

# Diva

N° 1 • 2019

## International Diplomat



Interview with Ambassador  
**Idriss Jazairy**



Interview with Google VP  
**Vint Cerf**

Interview with

# Olga Algayerova

*Executive Secretary of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe*



**SPEED**

**RELIABILITY**

**TRUST**

**Diagnostic Testing:** whatever your needs,  
the Medisupport network is passionate about helping with diagnosis



Partner of the International Organisations

[medisupport.ch](http://medisupport.ch)

## DO YOU NEED A BLOOD TEST ?

Our blood extraction centers welcome  
you warmly in Geneva & Nyon

### Dianalabs Arve

Rue de la Colline 6  
1205 Genève  
Tel 022 807 12 40  
Opening hours:  
Mo-Fr: 7h30-17h Sa: 8h-11h

### Dianalabs Coutance

Pharmacie Principale Coutance - Rue de Coutance 7  
1201 Genève  
Tel 022 807 12 40  
Opening hours:  
Mo-Fr: 8h-12h30

### Dianalabs Servette

Rue Louis-Favre 15  
1201 Genève  
Tel 022 807 12 40  
Opening hours:  
Mo-Fr: 7h-12h 13h30-16h30

### Dianalabs Champel

Chemin De-Normandie 14 - 2<sup>ème</sup> étage immeuble «Cargill»  
1206 Genève  
Tel 022 807 12 40  
Opening hours:  
Mo-Fr: 7h30-12h

### Dianalabs Hôpital de la Tour

Avenue Jacob-Daniel Maillard 3  
1217 Meyrin  
Tel 022 807 12 40  
Opening hours:  
Mo-Fr: 7h-18h

### Dianalabs Vernier

ARCenter (Niv. Migros) - Route de Montfleury 3  
1214 Vernier  
Tel 022 807 12 40  
Opening hours:  
Mo-Fr: 8h-10h30

### Dianalabs Villereuse

Carrefour Villereuse 2  
1207 Genève  
Tel 022 807 12 40  
Opening hours:  
Mo-Fr: 7h-17h

### Polyanalytic Nyon

Rue Saint-Jean 12  
1260 Nyon  
Tel 021 804 92 81  
Opening hours:  
Mo-Fr: 7h30-11h30 Sa: 8h-9h15



Dianalabs & Polyanalytic are member of Medisupport network

[dianalabs.ch](http://dianalabs.ch)

[polyanalytic.ch](http://polyanalytic.ch)



# Sommaire

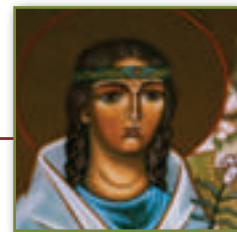
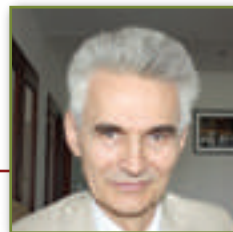
## international

- 6 **Interview with Olga Algayerova**  
Executive Secretary of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
- 9 **Interview with Ambassador Idriss Jazairy**  
Executive Director, Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue
- 12 **Professeur Dominique Bourg**
- 16 **Interview with Vint Cerf**  
Chief Internet Evangelist and VP of Google



## culture

- 19 **Interview with Maestro Herman Makarenko**  
World famous orchestra conductor, UNESCO Artist for Peace
- 22 **Interview with Bakhtiyor Sayfullaev**  
Uzbekistan Minister of Culture
- 24 **Is Africa that far?**
- 26 **Interview with Svein Olav Hoff**  
Norway's most renowned art historian and specialist of the Norwegian painter Henrik Sørensen
- 28 **The Hawaiian Islands Celebrates 175 Years of Independence**
- 32 **Astana's Congress of World Religions**  
fosters the building of peace
- 36 **Interview de Ben Salama**  
auteur et réalisateur
- 38 **New Gorbachev film**  
combines hope and goodwill with personal and political tragedies.
- 40 **Le Chemin de croix de Kateri Tekakwitha, la sainte iroquoise**
- 42 **Christine de France**  
une amazone au temps des mousquetaires
- 44 **Arc-et-Senans**  
la ville idéale de Claude Nicolas Ledoux
- 46 **Ferdinand Hodler**



# Editorial

## Gratitude

"Have you noticed," my colleague asked, "how many of us take everything for granted? Just think about it! What we think of as normal today – enough food, water, shelter, proper housing, schools for children, kindergarten, a career, safe job, normal working hours – all these things came about because the people in the past fought for these things as rights... right to health, right to education, workers protection etc. Today, I would say that most people tend to believe that these rights are the minimum requirement for a happy life, but without the past generations none of these would exist."

"One thing I like about the U.S.," my colleague continued, "is their annual celebration of Thanksgiving. Although it has become a commercial event, it's the one holiday that seems to unite the US, across religion, race and social class. Almost everybody celebrates this day. Once a year, they show gratitude to their friends, family, co-workers and others. It's a good thing to do, and although some might say – rightly – that we should do so more often without having to be 'forced to do so', we nevertheless too often fail to do so without being forced by circumstances."

So, let us here in Diva also make a sort of mea culpa, do our duty and, taking advantage of the occasion, express gratitude to all our readers and the people who support us, either by giving of their precious time or by just reading these short lines. Thank you for being there, for without you, we would not be around.

Perhaps some of these quotes can inspire us all to reflect on all that we have to be thankful for in our lives, not just now, but throughout the year:

- "At times, our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us." – Albert Schweitzer
- "A grateful mind is a great mind, and it will attract great things to it." – Helen Chan
- "Gratitude turns what we have into enough." – Anonymous
- "Gratitude is a powerful catalyst for happiness. It's the spark that lights a fire of joy in your soul." – Amy Collette
- "Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow." – Melody Beattie
- "Thankfulness is the beginning of gratitude. Gratitude is the completion of thankfulness. Thankfulness may



consist merely of words. Gratitude is shown in acts." – Henri Frédéric Amiel

- "Happiness cannot be traveled to, owned, earned, worn or consumed. Happiness is the spiritual experience of living every minute with love, grace, and gratitude." – Denis Waitley
- "Joy is the simplest form of gratitude." – Karl Barth
- "No one who achieves success does so without the help of others. The wise and confident acknowledge this help with gratitude." – Alfred North Whitehead

So on these notes we here in Diva wish you all a wonderful holiday season and a happy New Year.  
Marit

The views expressed are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of DIVA

www.divainternational.ch  
Rssn: 1234987235868745

DIVA is a publication of Graficim Ltd

On this cover: Olga Algayerova

Mailing address:  
DIVA International Diplomat  
p/a Salle de Presse 1  
Palais des Nations  
1211 Geneva 10

E-mail: diva.international@gmail.com  
Tel: +41 22 917 43 01

Editor: Marit Fosse  
Deputy editor: Sanjay Acharya

Graphic Design: Iris Hariz

Friends contributing to this issue:  
Sanjay Acharya, Annegret Mathari,  
Albina Goosens, Jean-Michel Wissmer,  
Pierre-Michel Virot, Peter Kenny,  
Robert J. Parsons, Celhia de Lavarenne,  
Marit Fosse, Ekatarina Pincheuskaya,  
Christian David, Leon Sui



Interview with

# Olga Algayerova

Executive Secretary of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe



She is one of these persons you like as soon as you meet them. Ms Algayerova has a long and impressive career. A positive woman, she is also hard working, and she sets her standards high, for herself and perhaps for others. We had the good fortune to meet with her, a year after her arrival in Geneva.

**Q: Congratulations! You were the first woman to be appointed Under-Secretary-General by United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres. How does that feel?**

It was really an honor. I was very happy because it had been my dream for a long time to work in the United Nations. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has made gender parity one of the cornerstones of his mandate and has achieved it for the first time in the UN Senior Management Group. Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohamed is also taking a more prominent role than many of her predecessors.

**Q: Could you tell us a little about yourself?**

I am a Slovak national. I studied economics in Bratislava, then after some years I did an MBA in London, and finally I coursed a Masters' in Contemporary Diplomacy at the University

of Malta. I have worked in foreign trade and international relations. After the political changes that took place in my country, I started working for a Spanish company. I was in fact the CEO of a big Spanish company, and then I was hired by the biggest Slovak pharmaceutical manufacturer as head of their export department. In that capacity, I established 73 offices abroad. It was one of the most successful endeavors of my life. It was new and creative because I was building something new. The company was later merged with an even bigger pharmaceutical manufacturer.

Then, Jan Kubis called me and asked me to come and work with him as his deputy foreign minister. So I suddenly switched from economic diplomacy to real diplomacy for my country. I served two years with Jan Kubis, and another two years with his successor, Miroslav Lajčák. After that, there was a change of government, and I set up my own NGO for the United Nations Development Goals. We were working a lot for women's and children's rights. For example, I personally worked two years on implementing the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in Georgia. After that experience, I was appointed foreign adviser to the Prime Minister for about six months. After these six months, I was appointed Permanent representative to the United Nations and OSCE in Vienna, and I stayed there for five years before coming to Geneva.

**Q: What are your main objectives for the UNECE?**

I was hired by the Secretary-General who came to office with a big reform program, so, my first action is to support him. I feel it's necessary to reform the whole United Nations, and this implicitly affects the UNECE because we cannot continue doing the same things we used to do 30 or 40 years ago. However, reform does not necessarily mean cuts, it can also mean growth. Then you start to think about it all. What is it all about? Are we doing the right things for member states, for people? The objective of the reform is to make the UN more efficient so that we can better support our Member States in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Achieving the SDGs will be a major challenge requiring continuous efforts and the integration within national programs and strategies of the agreed objectives. There is still progress to be made on this front. It will also require accrued international cooperation, given the global nature of many of the issues that cannot be solved only at national level. I would mention climate change, reducing inequalities and anticipating the impact of ageing societies as three of the main challenges our region is facing.



**Q: Do you have a different approach on reform from others?** Well, you have to reform, stay focused, and then do the things that are relevant. If you do not provide the relevant things, the cuts arrive. On the other hand, donors will follow if you come up with relevant projects.

**Q: For me it seems like you are doing it very business-like. It's like the member states are your clients.**

Well, that is exactly what it is, however, we have our vision as well.

**Q: The UNECE is a very technical organization focused on lots of specific technical issues, rules and regulations. How does this play into it? Does it make it more difficult to be innovative?**

I would not say more difficult, as we have professionals working in the organization. They need to make the most of their real expertise, to work together and be the *avant-garde*. It's not easy of course. We do not cover the whole range. Some people do not like the word niche, so let me put it this way. In the field of environment we do not cover everything, but the issues that we do cover are very important, and some are not only regional issues but global issues, like water cooperation or air pollution.

I think that the UNECE is a very good organization, but of course we need to do better. Innovation and progress today are moving so fast that you need to move fast too. This is the reason why you also need to go into new areas, and that means that you have to phase out of all the obsolete and non-relevant issues. I see that as my managerial task.

**Q: The organization is working on road safety, ecology, specifications for instance oil rigs etc. Do you feel that the work of the organization is not as well-known as it should be?**

There are two angles on this issue. We have networks of experts and in-house professionals. When I said that we are working in quite narrow areas of expertise, in those areas people know well what we are doing. I think we should work more politically here. The experts know us because we work together. We have a network of some 18,000 experts. The question is: does your Foreign Minister know about us and our activities? Perhaps not, so this is what we are working on.

**Q: I just recently heard that you even have experts on forest management.**

Yes, and in this field we collaborate closely with the FAO.

**Q: What are the others UN organizations that you are collaborating with?**

We collaborate for instance with WHO, with WIPO, with UN-Habitat or with UN Environment, to name just a few. And we collaborate with many other organizations outside of the UN, such as the IRU, in the field of transport. We have so many organizations with which we collaborate that it would be too much to list them all here. We are also collaborating with many universities and the private sector around the world.

**Q: Could you tell us something about the Water Convention?** It was originally a regional convention for Europe and Central



Asia, but it has now been open to all UN Member States. Chad and Senegal were the first countries outside our region to become Parties in 2018, and many more have expressed their intention to join. This is an example where one of our regional conventions is becoming global.

Another example is that, with the engagement of our sister regional commissions in the UN, our conventions can inspire other regions. Our Aarhus convention on environmental democracy is one example. Latin American countries have looked at our experience, have negotiated the *Escazú* Agreement, and are now going to ratify it.

**Q: So you are a kind of innovating hub?**

This is what I tried to indicate. On some key issues for sustainable development such as transboundary cooperation, resource use, pollution prevention, sustainable transport etc., we have decades of experience, which can be shared with others.

**Q: You talked earlier about donors. Are they generous towards you, or is it difficult to raise money for your projects?**

One thing is to raise money, and another thing is to have the capacity to absorb it. So, I think we could do more but not much more with our current staff numbers. We are 188 people in the organization, and we use about 180 consultants. Over the last years, our budget has been cut, and cut. We will see what the next one will bring. I wish that we could have more in-house experts.

**Q: You have recently created a UN Trust Fund for road safety. Could you tell us more about that?**

We are very happy to host the UN Road Safety Trust Fund. It was established in April 2018 by a General Assembly resolution. Since that time we have done quite a lot. The fund needed some constitutional documents, and we have had our first two meetings of the Advisory Board and the Steering Committee. These two bodies are broadly representative, not only of the UN organizations, we have the private sector, NGOs, academia and of course Member States from all regions because it's a global initiative. The Fund has just approved five pilot projects for a total of approximately USD 1 million. These 5 projects will address key components of national road safety systems in a number of low- and middle-income countries, which constitute the target of the Fund.



**Q: Will the secretariat be based here in Geneva?**

Yes. Here at the UNECE, we are the custodian of the UN Road Safety Agreements, and we host the secretariat of UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Road Safety, Mr Jean Todt. Now we will establish the secretariat of the UN Road Safety Trust Fund. All the Regional Commissions cooperate with us. You know, everybody talks about the number of persons who die annually of malaria, but nobody talks about the deaths from road accidents, which kill more than twice as much as malaria. So there is a lot of work to be done. We need political support, money and the private sector. Everybody needs to be engaged in this issue.

**Q: Listening to you talk about the way you work, I get the impression that you are drawing a lot on your experience from the private sector. But now, my final question: how is it to be a woman among all these men?**

We'll need to attract more women, to achieve gender balance. We need to work more for women's empowerment. At UNECE, we have reached gender parity at senior levels some years ago, so we are doing pretty well. But most importantly, all these efforts will have to be sustained over time! That's the real challenge. Even in our region there is a lot to do! Our statistical division calculated that women in our region earn 28 % less than men on average. This means not only lower wages but also lower pensions, and higher risks of poverty. This is simply not fair!

MF



Interview with Ambassador

# Idriss Jazairy

Executive Director, Geneva Centre for Human Rights  
Advancement and Global Dialogue

**1) Mr. Ambassador you have a long and impressive career. First of all, could you tell us a little about yourself?**

I am currently the Executive Director of the Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue, a think-tank holding special consultative status with the UN. I have held this position since July 2016. I was previously a Board member of the Geneva Centre.

Prior to my current professional role, I represented my native country Algeria through different functions: After having served as a Presidential Adviser to the former President of Algeria Houari Boumedienne for 7 years, I was nominated as Ambassador of Algeria to Belgium, the USA, the Holy See and the UN office in Geneva.

At the inter-governmental multilateral level, I was elected in 1984 and subsequently re-elected President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, a Rome-based UN specialized agency which plays a major role to scale up rural development and to enhance the social and economic empowerment of poor people. I have also held other functions in the field of international relations and human rights; in 2009, I was the President of the Conference on Disarmament. The following year, I was the Chairman of the Council of the International Organization for Migration.

I have also devoted part of my career to civil society. I served as the Executive Director of ACORD - an international consortium of NGOs, encompassing Oxfam, Novib (Netherlands) and CCFD (France) among others. We carried out numerous projects and initiatives to enhance the protection and empowerment of victims of civil strife in Africa. From 1995 to 1998, I was a member of the Board of CARE/USA.

In addition to my current function as Executive Director of the Geneva Centre, I am also the UN Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of the unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights.

**2) Looking back at, what is the position that gave you the most personal satisfaction?**

The first position that gave me greatest personal satisfaction was that of President of the International Fund for Development where I led this specialised agency of the United Nations to develop approaches to empower the rural poor and in particular smallholder farmers and their husbands. Poverty was not their fate but just reigned in the imagination of international who were unable to see this low level of income could signal an untapped potential that needed to be unleashed. Following on the footsteps of my eminent predecessor, Abdul Mohsen Al Sudeary, I was put in the position of being able to unleash this potential, thus demonstrating that those rural dwellers who were seen as a burden on society were in reality its "New Frontier"



of development. This is how we developed our innovative and unorthodox approach to micro-credit, replacing assets as collateral by group solidarity. We pursued this policy consistently throughout Africa, Latin America and Asia. The setting up of micro-credit clubs soon became the trigger that unleashed the productivity of smallholder farmers and rural dwellers. We applied this approach in particular with the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh whose Director obtained a Nobel prize through the success of the plan we put in place together. Our initiative heralded a new era of micro-credit worldwide and even in developed countries including the US.

