to announce the opening, later this year, of a museum devoted to his life and work. The two-story villa was the residence of U Thant from 1951 to 1957 when he was a top adviser to the country's Prime Minister, U Nu. Built in the 1920s during the colonial era in what used to be called the Windermere Park, a leafy neighbourhood of the country's former capital and still largest city, the house is currently being restored to its former glory.

Last year, the Yangon (Rangoon) Heritage Trust, a NGO founded by U Thant's grandson, Dr. Thant Myint-U, was granted permission by President Thein Sein to renovate the building and open it as a museum. A statement issued by the Trust mentioned that the museum would not only be celebrating U Thant's life and work, but would also be about reclaiming the country's past, so that its people today could think in a different way

about the future. The museum will also provide information about education programmes of the U Thant Institute and serve as a public centre for lectures and events. It will be maintained by a group led by Daw Aye Aye Thant, daughter of the former UN Secretary-General. She stressed that the aim of the museum is to enable young people to learn what her father had achieved in his important role at the head of the world organisation.

U Thant served as his country's representative to the UN in New York from 1957 until 1961 when, following the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld, he was appointed acting Secretary-General for the remainder of the latter's term of office. This, as well as his subsequent appointment to two terms of office as Secretary-General (1962-1971), at a time of great uncertainty and turmoil at the UN, was testimony to his moral authority and total impartiality that were widely recognised. As a Buddhist, U Thant was tolerant and cherished moral and spiritual qualities such as modesty, humility, and compassion. A great believer in the UN, he saw the organisation as providing for its smaller members a bridge between the great powers where the former could speak the truth as they saw it.

For U Thant, the aspirations of humanity found a voice in the UN whose task he saw also as bringing about real democracy at the international level as well as taking pragmatic action on behalf of the world community. He played a part in the resolution of the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis and other critical events later in the same decade (Vietnam; war between India and Pakistan).

A temporary exhibition of photographs reminded guests attending the ceremony of the central role that U Thant had played for the world's peace and security during his more than ten years at the helm of the UN. His calm and wise leadership made him an outstanding servant of humanity who was also known for his integrity, lack of anger, and personal kindness and considerateness. We are looking forward to the opening of a museum dedicated to a true hero of peace whose memory should be treasured both at home and abroad.

PEACE MUSEUM IN PUNJAB

A **peace** museum celebrating divided Punjab's shared heritage is expected to be opened early next year as part of the Sarhad complex at the Attari-Wagah border between India and Pakistan. The recently established Sarhad is a food and culture park, adjacent to the border on the Amritsar-Attari national highway, that celebrates the common architectural, cultural and culinary heritage of pre-partition Punjab in general, and Amritsar-Lahore in particular.

The idea for the museum came to Amanbir Jaspal (a postgraduate from the Norwegian School of Economics) who was troubled by the jingoism and near hysterical nationalist fervour on display during the daily Retreat Ceremony at the Wagah border. He found that this contrasted sharply with the camaraderie and bonhomie he experienced on his visits to Lahore across the border in Pakistan as well as with the yearning for peace and friendship that he found, especially among the youth on both sides of the border. With the help of his father, D.S. Jaspal (until his retirement in 2012, a Chief Secretary of the Punjab Government in India), the idea found instant support and encouragement from leading political figures across the border.

The museum will not concentrate on the bloodshed occasioned by the partition of India (1947) when some 4 million Hindus fled east to India, and about a similar number of Muslims fled west to Pakistan, but will instead highlight the strong bonds shared by different communities before partition. On display will be, e.g., maps of villages in undivided Punjab along with their brief histories, and objects and stories which will help visitors understand pre- and post-partition Punjab. Pre-partition cinema and railway tickets and similar items have been collected, and many people in India and Pakistan have volunteered to donate relevant artefacts in their possession. Through a multimedia system, partition witnesses will share their experiences.

The projects very nature involves cross-border cooperation, between NGOs, universities, historians and other academics, youth, etc. as well as, crucially, the endorsement of both countries. The Jaspal family hopes that the museum will inspire peaceful co-existence whilst contributing at the same time to the healing of the traumas caused by partition.

CHICAGO PEACE MUSEUM

The Peace Museum in Chicago, founded in 1981 by Marjorie Craig Benton, then US ambassador to UNICEF, and Mark Rogovin, a local artist and activist, was the first museum of its kind in the USA. It opened in a converted warehouse, and enjoyed support from local and national celebrities, including Steds Terkel, Stevie Wonder, Pete Seeger and Yoko Ono, who donated memorabilia such as a guitar from her late husband, John Lennon.

Rogovin had come up with the idea in 1974 at a time when the Vietnam War and the Cold War were ongoing, and the antinuclear movement was gaining strength. It seemed the right time for a museum dedicated to peace. Based on its early work and successful exhibitions, the Peace Museum's plans to grow professionally and to gain influence as a leader in peace education in Chicago, the USA and beyond seemed fully justified.

As part of its 20th anniversary celebrations in 2001, the museum applied (unsuccessfully) to organise the 4th international conference of peace museums that year. Ten years on, the Chicago Tribune chronicled the sad decline of the museum in an article entitled "How Peace Museum became a shadow of itself" (5 March 2011). "Give Peace a Chance" had been the Chicago Peace Museum's most successful exhibition (about protest music against the war in Vietnam), but the museum itself was hardly given a chance to live up to its promise.

In order to save money, the museum moved to the Garfield Park field house where free space was granted by the Chicago Park District around the year 2000. A few years later the museum was in debt and no longer able to pay its director. The museum's collections were moved to storage facilities where they have allegedly suffered serious damage. This resulted in the state's attorney general's decision in February 2011 to sue for control of the collection. Since then, the process has started of cataloguing the museum's many artefacts with a view to their distribution among other charitable institutions.

We want to pay tribute to a pioneering institution that made many people familiar with the notion of a peace museum and also provided a stimulus for the creation of peace museums elsewhere.

HEROES



Betsy Kawamura was elected as one of the “Heroes” by Capital Finance International. She is praised for her work on gender based violence and survivor issues, and the particularly difficult situation of North Korea, including empowering diaspora women via media narratives.

Kawamura is human rights activist, founder and director of Womer4NonViolence, and INMP member. She works relentlessly to provide a platform for survivors of gender-based violence and others who are unable to find a voice in the wilderness of despair. She draws on insights from the trauma of her early life to bring hope and opportunity to other victims.

SPONSORS



DEADLINE NEWSLETTER 6



The next newsletter will be published in November.

The deadline for submissions is **1 October 2013**. Please send your text and images to news@inmp.net

Subscribe to our biannual newsletter by sending an e-mail to news@inmp.net providing your name and that of the organisation you work for (if applicable).

COOPERATIONAL GAMES

The Dutch Museum for Peace and Nonviolence offers cooperational board games. These games are based on cooperation instead of competition. Players win or lose as a team.



NEW INMP CONNECTIONS

New networks the INMP joined since the previous newsletter, include:

- Anna Lindh Foundation
- Netzkraft Movement
- Peace and Collaborative Development Network

NEW INMP MEMBERS

New members of the INMP since our previous newsletter, include:

- La Paix Herb Farm, U.S.A.
- Anfal Museum, Iraq