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180° FROM ORDINARY



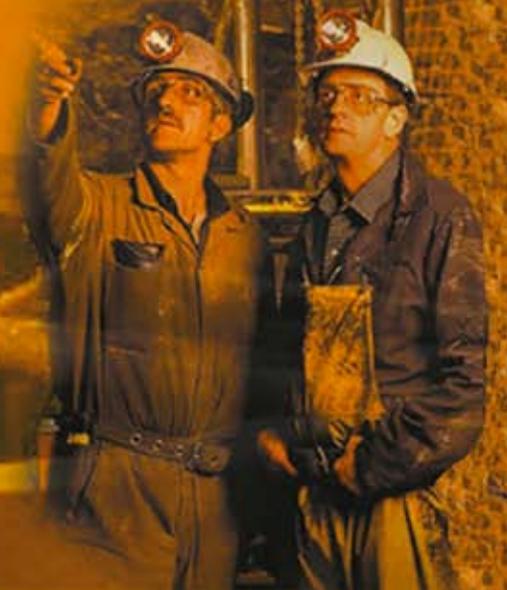
WINTER 2007

JO LEE TALKS TO PRESIDENT CALLEJAS › TONY BLAIR AFTER DOWNING STREET
THE FAST, DAZZLING, SUPERSONIC BUSINESS JET › WHO WAS THE VIRGIN MARY?



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on the cover:

Jo Lee at her home in the Fairmont Royal York - Toronto.
Photography by A.W. Dyson

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THE PROVOCATIVE & CHALLENGING WORLD OF
ARCERI

ANDREA BUCKETT, DR. OF HOMEOPATHY
YOU ARE WHAT YOU ATE

STANLEY J. DORST
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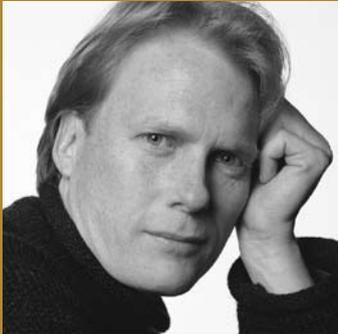
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kathy Agee
Executive Wife
San Francisco – Tiburon - Phoenix

Here's a tribute to the superior world of Journalism – JO LEE Magazine and to the many extraordinary and excellent articles released by a most distinguished person – Jo Lee.

Happy 7th Anniversary, JO LEE! I look forward to several more.

Madeleine LeRue
Executive
UK

Your Autumn issue of The Marvelous Maverick suggests a great analogy to our times in the fall of Rome to the Barbarians in the fifth century.

While the causes of our weaknesses today are in endless debate by politicians, we all recognize that we are becoming less viable as the predominant economic power. There would be no need for worry as we would find ways of dealing with our economic problems if there were no barbarians out there. But, unfortunately, there are. We are on the verge of becoming unable to defend ourselves as we become dependent on the rest of the world for energy, raw materials and manufacturing facilities for war materials.

To believe that we can increase social spending to the degradation of manufacturing and spending on windmills instead of coal processes is to invite collapse. Let's keep up our defenses as we allocate our budget. The Chinese are greatly increasing their military budget, including a large submarine fleet.

Emile Ternzakota
CFO
Brussels - Belgium

It is good to learn in JO LEE's Autumn publication, that the German Republic and the European Union are going to expand their work in bringing democracy

and justice systems to the middle east.

M. Samuel Schula brings a message of considerable importance in his 'The Resource-Rich Former Soviet Republic'. Germany has done a difficult job in bringing East Germany into the systems of the West and it is all of our hopes that the middle east can join as former parts of the Soviet Union have.

Unfortunately, democracy tends to bring revolution and an absence of law and order to countries without a broad education system. So can we really hope that the systems of the West will take hold in Kazakhstan and the other countries bordering the Caspian Sea?

The middle east offers economic prosperity from oil and gas to the whole world, but the European Union countries probably have the least chance of benefiting from it - DESPITE THEIR HIGH OPINION OF THEMSELVES.

Russia has every intention of controlling energy supplies to Europe and the US intends to get its share. Rather than developing a middle East policy - Germany would be well advised to go nuclear.

Bradley Sumner
Political Consultant
Chicago - USA

Freedom is worthy of the cry presented in the column in your last issue of 'When Angels Cry'. We all are saddened at the limitations that people and governments put on individuals – as the two writers of this column write; robbing these innocent youngsters of their potential for a full, enjoyable and productive life.

However, freedom does not come from government controls so as to have "equal distribution of resources and wealth". If there is freedom of opportunity, there will not be equal distribution of wealth. Then again, in several parts of the world, individuals may freely express and implement their talents and vigorously pursue them and prosper more than those

who chose to rest. This same scenario is untrue for most people living in Third World countries. And, of course, AIDS is the direct result of the exercise of freedom.

Freedom only brings opportunity. We must grow the avenues to opportunity, for those without!

Felicity Owens
Lawyer
Halifax - Canada

Why can't all controversy be approached with the logic of common sense as in your 'Half Time's' Fall publication on "The Hijab in Sport!"

There are of course other reasons for not allowing cultural dress in lieu of the team's official gear but it is good and rare to read well stated logic. Thank you for this.

Alexander Logan-Cross
Philanthropist
New York City

Creaghe Gordon's question in his Pros and Ex.cons Autumn column re the extent of American decadence and its effect on terrorist attacks against us is stimulating! It is interesting that he sees liberalism at the root of our decadence but liberals are the ones who seem to be most convinced that we are decadent.

Democrats seem convinced that times have never been worse, despite the fact that this war is probably the least damaging to the US of any war we have fought, and our standard of living certainly is many times in excess of the past. We live so well it is amazing. Even those on welfare are entitled to a free college education, cars and TVs.

The Arabs may feel that our liberal way of life is damning us to hell, but they are merely the victims of their religious leaders and most of us are comfortable with our way of life.

CONTRIBUTORS

GENE ARCERI THE PROVOCATIVE & CHALLENGING WORLD OF ARCERI



Gene Arceri has gained attention in no small measure as a writer, critic, award winning PBS reviewer and publicist. A native New Yorker, Gene resides in San Francisco and spends considerable time in London, England. Among his best selling books are: 'Elizabeth Taylor: Her Life. Her Loves. Her Future.' and, Susan Hayward's 'RED'. Gene's 'feature reviews' can also be seen at: Midnight Palace - the all encompassing echo in time.

ANDREA BUCKETT, DR. OF HOMEOPATHY YOU ARE WHAT YOU ATE



Andrea Buckett, Dr. of Homeopathy, lecturer, writer, renowned food expert – is passionate about helping people live into their nineties and feeling like 52! Yes, she's jumpstarted the most exciting nutritional adventures. She is a graduate of The Homeopathic College of Canada and her private practice today is a sole focus on the body's benefits and pleasures of great food.

STANLEY J. DORST PROS & EX.CONS



Stanley J. Dorst is a retired officer of Chevron Land Development Co. and CEO of Grosvenor Development Co. Stan has been advisor to European governments and private companies as Vice-President of The International Urban Development Association and advisor for The International Executive Service Corps on behalf of the United States State Department Agency for International Development.

CARLA DRAGNEA EDITOR AT LARGE



Carla Dragnea is a Biologist whose interests in feature writing - have encompassed 'the study of life'. She too, is the Executive Director of the YES! E-Help CampUS assisting 11+ million of the younger generation, each month. www.yesintl.com

KELECHI ELEANYA & OLUWASEUN SOTIYO WHEN ANGELS CRY



Kelechi is an economist holding a degree in Renewable Natural Resources Management and a Masters in Forest Economics. He is Programme Officer - Natural Resources Management for The Akassa Development Foundation. {ADF}

Oluwaseun, a Theatre Artist and Conflict Management Consultant - holds a degree in Theatre Arts and a Masters in Peace and Conflict Studies. Seun is the Director of Zest Konzalts. {The training of employers/employees in work place conflict management.} She too has directed several drama for youth awareness performances in the Niger Delta.