The second position that has given me great satisfaction is that of Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the adverse impact of unilateral coercive measures. The latter are the sanctions that individual States or groups of States apply to targeted States, usually but not always developing and weaker countries, without the seal of legitimacy of the Security Council. It was in this capacity, that I, together with my colleague, Aristide Nononsi, the Independent Expert for the Sudan, were able to negotiate through quiet diplomacy between the Sudan and the US the progressive lifting of sanctions which had been imposed on the Sudan for over two decades. They were finally lifted in September 2017 after a year and a half of sustained good offices by our two mandates. This is the measure of what mandate-holders can achieve through fostering good will and not just by naming and shaming concerned States.

*3) You were the Special Rapporteur of the UN Human Rights Council on unilateral coercive measures. Could you be so kind to tell us what that's all about. Do these measures have an impact, if yes what would that be?*

On 26 September 2014, the Human Rights Council adopted resolution 27/21 and Corr.1 on human rights and unilateral coercive measures. The resolution stresses that unilateral coercive measures and legislation are contrary to international law, international humanitarian law, the Charter and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States, and highlights that on long-term, these measures may result in social problems and raise humanitarian concerns in the States targeted. Highlighting the deep-rooted problems and grievances within the international system and in order to ensure multilateralism, mutual respect and the peaceful settlement of disputes, the Human Rights Council decided to create the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights. At the 28<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council, I was appointed by the latter as the first Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of the unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights. I took office of this important function on 1 May 2015 for a five-year mandate which was renewed in September 2017.

The adverse effects of international coercive measures in general on the enjoyment of human rights of targeted populations have been widely documented. The question arises whether extraterritorial sanctions display specific features, i.e. whether they are likely to have specific adverse consequences

on human rights, that can be distinguished from those arising from the use of sanctions in general. Such specific effects flow from extraterritorial sanctions, to the extent that they affect the ability of the targeted country - and its population -, as well as that of third countries not involved in the dispute between source and target countries, to interact with the global business and financial community. Most international businesses, while legally not subject to the jurisdiction of the targeting State, will in practice be unwilling to entertain any economic relations with parties in the targeted State that might lead to their “violating” the provisions of the extraterritorial sanctions regime — and thus might jeopardize their ability to pursue their own business activities in the targeting State. This has led to the damaging practice of over-compliance by trading partners of targeted countries. The result is a *de facto* blockade of the target State, voluntarily complied with by economic actors that are not even legally subject to the jurisdiction of the targeting State. The distinct additional impact of extraterritorial sanctions may also be related to their effects on the targeted State's ability to gain access to international financial institutions, foreign financial markets and international aid.

Extraterritorial application of unilateral sanctions may also have an adverse impact on the enjoyment of human rights in third countries, which are not targeted directly, but are prevented by the operation of the extraterritorial foreign law from entertaining economic relations with the target country.

*4) You are the Executive Director and founder of the Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue. How did you get the idea to set up this organization?*

The Geneva Centre was established in 2014 by our Chairman HE Dr. Hanif Hassan Ali Al Qassim. The Centre was set-up with the aim of promoting global dialogue and offering an alternative narrative on issues related to the promotion and to the advancement of human rights in the Arab region. Another driving factor behind the decision to create the Centre ambition was to act as a platform for better understanding between a variety of stakeholders involved in the promotion and protection of human rights. The Centre's vision is therefore to build on such an understanding and to promote tolerance and mutual respect among peoples and regions.

*5) What are the objectives and the mission of the organisation?*

The Geneva Centre is a think-tank dedicated to the promotion of human rights through cross-cultural, religious and cross-civilization dialogue between the Global North and the Global South, and through training of the upcoming generations of stakeholders in the Arab region. The Centre works towards a value-driven human rights system, steering clear of politicisation and building bridges between different narratives thereon of the Global North and of the Global South. Our objective is to act as a platform for dialogue between a variety of stakeholders involved in the promotion and protection of human rights. The Centre advocates giving human rights due recognition in governance throughout the world and aims to promote mutual understanding and cooperative relations between people.

*6) You are the author of several publication. Are you working on something now?*

The Geneva Centre pursues its mandate through the organization of panel debates at UNOG, the publication of studies and the organization of training courses. The Geneva Centre's studies address issues of importance to stakeholders in the Global North and the Global South. The aim with our publications is to offer a depoliticised view of human rights issues and to promote the principles of understanding, constructive humanistic dialogue and respect of others. This is at a time when human rights are being politicized and invoked selectively to embarrass political foes. In the Centre's publications, we analyse the outcomes of panel debates held at UN Geneva where we identify points of commonalities and mutual enhancement in the aspirations of decision-makers – in the Global North and in the Global South – to promote and advance human rights. The summary records of the panel proceedings are then followed by an intellectual think piece where we identify lessons learned and points of guidance to stakeholders.

As of August 2018, the Geneva Centre's publications include:

- (1) In defence of Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council: An alternative narrative from the South**
- (2) Islamophobia and the implementation of UN Human Rights Council Resolution 16/18: Reaching out**
- (3) De-radicalisation or the roll-back of extremist violence: Proceedings of the panel meeting**
- (4) Muslims in Europe: The road to social harmony**
- (5) Women's rights in the Arab region: Myths and realities**
- (6) The right to development, 30 years later: Achievements, challenges and the way forward**
- (7) Islam and Christianity, the great convergence: Working jointly towards equal citizenship rights**
- (8) Human rights: Enhancing equal citizenship rights in education**

Moreover, the Geneva Centre has organized many other panel debates at the UN to promote and advance human rights in the Arab region. Staff of the Geneva Centre, under my supervision, are currently preparing follow-up publications to panel debates that were organized in 2017 and in 2018.

The following publications will be issued during the course of the year:

- (1) Religions, creeds and value systems: Joining forces to enhance equal citizenship rights:** 25 June 2018
- (2) Protecting people on the move: Internally displaced people (IDPs) in the context of the refugee and migrant crisis:** 21 March 2018
- (3) Improving access to justice for workers: the case of UAE:** 20 March 2018
- (4) Veiling/unveiling: The headscarf in Christianity, Islam and Judaism:** 23 February 2018
- (5) Migration and human solidarity: A challenge and an opportunity for Europe and the MENA region:** 14 December 2017
- (6) Women's rights in the Arab region: Between myth and reality:** 15 September 2017

*7) Based upon your experience, what advice would you give to the younger generation?*

In view of the current circumstances and the contemporary tensions being played out in the Middle East, North Africa and in Europe, I strongly appeal to the younger generation to rediscover the common values of societies in Europe and in the Arab region. We are now witnessing the rise in extremes on both sides; the surge of xenophobic populism in Europe and the upheaval of extremist militancy in the Arab region. In Europe, the adverse impact of globalization and the financial crisis have given rise to the notion of a lost generation in which Europe's youth experience a greater degree of impoverishment, inequality and unemployment. Populist parties have taken advantage of this social vacuum by relying on fearmongering and scapegoating of exogenous groups –such as migrants and refugees - to provide legitimacy to their political ideologies. They have become credible political actors in many countries and have succeeded in gaining electoral support in local and national elections.

In the Arab region, the collapse of post-independence ideologies, geopolitical power games and proxy wars have left a social and political vacuum that has been filled by terrorist groups instrumentalizing religion in their search for legitimacy. Extremist violence cause widespread indignation fuelling indiscriminate xenophobic responses that undermine national unity. This feeds the recruitment propaganda of extremist groups. The persistence of political and social unrest in the Arab region have become the main drivers of poverty, societal decline and instability. Without prospects for a stable future, youth – at an early stage of their lives – therefore become prone to despair.

In this connection, the best starting-point to address and roll-back these ominous trends is to identify points of commonalities between Abrahamic faiths on which future generations can pin their faith to promote solidarity and greater understanding. This new narrative – that we belong to one humanity and have a common starting-ground - would enable youth to protect themselves from heinous ideologies that foster social division and split up societies. All world religions converge, with 10% specificity, and 90% similarity. However, we tend to focus on the 10% that divide humanity instead of using the 90% as a common starting-point for humanity to promote peace, tolerance and leading to true empathy in diversity.

It is essential therefore to help the current generation discover that they can develop a sense of well-being and fraternity through communities of faith and by broadening the space for common purpose and mutual understanding. This could eventually contribute to the promotion of peace, social justice and inter-religious harmony between and within societies. Only through dialogue between populations and regions of all cultures and religious faiths can bridges of understanding be built between them, thereby fostering social cohesion and harmony. We as decision-makers have the moral responsibility to offer youth the building blocks to create a common future in the interest of humanity. It we can build together and identify a common path for the future, we will be able to better appreciate one another and to live in peace and in harmony. EP

# Professeur Dominique Bourg

**En matière d'environnement, le discours politique et son action sont en train de nous faire mourir !**

*CHRISTIAN DAVID (ANCIEN RÉDACTEUR EN CHEF UN SPECIAL)*



Le Campus situé au sud de Lausanne est très étendu, il y règne une activité intense. J'ai rendez-vous avec le Professeur Dominique Bourg qui me laisse seul dans son bureau pendant quelques minutes. J'ai ainsi l'opportunité de remarquer qu'il a disposé, sur ses rayonnages de nombreux ouvrages qui traitent d'économie, d'anthropologie, d'écologie, de science et de philosophie.

Dominique Bourg, professeur à la faculté des géosciences et de l'environnement est une sommité mondiale dans son domaine. Il est régulièrement consulté par les plus grandes instances pour sa connaissance et son expertise.

*De quelle manière traitez-vous, dans vos cours, les questions environnementales ?*

La plupart des formations dans le monde abordent le développement durable dans une optique liée à une théorie économique *mainstream* qui ne tient compte que du travail humain et du capital comme facteurs de production, sans intégrer l'énergie, ni d'ailleurs les effets des productions et consommation sur les écosystèmes. Ce n'est pas notre cas.

L'article 3 alinéa 5 de la convention cadre sur les changements climatiques (UNFCCC) associe la croissance économique au développement durable et stipule qu'il faut éviter que la lutte contre le changement climatique n'entrave le commerce. Le développement durable incite à la croissance. On a voulu nous faire croire depuis 40 ans, que lorsque le PIB qui augmente, on peut découpler, c'est-à-dire faire notamment baisser la consommation d'énergie. C'est vrai par point de PIB – on parle de découplage relatif –, mais non au regard de l'augmentation du PIB, dans l'absolu. Rien que l'an dernier, les émissions mondiales de carbone ont cru de 2%. La consommation de pétrole continue d'augmenter et elle est passée ces dernières années de 90 à 100 millions de barils jour. Il s'agit d'une vraie menace. En effet, le passage à l'extraction non conventionnelle par fracturation des roches a un effet dévastateur. La courbe de Gauss qui était utilisée pour figurer l'évolution de l'exploitation d'un ensemble de puits de pétrole ne fonctionne pas dans le cas de la fracturation. A l'échelle mondiale, l'exploitation des ressources non conventionnelles pourrait se tarir brutalement.

Les deux grands objectifs du développement durable sont très clairs : la diminution des problèmes d'environnement globaux et la réduction des inégalités en termes de richesse sur Terre. Mais depuis 1987, date de cette définition (rapport Brundtland), les problèmes globaux ont explosé. Les écarts entre les plus riches et les moins riches se sont considérablement agrandis. Nous sommes parvenus à un ratio de 1 à 428 d'écart entre les pays les plus pauvres et les plus riches (exemple du Qatar et du Zimbabwe). Non seulement les deux objectifs du développement durable n'ont pas été atteints, mais c'est l'inverse qui s'est produit. Un rapport de l'ONU publié en 2016 montre que depuis les années 2000, les flux de matières croissent plus vite que le PIB mondial. Comment voulez-vous qu'un pizzaiolo cuise une pizza de plus en plus grande avec de moins en moins de pâte et de garniture ! Seul un économiste peut y croire.

Notre formation (1) intègre la notion de durabilité forte, ce n'est pas une formation de développement durable même s'il comporte des aspects positifs. Impossible de parvenir à quoi que ce soit sans plafonner les productions et consommation. D'autres formations conservent ce référencement international qui, selon nous, induit à l'erreur. Pourtant les

experts ont changé. La publication en 2009 du livre de Tim Jackson « Prospérité sans croissance », inspiré par un rapport de la commission britannique sur le développement durable, a marqué une rupture. Ce rapport souligne l'impossibilité de poursuivre indéfiniment la croissance et donne des pistes pour organiser une société avec des flux d'énergie et des flux de matières décroissants. Je doute fort qu'on puisse rester au-dessous de la barre de 1,5°, si tant est que ce soit possible, sans une réduction absolue de notre consommation énergétique. La population commence aussi à intégrer la notion de décroissance. J'ai participé récemment à une émission sur ce thème à la RTS. Il y a deux ans, aborder une telle thématique était impossible.

Les choses sont en train de tourner et il faudrait peut-être que les grandes organisations internationales arrêtent d'être soumises aux grands groupes et regardent la réalité en face. L'ONU est schizophrène, elle distille d'excellentes analyses mais continue de fonctionner sur son logiciel classique. Il faut vraiment changer ce paradigme qui est devenu une idéologie pure et qui nous maintient sur une voie destructrice et dangereuse.

*Votre approche réunit politique, économie, philosophie, science. Comment un philosophe devient-il environnementaliste, est-ce compatible ?*

Je lis la littérature scientifique tous les jours : si vous parcourez les 50 premières pages des « Scénarios de la durabilité » (que vous pouvez télécharger gratuitement), vous verrez qu'on ne peut pas parler sérieusement d'environnement sans une description scientifiquement fondée. C'est à partir de ce moment qu'on peut commencer à philosopher.

*Au travers de votre expertise, distillée dans vos cursus et vos différentes activités passées, quel est votre constat sur la situation actuelle de notre planète ?*

Le constat est dramatique et alarmant et cela devient visible pour la population. Ainsi, depuis 10 ans, le phénomène des cyclones en Atlantique nord est devenu hors normes avec des rafales de vent souvent supérieures à 300 km/h. Le cyclone Ophélie en octobre 2017 est monté jusqu'en Ecosse et ensuite s'est dirigé vers la Norvège. Il n'y avait pas de modélisation disponible et il a disparu en partie des modèles météorologiques. Ce n'était jamais arrivé et personne ne s'y attendait.

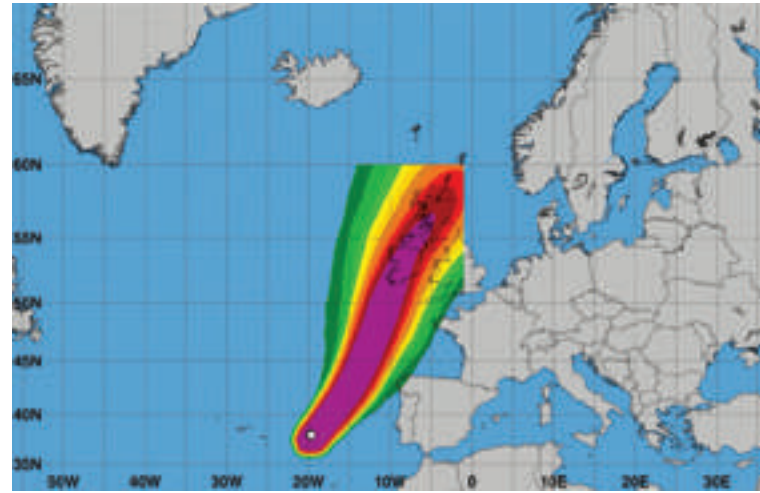
Il faut donc maintenant faire évoluer les capacités de modélisation et les faire remonter vers le Nord. Un autre exemple est la pluviométrie : pour le cyclone Florence, c'est complètement fou. L'empilement de nuages était spectaculaire. Harvey en 2017 avait engendré des inondations extraordinaires. La même chose s'est produite en juillet dernier au Japon.

Un cyclone, Zorba, a frappé la méditerranée et a atteint la Grèce, ce qui n'était jamais arrivé ; d'où l'expression nouvelle de « médicane » pour ce phénomène. Durant l'été précédent, la Grèce a connu de gigantesques incendies de forêt. Les effets



de l'incendie ont été aggravés par les pressions européennes sur les finances publiques grecques : l'absence du service météorologique a rendu les canadiens peu efficaces, car ignorant du sens des vents, les pompiers étaient sous équipés. Enfin, les populations ne pouvaient pas rejoindre la mer pour se réfugier car l'accès à la mer est grillagé. Cet épisode est un condensé de néolibéralisme. Il est clair que le réchauffement climatique multiplie la force de ces événements.

La canicule a été observée l'été dernier sur la quasi-totalité de l'hémisphère nord. Cela n'était jamais arrivé. Les canicules antérieures comme 2003 à l'ouest de l'Europe, 2010 en Russie, ou en 2007 sur une partie de l'Australie, avaient toujours été conscrrites géographiquement. Des records de température, sans précédents historiques, apparaissent désormais. Les incendies de forêts se multiplient en Californie en hiver, en Suède.



*Carte météorologique de l'ouragan Ophélie*

les climatosceptiques, ne sont évidemment pas d'accord mais ils n'avancent pas d'arguments scientifiques, mais plutôt techniques, au mieux.

La science produit des énoncés valides, la technique produit des objets. Un énoncé scientifique est le plus vraisemblable possible ou faux. Un objet est utile, inutile, beau, laid, chaud, etc...

