



Collaborative Project with the Japan Foundation & the Goethe-Institut

Fostering Peace through Cultural Initiatives
Perspectives from Japan & Germany

Friday May 15th, 2009



Aoyama Gakuin University

**“Fostering Peace through Cultural Initiatives
- Perspectives from Japan & Germany”**

Co-organized by The Japan Foundation and The Goethe-Institut,

And by the Mainichi Newspapers

With cooperation of Aoyamagakuin University Joint Research Institute
for International Peace and Culture

In the twenty-first century, “peace” means more than “the absence of war.” Facing more diversified threats, the world has taken up an active stance to fight against poverty, to minimize disparity, and to foster minds that recognize people from different backgrounds as equal counterparts and that pursue peace with future-oriented perspectives.

The role of cultural initiatives that aim toward more peaceful international/inter-regional relations today is thus diversified and multi-tasked, covering a wide range of topics from confidence building before the actual conflict to recovering mutual trust in post-conflict areas. The project types also vary from collaborative art projects to youth exchange for peace-building.

By looking at several case presentations from artists who have gained rich experience working abroad in conflict ridden places and from receiving communities, this conference will discuss the role of cultural initiatives for fostering peace, the types of projects expected in order to gain most effective impact, and the difficulties for those institutions in conducting cultural initiatives.

Friday, May 15th, 2009 Public Forum (English-Japanese simultaneous translation)

15:00-15:45 Opening Session

Welcome remarks

Fumio Matsunaga, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Dr. Uwe Schmelter, Goethe-Institut Japan in Tokyo

Keynote Speeches

Kazuo Ogoura, President, The Japan Foundation

Dr. Hans-Georg Knopp, Secretary General, The Goethe-Institut

15:45-16:45 Session 1: Presentation by artists and receiving communities

Moderator: Dr. Uwe Schmelter

Hiroko Inoue, Formative artist

“Inside-Out: Realities and Expressions found from Fieldworks around the World”

Fareed C. Majari, Director of Goethe-Institut in Beirut

“When Everything Else Fails –The Role of the Arts in Conflict Resolutions”-Cultural cooperation between Palestine, Israel and Lebanon

Yasuhiko Shirakata, Ceramic artists

“Meeting with Istalif and Our Future”

Yasunori Nagaoka, Ceramic artists

“Guiding Istalif from Traditional Wood-fired Kiln to Gas-fired Kiln”

16:45-18:00 Session 2: Panel Discussion

Moderator: Megumi Nishikawa, The Mainichi Newspapers

[Panelists]

Prof. Kenichiro Hirano, Professor Emeritus of University of Tokyo

Dr. Hans-Georg Knopp, Secretary-General, The Goethe-Institut

Fareed C. Majari, Director of Goethe-Institut in Beirut

Amb. Kazuo Ogoura, President, The Japan Foundation

Helena Waldmann, Choreographer

Prof. Yasushi Watanabe, Professor of Keio University

18:00 Closure the Goethe-Institut and the Japan Foundation

18:00-19:00 Reception Jointly hosted by JF & GI

19:30 Film Screening hosted by the Goethe-Institut

“Comrades in Dream” by Uli Gaulke and documentary film “My Kabul” from Afghanistan in the Goethe-Institut Hall

Co-organized by
The Japan Foundation
(4-4-1, Yostuya, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo)

The Goethe-Institut
(7-5-56, Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo)

The Mainichi Newspapers

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