LOIS M. GORDON YES, VIRGINIA! COME – EXPLORE WITH ME



Lois M. Gordon is a world traveler and resides in California's Silicon Valley. She has spent her life as wife and mother, chairing several committees and indulging in her passion for reading and writing poetry.



JOHN PAUL JARVIS
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN NUTS

John Paul Jarvis has had a full corporate career as CEO of a series of US based multinational subsidiaries with six directorships. Board and boat sailor, tennis player, terrible musician all tempered by eclectic friends - provides a basis for views and opinions on a broad range of topics. Humor prevails.

RAY SCOTTY MORRIS
L'OCCHIO – THE EYE



Ray Scotty Morris is not only an internationally renowned photojournalist and successful society photographer in San Francisco, but his career has enriched the lives of many on a wide scale. He's been taking pictures for close to fifty years and as a news photographer he won 29 photo awards in just ten years – local, state and national, including best news picture of the year.

Scotty has received a Certificate of Commendation from the U.S. Senate along with the distinct honor of being written into the 107th U.S. Congressional Record.



DANILO NAVAS
CAPRICCIO

Danilo Navas is a Master of the history and diversity of World Music. The collecting and writing about its richness is for him, an all encompassing passion.

H. GAIL REGAN
THE MARVELOUS MAVERICK



Gail Regan is vice-chair of Cara Operations. She chairs Energy Probe, Friends of Women's College Hospital, is a member of the Canadian Association of Family Enterprise, the Family Firm Institute and the Strategic Leadership Forum. She has a PhD in Educational Theory and an M.B.A. in Finance. Her background in sociology and her personal experience of business have given her intellectual interest in the problem of evil.

JO LEE
180° FROM ORDINARY

LANI SILVER
POLITICALLY RED



Lani Silver - historian, artist, free-lance writer, and Lecturer with the American Program Bureau. (Gorbachev's bureau, Desmond Tutu, Betty Williams & Oscar Arias) For 16 years, Lani directed San Francisco's landmark Holocaust Oral History Project, conducting 1,700 oral histories with Holocaust survivors and witnesses. Lani co-discovered the story of Chiune Sugihara, who is called The Japanese Schindler. Lani became Steven Spielberg's first consultant and trainer for his Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation. 52,000 testimonies. Lani is currently the Project Director for the James Byrd Jr. Racism Oral History Project, 2500 testimonies recorded. byrdproject@aol.com.

CRAIG RICKER
THE DIGITAL DIVIDE



Craig Ricker is a prolific writer and among the world's best photographers. He went to Russia to develop an understanding of it's world from the inside and to accurately portray their life predicament within his books.

HEIDE VAN DOREN BETZ
THE RICH & THE FAMOUS



Heide Van Doren Betz, an Art Consultant specializing in Ancient Art and Icons has taught Art History and created world famous collections of Antiquities and Icons. Her accomplished photography is shown in a solo exhibition at the Winkelmann Museum in Germany.

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and a bridge to our future.





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GLOBAL WARMING

By H. Gail Regan
Toronto - Canada

In many parts of the world, it's cold outside. So I have chosen a hot topic.

Much of the global warming debate pays attention to who is to blame. Governments? Utilities? Miners? Oil companies? Car manufacturers? Fishers? Retailers? Contractors? Investors? People don't like being blamed and made to change. Consequently, the path to slowing global warming is difficult, perhaps impossible. There is an easier way.

Please try this thought experiment.

Suppose that the estrogen-like chemicals in modern products have side-effects. Imagine that they reduce the life span of child-bearing women from 85 to 50. Suppose though that the hormone boost is good for those women who have not had children and their life span goes from 85 to 120.

Feeling grief at the loss of their mothers and grandmothers, and resenting the

financial burden, it would be easy for the great-great-great nieces and nephews to blame their aunts for the situation. How wrong-headed! The old ladies are innocent survivors of a catastrophe caused by false beliefs about product safety. If adequate risk assessment had been done, if someone had governed properly, safer products would have been brought to market instead.

All the organizations we blame for global warming are the functional equivalents of these great-great-great aunts -- all are beneficiaries of technological breakthroughs whose risks are not yet assessed. Rather than blaming, we should ask "How did risk assessment used to happen and why is it weaker now?"

In Canada, where I live, use of the common law has diminished in favor of regulation. For example, forty years ago, if you did not like the smell from your neighbor's pig farm, you could charge him with nuisance and take him to court.

The farmer, fearing your litigious habits, would have a small piggery and would be careful to inject manure directly into the soil so as not to bother you. The unanticipated consequence of this fear is control of greenhouse-gas.

Nowadays, Canadian farmers have the right to farm at a scale of their choosing. The government agencies that regulate them have as their main mandate the promotion of farming. Many Canadian farms are now environmentally burdensome.

Common law weighs and balances risk and benefit. It cannot be replaced with single-minded regulation. To slow global warming, we need the rule of law, or where centralized control is absolutely necessary, well-drafted legislation and systemically-minded regulators.

Respect for the law as an institution and environmental responsibility go hand-in-hand.

EXCLUSIVE

JO LEE TALKS TO
THE INGENIUS MR. PRESIDENT

RAFAEL
LEONARDO
CALLEJAS
ROMERO

IF I WERE PRESIDENT AGAIN FOR A DAY



Rafael Leonardo Callejas Romero: Former President of Honduras.



The President with President Clinton in the White House.

With its Pacific coast and long Caribbean shoreline - Honduras' Tegucigalpa had embraced a special place in my heart when I first came to experience the beauty of its people, some years ago! What I didn't know - was that the man responsible for the vastness 'of good' that came to touch the peoples of this country - was a man many came to love. A man whom I've come to refer to as: The Ingenius Mr. President.

I first met Rafael Callejas not as the majority winning candidate whose opposition government {the National Party of Honduras (PNH)} had taken office peacefully, for the first time in 57 years. Nor, as a much younger man receiving his M.S. in agricultural economics from Mississippi State University. He'd become an expert on financial and economic issues connected to agronomy and scientific agriculture. In later years - he would be awarded an honorary doctorate not only from

Mississippi State but too - from Vermont University, University of Guadalajara, The Catholic University of Nicaragua, Pepperdine, Zamorano Agricultural School and Georgetown University. And, our meeting was not during his studies in agricultural development at the Social Studies Institute in The Hague, Holland nor, when he married the stunningly bright and beautiful young attorney, Norma Gaborit, with whom he has five incredible children originating from each of their first marriages.

As does happen throughout life - I was introduced to Rafael and Norma by a marevelous man who is a friend to all three of us.

Today, Rafael Callejas has become President of The Honduran Soccer Federation and travels the world promoting soccer on its behalf.

He's become chairman of the board of a new commercial wireless venture -

WiTEL - targeting the growing demand for communications and internet service by Central America's rural areas offering community-access 'hot spots' to enable communications in rural areas for a fraction of the cost of traditional landline or cellular service.

The former President has always been a strong advocate of developing affordable communication options for the region's low income families with a strong feeling toward "universal communications and internet coverage being vital to the future of Central America." Importantly - this will also provide a channel for the delivery of such vital social services as distance learning and telemedicine to isolated rural areas, breaking the isolation of many of Central America's communities.

He's become a voice who exudes the power of change! A personality, a man that has millions wondering: could he run again?



...and a few days later he was President.

Born on the 14th of November, 1943 in Tegucigalpa, Honduras – Rafael is the son of a landowning family.

By the time he had returned from university – he had been prepped for every imaginable directorship he could sit on!