Les perspectives d'évolution technique du genre humain portées par le transhumanisme me paraissent à la fois illusoires, partielles et dangereuses. On ne peut attendre des techniques qu'elles dissolvent magiquement toutes les difficultés. Leur présentation néolibérale et individualiste relève d'ailleurs d'un fétichisme grotesque. On fait par exemple comme si le champion du monde du jeu de Go avait été battu par un ordinateur ; en ignorant que ce dernier a emmagasiné les connaissances de milliers de chercheurs, l'invention de symboles et d'écritures sans lesquels il n'y aurait pas de mathématiques, etc. L'intelligence artificielle n'est pas en elle-même intelligente. Elle prolonge et assiste notre intelligence collective. Cet argumentaire et imaginaire est techno-marchand, il faut faire de l'argent avec des techniques qui seront vendues, le profit sera immédiat mais la vision du long terme est totalement absente.

L'industrie des pesticides, quant à elle, a imposé au monde des protocoles rigides et pécuniairement coûteux d'évaluation de ses molécules, au nom desquels elle prétend délégitimer les évaluations de la sphère publique. C'est un comble ! Désolé pour eux, ces gens ne font pas de science mais produisent des objets dont ils ne devraient pas évaluer eux-mêmes la dangerosité, étant juges et parties. La confusion qu'a suscitée le néolibéralisme ambiant est effrayante. Quand un laboratoire sort une étude vraiment scientifique, elle n'est pas acceptée car elle n'a pas suivi ce protocole « standard » ! Par conséquent, on ne sort pas, par exemple, du principe dose = poison, alors que la nocivité d'un perturbateur endocrinien n'est pas directement corrélée à la dose. Certaines substances sont en effet plus destructives à faible concentration. Les

Ce discours international *mainstream* devient donc insupportable car il est complètement décalé par rapport à tout ce qu'on voit et à tout ce qu'on sait.

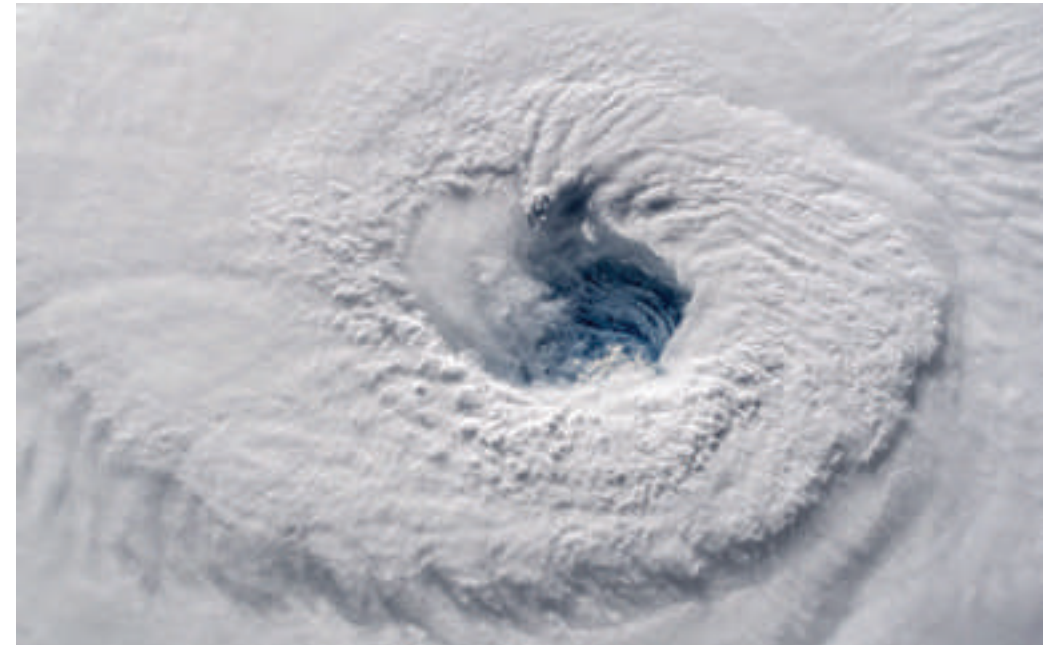
Ainsi aux États-Unis, le coût des catastrophes naturelles (incendies, inondations, vagues de chaleur, sécheresse et cyclones) s'élevait à 3 milliards de dollars pendant la décennie 80. On passe à 20 milliards de dollars durant la première décennie du siècle et 40 milliards de dollars pendant la première moitié de la deuxième décennie du siècle. L'an dernier avec Harvey on atteint 200 milliards de dollars. (2)

La question qu'on se pose est : mais qu'est-ce qu'on attend, le discours et surtout l'action politiques sont en train de nous faire mourir !

Ce que j'apprécie dans le rapport du GIEC 1,5 ° c'est que tout est documenté et consultable à la fois par les citoyens et par ceux qui les gouvernent. D'ailleurs, rien n'empêche dorénavant la population d'intenter des procès à ses dirigeants puisqu'ils ne pourront pas arguer qu'ils n'étaient pas informés et cela a commencé aux Pays Bas. Les populations commencent à comprendre : les manifestations à Paris, San Francisco, rassemblent des dizaines de milliers de personnes (150'000 le 8 septembre en France), ce qui n'était jamais arrivé. Ces manifestants n'étaient pas, pour la plupart, des écologistes et n'avaient pas l'habitude de manifester. Il s'agit d'un bouleversement profond car jusqu'à maintenant, les populations ne percevaient pas le changement climatique et ne comprenaient pas comment il pourrait bouleverser leur environnement : c'est fini.

*Votre analyse est-elle partagée, contestée et quels sont les arguments de cette contestation ?*

Cette analyse est partagée par énormément d'experts. Les « économistes mainstream », les proches des milieux d'affaire,



*Une vue de l'ouragan Florence depuis la station spatiale internationale, Photo ESA/NASA*

protocoles ne correspondent pas aux arcanes de la nature. Le maïs 860, testé sur des rats mâles et femelles fait grossir les uns et maigrir les autres, Monsanto a fait la moyenne des deux ! L'industrie a imposé cette manière de fonctionner et empoisonne air, eau et sols. En outre elle offre une résilience très faible au changement climatique, à la différence de l'agroécologie.

Cependant, il n'y a pas d'humanité sans technique. La technique est un intermédiaire entre nous et les autres et entre nous et le monde. Elle est constituée de matériaux et d'énergie. On commence à pouvoir exploiter un site minier sans pétrole, et il faudra s'en passer plus tard pour construire des barrages ou des panneaux photovoltaïques et autres éoliennes. Mais l'énergie globale dont nous disposerons alors diminuera fortement.

*La population est-elle capable de comprendre ?*

Une partie de la population est tirée vers le bas par des émissions de télévision vulgaires et surtout des niches informationnelles numériques. Il est ainsi difficile de mobiliser les gens sur ces questions, même si la donne change comme nous l'avons évoqué précédemment. Si vous essayez de leur faire prendre conscience, que toute action économique et tout achat laissent une empreinte carbone et que par exemple, un voyage en avion à Barcelone pour 20 CHF est une ineptie, vous risquez d'être injurié copieusement, et je sais de quoi je parle ! Les élites de leur côté sont au mieux indifférentes et au pire cyniques et sont souvent prêtes à tout pour maintenir leurs intérêts. Ainsi, Nicolas Hulot voulait quitter le gouvernement français, depuis mai dernier car il ne pouvait pas agir, on a réussi à l'amadouer. Quand il a démissionné en direct pendant une émission de radio, il ne savait probablement pas qu'il allait le faire avant d'entrer dans le studio.

*Quel pourrait et quel devrait être le rôle d'institutions européennes et mondiales comme l'ONU et comment faire pour que leurs recommandations et leurs actions aboutissent en la matière ?*

J'aimerais bien que l'ONU suive les recommandations de ses experts et pas les grands groupes elle pourrait aussi s'interroger sur la compatibilité des ODD entre eux et avec les préconisations du GIEC. Le rapport

1.5° du GIEC nous donne le chemin pour les dix ans à venir. Il apporte des références claires si vous montez à 1.6°C ou, à 1.7, voilà ce qui risque de se produire, ce qui, entre parenthèses, est une opportunité supplémentaire pour les futures actions en justice.

Je pense que nous pouvons faire une partie du chemin sans que cela ne nous fasse changer de système.

Une fois cette étape franchie, les mentalités et les ouvertures seront différentes, nous pourrions alors commencer à monter la marche suivante. Je ne comprends pas qu'on ne le fasse pas car cette première phase est créatrice d'emplois et ferait augmenter le PIB.

Le Secrétaire général M. Guterres a pris la mesure de la situation et a fixé le délai à deux ans pour changer de trajectoire.

**Le Directeur de l'ONU à Genève a déclaré récemment, en s'adressant à la société civile, « si vous laissez la mise en œuvre des ODD aux gouvernements, on ne va pas y arriver »**

Il a raison, la mise en œuvre des accords de Paris s'éloigne de jour en jour, alors même qu'ils nous conduisent à plus de 3° ! Je vous laisse le soin de faire le compte des pays dont la population ne sait rien sur le changement climatique ou qui sont soit climatosceptiques, soit populistes, et souvent les deux.

(1) Un MOOC (cours en ligne) sur l'écologie politique, est dispensé par le Pr. Bourg : <https://www.coursera.org/learn/ecologie-politique>

(2) Sur les 7200 principales catastrophes de ces 20 dernières années, 91% sont d'origine climatique (AFP)



Interview with

# Vint Cerf

## Chief Internet Evangelist and VP of Google

In early June this year, Francesco Pisano, the Director of the United Nations Library invited Mr Vinton G. Cerf, the vice president and chief internet promoter of Google to give a lecture during his visit to Geneva. Widely known as one of the “Fathers of the Internet”, Mr Cerf is the co-designer of the TCP/IP protocols and the architecture of the Internet. He has served in executive positions at MCI, the Corporation for National Research Initiatives and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and on the faculty of Stanford University. Mr Cerf is an active péromoter and contributes to global policy development and continued spread of the Internet. What most people might not know is that he

is also a fan of libraries and very concerned about how we can preserve documents and archives in this numeric age. We had a chance to meet with him, and now we will leave the floor to Mr Cerf...

**Q: Mr. Cerf, could you tell us a little about yourself?**

I have been interested in science, mathematics and computers for a long time. When I was 10 years old I got a chemistry set and worked through all kinds of experiments. We even made nitroglycerin, which was stupid, but we did it anyway. Fortunately we did not blow anything up. I got fascinated by mathematics. I enjoyed doing algebra when I was in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, because I got more of the stuff. I was also fascinated by *Scientific American*, although I could not understand it at the depth I needed to. I was also interested in mechanical things. I used to take apart the vacuum cleaner and the washing machine then put them back together again. There was always a screw left over, which taught me about redundancy, but it seemed to work, so that was OK.

I was introduced to my first computer in 1958. It was tube-based machine, called Semi-Automated Ground



Environment (SAGE). It was taking data from the distant early warning radars in Canada, transmitting them over telephone lines to Santa Monica in California, and analyzing them, figuring out whether the Russians were flying over the pole. We wanted to make sure that it could distinguish between Canadian geese flying over the pole or Russian bombers. I got fascinated by that.

In 1960 my best friend got access to a computer at UCLA while we were still in a high school. We were in the San Fernando Valley. So, I started working with computers in 1960 when I was 17 years old. I had jobs with a company called North American Aviation

doing software programming in the summer. I took classes in computer science and mathematics at Stanford as an undergraduate and went to work for IBM in 1965 running a commercial time sharing system for them. It was in the very early days of commercial services. I went back to school for a PhD and enrolled at UCLA, as I realized that I needed to know more about computing, programming and operating system design etc. Although I started my training as a mathematician, I discovered that I'm really an engineer, as in problem resolutions, and I like to build things that work. While I was a graduate student at UCLA, I did a fairly substantial dissertation on an abstract topic, Scheduling Multiprocessing Systems. Most of my working time was on the Arkanet project later, so, I still consider myself as primarily in engineering not a theoretician. The theory underlies whatever I'm doing, but this is for understanding why it should work. But it's making it work that is the important part, it's getting it out there, and getting people to use it that are the most important things for me.

**Q: How do you get the ideas?**

Remember, engineering thrives on problems that people draw



PHOTO'S: UN LIBRARY

your attention to. So, in the case of the Internet, Bob Kahn, my partner in this design, was the one who recognized the need for open networking with multiple networks, and that it would work. He is the one who conceived that idea. Since his background was not in software or operating systems, he got in touch with me when I was at Stanford, saying, “Here is this problem. Can we work together to solve it?” We did it in about six months and wrote a paper about it and published it in 1974, describing what the Internet protocols were, and how it would work. I had a graduate student's team at Stamford doing the detail design of the TCP/IP protocols. By December 1974 we had published the first complete speck of the TCP protocol, and then we started implementing it in 1975. It was an international effort, so, we should keep in mind that it was not exclusively an American activity. In 1974, when I was at Stanford, I had researchers from Japan, Norway, France and colleagues from the U.K., and then eventually Germany and Italy. We were all part of this project so it was very international in character, even though it was driven by the US Defense Department, and the Defense Ministry in the UK was also very much part of it. By 1975, we were doing three separate independent implementations. Two in the U.S. and one in the U.K.. Then we discovered the mistakes, the protocol errors and so on, so, four times we iterated the design of the protocol. The forth version is the one you use now. It was essentially done in 1978.

By January 1983, we had implemented the protocol in about 30 different operative systems. We told everybody that it was either through the Arpanet or the other networks that they had to implement TCP/IP protocols by January 1983 or they

were off the net. So, everybody did it. In 1983 we turned the Internet on. We had three networks working, and since then the Internet has been on with these three networks.

Of course, since then, a number of institutions have been created to promote the Internet and to continue the standardization, while other organizations have been working on planetary extensions which are not TCP/IP protocols, and we have had to invent a new set of protocols. Even that was inspired by problems that we can anticipate. What happens if we need networking in every space? We knew we were going to need it. We knew that we would need it not only for exploration, but we imagined what might happen 100 years from now if we actually had people on the Moon or Mars, or orbiting in the space in long-term facilities. How would they communicate with each other, and what would that look like? So, we did the design of the protocols on these presumptions that there would be a growing population of people and space craft needed to communicate locally and back to earth.

**Q: Today we are in 2018. How do you see the future?**

First of all, there is no doubt in my mind that communication is likely to be through the Internet – but it could be something new – and will be everywhere. Today, Wi-Fi is everywhere. Even in this building Wi-Fi is everywhere, so, networking is assumed to be the norm today. And we will be surprised when it is not available, when it's not of good quality. That's the one thing for sure.

Second thing, there will be billions of devices that will be programmable and able to communicate using the Internet. We are seeing examples of that, and they will create a lot



of headaches, whether it's bugs in the software or other problems. Eventually, we turn to computers and networks without even thinking that it's a computer. Think about Google Home, Alexia. You see, they do not look like computers; they do not have keyboards, but they are something you interact with orally. Eventually those assistants at Google will be able to interact with them just like you and I right now, having a conversation or commanding, or we might be able to communicate in another way with these devices. You should be able to send an email to your assistant or call her on the phone and dictate something.

All those modalities that we use in working with people will also work for computers. I think that is a goal that many of us have for finding a way to make computers as easily dealt with as people are.

**Q: It's very interesting, but what will happen to the human beings?**

Well, a number of things. The trends are already clear. First of all, we will be instruments ourselves, more thoroughly. For example we'll have devices in our body tracking state of health regularly, gathering data, analyzing them and possibly aggregating them. We can detect for example the beginning of an epidemic of some kind. I think also we'll be personalizing ourselves, so, we'll analyze a person's metabolism and will be able to tell what is not functioning well, and even know what could be done. So, gathering data about ourselves I think would be quite normal, and to be expected. I hope it will improve our state of health as a result. The machine language translation is functioning so well that we could have a conversation where I speak English and you speak French and get it translated in real time.

I saw a Chinese-English translation device when I was in Shanghai recently. I would speak English, and the machine translated it into Chinese, and they also had a person speaking Chinese, and the machine translated it into English. We did it live, in front of people where none of us had practiced the phrases. It actually worked very well.

**Q: People say about artificial intelligence that the machines will become so powerful that they will take over. What do you think about this?**

I know these scary arguments that machines can work better than we can, that they will get better with everything, and the machines will replace us. I'm not of that persuasion. I think that with these tools we will get better and better at improving our abilities and making use of the tools: getting work done more quickly, making better decisions, analyzing things more thoroughly. I see this as a tool-building exercise, not as a threat.

It is true that jobs will go away, but new jobs will be created. The challenge is: how do we reskill people whose jobs are taken away? We need to encourage people willing to do that,



and this is the reason why kids should be taught new things. Thus, when their jobs end, they are capable of learning something new.

**Q: You are very inspiring person to listen to. What is the main message for the future generation?**

Well, I have several things. First of all, when you are young it's OK to take risk. So don't be too cautious. You can always recover from business failure or something like that. Second, I would say, learn how to think critically and analytically. It's very useful. Third, I would say that you really need to express your ideas articulately to other people if you want to accomplish anything big. So, you have to learn how to sell your ideas to people. I have learned that more than once. I guess I would encourage them to write software just because the critical thinking that goes into writing software is a good exercise.

I would say that patience and persistence are two very important things if you would like to get significant work done. Sometimes it takes a long time for some changes to take place, so it's important not to give up.

**Q: And finally, for the diplomatic community in Geneva, what would you say for them? What kind of advice would you give to these people?**

Well I would say that the Internet and the various devices are going to be part of daily life whether you like it or not. Secondly, international implications of these devices will be exported across national boundaries, so, we need to agree how we do law enforcement under those circumstances. Interpol is an example of this. We all have to agree that there are abuses that take place in the network, and we might agree collectively that the abuses are unacceptable and reject that kind of behavior. So, I think people should grow up unafraid of the Internet but see it as a tool for connecting with other people, for pursuing objectives that can be accomplished within the environment, to make use of it and to add to the Internet.

MF



## Interview with Kyiv Classic Orchestra, Ukrainian conductor Maestro Herman Makarenko

### World famous orchestra conductor, UNESCO Artist for Peace

When Maestro Makarenko was appointed as UNESCO Artist for Peace it was "in recognition of his commitment to promote music as a vehicle for dialogue and mutual understanding among people, his contribution to peace and tolerance, notably through the performances of the Kyiv-Classic Orchestra, and his profound commitment to the ideals and aims of the Organization [UNESCO]".

We had a chance to meet with him during the Maqom Art International Forum, in Shakhrisabz, Uzbekistan, in September this year, and we were curious to learn more about him and his art. So, now we will leave the floor to Maestro Makarenko.

**Q: Mestro could you tell us a little who you are?**

My name is Herman Makarenko, and I'm a UNESCO Artist for Peace, an ambassador at large of Ukrainian culture, a conductor of the National Opera of Ukraine, the artistic director and chief conductor of Kiev Classic Orchestra, a doctor and a professor. I teach I music at the National Academy of Kiev, Ukraine.

**Q: Where does your interest in music in general come from?**

I was born into a musical family. My father was a lead opera singer, a tenor, and my mother was a ballerina, so, since my early years I have been acquainted with opera, operettas and ballet.

Even my name comes from an opera, thanks to my father and his favourite role. My father sang the great tenor roles in many of the well known operas such as *Lenski* in *Eugene Ogenin*, Cavaradossi, in *Tosca* and in **Herman** in Tchaikovsky's *The Queen of Spades*. This last was one of my father's preferred roles. When I was born, in Ukraine, my father was on tour, performing in other cities in the former Soviet Union. My mother and grand-mother sent him a telegram saying: "Our congratulations. A son has been born. What should we name him? Nicolas, Michael..." Father replied "Congratulations! His name can only be Herman." So, thanks to Father, to opera, to music, I have my name and my life.

I was born almost backstage at the opera. My mother continued to perform on stage until the sixth month of her pregnancy. She told me about it when I grew older. I was living with my parents, and we went on many concert trips together. One could say that I almost lived in opera houses, in Georgia, Belorussia, Ukraine. In other words, I was born into the world of operatic music, and I dreamt only about opera theatres when I was a little boy. In the beginning, I started to play the piano and dreamt about performing together with opera singers. I did not know that I could become a conductor. For me conductors were celestial beings sitting in the sky, looking down on the orchestra, coming down to conduct the orchestra, and once the performance was over, returning the sky. I thought that they were citizens of another world!



In the national music conservatory, I learned that I could study to become a conductor. After my studies, I began to work in the National Opera of Ukraine. That was in 1987, and since then I have been working and conducting at the National Opera of Ukraine.

[Maestro is a humble man so let us briefly mention that Maestro Herman Makarenko attended the Mykola Lysenko Music School and the Tchaikovsky Kyiv State Conservatory where he studied piano. By the age of 29 he was already a prize winner in a Soviet young performers competition.]

After I finished the National Music academy in 1990 I began to teach there.

**Q: Most people including myself wonder what one feels when you conducting an orchestra.**

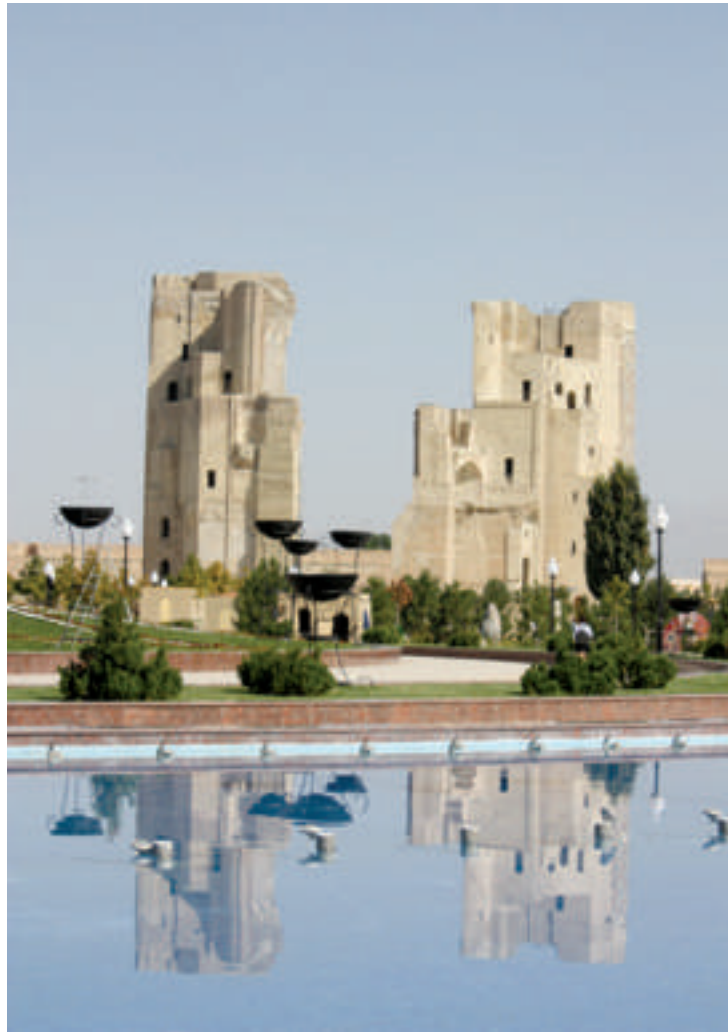
Ever since the very beginning I have felt like a man from space without gravitation. I swim in the air, in feelings and emotions. It's my personal impression. I have written scholarly papers. In the former Soviet Union, we had to do a doctoral dissertation, and before that, we had a PhD candidate dissertation. My first dissertation was in philosophy, on irrationalism in the questions of irrestatic music in the nineteenth century. It is Schopenhauer, of course, classical German philosophy and prior to German philosophy. After that one, there was the doctoral dissertation, which made me a doctor of philosophy, and I'm also a doctor of musicology. My second dissertation was about the creation of conducting in a multi-integration version – not only museology, in arts, in ethics, but in all different fields. It involved a lot reading and work – dissertations, articles, monographs etc. In the end I said to myself, “How can I say it simply, in simple sentences about conducting?” Therefore, I came up with the following.

What is conducting? You go to the podium and you have to put fire into the spirit in the orchestra, and to switch on the musicians. With the philharmonic orchestra, I switch on all the participants. After this we have a very high temperature. This we can put into the hands of the public, thus switching on the public. After all this, it's like a nuclear explosion and we get a lot of applause. You see, today the public comes to listen.

Today we have a very high technical level, and we can tune in to google or youtube to hear any interpretation of any piece or performance. But people buy tickets and go to listen to the philharmonic, to the opera house, because they would like to experience fresh emotions. The conductor must put these emotions, this fire, into the orchestra, all together, and it is only then, when we are all together, that we can give it to the public.

**Q: Where do you get the inspiration from to create this kind of fire?**

It's a very interesting question and a very difficult one to answer because it's very important that artists have silence



and peaceful surroundings. Then, I feel that there are good feelings inside my head. Nine years ago, I received a gift from God, my twins, son and daughter, so right now it's very difficult to be alone and get the silence. But life is life, and I try to find inspiration in the contact with my wife, with my children. Right now, here in Uzbekistan, Scarcizhabs, I enjoy walking. So, now I walk between 40 minutes to an hour. Therefore, I am born and reborn during my walking.

More important is our nervous system. I have told my wife that being a conductor is really a dangerous job. Why? Simply because it's all about emotions. When you want to give emotions to the public, you share yours, but you cannot share it all. If I have, let's say, an emotion ranking at the top of a scale of 100, the public will perhaps receive 50 or 60. We have a lot of emotions every time, so, we need to be “re-born” and to reconstruct our nervous system. Let me explain. I will be leaving here on 10 September as I will conduct the Kiev Orchestra and then I will start to rehearse for the next performance. During the season, it's very difficult, but life is life.

**Q: You are a UNESCO Artist for Peace. Why did you accept this position?**

UNESCO Artist for Peace is the title given by the Director General of UNESCO. I have had the honour of receiving this



Australia, North America, Africa, Oceania and of course Europe. You see, the cultures of different countries are so different, but the difference is so nice, it is beauty. Every country has its own beauty. It's like flowers. A rose is beautiful, but one flower is not better than any other. They are different types of beauty.

**Q: Why did you accept to come here to Uzbekistan to attend this forum?**

We know that music is the spirit of people. They say that Maqam is music of the spirit, and thanks to Maqam we can know and open ourselves to the spirit of Uzbekistan and their people. This spirit is in my opinion so beautiful, so rich, and this international forum of Maqam art is a great event in culture not only for Uzbekistan but for the culture of the entire world. Guests from 70 countries, from different continents of the world have said that this is a forum of friendship and forum of peace.

**Q: Finally, do you have a message for our readers?**

I would like to say that the most important thing in modern life is peace. I would like to ask all the world's diplomats to do everything they can for peace. It is very important because we have children, grandchildren. We have to let them grow, and one instrument for guiding them as they grow is music.

EP

title from Irina Bukovina. It is not only a matter of a title, but of prestige. I need to fulfil my obligations. The goals of the organisation are peace, goodness, understanding, tolerance. These are very important in our modern world. In the twenty-first century, we struggle to understand each other. We need to understand each other, to respect each other so that we can live together, and this is the only way for the future of humankind. Maybe some people do understand it, maybe others don't, but we know that we can live in peace only by understanding each other. In this case, culture is a very important instrument for understanding – a sort of soft power between countries. I respect politicians, diplomats etc., but culture today is the most important element to me.

Culture and music are in my opinion the languages that least need a translator; they are independent of race, colour, region, gender, age, politics. I can understand because three times we have celebrated the anniversaries of the United Nations, 60, 65 and 70, and we played the music of all the continents. When I received the title of UNESCO Artist for Peace, I led the Chamber Orchestra in the UNESCO headquarters in Paris, and we played music from different continents.

In June this year, we did the same, and then some people came to see me telling me that they remembered our last performance. It went very well. We presented music from

**Editor's note**

UNESCO Artists for Peace are internationally-renowned personalities who use their influence, charisma and prestige to help promote UNESCO's message and programmes. UNESCO works with these distinguished personalities to heighten the public's awareness of key development issues and inform it of the Organization's action in these fields.

As well as performing all over the world, Mr Makarenko has published important works including a monograph on Music and Philosophy: Schopenhauer, Wagner, Nietzsche and another, The Conductor's Creative Work: The Dimensions of Aesthetics and Art History, as well as a manual for higher education students.

As a promoter of cultural diversity, Mr. Makarenko's musical repertoire spans folklore and classical works from North and Latin America, Asia and the Pacific, as well as those of Europe and his own region.





## Interview with **Bakhtiyor Sayfullaev** Uzbekistan Minister of Culture



It is not every day that one has the chance to run into the Minister of Culture in person, without knowing who he is, and be granted an exclusive interview. This was how we met this gracious, friendly man, who is not only the Minister of Culture but also a man of great personal culture. We had the possibility of meeting with him in the newly opened museum of Shakheibz, in Uzbekistan. The museum is a pure marvel, dedicated to the Maqomart, the traditional music that one finds in many of the central Asian countries, and its construction is one of His Excellency's most recent achievements.

Uzbekistan recently organized the world's first Maqomart International Forum, at the initiative President of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Miromonovich Mirziyoyev. It was a tremendous success, nationally, regionally and internationally, with more than 70 countries represented.

**Q: You, personally, and your country overall, have a very rich culture. How do you, as Minister of Culture, manage to keep alive and cultivate this spirit of Uzbek culture at the practical level?**

President Shavkat Miromonovich Mirziyoyev pays special attention to the development of culture and art, so we have his unwavering support. The Maqomart International Forum, for example, was his idea. Over the past year and a half, some 20 resolutions, emanating from both the president and the cabinet of the Republic's culture minister, have been adopted, and they are currently being implemented.

In particular, the salaries of people active in culture and art were raised. The activity of the state philharmonic society was restored. Further, a ten-year program was set up to strengthen the material and technical base of the republic's museums and theaters (there are 37 of them).

**Q: Did this involve an increase in the budget for the cultural sector?**

Yes, an impressive amount is being invested in developing this sector. The president will soon sign a decree on the strengthening of the material and technical base for the cultural institutions. Also, a resolution was adopted on strengthening and development of circus art in the Republic. It should be noted that this year there is an additional innovation for universities of creative orientation. In a number of creative areas, traditional tests were replaced by creative exams.

In Tashkent, the center of the Uzbek maqam (instrumental music and singing) is being built. To develop the art of maqam in the music schools of the Republic, which number over 300, specialist maqam study and training programs have been set up.

**Q: Now that the economy is booming, one wonders what you are doing to encourage people to stay in these traditional activities, where the salaries might be less attractive than elsewhere?**

The state pays great attention to preserving the material and cultural values of the Republic. We have 7,474 objects designated as belonging to our cultural heritage in the Republic. For example, in the city of Shakhrisabz, there are some 20 cultural heritage objects. In late September, there will be an international dance festival in the city of Khiva.

**Q: How many festivals do you organize per year?**

A lot of festivals are held every year. Every month there are several festivals.

**Q: Could you tell us more about this maqam museum?**

The museum opened yesterday. The President came up with



this idea to open the maqam museum here and to open the Maqam center in Tashkent. We will constantly update the collection and acquire more old instruments and do exhibits.

**Q: What about the visual arts, painting or sculpture? I haven't see much of this kind of art.**

For artists, there is a separate institute, the Academy of Arts in Tashkent. This is not part of the Ministry of Culture but a separate entity, dealing only with these areas. One of the most famous museums is the Savitsky State Museum of Art in Nukus.

Under the leadership of the new president, we are moving to the international level. We have an agreement with the Louvre Museum. In 2021 we plan to open an exhibition there. The director of the Louvre museum will soon arrive here to discuss all this further.

In the British Museum we will be given a place for a permanent exhibition. We are giving to the British Museum our old traditional costumes, and we will have a special place dedicated to our history.

**Q: Finally, your Excellency, what is your vision for the culture of Uzbekistan?**

We are developing and will continue to develop it, preserving our cultural heritage. As you can see, we are not standing still. Our President recently

opened the borders to our neighboring countries, and people can now easily visit them. The standard of living of people as a whole is rising and improving. People have hope for a brighter future owing to the policies of the president of our Republic. And a very important point is that all our cities are very safe places to live.

The main principle of our president is: everything for the people. As a minister I have to think first and foremost about how this can benefit our people. They are at the center of our attention the whole time. Their well-being is our main concern.

MF





# Is Africa that far?

Whenever I start a discussion on Africa, in Ukraine, in most of the cases I come across dogmas, myths and stereotypes. Deadly diseases like AIDS, Ebola, Malaria and pictures of extreme poverty come into the mind at first. Pathetic stories of drowning immigrants close to the European shores and pictures of malnourished children on television screens certainly do not add appetite to explore the region any closer. Moreover, the continent is too far from home territory and is quite unknown, still hidden behind dark mysterious legends.

For centuries, we have been fed by media, which has generally shown Africa in dark shades. From childhood, we are brought up by the stories where 'the good' fights 'the evil' and good always turns out to be the winner. If you observe carefully, you will see in popular cartoons we raise children with character traits, like "Lion King", "Bamby", "Nu pogodi", the evils and the villains are depicted in distinctive dark colors. In classic ballet "Swan Lake" we see evil Odile clad in a black attire among the "snow white good ones". The colour black is still waiting its turn to be glorified some day!

The recent history of Africa is marred with colonialism, apartheid, slavery, ethnic conflicts, genocides and the continent have had very few opportunities to be glorified in front of the world. It does not mean, that the world did not know about Africa. Western Europe smelled the wealth of those regions and reached those borders centuries ago and eventually concurred and colonized them. They lived there, ruled there, looted them out of their wealth completely for more than a century. It won't be an overstatement to say that a major source of Europe's wealth is Africa. When Africa came out of its colonial days, like in Asia, they not only found their wealth looted but also found that the overwhelming share of their population were kept far away from the light of basic education for generations.

Ukraine fortunately has no such colonial past across ocean and may be therefore not that well versed with people and

culture of these places. It's quite natural that when you don't know somebody, you are apprehensive about them.

For some unknown reason, many in the world refer to the continent Africa as if it's a large country as a whole. It is amusing, just like the way most Americans refer to the vast Soviet Union as Russia. The continent of Africa contains fiftyfour sovereign countries and the land of the Africa can house whole of China, India, contiguous US and much of Europe. People and cultures of Africans starting from Egypt to South Africa is as different and diverse as that of Siberia to Uzbekistan.



*The true size of Africa*

One beauty of Africa today is that the continent is extremely young. Around half of the population of 1.2 billion people is less than twenty-five years of age. These young populations empowered by internet and smart phones can do wonders.