It began with the soon-to-be President serving on the Higher Council for Economic Planning. He then became head evaluator in the Office of Agricultural Planning, then Deputy Secretary of the department of Natural Resources, Secretary of that department and Director of Agricultural Planning. He was also president of the board of directors of the National Bank for Agricultural Development, president of the board of the Honduran Institute for Agricultural Trade, and a member of the boards of the National Utility Company, the National Port Authority, the National Water Works and Sewerage Service, the Honduran Corporation for Forestry Development, and the Honduran Banana Corporation.

Then he became Treasurer of the National Party.

When the military agreed to free elections – Rafael became a leader in his National Party and chief of a modernizing faction.

Four years later – he headed the National Renovation Movement, a conservative faction of the National Party. It favored private sector development in collaboration with Ronald Reagan's Caribbean Basin Initiative.

And then he became a Presidential running mate.

Rafael Callejas' running arguments would be respect for human rights, tolerance to political ideas, economic reforms to advocate free market policies, the rule of law and the right of property, and to put an end to corruption, and demilitarization. He enjoyed strong U.S. support in an electoral campaign that was remarkably free of the fraud and violence that had accompanied his predecessors and he cultivated close ties with the industrial nations and was popular among those advocating conservative (neoliberal) economic policies.

Rafael Callejas' Presidential victory came amid problems arising from Honduras' involvement in the Contra war against the Nicaraguan Sandinistas. That struggle stimulated large-scale immigration of Nicaraguan refugees and the influx of U.S. aid in support of the Nicaraguan Contras contributed to inflation, uneven economic development and political turmoil in the country. The defeat of the Sandinistas in the then Nicaraguan election, allowed the President to achieve prompt removal of Contra bases in Honduras.

By the end of 1990, in an unprecedented event in modern refugee history, Honduras was host of 400,000 Nicaraguans and 200,000 Salvadorians, all nationals of Nicaragua, leaving their UN refugee camps for their homeland. Not one stayed. Their lives were guaranteed under the Toncontin Agreement, making the Esquipulas Peace Treaty a reality in Central America.

One of the President's first actions was to devalue the lempira to close to the black market rate and to begin structural adjustments according to recommendations by the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID).

He sought to decrease capital flight from the country and undertook to privatize the National Production Development Agency (INFOP), various natural resources, the National Agrarian Institute, public works and transportation enterprises, and possibly the entire educational system. He sought to decrease and, undertook to privatize all business ventures in which the government was involved: cement plants, sugar mills and especially public road maintenance. Honduras had, in those days, the best roads in the whole of Central America. Poverty was reduced by more than 8% during this period, benefiting more than 600,000 people.

As one can readily appreciate – the new President enjoyed high popularity and economic improvement during his economic reforms. He reduced government expenditures and increased exports, especially of non-traditional maquiladora (processing) production. He encouraged investment with lower taxes and tariffs. He favored expansion of the North American Free Trade Agreement to include all of Latin America. He reduced tariff rates from a maximum of 135 percent to a maximum of 20 percent.

Credibility in the international community earned Honduras favorable treatment by the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the U.S. and European governments.

So, can we imagine –

Such a gentleman as Rafael Leonardo Callejas Romero would feel about holding the highest office in the land again – and how he would redefine the concept of the Office of the President if he were to run and become: Mr. President for a day!

JL



The President and the First Lady.

JO LEE: 01. Mr. President, what an honor!

I'd like to begin by asking you, Rafael Callejas – if once again you became the President of Honduras, how might you take your integrated experiences and formulate them into a strategy that could benefit mankind?

PRESIDENT RAFAEL CALLEJAS:

This is one of those unanswerable questions, Jo Lee. But my experience tells me that your question can be answered in a word - efficiency. We should, all who invest in growing nations, in social and development projects, be assured goals are met or growth or funding should not be continued. The cost of failure to achieve results has to be paid and not by the beneficiaries.

Jo Lee, it is my honor to be encouraging the people of my country, through this interview with you, to never stop believing! And it is a further privilege to encourage your international readers to believe in my country.

J.L: 02. Mr. President - why should we re-elect you?

MR. PRESIDENT: Jo Lee, I would modernize the country and I would change the vision creating hope for the poor!

J.L: 03. What would be your key focus in your campaign?

MR. PRESIDENT: Jo Lee, when the world observes a country such as ours, my Campaign Slogan would automatically be the inner embrace of everyone's dream of living: food for the hungry, roofs for the homeless, jobs for the unemployed. To have résumés and economic social plans open new hope and expectation for the poor of Honduras.

J.L: 04. And how would you raise money for this campaign, Mr. President?

MR. PRESIDENT: GOH {Government of Honduras} pays around 50%. The rest would come from private events, with popular participation.

Large donations would be made public. Conflict of interest with businesses associated with government contracts would be avoided.

J.L: 05. What do you dislike most about politics?

MR. PRESIDENT: Short term bickering versus long term solutions.

J.L: 06. What then, is your idea of a perfect Administration?

MR. PRESIDENT: A small, disciplined, fiscally efficient government Jo Lee - with a concentration on the fight against crime, education, health and INFRASTRUCTURE.

J.L: 07. Mr. President, what within your mandate, would present the greatest challenge to your opponents?

MR. PRESIDENT: Two obvious arenas, Jo Lee. Fighting crime and generating long term employment.

J.L: 08. What is the biggest problem in the world?

MR. PRESIDENT: POVERTY!

J.L: 09. This is big! How would you ever fix it?

MR. PRESIDENT: Yes, it is big Jo Lee, and again, extremely obvious that this would be done via real access to rich country markets, aid for infrastructure and quality education.

J.L: 10. You and I have discussed at length the critical impact of health and knowledge and your theories were fascinating! Could you elaborate, just a bit, Mr. President.

MR. PRESIDENT: Jo Lee, awareness of the issues that are associated with poverty should be a world priority. In the long run, the damage to the global environment will damage all of us! The world population - rich and poor. Even

the most affluent will feel it. So why, having the resources, the technology and the means, don't we really put our love into expanding this effort called health, called knowledge - and do it!

J.L: 11. What would you legalize?

MR. PRESIDENT: IMMIGRATION!

J.L: 12. Why immigration?

MR. PRESIDENT: So as to resolve the flow of people from the South to the North thereby forcing job creation investment in the poor countries.

J.L: 13. What would you outlaw?

MR. PRESIDENT: Productive land that is not producing.

J.L: 14. Why?

MR. PRESIDENT: Because it will limit the people's access to economic growth.

J.L: 15. What would you veto every time it hit your desk?

MR. PRESIDENT: Jo Lee, the death penalty!

J.L: 16. That's powerful! Why, Mr. President?

MR. PRESIDENT: My response, Jo Lee, is that I am a Catholic. The country is Catholic and new Christian. We oppose the death penalty. DOGMA.

J.L: 17. You are a man empowered by history. What historical figure do you most identify with?

MR. PRESIDENT: Franklin D. Roosevelt and I'll tell you why. His New Deal is the blueprint that poor countries, within their own limitations and actual timeframe, should follow. His development programs after the Great

JL



The President and First Lady on his last day as President. The Honduran presidency is limited to a single four year term.



JL





opposite: President, Rafael Callejas was able to fulfill one of his dreams: To fly the complex F5 plane with the best co-pilot by his side.

left: The Boys & Girl Scouts presenting the President with a medal for his unending help.

below: One of the many soccer fields made possible through FIFA sponsorship.



JL

Depression generated the longest period of productivity and welfare known to the world.

J.L: 18. If you could change one thing about yourself, Mr. President, what would it be?

MR. PRESIDENT: NOT TO TRUST PEOPLE TOO MUCH! We're in a new world today and as you and I and many of us know – it can be an unpleasant one.

J.L: 19. When you can trust - what do you most value in people, Mr. President?