You know, countries of the African continent are leaders

in mobile banking today. In my last trip to the tiny nation of Malawi, I visited the picturesque lake Malawi. For a landlocked country, this beautiful lake with white sand beach is a major tourist attraction. My local driver Chikondi bought fish on the way back with all the money he had with him for his family. Then came a call from his sister. She came to know that brother was visiting the lake side on duty and wanted some fish too. It is very much like the practice in Ukraine; when we buy 'Bichki' on the way from Odessa to Kiev. Chikondi confessed he used all spare money to buy fish for his family and can only buy for her if she sends some. In no time came a signal on his mobile device. An intimation of money being transferred from his sister and Chikondi bought fish instantly on the roadside. Indian company Airtel has made a major investment in that region.

My job takes me to many countries in different continents. I have seen traffic jam in all the major capitals. Dar Es Salam is also notorious for its traffic jams, especially on their airport road. We got stuck at the jam. The hotel taxi driver said, it



looked like we were to stay on the road for quite sometime and offered a service of connecting to Wi-Fi for an hour in his car. I paid close to a dollar and spent most productive time in a traffic jam.

You know Ghana to be a leader in testing "blockchain" for their land and property registration process. I am fortunate to have met the famous university professor whom the President has appointed as an advisor for this purpose.

Ukraine, being a bread basket, has a lot to offer to the developing countries of Africa in the field of food security. With rich experience and expertise Ukrainians can be of much help to the agricultural and food sectors in Africa, where in many cases they are at the early stages of introduction of modern cultivation, irrigation and storage. In addition to direct supplies of readymade food products like poultry, dairy, vegetable oil, Ukraine has a lot to offer to the nation building aspirations in Africa with their expertise in heavy engineering, mining equipment, infrastructure development, post-harvest grain handling, food processing and IT sectors.

During 11th-15th May 2018 in the major event - Fifty-first Session of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Annual Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development - finance & planning ministers of fifty-four countries gathered under one roof in the UN headquarter Addis Ababa (<https://www.uneca.org/cfm2018>). There, once again I felt the diverse aspirations of different African countries and also their aspiration and desire to create a continental free zone for business.

For any business, that is willing to explore the opportunities in Africa, the first and most important step is to identify the areas of focus. Small countries can show good prospect, but individually offer small clientele. Therefore, considering the ground realities like logistical and financial aspects, one has to decide on an effective entry plan.

Africa is large and diverse, you can find there; the pristine beauty of Zanzibar (Tanzania), wildlife extravaganza of Maasaimara (Kenya), the remains of the oldest human Lusy in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) and unknown pyramids of

Sudan. Fresh Tilapia at the Source of Nile in Uganda or Nile Perch at the Junction of two Niles at Khartoum can meet the expectations of any demanding taste buds. No wonder 'Visit Rwanda' is the sponsor of the English football team Arsenal for the season 2018-2019.

We start the day with a sip of Arabica (a region in Ethiopia), relish the tests of Cacao from Ivory coast, greet the loved ones with Kenyan roses, engagement rings with diamonds from Congo and dance with rhythms of Africa - Africa somehow helps us celebrate our lives. So maybe it's high time to know Africa closer?

**Suvra Chakraborty, Dubai, UAE**

*Director AMC Overseas FZE// Promoter of Ukrainian products in the Middle East & Africa//*

*Official Representative of the Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia//*

*International Consultant of ITC (UN & WTO), Geneva, Switzerland//*

*Visiting Lecturer of Maastricht University, the Netherlands//*

*Visiting Lecturer of Polytechnic Institute of Tomar, Portugal//*

*Honorary President of Kyiv Classic Orchestra, Ukraine*



*Meeting with Ms Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission on Africa*



Interview with

# Svein Olav Hoff

Norway's most renowned art historian  
and specialist of the Norwegian painter Henrik Sørensen



## The Dream of Peace: an Artist's Vision

PHOTO'S: UN LIBRARY

Who has not seen the huge painting in the United Nations Library's great hall? It has been there since 1938, and was completely finished in 1939. Most people do not even know that it was a Norwegian painter, Henrik Sørensen who painted "The Dream of Peace".

On September the 21<sup>st</sup>, the United Nations Library and the Norwegian Mission in Geneva organized a Library Talk, where Norway's best known expert and art-critic came to talk to us about the painter, about his social commitment and not the least about the painting itself. It was indeed a very interesting moment, and, although it may sound incredible, it was only a few days earlier that Mr. Hoff had seen the masterpiece for the first time! He had approached the United Nations in Geneva several times in the mid-1980s to get a chance to see and study the painting, but all in vain. For more than one hour, this inspiring man told the audience about Sørensen, the painting and Sørensen's career. We had a chance to meet with Hoff briefly, to know a little bit more about the man who had caught our total attention for more than one hour.

**Q: Could you tell us a little about yourself, and why you are interested in Henrik Sørensen?**

I am a Norwegian art historian and have a master's degree in Henrik Sørensen's works, and I even wrote my doctorate dissertation on him. He has fascinated me my whole my life, not only as a painter, but also as a person and not least for his social commitment. Sørensen said that an artist really belongs to a country's elite and a country's superstructure, thus it is not just a right but a duty to be engaged and to have social commitments. When I was writing the master's degree dissertation, back in 1982, it was the centenary of Sørensen's birth. At that time, there were two camps in Norway. One said that this was the country's most amazing painter, and the other side, on the contrary, said that this person had terrorized Norwegian spiritual and artistic life for 50 years. According to the latter, Sørensen had stood in the way of women and modernist development. I think it was expressed very dualistically, and therefore I wanted to conciliate the two. I had studied history and social anthropology and was about to really become a public affairs specialist. Instead, I became an art historian, specialized in Henrik Sørensen and in particular his social commitment, and not just the painter.

**Q: Why has Norway never been keen on making this painting known?**

This is due in particular to two things. First, there was a person named Adolf Hitler. Before the war, Sørensen assisted in the setting up of two peace organizations – the Norwegian Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and People Rise against War. Those organizations both existed in the pre-war period, and then the war arrived with the Nazis. After 1945, talking about peace suffered from a loss of both interest and impetus for a while. The Germans were beaten, so, the country was to be rebuilt and rid of the traitors. That was the attitude. Therefore, I think that is one of the reasons this painting was forgotten.

Norwegian authorities and Norwegian politicians have never been clever at organizing events, so it is thanks to Torild Skaar who made it possible for us to come here today. I have organized a large exhibition, *The Parisians*, dedicated to the Norwegian artists Krogh, Sørensen and Helberg at the Lillehammer Art Museum where I work. It is said that these artists traveled home from Paris in 1920s – I tend to say that they travelled home to Norway to national fame and international forgetting.

The thing is that an artist and artwork must be kept alive and must be sold and exhibited internationally. The Norwegian museum directors and the politicians have not been good at promoting Norwegian art abroad. It has been the role of the Norwegian ambassadors, and often, they have had a pot full of money. Some have spent it on wine while others have used it for visual art. Yet, there has been no specific focus on the visual arts. Lately, over the past years, they have been better in literature and music, but there has been nothing special for the pictorial artists.

Once more, art must be kept alive. Why didn't I come in here the first time I wanted to see this painting? Perhaps the way I approached the United Nations, orally and very colloquially, made them close all doors. One could say I was not exactly welcome. That I am currently speaking here is great, but it could have been other Norwegians representing the establishment, the director of the National Museum for instance. There have been many who could have talked about the 1930s and put this into the proper context for example.

The arts must be kept alive. Things are often forgotten, and Norwegian politicians should have done international promotion to a much greater extent, to make Norwegian culture and art known abroad.

**Q: How is it being an artist in Norway?**

Myself, I am not an artist, but an art critic. The artists are complaining, but I would say that they have relatively good conditions in comparison to artists in many other countries. The authorities have many special arrangements for artists and public exhibit schemes etc.

**Q: Do you think that this event will make Norwegian art more visible or that the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs will be more willing to support Norwegian art?**

I hope that it will generate better understanding about it all. One must put this in context and not least in a cultural policy context. The Norwegian Foreign Minister reaches out directly to Norwegian painters. Then there is no competition, no committees, no management. Do you want to do that? OK. Then you get so much to do it. However, as I have said, past artwork has to be kept current, alive.

**Q: How do you keep artistic works "alive"?**

Well, you could, for instance, organize exhibitions; organize lectures to talk about it. Contrast it, put it in context, compare with modern art – it must not just be a picture behind a curtain. Just like Norwegian writers. You are talking about classics in Norway; my kids have not read the author Jonas Lie, or Bjelland, Ibsen etc. Things must be kept alive.

**Q: You are the director of a museum.**

No, not any longer, I have just stepped down as the chief director. Now, I am just a special adviser and will organize exhibitions for the rest of my life. I have just set up an exhibition called *Pariserene*, which is an exhibition about the central Norwegian artists living in Paris from the 1920s up to the war. I mostly organize historical exhibitions.

**Q: What will the next exhibition be?**

I have started to look at another forgotten painter and will organize an exhibition about him, Bernard Folkestad, who came from Horten. He died in 1933. Then I'll continue with contemporary art. I am also specialized in this area.

**Editor's note:**

*Svein Olav Hoff has published many books and articles on Norwegian modern and contemporary art.* MF



The Hawaiian Islands Celebrates

# 175 Years of Independence



This year, 2018 is the 175th anniversary of an historic moment... when the Kingdom of the Hawaiian Islands was recognized as a sovereign state — an equal among the major powers of the world. This is the amazing story of how an enlightened Hawaiian monarch kept his kingdom from being colonized.

In 1842, the young King of the Hawaiian Islands, Kamehameha III sent a delegation of three men to the other side of the world on a vital mission: to secure assurances from the three major world powers at the time — Great Britain, France and the United States — that they would respect, uphold and protect the sovereignty of the Kingdom of the Hawaiian Islands as an independent state.

If the delegation succeeded, Hawaii would be the first non-European country to be accepted as an equal in the euro-centric Family of Nations. The Kingdom of the Hawaiian Islands would be a sovereign state under international law with equal standing to the colonial powers. Thus the Hawaiian Islands would be protected from falling victim to colonization. The strategy worked...

## The Story

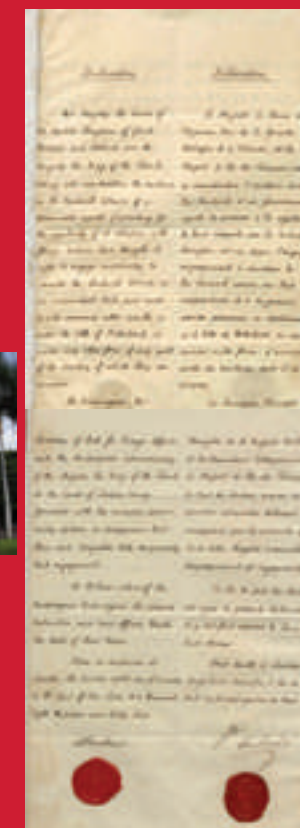
In 1842, faced with the threat of foreign encroachment on his Kingdom of the Hawaiian Islands, His Majesty King Kamehameha III deemed it prudent and necessary to dispatch a delegation from the Hawaiian Kingdom to the United States and Europe with the power to negotiate treaties

and to ultimately secure recognition of the Hawaiian Islands as a sovereign, independent state by the three major powers of the world: the United Kingdom, the Kingdom of France and the United States of America.

On April 8, 1842 Kamehameha III commissioned his chief aide Mr. Timoteo Ha'alilio, along with Mr. William Richards and Sir George Simpson as joint Ministers Plenipotentiary to fulfill this mission. Simpson left soon after for England via Alaska and Siberia, while Ha'alilio and Richards departed on July 8, 1842 via Mexico and the United States.

While in Washington, D.C., on December 19, 1842, Ha'alilio and Richards secured from President Tyler, assurance of the United States of America's recognition of Hawaiian independence.

They then proceeded to Europe to join Simpson (who had traveled westward through Asia and Europe) to engage in talks with Great Britain and France. On March 17, 1843, at the urging of King Leopold of Belgium, King Louis-Phillipe of France recognized Hawaiian independence and on April 1, 1843, Lord Aberdeen on behalf of Her Britannic Majesty



Queen Victoria assured the Hawaiian delegation that: *"Her Majesty's Government was willing and had determined to recognize the independence of the [Hawaiian] Islands under their present sovereign."*

On November 28, 1843, at the Court of London, representatives of the British and French Governments signed an agreement, now called the **Anglo-Franco Proclamation**, formally recognizing the Kingdom of the Hawaiian Islands as a sovereign, independent nation-state.

## National Holiday

After the great achievement of gaining formal international recognition, King Kamehameha III thereafter established November 28 as an official national holiday of the Hawaiian Kingdom to be celebrated in perpetuity as **Lā Kū oko a, Hawaiian Independence Day**.

But that "perpetuity" lasted just 50 years. In 1893, a small group of wealthy businessmen intent on handing the country over to the United States, deposed the Queen and usurped the kingdom government. In 1894, the usurpers proclaimed the Kingdom to be the "Republic of Hawaii." The next year the Republic proceeded to purge the national holidays of the Kingdom. **Lā Kū'oko'a** was replaced by the American holiday, Thanksgiving Day.

Five years later, through a series of blatantly unlawful acts, in abject violation of international laws and treaties and in

complete contravention to the Hawaiian Kingdom's status as a sovereign state, the U.S. claimed it had annexed the Hawaiian Islands and heavy-handed de-nationalization policies went into full swing to Americanize the Hawaiian people for assimilation into the United States.

At first Hawaiians protested and celebrated **Lā Ku'oko'a** anyway, telling the story of the national heroes who had travelled to Europe to secure recognition of Hawaii's sovereignty. But over time, the growing U.S. encroachment over territory and relentless American indoctrination led to the 1959 fabrication, the so-called "State of Hawaii." Memory of the historic events, achievements and the holidays of the Kingdom receded and faded.

## Revival

But over the past two decades Hawaiians began to uncover what really happened to their country — that it is not a state of the United States; that the sovereign status of the kingdom was never relinquished or extinguished; that the Hawaiian Kingdom still exists as a sovereign state in continuity; that international law supports the correction of international wrongful acts; that the United States claimed that Hawaii had been *adopted* when in reality, Hawaii had been *abducted*... kidnapped... by the U.S.

In the tradition and spirit of King Kamehameha III and the other patriots who established Hawaii as an enlightened, sovereign country, contemporary Hawaiian patriots have



### International Stature

As a result of the recognition of the Hawaiian Kingdom as an independent state, the Hawaiian Kingdom became the first non-Euro-centric country to gain equal status in the Family of Nations and entered into equal treaties with the major powers of the world, eventually establishing over ninety diplomatic legations and consulates around the world. Since none of the treaties were abrogated, they may still be in effect. Following is a partial list of the 46 nations with whom the Hawaiian Kingdom had treaty relations during the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

- Austria-Hungary in 1875
- Belgium in 1862
- Denmark in 1846
- France 1846 and 1857
- Germany in 1879
- Great Britain in 1836, 1846 and 1851
- Italy in 1863
- Japan in 1871 and 1886
- Netherlands in 1862
- Portugal in 1882
- Russia in 1869
- Samoa in 1887
- Spain in 1863
- Swiss Confederation in 1864
- Sweden and Norway in 1852
- United States in 1849, 1870, 1875, 1883, 1884

### More Treaties...

The Hawaiian Kingdom may have many more treaties. Under treaty law, the terms of a treaty also apply to colonial and territorial holdings of the treaty parties. That means former colonies and territories that are now independent states are successor parties to the treaty arrangements of their former colonial or administrative powers. Thus, of the 193 Member States of the United Nations, it's possible 173 of them are in either an original or a successor treaty relationship with the Hawaiian Kingdom.

been engaged in many fronts to free their country from the grasp of the kidnapper... to rebuild the nation and the lives of the people ... to reactivate the Kingdom of the Hawaiian Islands as a fully functioning independent country.

As the campaign to free and restore the Hawaiian Kingdom blossomed, so has the celebration of *Lā Ku'oko'a, Hawaii Independence Day*. The holiday has been revived and its observance is steadily growing in popularity, evidence of the reawakening and reactivation of the Kingdom of the Hawaiian Islands!

175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

*This year, 2018, the Hawaiian Kingdom is celebrating the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the recognition of independence with events throughout the Hawaiian Islands, in London, Paris, Washington, D.C., and other places.*



# Une exposition photo pour les 90 ans de l'APES

*par Jean Musy, photos Pierre-Michel Viot*

Pour son 90<sup>ème</sup> anniversaire, l'Association de la Presse Etrangère en Suisse et au Liechtenstein (APES), dont le siège est à l'ONU, à Genève, a organisé une exposition du photographe suisse Pierre-Michel Viot, sous le titre «Explore, Rapporte, Inspire». Cette première manifestation au Palais des Nations, en novembre dernier, soutenue par la Mission permanente de la Suisse auprès de l'ONU et des organisations internationales, sera suivie d'une nouvelle présentation plus élargie, à UNI-Dufour, dans le quartier genevois de Plainpalais, du 27 février au 1<sup>er</sup> mars prochain.

Les cinquante photographies artistiques de très haute qualité tirées sur acrylique proviennent des reportages effectués par le photographe membre de l'APES et quasi attiré depuis dix-huit ans. Les images ont été réalisées principalement lors des voyages de presse à l'étranger de l'Association.