MR. PRESIDENT: Jo Lee, loyalty.

J.L: 20. Through loyalty comes heroes. Who then are your heroes in real life?

MR. PRESIDENT: Pope John XXIII, Martin Luther King and Nelson Mandela.

J.L: 21. And books, Mr. President? What two books would be required in-house reading?

MR. PRESIDENT: The Bible and Alvin Toffler's Future Shock.

J.L: 22. What a brilliant combination. Who would be your spiritual adviser?

MR. PRESIDENT: Cardinal Oscar Andres Rodriguez – Patriarch of the Honduras Catholic Church.

J.L: 23. Who would you appoint to your Administration?

MR. PRESIDENT: Young, very well trained professionals, members or those close to the National Party that believe in our social justice philosophy.

J.L: 24. O.K. Let's say a second term were possible and you'd re-won the seat. As the new President ... what

would you want the first news headline about your Administration to be?

MR. PRESIDENT: UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE for all households that have an income of less than \$5,000 per year is approved! And financed by the GOH.

J.L: 25. My, very impressive, Mr. President! Tell me, who would get an invitation to stay at the President's home?

MR. PRESIDENT: Success stories like America Ferrera from TV's Ugly Betty and Europe's David Suazo, probably the quickest soccer player in the world.

J.L: 26. Who would never get an invitation?

MR. PRESIDENT: Convicted felons. All law abiding citizens would be welcomed.

J.L: 27. Who would you pardon?

MR. PRESIDENT: Any citizen unjustly condemned for his ideas.

J.L: 28. What would become your favorite Presidential motto?

MR. PRESIDENT: "People, always the people!"

J.L: 29. What would be your favorite Presidential perk?

MR. PRESIDENT: As in my former Administration, Jo Lee - a nice helicopter to visit the people in every corner of Honduras.

J.L: 30. Mr. President, what activity would pose the biggest challenge to your mandate?

MR. PRESIDENT: Fighting crime and generating employment.

J.L: 31. How would you overcome

this, Mr. President?

MR. PRESIDENT: Very simply, Jo Lee. By investing in the creation of jobs, increasing the budgets for the police forces, high technology and by inviting the wisdom from countries that have experienced successes in this area. Investing in infrastructure and tourism. And by training the young people on computers and teaching the young the necessity of the English language.

J.L: 32. What three objects would be a must in the President's Office?

MR. PRESIDENT: A picture of Norma. A good computer with high tech information and several cell phones to follow up on critical details pertaining to government programs.

J.L: 33. Why did I know your first words would be a photograph of the First Lady, Mr. President! But my next question relates to your entire philosophy for governing your country. What person, living or dead, would you model yourself on, as the leader of Honduras?

MR. PRESIDENT: I would follow the historical actions of FDR.

J.L: 34. With Mr. Roosevelt now deceased - if you could be morphed into the greatest living person today – whom might that be?

MR. PRESIDENT: Felipe Gonzales and Jose Maria Aznar, Jo Lee. They are the kind of leaders, in politics of course, that I admire. They changed Spain, and it has become not only a leading country in the world with high standards of living and good quality of life, but Jo Lee, they did it in a generation and they were the cornerstone, the dynamic force that initiated this fantastic change.

J.L: 35. And now, Mr. President, what would be the single most important message to the business/professional community at large?



The President in Rome with Pope John Paul II.

MR. PRESIDENT: You know me. Come on over and invest.

Amazing! This man is just amazing.

So, can we imagine

How the dreams of a former President known as Rafael Leonardo Callejas Romero have multiplied and how he would again feel about holding the

highest office in the land – and how he would redefine the concept of the Office of the President if he were to run and become Mr. President not for a day but – for a second term.

Imagine – the dream of his ingenious power – being the mind behind the desk during the first of a possible second Presidential term. EXCITING!

JO LEE: Mr. President, thank you

for your charm, for your mind, for the brilliance of your wisdom! Merry Christmas!

MR. PRESIDENT: Jo Lee, I am very fortunate to have had this interview. I hope it contributes to help the POOR of the world. Feliz Navidad. Los esperamos en Honduras. Vengan a conocer un país que los recibirá con el corazón. Merry Christmas!

THIN'K'ERS CORNER POPULATION OVERLOAD

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING ON?

BY THE YEAR 2050 THE WORLD'S POPULATION WILL REACH 9.3 BILLION AT A GROWTH RATE OF 77 MILLION PEOPLE PER YEAR.

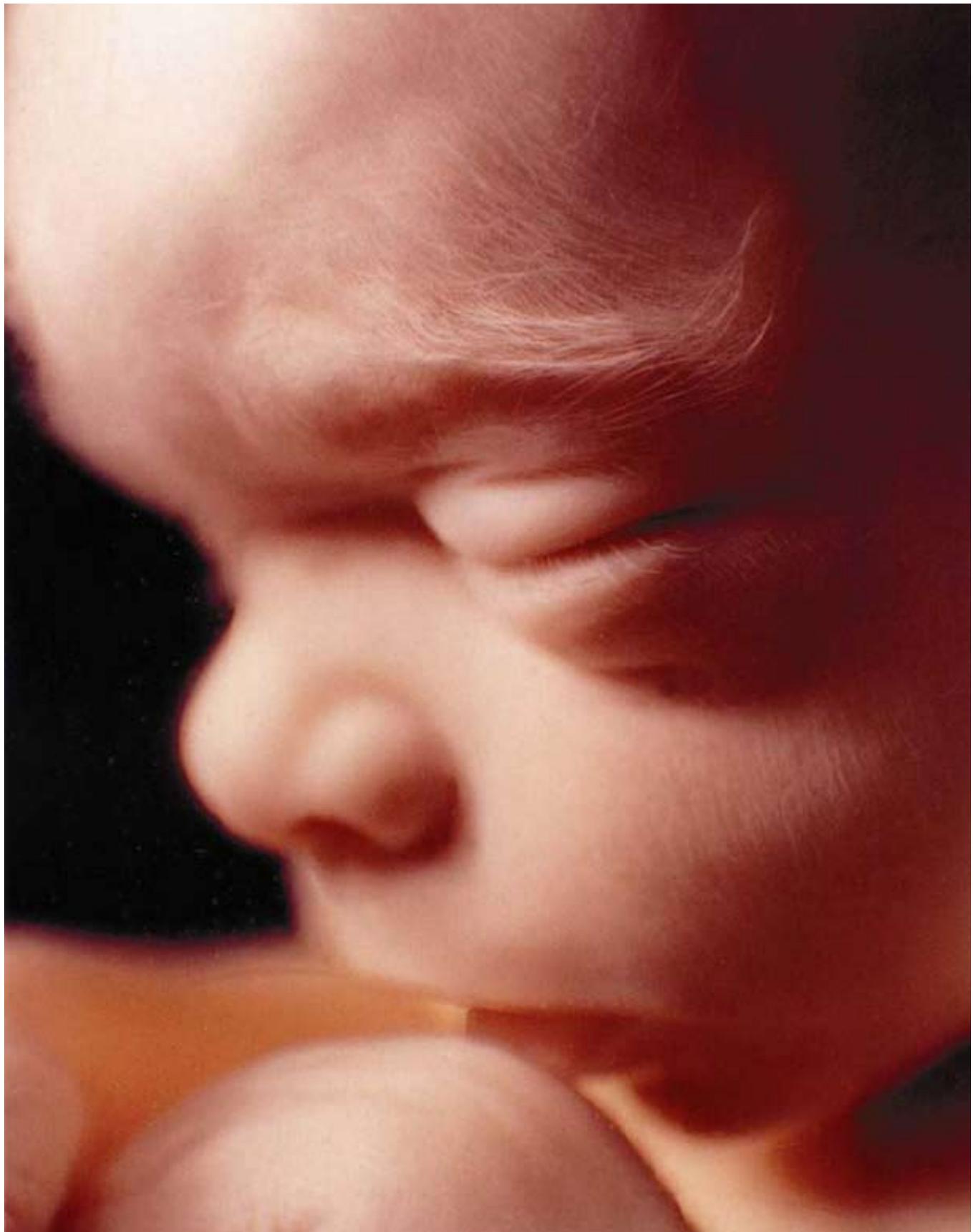
DID YOU KNOW?