L'exposition est articulée autour d'une douzaine de thématiques de vues, prises dans vingt-six pays membres de l'ONU. Derrière l'objectif, on sent le profond émerveillement du reporter devant la beauté si diversifiée des paysages et de la nature traversés. Son regard très fortement humain sur les êtres, à travers l'expression des visages et des attitudes saisis à vif. Sa curiosité des lieux de vie des hommes et des femmes rencontrées au quatre coins de la planète.

### Une profonde humanité

Témoin du monde et de sa diversité, tout comme ses collègues journalistes de l'APES, Pierre-Michel VIROT nous rappelle qu'il suffit d'approcher les peuples et leur univers pour se rendre compte de l'extraordinaire proximité que nous entretenons les uns les autres, loin des clivages et des barrières culturelles que l'on dresse trop facilement pour nous éloigner de l'universel qui nous rassemble : celle d'une profonde humanité.

### Réflexion journalistique

L'exposition apporte aussi une réflexion sur la mise en valeur de l'action de la Genève internationale, grâce au travail des journalistes. Ce travail, en version augmentée soixante-cinq photos couvrant trente pays, présenté à l'Université de Genève fin février 2019, sera l'occasion d'assister à une grande soirée-débat sur le thème : «Quel avenir pour le journalisme? » Il est prévu que l'exposition tourne en Suisse.



Planète sauvage (Namibie) -- Affiche de l'exposition



Instant de jeunesse (camp de réfugiés syriens à Gazientep / Turquie)





# Astana's *Congress of World Religions*





# Astana's Congress of World Religions fosters the building of peace

Religious leaders decided at an international congress in Astana to act for political solutions of armed conflicts. They stated a need for cooperation.

By *Annegret Mathari*

Astana is sometimes called the Dubai of the Steppes because of its modern buildings. In December 1997 this new and vertical city on the Ishim River replaced Almaty as the capital of Kazakhstan.

Astana's symbol is the Bayterek Tower. This 97-metre-high monument, built in 1997, resembles a giant football like the World Cup trophy. The glimmering ball at the top is a tribute to the legendary Samruk, a bird that is said to live only in Kazakhstan and that lays golden eggs. Bayterek is, according to legend, the tree of knowledge.

At the top of the tower, visitors can place a hand in the hand print of President Nursultan Nazarbayev, molded in a metal block. The top of the tower offers a view onto the new business centre and the blue-domed presidential palace. As far as the eye can see there is steppe – no trees, and it starts right outside the town.

The manna from its petroleum has allowed Kazakhstan to construct original buildings with little consideration for the expense. One of the internationally renowned architects whose design is evident in the capital is Briton Norman Foster whose eye-catching work can be seen in city hall in

London, Berlin's Reichstag and Honk Kong's airport. Foster had been mandated to design the Bayterek tower - the designer, however, was President Nazarbayev himself. Some of Foster's architectural flagships in Astana can be seen in the KhanShatyr building, a commercial and leisure centreshaped like a giant yurt, and the five-floor high Peace Pyramid where in October the Congress of World Religions took place.

## Cooperation not isolation

Leaders of different religions decided to collaborate with governments, international organizations and civil society in solving conflicts and contributing to worldwide stability. They committed themselves to support for political solutions to armed conflicts, as the final declaration stated, including acting as mediators between conflicting parties.

"We as religious leaders need to work with our governments to take this commitment seriously and take action," Archbishop UrmasViilma from Estonia said on behalf of the Lutheran World Federation speaking to the 82 delegations from 45 countries. "Cooperation is needed today, not isolation."

The theme of the Congress "Religious Leaders for a Secure World" was a reminder that in a world marked by insecurity

and injustice, religious leaders need to take responsibility and jointly contribute to the wellbeing of all, Viilma explained. The holistic approach to "human security" is also reflected in the UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (goal number 16), he added: "Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at levels."

Representatives of different religions, among Christians - Catholics, Lutherans, Orthodox churches - including for the first time also the Coptic Orthodox Church from Egypt, as well as Jews, Muslims, Buddhists and Taoists emphasized the importance of a common dialogue for mutual understanding and confidence.

At the VI Congress since 2003, representatives of international organizations also participated. "Human security cannot be achieved without sustainable dialogue," said the representative of the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, Nassir Abdulaziz Al- Nasser.

## Separation of religion and politics

The head of the Vatican delegation, Cardinal Francesco Coccopalmerio, said that to avoid ambiguity and mutual instrumentalization, religion and politics should remain distinct. While Ovadia Yosef, Sephardi Chief

Rabbi of Israel, pointed out, that - according to his experience - almost all conflicts are the result of the inability to listen.

Mixing religion and politics can be problematic, as was demonstrated by the fact that coinciding with the Congress in Astana, in Istanbul, the Ecumenical Patriarchate whose head is Bartholomew I said it was ceasing its condemnation of leaders of schismatic Orthodox churches in Ukraine, a step towards establishing an ecclesiastically independent - or autocephalous - church in Ukraine.

Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko hailed the announcement, while the Russian church denounced it. Since the late 1600s, the church in Ukraine has been formally under the jurisdiction of the Russian Orthodox Church but calls for its independence increased since Moscow's 2014 annexation of the Crimean Peninsula from Ukraine.

## Diversity is strength

"Religious diversity is strength, not a weakness," said Swiss diplomat Thomas Greminger, Secretary General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation (OSCE) at the congress. In many countries, xenophobia is increasing, he said. Some are going so far to draw a line between national religions and others and claim, the latter are a danger for the country. "Such ideas are erroneous," he said.

The religious leaders also decided at their congress to support and respect religious diversity and counteract provocations of pseudo-religious rhetoric inciting hatred and extremism. In their declaration they called upon politicians and media to renounce the associating of terrorism with any religion, "as this is false and offensive to our religions and harmful to peaceful coexistence, which undermines mutual trust

and cooperation within and among different religious communities".

The Grand Imam of Al-Azhar Mosque in Cairo, Ahmed Mohammad al-Tayyeb, said "Terrorism is not made by Islam, Christianity or Judaism, but it is made by policies of super powers which are unjust." With his words the highest authority of Sunni Islam echoed Pope Francis who reiterated in recent years on several occasions that "terrorism grows when there is no other option and when money is made a god and it, instead of the person, is put at the centre of the world economy"

## Taking action

Congress participants emphasized the importance of taking action for their aims. As a first step, they decided on the opening of a centre for inter-religious dialogue in Astana that will serve as a hub for reconciliation and peace building.

"There are people who know each other, who love each other and cooperate. This platform is important, and it comes

*"This platform is important, and it comes from a credible country in terms of respecting the religions"*

from a credible country in terms of respecting the religions," Monsignor Khaled Akasheh, head of the Islam Office at the Pontifical Council of Interreligious Dialogue told DIVA. Kazakhstan society is made up of 18 million people, representing more than 100 ethnic groups, and 18

religious groups in which Muslims are numerically to biggest group.

Regarding the outcome of the Congress Archbishop Viilma said that if authorities meet on a regular basis, it helps them to seek mutual and common things. As an example, he mentioned the ecumenical cooperation of 10 Christian denominations in Estonia. "When key persons regularly come together, they start to understand each other better, they even become friends," he told DIVA and he noted, there is a common message of peace, love and justice in every religion.

## A gradual process

Since the first Congress of World Religions 15 years ago, participants said there has been progress. The first congresses disagreed on many issues or the participants didn't understand each other's content. At the beginning, some of them wouldn't sit at the same table, for example the Ayatollah of Iran and the Israeli's chiefrabbi had problems with that, according to a participant.

"This is a gradual process," Kazakh Deputy Foreign Minister Yerzhan Ashkibayev said at a press conference. "It is a big success in that the participants are talking (now) about peace and cooperation."

President Nazarbayev pointed out at the Congress that Astana had already been known as a place for peace negotiations. Among other conferences talks in the capital were those between Turkey, Russia and Iran that have taken place in Astana to put an end to the war in Syria.



## « Saint-Louis, une histoire calédonienne »

# Interview de Ben Salama

auteur et réalisateur



**Q : Vous un réalisateur et journaliste célèbre. Pourriez-vous nous parler de votre parcours ?**

Je suis né en Algérie, dans les montagnes de Kabylie. J'ai fait mes études en Kabylie puis à Alger jusqu'au baccalauréat. EN 1972, je suis arrivé à Paris pour préparer le concours d'une grande école de cinéma, l'IDHEC (aujourd'hui la FEMIS) ; l'année suivante j'ai été admis à cette grande de cinéma. A la sortie de cette école, j'ai eu énormément de difficultés à travailler dans le milieu du cinéma. L'écriture m'a amené plus facilement vers une activité de journaliste, ainsi j'ai pu faire une carrière dans ce métier durant plusieurs années. Au sein de France Télévisions par exemple, j'ai pu occuper plusieurs postes dont celui de Rédacteur en chef des journaux télévisés.

**Q : Pour beaucoup de jeunes d'origine magrébine en France vous représentez un modèle à suivre. Que pensez-vous de cela ?**

Je ne sais pas si je suis un modèle. Ce qui est sûr, c'est que l'accès aux médias est plus facile pour des jeunes d'origine magrébine ou africaine qu'à mon époque. Je pense que ma génération a ouvert la voie, en forçant un peu les portes.

**Q : Combien de films avez-vous fait jusqu'à ce jour ?**

Je n'ai pas fait beaucoup de films, car j'ai surtout gagné ma vie avec mes activités de journaliste. Il n'y a que depuis une dizaine d'années que je suis revenu à mes premières amours en me lançant dans la réalisation de films documentaires. J'ai réalisé une quinzaine de films qui portent tous sur des sujets qui me tiennent à cœur.

**Q : Vous venez juste de terminer un film sur l'histoire de la Nouvelle Calédonie. Comment est-ce que l'idée vous est**

**parvenue, et quel message cherchez-vous à nous faire parvenir.**

En 2013, j'avais déjà réalisé, avec Thomas Marie, un film sur la Nouvelle-Calédonie qui s'intitulait « Naissance d'une nation » sur le processus de décolonisation, initié en 1988 par Michel Rocard, alors Premier ministre de la France. Toujours avec Thomas, nous avions envie de retourner dans ce pays, et nous avons décidé de le raconter uniquement à travers la parole de jeunes kanak d'une tribu, source de violences comme il en existe dans plusieurs banlieues dans le monde. Je dois ajouter qu'en tant Algérien qui avait vécu la guerre d'Algérie, ce qui se passe en Nouvelle-Calédonie m'intéresse au plus haut point.

**Q : Qu'est-ce qui vous a le plus marqué dans la réalisation de ce documentaire ?**

Le séjour de presque deux mois dans cette tribu de Saint-Louis qui se trouve à moins de 10 kms du centre de la capitale, Nouméa. Les moments que nous avons vécu avec les jeunes de cette tribu, m'ont durablement marqué. Les liens que nous avons tissés restent encore forts, plusieurs mois après le tournage. D'ailleurs, nous continuons à nous téléphoner malgré les 20 000 kms qui nous séparent.

**Q : La colonisation et les conséquences de celle-ci sont-elles quelque chose qui vous tiennent à cœur. Si oui pourquoi ?**

J'ai vécu la guerre d'Algérie, enfant dans les montagnes kabyles, donc je sais ce que c'est qu'une colonisation et une décolonisation qui se passe mal, c'est à dire par les armes. Ce qui se passe en Nouvelle-Calédonie est différent car grâce à Michel Rocard un processus de décolonisation par le dialogue a été mis en place. Bien sûr que les choses ne sont pas complètement réglées dans ce pays, mais la guerre a été évitée. Il reste aujourd'hui à aller au bout de ce processus,



et un référendum pour l'autodétermination est prévu fin octobre de cette année.

**Q : Combien de temps est-ce que vous avez mis pour terminer le film et quel a été la plus grande difficulté ?**

Nous avons mis dix mois, entre la préparation, le tournage et les finitions en novembre dernier. La difficulté est le tournage car il fallait obtenir la confiance de la tribu et des jeunes qui témoignent dans le film. Ce n'est pas facile pour eux de livrer à une caméra, leur vie, leur sentiment et leurs aspirations.

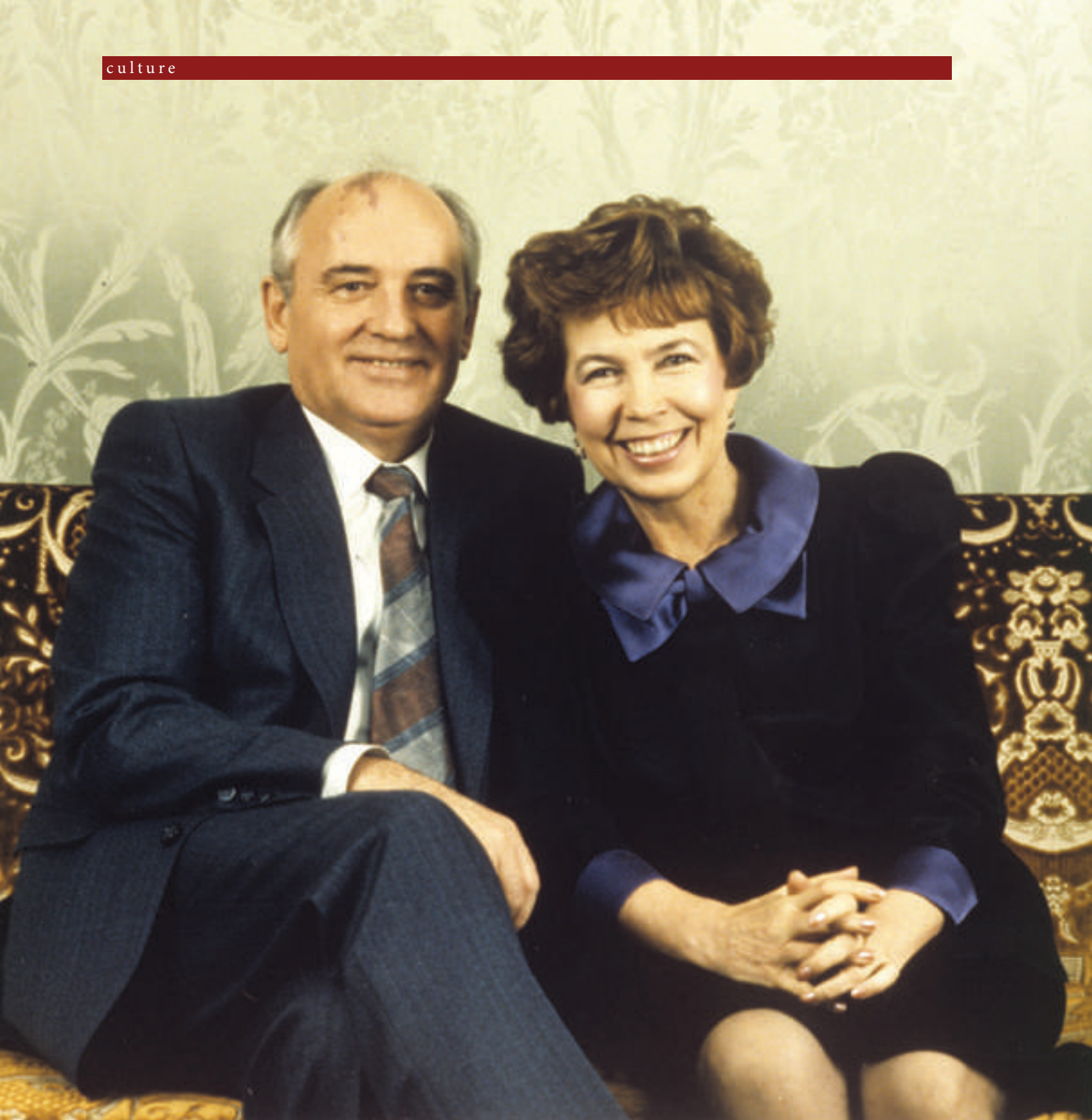
**Q : Finalement Mr Ben Salama, Diva est une revue dont le lectorat est surtout des diplomates. Est-ce que vous avez un message à leur faire parvenir ?**

Je n'ai pas de message particulier, et j'avoue que je ne connais pas bien le travail des diplomates. Mais peut-être partageons-nous cette démarche d'humilité et d'ouverture que nous devons avoir face à toute nouvelle réalité que se présente à nous.

Still from documentary







## New Gorbachev film combines hope and goodwill with personal and political tragedies.

by Hidde Tangerman

In the documentary *Meeting Gorbachev* the world is reacquainted with the man who changed the world as we knew it. As the old, polarized Cold War dynamics are showing signs of resurfacing today, Gorbachev's message of cooperation and mutual understanding deserves to be heard.

On the 29th of October the Leipzig Film Festival opened its weeklong program with *Meeting Gorbachev*, the latest documentary by German filmmaker Werner Herzog. The film is a 90 minute tribute to one of the greatest political figures of the 20th century and the driving force behind the reunification of Germany and the fall of the Iron Curtain.

The film is part history lesson, part personal portrait. It does a great job of showing Gorbachev as the main catalyst for ending the Cold War. His combined policies of *glasnost* (political openness) and *perestrojka* (economic restructuring) prepared the communist world for a freedom none had dared to dream of. It was Gorbachev who took the initiative to start peaceful dialogues that ended in the fall of the Iron Curtain and the disarmament of nuclear weapons.

Yet the most moving part of the film is Gorbachev himself, the man behind the politician. We learn that he regarded the dissolution of the Soviet Union as a personal as well as a political tragedy. "I regret it to this day," he says in the film. "It is my internal problem." The early death of his wife still brings tears to his eyes. "When she died, my life was taken away from me," he stated emotionally.