IN JUST 5 YEARS THERE WERE 300 MILLION UNPLANNED PREGNANCIES WORLDWIDE (NOT INCLUDING THE 3RD WORLD) WITH 700,000 WOMEN DYING AS A RESULT.

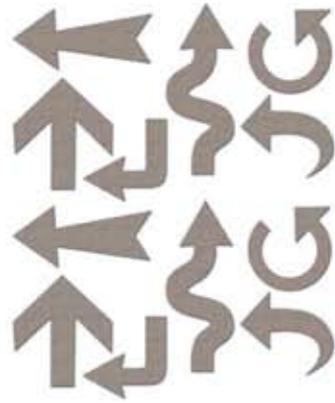
THERE'S A HUGE, UNMET NEED TO RECTIFY THIS! HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF WOMEN GLOBALLY DO NOT WANT TO BECOME PREGNANT.

HOW CAN SOCIETY HELP? IS THERE A SOLUTION? YOU DECIDE.

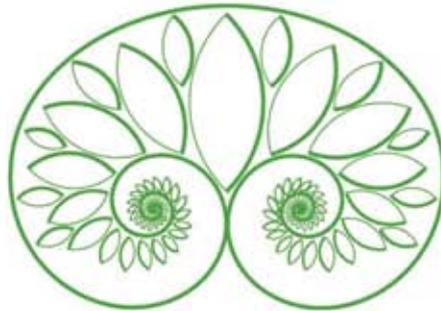
THE POWER OF COMPASSION



We All Make Choices



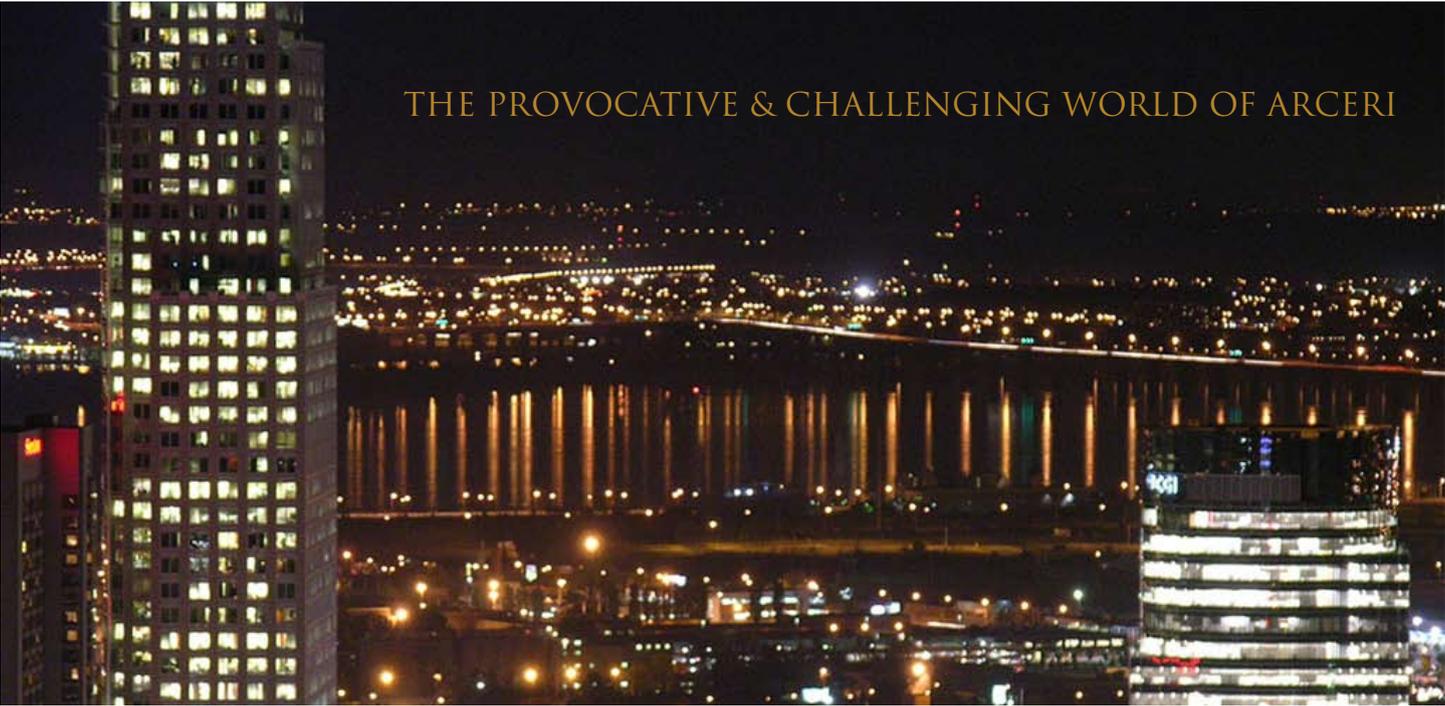
The impact of our actions today can and will have an affect on our common future if we take personal responsibility by both changing old habits and consciously making new ones. Organic Principle #7



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CULTIVATING CONSCIOUS CHOICE

www.organicprinciple.com



THE PROVOCATIVE & CHALLENGING WORLD OF ARCERI

GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY AND BLOOMBERG

By Gene Arceri
New York – San Francisco – London

H yacinth Bucket (nee Bouquet) on Broadway? The very same, Patricia Routledge co-starred with Vincent Price in a new musical *DARLING OF THE DAY* presented by The Theater Guild at the George Abbott Theater in 1968, the year I was to leave New York and Broadway. Fiorello La Guardia was Mayor when I arrived on the scene and John Lindsay when I left. Nowadays, Manhattanites sure got lucky when they elected Michael Bloomberg.

While working at impresario David Merrick's office above the St. James Theater on West 44th, I managed to sneak into the theater downstairs to see *HELLO, DOLLY* with several Dollies: Carole Channing, Pearl Bailey, Betty Grable, Ethel Merman, Phyllis Diller, Ginger Rogers. When I moved to San Francisco - I packed some great theatrical memories of Shubert Alley, the thoroughfare between 44th and 45th streets off Broadway. I can't

count the times I walked that way and looked up at the marquees of the historic theaters heralding the current shows and stars ... felt the excitement of shows currently on the boards, in previews, starting rehearsals or scheduled for production. It was the buzz of Broadway.

CABARET was at the Imperial, while The National Co. was at the then O'Keefe in Toronto. Angela Lansbury was *MAME* at the Winter Garden, Ingrid Bergman was on stage at the Broadhurst (when the musical *CASABLANCA*, previously called *RAT FINK*, was coming to town). Kate Hepburn was singing, sort of, in a musical based on the life of Gabriel "Coco" Chanel. A musical version of Philip Barry's *THE PHILADELPHIA STORY*, a comedy about the rich set with music and lyrics by Cole Porter, was selling tickets in advance. Whatever happened to that? And what about *HOW TO STEAL AN ELECTION*, a musical about

dirty politics from the time of George Washington to the then present (1968) and before George W. (Bush vs. Al Gore, remember?) Dan Dailey was penciled in for the lead. *NATIONAL VELVET*, a musical about a horse (?), was riding into town. *SOME LIKE IT HOT* was in the works. Producer David Merrick had on his agenda a new musical, *THE GIRLS*, about a producer of musicals (hello!) whose theatre is scheduled for demolition. You might recall it as the newly renamed *FOLLIES*.

Although I liked my work with the City Center of Music and Drama and the New York City Opera and Ballet Companies at Lincoln Center, I loved the heartbeat of Broadway more.

So, when you are in the Big Apple ... Give My Regards to Broadway, Mayor Bloomberg, the theaters, box-office people, actors, the agents and especially The Lenore Tobin gang at 246 W. 44th Street – all, a piece of my heart.



YES, VIRGINIA! COME - EXPLORE WITH ME

POLYNESIA: AN AMAZING LAND!

By Lois M. Gordon
Silicon Valley – California

Vacationing in Polynesia is many a people's dream. While it is true that, price wise, Bora Bora often remains very expensive, many other islands are affordable.

Maupiti, is a favorite! Not far from Bora Bora – it is said to have 'the most beautiful lagoon in the world'. It has much fewer tourists, with prices for lodging, restaurants and activities defying all competition. Among the approximate ten 'guest houses' in Maupiti, there are two that deserve to be patronized.

TAUTIARE VILLAGE

Maupiti's lagoon is an idyllic place. Whether you are on one of the big motu that frames the island or on the island itself, which is the case for Tautiare Village, beaches are magnificent, immaculately white, and nautical activities through the wide lagoon are many. This charming family pension welcomes you inside a big house by the shore and features five beautiful and very well furnished rooms with sunsets visible from each room's deck. At the foot of

the house – complimentary kayaks await you for your daily renewed discovery of Maupiti's immense lagoon where an impressive sample of underwater fauna and flora beckons you into waters between three and 10 feet deep.

The quietness of this place invites you to relax and is less than three kilometers from the village.

The tour around the island in a canoe will be a true revelation. For culture and tradition lovers, the Vaiahu marae, three minutes away on foot, inspires meditation.

In the evening, around a table with sumptuous seafood from the lagoon, you can hear the marvelous legends that have been marking the life of Maupiti for centuries – until late into the night.

As I have mentioned ... we come to realize that Polynesia is not expensive, once off the traditional paths.

PENSION MAUPITI VILLAGE

Are you looking for a more remote place

and unusual experiences?

Maupiti Village, located on the motu to the right of the pass is a dream place.

On one side, the lagoon beach beckons you to fully enjoy quiet and inviting short walks, its iridescent sand and the astonishing discovery of its underwater diversity. On the other side – is the ocean for as far as you can see.

Lodging finds you with a choice between the three beach bungalows or perhaps even less expensive, a room in one of the pension's two large 'fare'. Prices will surprise you as they include all meals and the originality of the 'proprietor's' home cooking. Sundays are marvelous with a big Ma'a Tahiti - a Tahitian ground oven (a high quality gourmet party) famous throughout the islands.

You'll never get bored at Pension Maupiti Village.

So, come explore with me and remember: vacationing in Polynesia is many a people's dream.

WHY CHOOSE VIKING RIVER CRUISES?



◆ *Enjoy the ever-changing scenery*

Rivers have been the highways of civilization for centuries, but it wasn't until recently that people discovered river cruising as the ultimate way to travel. As many savvy travelers already know, Viking River Cruises, the #1 River Cruise Line, is one of the best ways to experience the wonders of Europe, Russia and China.

Why is it so different? Because only a Viking River Cruises vacation gets you so close to your destination—you can walk right off the ship into Budapest's Central Market or sail through the Three Gorges on the Yangtze. But, perhaps the best feature is that all Viking River Cruises excursions are included in the cruise price, and led by English-speaking tour guides. Try getting all that on an overcrowded ocean liner!

TRAVEL IN DELUXE COMFORT

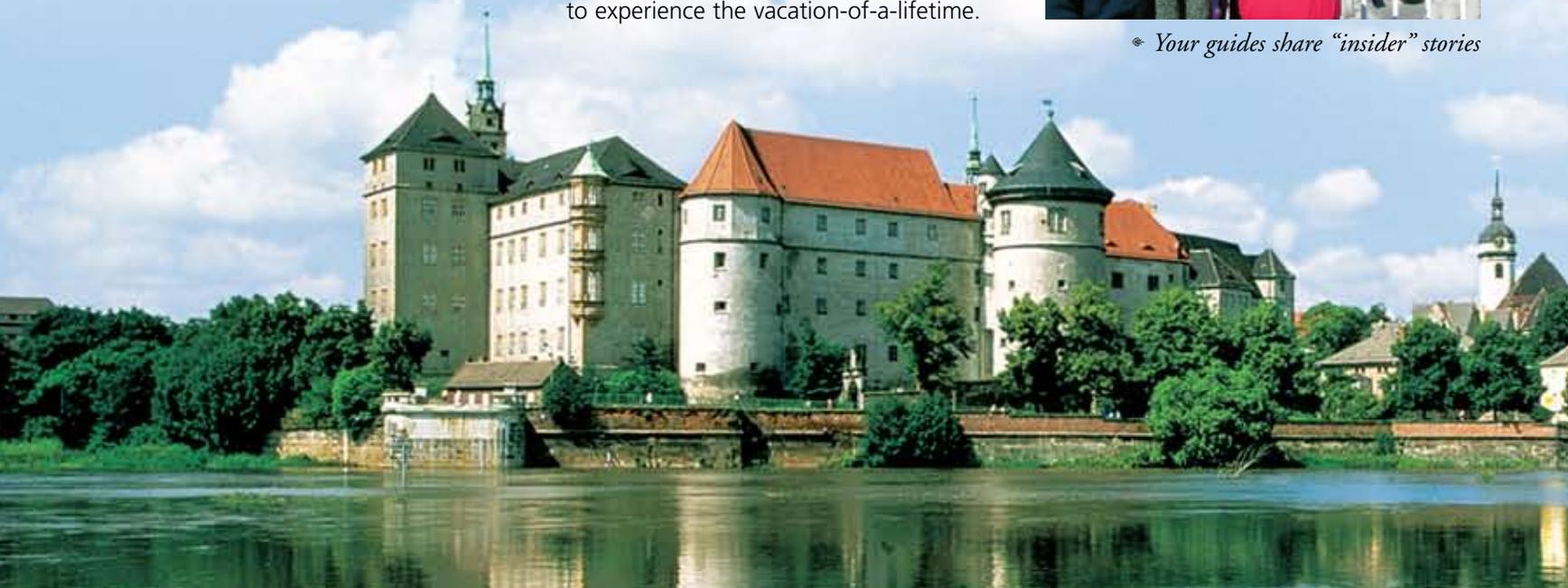
Since 1999, Viking River Cruises has custom-built ten new ships, designed with amenities which maximize the river cruising experience—enjoy deluxe outside cabins, elegant Scandinavian design and large picture windows with scenic views. In this setting, you can relax and make new friends as you enjoy the intimacy of being on a ship with about 150 other passengers. So much more than simply a cruise, a Viking River Cruises voyage truly is the very best way to experience the vacation-of-a-lifetime.

PASSENGERS REALLY EXPERIENCE THEIR DESTINATIONS

While river cruising makes travel effortless, it's really the enjoyment that passengers get from seeing both bustling cities and idyllic riverside towns that keeps them coming back. On a Viking River Cruises vacation, you'll view artistic masterpieces, explore the opulent gardens of a royal palace, or enjoy the sights and sounds of a vivacious outdoor market. And there are no hidden costs—it's all included in the price of the cruise.



◆ *Your guides share "insider" stories*





✦ *Our ships often dock in the heart of a city*

MAKE LASTING MEMORIES IN EUROPE, RUSSIA OR CHINA

On China cruisetours, an English-speaking escort accompanies you throughout your entire vacation—on land and aboard ship. Viking River Cruises in-country staff has searched out the best places, hotels and activities in China, so you'll enjoy a memorable collage of history, architectural wonders, dazzling landscapes and truly unforgettable faces.