Although ill and physically frail at age 87, Gorbachev still exudes the confidence and clear-headedness of the statesman he was. Combining great depth with lucid simplicity, he speaks his truth without hidden agenda's or double motives. His hope and goodwill for the world is still as sincere and heartfelt as in his political heyday.

It was no coincidence that the European premier of the film took place in Leipzig, the city famous for its mass protests against communism in the late eighties. A free showing of the film was hosted at the Leipzig train station, which was attended by hundreds of people.

"I was on the streets in Leipzig in the eighties," said Cornelia Schwabe who attended the film with a friend. "We were very afraid at the time, but Gorbachev started a new dawn and gave us strength. He is one of the few politicians for whom power is less important than the wellbeing of the people."

"All of a sudden Gorbachev was there and changed the world," said Frank Heinrich Müller, who also attended the



Leipzig protests. "With all the nuclear weapons things could have gone horribly wrong. But he made people talk to each other."

The film also appealed to the young generation born after the fall of the Berlin wall, such as student Helena Lamprecht. "Gorbachev was not

someone who rebelled against his own system," she remarked after the film. "He was able to accomplish good things through dialogue. That's a very important quality."

Cynically, the documentary coincided with the US threatening to abscond the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (I.N.F.) Treaty, which Gorbachev and Reagan initiated in the eighties, with the ultimate aim of complete nuclear disarmament. Today's leaders seem less concerned with nuclear disarmament than their illustrious predecessors.

Seen in that light, *Meeting Gorbachev* deserves a wide audience. The spirit of trust, mutual understanding and international cooperation that Gorbachev and his political counterparts revealed and expressed is now more valid than ever. It should remind us that a peaceful world is not a naive dream, but an inspiring vision that can liberate countries and rigid political systems.

In a world of caustic polarity, narrow-minded nationalism and populist uprisings, Gorbachev's message still shines as a testimony of what world politics is capable of when goodwill and international cooperation prevail.





# Le Chemin de croix de Kateri Tekakwitha, la sainte iroquoise

Jean-Michel Wissmer :  
*Kateri Tekakwitha, L'Entrée du Christ chez les Iroquois. Voyage au cœur de l'Amérique indienne et coloniale, Ville de Québec, éditions GID, 2017.*

*Kateri Tekakwitha, L'Entrée du Christ chez les Iroquois*, titre du dernier livre de Jean-Michel Wissmer, ouvre une page passionnante et mal connue de l'histoire de l'Amérique et des Amérindiens grâce à l'extraordinaire aventure spirituelle de cette jeune Iroquoise convertie au XVII<sup>e</sup> siècle par les pères jésuites de la Nouvelle-France, l'actuel Québec, et canonisée en 2012. Après la religieuse et poétesse mexicaine sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, dont il est un spécialiste, Jean-Michel Wissmer nous propose à nouveau le portrait d'une femme de tête qui s'est battue pour ses convictions. L'historienne et romancière Anne Noschis s'est entretenue avec l'auteur.

Anne Noschis : Jean-Michel Wissmer, quand et comment avez-vous « rencontré » Kateri Tekakwitha ?

Jean-Michel Wissmer : A l'été 2008 sur le parvis de la cathédrale de Santa Fe au Nouveau-Mexique où se trouve une monumentale statue en bronze de Kateri. Que fait cette Iroquoise à des milliers de kilomètres de chez elle, et que lui vaut l'honneur d'un tel emplacement ? Cela a éveillé ma curiosité, et pour répondre à cette interrogation j'ai parcouru les lieux qui ont marqué son destin.

AN : Et que vous ont appris ce voyage et cette enquête ?

JMW : Ils m'ont réservé quelques surprises. Le Nouveau-Mexique est une terre profondément indienne et hispanique ; or si les Amérindiens catholiques sont fiers d'avoir enfin une sainte issue de leur communauté, d'autres, plus attachés à leurs anciennes traditions, apprécient beaucoup moins cette conversion opérée au XVII<sup>e</sup> siècle par les colonisateurs. Kateri est présente dans de nombreuses églises du Sud-Ouest américain, moins dans sa région d'origine ; autre paradoxe, elle est pratiquement inconnue au Mexique. Deux sanctuaires lui sont consacrés : l'un à Fonda dans l'État de New York où elle a grandi, l'autre à Kahnawaké au sud de Montréal où elle a vécu jusqu'à sa mort. Malgré tout, la population indienne est très partagée quant à la figure de Tekakwitha.

AN : Certains Indiens pensent-ils qu'elle a trahi sa culture d'origine ?

JMW : Oui, en quelque sorte, et le sujet est vraiment délicat. Lors de la visite d'une réserve indienne au Canada, nous sommes entrés dans une chapelle qui exposait de très nombreux objets dédiés à Kateri. Le guide n'en a pas dit un mot...

AN : Et pourtant dans votre livre vous soulignez bien le fait qu'elle n'a jamais vraiment renié son indianité et qu'elle a même opéré une sorte de syncrétisme.

JMW : C'est exact. Kateri pratiquait des pénitences qui copiaient les tortures infligées par les Indiens aux prisonniers de guerre, comme, par exemple, être brûlé vif. Mais, à l'inverse, ses biographes ont déclaré que, devenue chrétienne, elle ne voulait plus assister à ces tortures, ce qui était mal vu par la tribu. Il en va de même de son vœu de chasteté ou de son refus du mariage qui vont contre toutes les traditions iroquoises.

AN : Si le pape Benoît XVI l'a canonisée, peut-on dire que c'était pour faire taire cette polémique ?

JMW : Il y avait sans doute une recherche d'apaisement après toutes les blessures de l'Histoire. Il a toujours été très important pour l'Église catholique de trouver des figures fédératrices et consolatrices. Le premier chapitre de mon livre s'intitule « Le Christ est indien » ; il s'agit d'une citation d'une homélie de Jean-Paul II quand il a déclaré Kateri « bienheureuse ». Le pape a insisté sur le fait qu'elle représentait « les plus nobles traits » du peuple indien qui aurait su « d'instinct » que l'Évangile allait « purifier » leur propre patrimoine. Aujourd'hui, un culte s'est développé, et si Kateri a été canonisée, c'est qu'elle aurait accompli des miracles, à son époque déjà, et plus récemment, lorsqu'en 2006, un jeune Américain, dont le visage avait été entièrement déformé par une bactérie mangeuse de chair, a été guéri par l'intercession de Kateri.

AN : L'Église a depuis toujours valorisé les figures de martyrs ; peut-on dire que c'est le cas de Kateri ?

JMW : Absolument. D'après ses biographes jésuites, Kateri a été persécutée par sa tribu qui considérait que sa nouvelle foi l'éloignait des obligations de sa tribu. Elle a alors dû s'enfuir, poursuivie par un oncle furieux, et se réfugier au « village de la prière » de Saint-François-Xavier du Sault (aujourd'hui Kahnawaké) auprès d'autres néophytes. Victime dès l'enfance d'une épidémie de variole, Kateri est handicapée : le visage grêlé, la démarche hésitante, elle se voile pour se protéger de la lumière. Malade et affaiblie par les pénitences qu'elle s'impose, elle meurt à 24 ans. C'est bien une figure de martyr.

AN : Vous soulignez justement qu'elle a poussé un peu trop loin ses pénitences et que même ses directeurs de conscience s'en sont inquiétés. Vous consacrez d'ailleurs de nombreuses pages aux tortures indiennes qui auraient inspiré Kateri et à toute cette culture doloriste chrétienne qui a ensuite été récupérée par les aliénistes et les psychanalystes.

JMW : L'une des difficultés de ce livre était d'éviter tant les pièges de l'hagiographie que ceux de la défense de certaines causes, c'est-à-dire tenter d'adopter la position la plus objective possible sans froisser les sensibilités. Mon essai se veut surtout une étude sociologique, ethnologique et historique. Littéraire aussi, car Kateri a intéressé – et je dirais même fasciné – des écrivains aussi différents que Léonard Cohen, Joseph Boyden ou Chateaubriand.

AN : L'originalité de votre livre est son aspect comparatiste. Pouvez-vous nous en dire plus ?

JMW : En tant que mexicaniste, j'ai voulu en effet montrer l'unité et la cohérence du monde indien du nord au sud du continent américain, aspect qui est très mal connu. Il y a de surprenantes ressemblances entre les conceptions religieuses et les rituels des Incas ou des Aztèques et celles des tribus d'Amérique du Nord et ce malgré toutes leurs spécificités. Au-delà des clichés, je crois que le monde des Indiens du continent américain mérite d'être mieux étudié, sans tabous et avec tout le respect que l'on doit à ces populations qui ont été sacrifiées par les différentes nations colonisatrices. Kateri Tekakwitha est l'occasion d'ouvrir une nouvelle fenêtre sur toutes ces questions.





# Christine de France

une amazone au temps  
des mousquetaires

**Le grand talent de l'historienne Anne Noschis est de nous faire découvrir des personnalités peu connues ou injustement oubliées par l'Histoire. Après Madame de Warens, la « Maman » de Rousseau, voici Christine de France, fille d'Henri IV, duchesse de Savoie.**

*Jean-Michel Wissmer : Anne Noschis, dès les premières pages de votre essai, vous vous étonnez du peu d'intérêt qu'a suscité une figure aussi importante de l'Ancien Régime. Comment l'expliquez-vous ?*

AN : Il est vrai que Christine de France (1606-1663) est une grande figure de l'Ancien Régime. Elle a indéniablement une stature de « femme d'Etat », pour ne pas dire un homme d'Etat. La princesse, mariée au duc de Savoie à l'âge de 13 ans, se retrouve veuve à 31 ; promue régente du duché de Piémont-Savoie, elle doit affronter une guerre civile (1639-1640) fomentée par les « princes beaux-frères » (en italien *Guerra dei cognati*, Guerre des beaux-frères). Contre toute attente, servant aussi bien son pays de naissance que son pays d'alliance, la duchesse sort vainqueur d'un conflit perdu d'avance. Tel est le principal mérite de cette femme exceptionnelle dont je tais les autres réalisations d'importance, en matière économique, artistique et architecturale.

Si les historiens français ne lui ont pas prêté l'attention qu'elle mérite, c'est – et telle est mon hypothèse – parce qu'ils se sont concentrés sur ses parents, Henri IV et Marie de Médicis, ainsi que sur sa fratrie, Louis XIII roi de France, Gaston d'Orléans l'éternel frondeur, Henriette-Marie reine d'Angleterre, et, en demi-teintes Elisabeth reine d'Espagne. Et cela sans oublier le propre neveu de Christine, Louis-Dieudonné, futur Louis XIV, soleil rayonnant au ciel des historiens, des romanciers et des cinéastes.

*JMW : Vous faites une description extrêmement vivante et détaillée de tous les éléments de la vie quotidienne de l'époque (alimentation, habillement, fêtes, etc.). Quelles ont été vos sources ?*

AN : Pour l'alimentation des enfants royaux à Saint-Germain-en-Laye, j'ai utilisé le journal de Jean Herroard, médecin particulier du jeune Louis XIII, qui consigne jour après jour les repas du prince. La nourriture est saine et frugale (fruits, légumes, laitages, poissons, volailles bouillies, peu ou pas de bœuf) ; le pain est bis, des quignons de pain sec constituent les en-cas. A la cour de Savoie, j'ai utilisé un menu d'apparat offert aux ambassadeurs d'Espagne et Empire : on y sert du gibier, des artichauts, des fromages, les inévitables *grissini*, du raisin et des marrons glacés.

Les portraits de cour, genre pictural à la mode, m'ont renseignée sur les vêtements et accessoires des princes et princesses. Henriette-Marie de Bourbon, reine d'Angleterre, envoie par exemple à sa sœur Christine un très beau portrait de ses enfants, peint par van Dyck. Les fêtes à la cour de Turin sont aisées à documenter : le favori de Christine, Philippe d'Agliè, as de la chorégraphie, organise chaque année un grand ballet dont il dessine les costumes, note les airs et la musique. Ces trésors reposent aux archives de Turin.

En Piémont, le statut royal de Christine de France m'a aidée dans mes recherches. Les lettres de « Madame Royale », en français, sont publiées dans les annexes d'ouvrages du 19<sup>ème</sup> en italien. Ouvrages récemment numérisés par des universités américaines !

*JMW : Votre livre est un portrait saisissant de l'Europe du 17<sup>ème</sup> siècle où les grandes puissances (France, Espagne, Empire) s'affrontent. Quel aspect de ce tableau vous a le plus surpris, et avez-vous fait des découvertes ou levé le voile sur des aspects méconnus ?*

AN : Au début du 17<sup>ème</sup> siècle, quand naît la fille d'Henri IV,

la France se relève difficilement des Guerres de religion, le duché de Piémont-Savoie est un Etat de moindre importance, tandis que le Saint-Empire romain germanique est une grande puissance, l'Espagne non moins forte grâce à l'or des Amériques, l'Italie le « théâtre du monde » grâce à l'impulsion de la Renaissance. Cinquante ans plus tard, à la Paix de Westphalie, l'Allemagne est à genoux suite à la Guerre de trente ans, l'Espagne appauvrie et affaiblie par la corruption des élites, l'Italie en pleine décadence. Le duché de Piémont-Savoie sort consolidé de la Guerre des beaux-frères, la France s'impose comme puissance. Qui sont les principaux acteurs de la montée en puissance de ces deux Etats ? Madame Royale, encore elle, et Giulio Mazzarini, diplomate pontifical. Brillant, extraordinairement habile, le second est appelé à la cour de France comme ministre, la postérité retient l'intelligence politique du cardinal de Mazarin, oublie sans façon celui de Christine de France... En 1648, après Westphalie, tout est en place pour faire de Louis XIV un grand roi et de la France une grande nation, sa tante Christine y a œuvré dans l'ombre.

*JMW : Un chapitre, « L'Escalade à Genève », devrait logiquement retenir l'attention des lecteurs Genevois. Vous n'évoquez pas son aspect plus folklorique (comme la Mère Royaume et sa fameuse marmite...).* S'agit-il de légendes ?

AN : Nul folklore, en effet, du côté savoyard au sujet de l'escalade manquée des murailles de Genève une nuit de décembre 1602. Et pour cause. Afin de prendre la riche et stratégique République réformée, sous haute protection française, le duc Charles-Emmanuel de Savoie (beau-père de Christine), s'était donné les moyens. Il avait acquis des échelles télescopiques et des arquebuses dernier cri, désigné ses meilleurs soldats, choisi un capitaine de renom. Mais une sentinelle genevoise parvient à donner l'alerte, l'attaque savoyarde échoue ; la cité de Calvin y voit un signe de la protection divine, le duc de Savoie une marque de honte et d'opprobre. Le capitaine savoyard responsable du désastre finit même décapité... Pour donner chair et lustre aux commémorations, ce sont les vainqueurs qui introduisent du folklore (marmites en chocolat, chants et cantiques, défilé en costumes d'époque), non les vaincus.

*JMW : Sur le tableau qui figure en couverture, Christine est présentée avec des attributs « hermaphrodites », et vous décrivez bien sa bravoure guerrière lors d'une bataille. Comment jugeait-on à l'époque les femmes « viriles » ?*

AN : Christine hermaphrodite : comme régente du duché, Madame Royale est-elle homme ou femme d'Etat ? Comme chef de guerre, elle est père de la patrie, haranguant ses troupes, tirant l'épée hors du fourreau. Comme mère du petit duc et protectrice de son peuple, elle est mère de la patrie. L'iconographie du temps ne choisit pas entre les genres, elle les cumule ou les combine dans des représentations picturales. Dans une autre gravure, Christine figure comme lieutenant en armes au côté de son mari et comme ange descendu du ciel pour lui poser la couronne sur la tête. Les femmes « viriles » sont généralement mal vues par les esprits conventionnels ; c'est le cas de Jeanne d'Arc. Au début du 19<sup>ème</sup> siècle, le roi Charles-Albert de Savoie interdit à un

savant l'accès aux archives concernant Madame Christine, non parce qu'elle était virile, mais parce qu'elle avait un favori !

*JMW : Dans le prolongement de cette question, vous citez Richelieu qui aurait dit : « Le gouvernement des femmes est d'ordinaire le malheur des états ». Le mouvement « ME-TOO » n'aurait pas apprécié... On peut affirmer que la régence de Christine de France après la mort de son mari Victor-Amédée 1<sup>er</sup> prouvera le contraire, n'est-ce pas ?*

AN : Contrairement à Mazarin, qui offre des crèmes de beauté et des gants parfumés à Madame Royale pour s'en faire une alliée, Richelieu est épidermiquement allergique à celle-ci. Au côté de son frère Louis XIII, l'homme rouge la rencontre à Grenoble en 1639, l'insulte et la malmène dans le but d'annexer la Savoie. Peine perdue, Christine ignore l'offense et réveille les affections fraternelles pour neutraliser le grossier manant. Mieux, elle obtient du roi de France ses meilleurs généraux pour bouter hors du duché les troupes des « princes beaux-frères », ses ennemis jurés. Dans le cas qui nous occupe, la misogynie de Richelieu est stupide et contreproductive. Le ministre semble oublier le système politique dans lequel il vit : la désignation du roi de France est en effet régie par la loi salique, soit primogéniture masculine dans la famille souveraine. Un mâle premier né règne donc sur le royaume. Or celui-ci peut être empêché d'exercer le pouvoir pour diverses raisons : minorité du prince, absence du souverain (campagne militaire, emprisonnement), décès prématuré. Dans les trois cas le Conseil doit faire appel à une régente, mère ou épouse, du monarque. La France a connu plusieurs régences féminines, Blanche de Castille, Louise de Savoie, Anne d'Autriche.