While you're traveling on any of our itineraries, you'll spend your time between ports visiting with other passengers or watching the scenery go by—while we bring the fascinating cities right to you. At Viking River Cruises, we believe you should be able to enjoy any of our destinations up close and in comfort.

Ranked World's #1 River Cruise Line

Recognized by readers of Condé Nast Traveler in the "Top 10 Small Cruise Ship Lines" for the magazine's annual Reader's Choice Awards

Multiple award winner on Travel + Leisure's "World's Best" list and Condé Nast Traveler's "Gold List"

Honored for the 3rd consecutive year with the "Best River Cruise Line" title by travel website CruiseReport.com



EUROPE

Grand European Tour

Amsterdam to Budapest: 14 Nights

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Budapest to Nuremberg: 7 Nights

Switzerland to Belgium

Basel to Antwerp: 12 Nights

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Vienna to Amsterdam: 12 Nights

Eastern European Odyssey

Budapest to Black Sea to Vienna: 14 Nights

Danube Explorer

Vienna to Nuremberg: 7 Nights

Berlin to Prague

Berlin, Magdeburg to Melnik, Prague: 11 Nights

Dutch Journey

Roundtrip Amsterdam: 7 Nights

Tulips & Windmills

Roundtrip Amsterdam: 9 Nights

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INDULGENCES

CANADIAN BOOK EXHIBITS ABROAD

By Kati Rekai
Toronto - Canada



Kati Reikai has written over twenty books. Her “Adventures of Mickey, Taggy, Puppo and Cica” – a travel series for children – is sold worldwide in five languages.

She has organized nineteen Canadian Book Exhibitions for TWUC (The Writers’ Union of Canada) to promote Canadian writers abroad. She is the arts and travel commentator for Toronto, Canada’s CIAO Radio and the travel and cultural columnist for Kaleidoscope Magazine.

Kati is the first Canadian writer to have been awarded the Prix Saint-Exupery in France; she was awarded the Order of Canada and its Hungarian equivalent, the Order of Merit, for furthering Canadian-Hungarian cultural relations. She is a TWUC Life Member, ‘in recognition of her exceptional contributions to the advancement of the works of Canadian writers on the world stage.’

About 18 years ago I ran into Herbert Whittaker, former drama critic of Toronto’s *The Globe and Mail* newspaper, at an art exhibit.

We discussed Christmas holiday plans. He had none, my grandsons and I were going to Budapest. After reading my children’s guidebook to Budapest, my native city, he joined us. There, Herbert introduced me to Peter Szaffko, professor of Canadian literature at Kossuth Lajos University in Debrecen. He lamented the lack of Canadian books available to his students.

The following year I was elected Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of TWUC with a mandate to promote Canadian writers abroad. With the approval of the National Council of TWUC, the support of the Canadian Embassy in Budapest, Dr. Szaffko, Air Canada, Malev Hungarian Airlines and book donations in English and French from writers and publishers across Canada, I organized the first TWUC Canadian Book Exhibition in Budapest.

It was held in the lobby of the five-star Forum Hotel. Among the 500 books exhibited, one display case was filled with the works of authors Stephen Leacock, Mordecai Richler, Pierre Berton and John

Ralston Saul, in Hungarian. Following the Exhibition, the books were donated to the Kossuth Lajos University Library, the Szechenyi Library in the Royal Palace, and the Canadian Embassy Library in Budapest.

The success of the Budapest Exhibition (one Canadian publisher sold Hungarian rights to ten titles) led to requests for Exhibitions at the University of Galatz, the International Book Fair in Bucharest, and Prague, an Exhibition attended by authors Irving Layton and Joe Svoreczky. A Canadian Children’s Book Exhibition took place in East Berlin prior to German reunification. During the Exhibition the Berlin Wall came down so it was attended by East and West Germans alike.

I organized Exhibitions at the National Library in Riga, Latvia and at the Raymond Moriyama-designed Canadian Embassy in Tokyo. The Exhibition in Athens was attended by Toronto author/professor/city councillor William Kilbourn and Montreal writer David Homel, whose “The Electric Storms” was published in Greek, in tandem with the opening of the Exhibition.

A Canadian Book Exhibition at the Poets’ House in New York preceded one in Belfast, as part of a Canadian-Irish literary conference, and in Ljubljana, Slovenia at the Canadian Studies Centre

of the University of Ljubljana. Kiev’s Vernadsky Library and the University of Lanzhou, China were next. Canadian books were much appreciated in Lanzhou; the only Canadian writer the University had known previously was Margaret Atwood. Author/performer Sonja Dunn was with me there.

Subsequent Canadian Book Exhibition venues became Sofia, Bulgaria; Tirana, Albania; Havana, Cuba; Manila, the Philippines; Cape Town, South Africa; Colombo, Sri Lanka and St. Petersburg, Russia where I was accompanied by writers Barry Callaghan and Daniel David Moses.

A most important aspect of these Exhibitions has been the donation of the books to libraries of the host countries as their introduction to and enjoyment of Canadian literature. I could not have realized them without complimentary transportation of the books by multiple airlines and shipping companies and the invaluable support of our Canadian Embassies and Consulates.

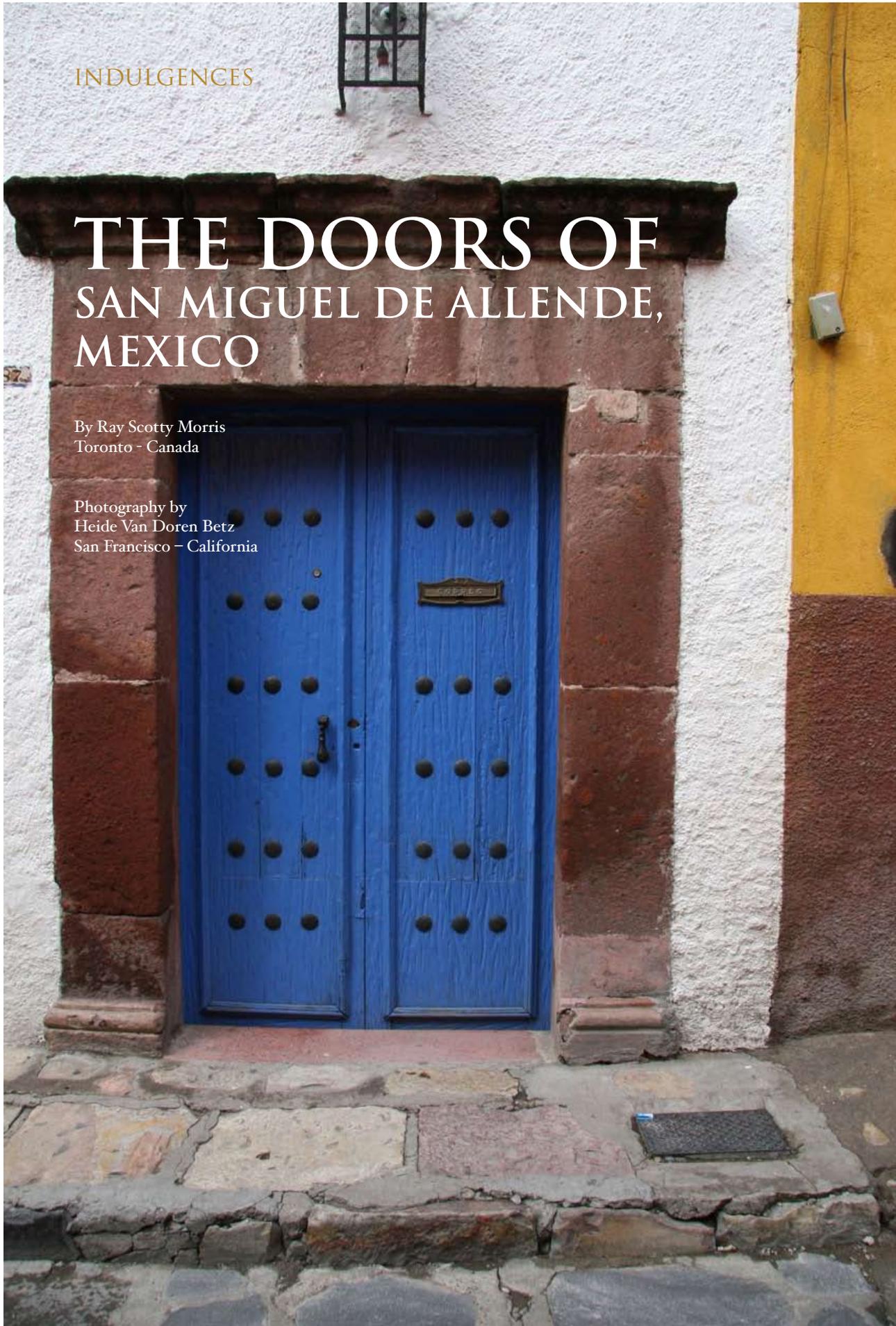
Thanks to our missions abroad and the generous donations of Canadian writers and publishers whose books remained in the host countries so audiences would enjoy them in perpetuity – the Canadian literary works have been made available to a vast audience around the world.