Depuis la mort de son époux, duc régnant, Christine de France est régente de plein droit. La misogynie de l'homme rouge révèle surtout sa mauvaise humeur ou sa mauvaise éducation. La citation de Richelieu est authentique, elle figure dans son *Testament politique*. Le cardinal qualifie lui-même la rencontre de Grenoble comme « les jours les plus sombres de (sa) lumineuse fortune ».

*JMW : On signalera finalement que l'épilogue – qui est un résumé bien utile des événements – les cartes et le lexique permettront au lecteur de se retrouver dans le foisonnement de cette fresque historique. Et l'on ajoutera que ce livre donne très envie de redécouvrir Turin, la capitale piémontaise, ses places, palais et châteaux.*

AN : Entre autres réalisations, Christine de France reconstruit et agrandit Turin après la Guerre des beaux-frères. Elle fait d'une bourgade bourbeuse une capitale au rayonnement européen. Couvrant la cité de marbre, elle distribue les magnifiques palais de la Place Saint-Charles à ses partisans. Les façades Louis XIII, austères et élégantes, disent encore aujourd'hui la grandeur de la princesse française parachutée dans le duché à l'âge de 13 ans.

Pour clore cette évocation, rappelons que grâce aux énergies déployées par la duchesse Christine dans son pays d'alliance, son petit-fils Victor-Amédée II deviendra roi de Sicile en 1713 et qu'un descendant collatéral coiffera la couronne italienne en 1861.





PHOTOS : JEAN-MICHEL WISSMER

# Arc-et-Senans

## la ville idéale de Claude Nicolas Ledoux

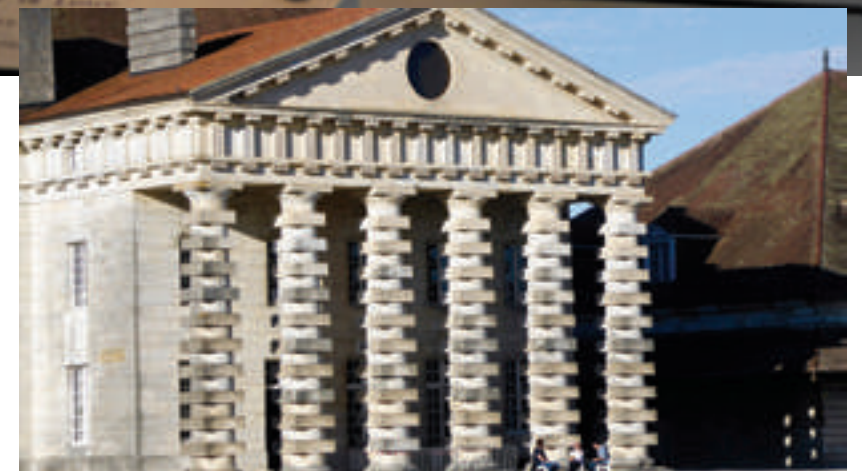
*Il y a en Franche-Comté un lieu étonnant né du rêve d'un grand visionnaire, l'architecte Claude Nicolas Ledoux (1736-1806), incarnant à la fois le Siècle des Lumières et la modernité.*

Après avoir franchi les cols du Jura, un vaste paysage de collines et de forêts se présente à nous. Non loin de la charmante petite ville d'Arbois, une route se dirige en ligne droite sur une porte majestueuse qui abrite derrière ses colonnes doriques une grotte artificielle. Passé cette entrée monumentale, on découvre des bâtiments en demi-cercle avec au centre la Maison du Directeur et ses extraordinaires colonnes entrecoupées de blocs cubiques. Vous vous trouvez dans la Saline royale d'Arc-et-Senans, ou de ce qu'il en reste, car l'architecte avait prévu un cercle parfait dont, écrit-il, « la forme est pure comme celle que décrit le soleil dans sa course », et qui devait être entouré de nombreux édifices destinés à l'industrie du sel. Ce qu'il avait prévu n'était pas seulement une usine, mais une ville idéale avec son marché, ses bains, ses écoles, un hospice, une maison de jeux et de plaisir, une église, un cimetière et...une prison ! Le demi-cercle que l'on peut admirer aujourd'hui aligne des bâtiments sur lesquels sont

sculptées des urnes renversées dont l'eau qui s'écoule est pétrifiée dans la pierre.

Chaque bâtiment a une fonction industrielle, ce que l'on a tendance à oublier devant tant de monumentalité et de recherche esthétique. Il s'agit bien pourtant d'une saline avec ses fours, ses ateliers, ses magasins, ses logements pour les ouvriers et leur famille. Pour une vision peut-être plus concrète, il faudra se rendre non loin de là à Salins dont la saline transformée en musée permet de mieux capter ce que fut vraiment la vie d'une telle entreprise. C'est d'ailleurs à Salins que l'eau saumâtre était acheminée à Arc-et-Senans à travers des canalisations souterraines. La saumure était alors chauffée et le sel recueilli par évaporation.

Mais revenons à Arc-et-Senans. Un bâtiment de la Saline royale abrite un musée qui expose les maquettes de tous les



monuments de Ledoux dont la plupart sont restés, hélas, à l'état de projet ou ont été détruits. Mais grâce aux plans que nous a laissés l'architecte, on a pu les reconstituer. L'un des plus étonnants est sans doute la maison destinée aux surveillants de la source de la rivière la Loue d'une incroyable modernité et que n'aurait pas renié un Le Corbusier. Ce qui est frappant chez Ledoux est ce mélange entre les références à l'Antiquité classique et des lignes résolument modernes et épurées.

Si Ledoux était un idéaliste, il a aussi été au service de l'Ancien Régime et fut très apprécié de la noblesse qui lui passa de nombreuses commandes. Il est aussi l'architecte des barrières de péage de Paris saccagées par un peuple en colère lors des émeutes de juillet 1789. Il n'en reste aujourd'hui que quatre : les rotondes de Monceau et de la Villette (la plus belle), et les barrières du Trône et d'Enfer. On l'aura compris, Ledoux le rêveur et l'architecte préféré de l'aristocratie n'est plus en

odeur de sainteté. Il sera incarcéré en 1793 et échappera de peu à la guillotine. Ruiné et désabusé, il meurt à soixante-dix ans le 18 novembre 1806.

J'ai connu la Saline royale d'Arc-et-Senans il y a plus de 40 ans alors que le site était abandonné. Les bâtiments ouverts à tous les vents étaient envahis par les hautes herbes. C'est aujourd'hui un haut-lieu du patrimoine de Franche-Comté inscrit au patrimoine mondial de l'Unesco, accueillant congrès et visiteurs qui peuvent même y passer la nuit. Finalement, Ledoux aura réalisé son rêve malgré les épreuves et les désillusions. Il a écrit : « Ignorez-vous ce qu'il en coûte à ceux qui osent changer la masse des idées reçues ? ».

JEAN-MICHEL WISSMER

La saline se visite toute l'année. Site : [www.salineroyale.com](http://www.salineroyale.com)





# Ferdinand Hodler

BY ROBERT JAMES PARSONS



The year 2018 has been and still is the year of Ferdinand Hodler. Marking the one hundredth anniversary of his death, it has produced an extensive re-examination of the life and work of the Swiss artist. As the year draws to a close, it is worth noting that the Hodler celebration continues, on into 2019, in the form of seven significant exhibits, one in Berne (where he was born in 1853) and six in Geneva (where he lived most of his life).

The paintings of the Berne exhibit were shown at Geneva's Musée Rath until late August, when they were moved to Berne's Kunstmuseum (within easy walking distance from the main station), where they can be seen until 13 January. For those who missed the Geneva showing, the trip to Berne is worth the time and effort, for both the Geneva Musée d'art et d'histoire and the Berne Kunstmuseum have drawn on their prodigious collections for the occasion. Many of Hodler's greatest works, rarely seen until now, are on display.

Until his death, Hodler was generally ranked as one of Europe's greatest artists, rivaling Egon Schiele and Gustav Klimt. However, his support of a public denunciation of the shelling of the Reims cathedral by the Germans during the First World War caused him to fall into disfavor in the German-speaking world, which was his primary market. This is one reason that so many of his paintings remained in Switzerland after his death. Thereupon, he steadily disappeared from the mainstream art scene, resurfacing only occasionally and briefly.

Five of the six Geneva exhibits are under the auspices of the Musée d'art et d'histoire, four at the main museum building on the rue Charles-Galland and the fourth at the Maison Tavel in the old town. All are worth a leisurely visit.

The main museum building is the best starting point. There, one finds over fifty of Hodler's paintings, first along the walls of the monumental staircase leading from the entry to the painting galleries, then in the galleries themselves.

The staircase paintings are not only part of the permanent collection but also part of the museum's décor. They are among those often designated his "patriotic" paintings, for they depict Swiss bigger-than-life warriors from the late Middle Ages with their weapons and a wine grower with his scythe from the Lavaux region. These were done for the Swiss pavilion at 1896 World's Fair in Geneva. A seventh, major picture *La retraite de Marignan*, (*The Retreat from Marignano*) overlooking the right side of the stairway is actually a *carton*, a study prepared for what was to be a fresco at the Swiss National Museum in Zurich.

Its subject is the retreat from the battlefield of Marignano in September 1515, where the French king Francis I and his Venetian allies routed the combined forces of the Papal States backed by the mercenaries of the Confederacy, defending the duchy of Milan. The battle, which lasted some twenty hours, was called "the battle of the giants" by one of the leaders of

the mercenaries and resulted in 10,000 to 20,000 dead.

Hodler's study for *Marignan*, actually done on canvas and of the size intended for the fresco (5 X 3.5 m.), was submitted in 1896 in a contest held to choose frescoes for the Swiss National Museum. He won the contest, but the museum's director, Heinrich Angst, appalled by the realism of the imagery with its abundance of blood and a total lack of any suggestion of heroism on the part of the Swiss (they look downright dejected), refused to accept it, designating it "a piece of detritus". A major controversy called "the battle of the frescoes" broke out.

Angst was backed by the Municipality of Zurich and the National Museum commission, along with a number of art critics and artists. On the other side was a solid phalanx of art critics from French-speaking Switzerland, major Bernese art critics and the majority of Swiss artists. The *carton* was exhibited to the public with the other contest submissions, and the controversy brought a steady stream of crowds to see what all the fuss was about. In one week alone, some 20,000 persons came to view it. In the end, after a protracted dispute that threatened to go on endlessly, the full Federal Council made the trip in order to arbitrate. They ruled that the authority of the Federal Fine Arts Commission, which had had the task of judging the contest, was above that of a museum director. So, Hodler won. Needless to say, the raging controversy followed by the Federal Council judgement only enhanced his reputation, already considerable.

*La retraite de Marignan* was to turn out to be one of a pair. At the entry level of the museum, in the *Salle des armures* (Armor Room) is an exhibit of the arms that figure in Hodler's historical paintings along with that second painting, also a *carton* on canvas, almost as big as the other: *La bataille de Morat* (*The Battle of Morat*).

This one was requested directly by the Federal Council, in 1911, stipulating carefully that this time Hodler was to depict "an episode from a victorious war of the Confederates". He chose as his subject Morat, where the Confederation's troops defeated the French army of Charles the Bold in 1476. The canvas shows, all across the top, in the background, the fleeing cavalry of Charles, emphasizing the superiority of the Swiss infantry, who prominently occupy the foreground. Their battle model, based on a compact commoners militia without aristocratic command, aroused the admiration of many contemporaries, including the historian and military theorist Niccolò Machiavelli, himself entrusted with organizing the militia army of the Republic of Florence.

Upstairs, in the painting galleries, there are some forty more canvasses, starting from Hodler's early days on up until the year of his death. There is a self-portrait from 1872, the year that he arrived in Geneva, literally penniless, at the age of nineteen. Another self-portrait is from 1917, the year before his death. A painting from 1872, *Paysage alpestre avant l'orage* (*Alpine Landscape before the Storm*), shows the influence of



the two great Geneva Alpine landscape artists, Alexandre Calame and François Diday. The latter, who died in 1877, was at the peak of his fame when Hodler arrived in Geneva.

Hodler himself never stopped painting the Alps. In the last two years of his life, from his apartment on the Mont-Blanc embankment, he painted Lake Geneva, the Salève and Mount Blanc over and over again, eventually eliminating the urban development on the far side of the lake in his representations and focusing on the lake and the mountains. Of the last two, *Le Lac Léman et le Mont Blanc, l'après-midi* (Lake Geneva and Mount Blanc, Afternoon) was done in February 1918. The second, with the same title, was unfinished when he died in May.

Hodler, all his life, was also fascinated by the human form. One of his closest friends was the poet Louis Duchosal, who died in Geneva in 1901. He was described as “puny”, but Hodler had put his face on the warrior on the far right in *La retraite de Marignan*, giving him the physique of an American football player. Upon being informed of Duchosal's death, he sped to the man's house and painted him, lying peacefully and looking very much asleep.

He also painted his beloved mistress, Albertine Dupin dying. Along one entire wall are twelve portraits from the beginning to the last years of his career, plus four more self-portraits.

In a collateral room of the main galleries is an exhibit of Hodler's notebooks. He was never without one to sketch in and filled dozens of them. These have been beautifully reproduced by the Museum in a small book, *Les carnets de Ferdinand Hodler*, on sale there.

Also, in the labyrinth of the painting galleries, is an exhibit, *Hodle(r)estauré* (Hodlerestored) built around the extensive work of restoration of three of his paintings. For anybody who has never encountered what is involved in such an operation, it can be fascinating, for the delicateness of a canvas and the paint that has been applied to it requires tender loving care, almost superhuman patience and time – that can stretch out into years, depending upon what is discovered in the process.

Elsewhere in the galleries, in another collateral room, is a delightful small painting of a woman adjusting her garter, a Hodler, hung far away from the others, opposite a Renoir and a van Gogh. There are also three large splendid canvases by Alexandre Perrier, a contemporary of Hodler's whose work, exhibited with Hodler's at the Paris *Exposition universelle* in 1900 and at the Vienna Secession, Hodler admired.

Perrier's work is also on exhibit at the Maison Tavel within an exhibit entitled *L'esprit de Hodler dans la peinture genevoise* (Hodler's Spirit in Geneva Painting). Among the thirty-plus paintings are Alpine landscapes, portraits and sundry others. They vary from simply nice to extraordinary. In Didier Estoppey's *Paysage de Savoie (le pic de Chalume)* (Landscape

of Savoy: the Peak of Claume) from 1901, the peak is bathed in the pale pink of the early evening alpenglow giving it an ethereal quality that anyone who has seen the Alps at sunset will recognize.

Finally, the Martin Bodmer Foundation in Cologny, drawing on the voluminous Jura Brüsweiler Archives, presents everything you ever wanted to know about Ferdinand Hodler (and much, much more). The Archives contain some 80,000 items, and the selection on display includes photos, press clippings and letters, among many others.

The exhibit, running until 25 August 2019, is organized around themes (the usual presentation for the Foundation's exhibits), including Hodler's tumultuous love life that included mistresses, wives, and children who, at the time, were on both sides of legality. There are even short film clips showing him at the Geneva World's Fair of 1896, giving us a glimpse of him in motion, but without voice.

It is a point of interest that on the day before his death, Hodler went to Cologny, and Martin Bodmer was one of his admirers, owing a preliminary sketch for *La retraite de Marignan*.

Both the quantity and the immense variety of the pieces on display – not to mention the superb layout, typical of the Foundation's exhibits – bring alive the man behind the paintings and sketches in the Musée d'art et d'histoire, the man who inspired the contemporaries whose work is on display at the Maison Tavel.







# INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY IN GENEVA

STUDY IN SWITZERLAND

## Bachelor and Master programs in:

- Business Administration
- International Relations
- Media and Communication
- Computer Science

**NEW**

**BSc (Hons) in Business Management  
with Plymouth University (UK)**

- A program with a global perspective
- European and American accreditations
- Multicultural student and faculty body
- Exchange and study abroad programs
- A not-for-profit foundation of higher education

[www.iun.ch](http://www.iun.ch)

ICC · Rte de Pré-Bois 20 · 1215 Geneva 15 · Switzerland  
Tel.: +41(0)22 710 71 10/12 · Fax: +41(0)22 710 71 11 · Email: [info@iun.ch](mailto:info@iun.ch)



**AVAKIAN**  
*Tapis d'Orient S.A.*

SALE

SOUPDES

Tél : 022 731 61 77 • Rue des Alpes • 18 Genève

[www.avakian.ch](http://www.avakian.ch)





Institut  
International  
Lancy

Susciter la joie d'apprendre,  
pour que chaque talent  
s'exprime.

Notre école délivre une éducation internationale de haut niveau adaptée au XXI<sup>e</sup> siècle. Pour nos élèves de 3 à 18 ans, nous tirons le meilleur parti pédagogique des nouvelles technologies. Attentifs au développement personnel de chacun comme aux dynamiques de groupe, nous offrons des conditions idéales pour l'épanouissement des élèves.

[www.iil.ch](http://www.iil.ch)