INDULGENCES

THE DOORS OF SAN MIGUEL DE ALLENDE, MEXICO

By Ray Scotty Morris
Toronto - Canada

Photography by
Heide Van Doren Betz
San Francisco - California





Heide Betz and the author, Ray Scotty Morris

THE BRILLIANCE OF HEIDE VAN DOREN BETZ'S PRESENT PHOTO EXHIBITION IN BERLIN, GERMANY.

The small but world renowned Winckelmann Museum in Stendal, {outside of Berlin} Germany, is hosting an exhibition of JO LEE Magazine's columnist, Heide Van Doren Betz's photographs of the "Doors of San Miguel".

The Winckelmann Museum is best known in the realm of Antiquity because its founder, Johann Winckelmann {influential German art historian and philosopher, 1717 - 1768} is credited for having rediscovered Antiquity for the modern world.

The museum specializes not only in exhibitions of the ancient, but in informative shows that relate the modern to the

ancient.

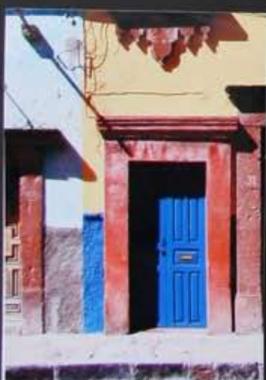
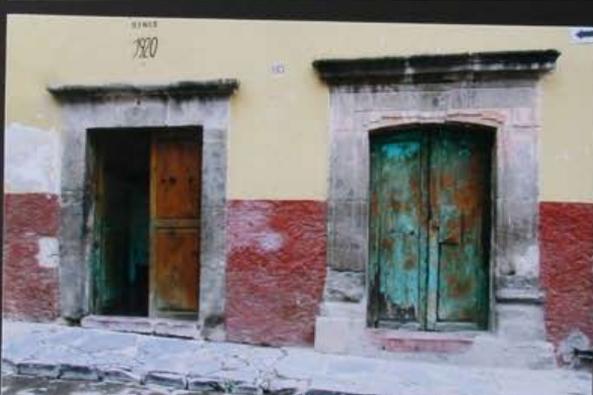
Heide's doors do just that. Her striking images of the doors and walls relate to images she observed while visiting Pompeii and Herculaneum a few years earlier. The city plans of the ancient and modern cities, the sidewalks, the sewer systems, the housing compounds all had a similarity. If Pompeii had not been destroyed in 79AD by Vesuvius, it would have a sister city in San Miguel.

A reception honoring Heide - by Stendal's Mayor, Klaus Schmotz and Professor Dr. Max Kunze, President of the Winckelmann Society was recently held in the city's 500-year-old town hall. Although the city has less than 100,000

inhabitants {of course, Berlin a city of 3.5 million is about 45 minutes away by train} six members of the press attended - which highly impressed the author of this story, a photographer and columnist myself, for JO LEE Magazine.

Two very informative and art historically relevant lectures on the relationship of this modern town in Mexico to the ancient cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum, preceded the opening reception in the museum. Heide Betz received many accolades for the realization she had come to about the door structures of San Miguel and their relationship to the ancient world and her incredible ability to put this realization into brilliant visual format.





Winckelmann Museum

Heide Van Doren Betz - Die Turen von San Miguel de Allende
Winckelmann Strasse 36-38 Stendal, Deutschland 29.Juni - 20.September, 2007



The Winckelmann Museum Exhibit Gallies.



INDULGENCES

Sally jumped up as soon as she saw the surgeon come out of the operating room. “How is my little boy? Is he going to be all right?” she asked.

“I’m sorry,” said the surgeon. “We did all we could, but your little boy didn’t make it.”

I DON’T HURT ANYMORE, MOM! SIGNED WITH LOVE, FROM JESUS AND ME

By JO LEE Magazine

New York / San Francisco / Hong Kong / London / Tokyo / Rome / Toronto

“Why do little children get cancer? Where were you, God, when my son needed you,” she cried!

It had been Jimmy’s idea to donate his body to the university for study: “Mom, I won’t be using it after I die. Maybe it will help some other little boy spend one more day with his mom.”

With sorrow, Sally drove home and lay down across Jimmy’s bed and, hugging his pillow as she had done so many times, again, cried herself to sleep.

It was around midnight when Sally awoke.

Lying beside her on the bed was a folded letter. The letter said:

“Dear Mom,

I know you’re going to miss me; but don’t think that I will ever forget you, or stop loving you just ‘cause I’m not around to say I LOVE YOU. I will always love you, Mom, even more with each day. Someday we will see each other again. Until then, if you want to adopt a little boy so you

won’t be so lonely, that’s okay with me. He can have my room and old stuff to play with. But, if you decide to get a girl instead, she probably wouldn’t like the same things us boys do. You’ll have to buy her dolls and things girls like, you know.

Mom, don’t be sad thinking about me. This really is a neat place. Grandma and Grandpa met me as soon as I got here and showed me around some, but it will take a long time to see everything. The angels are so cool. I love to watch them fly. And, you know what? Jesus doesn’t look like any of his pictures. Yet, when I saw Him, I knew it was Him!

And you’ll never guess what, Mom - I got to sit on Christ’s knee and talk to Him, like I was somebody important. That’s when I told Him that I wanted to write you a letter, to tell you good-bye and everything. But I already knew that wasn’t allowed.

Well, you know what Mom? Jesus handed me some paper and His own personal pen to write you this letter. I think Gabriel is the name of the angel who is going to drop this letter off to you. Jesus said for

me to give you the answer to one of the questions you asked Him: “where was He when I needed him?”

“God said He was in the same place with me, as when His son Jesus was on the cross. He was right there Mom, as He always is with all His children.

Oh, by the way, no one else can see what I’ve written except you. To everyone else - this is just a blank piece of paper. Isn’t that cool? I have to give God His pen back now. He needs it to write more names in the Book of Life. Tonight I get to sit at the table with Jesus for supper. I’m sure the food will be great.

Oh, I almost forgot to tell you, Mom. I don’t hurt anymore. The cancer is all gone. I’m glad because I couldn’t stand that pain anymore and God couldn’t stand to see me hurt so much, either. That’s when He sent The Angel of Mercy to come get me. The Angel said I was a Special Delivery! How about that?

Merry Christmas, Mom!
With all my love from,
Jesus and Me, Jimmy”

PROS & EX.CON.S

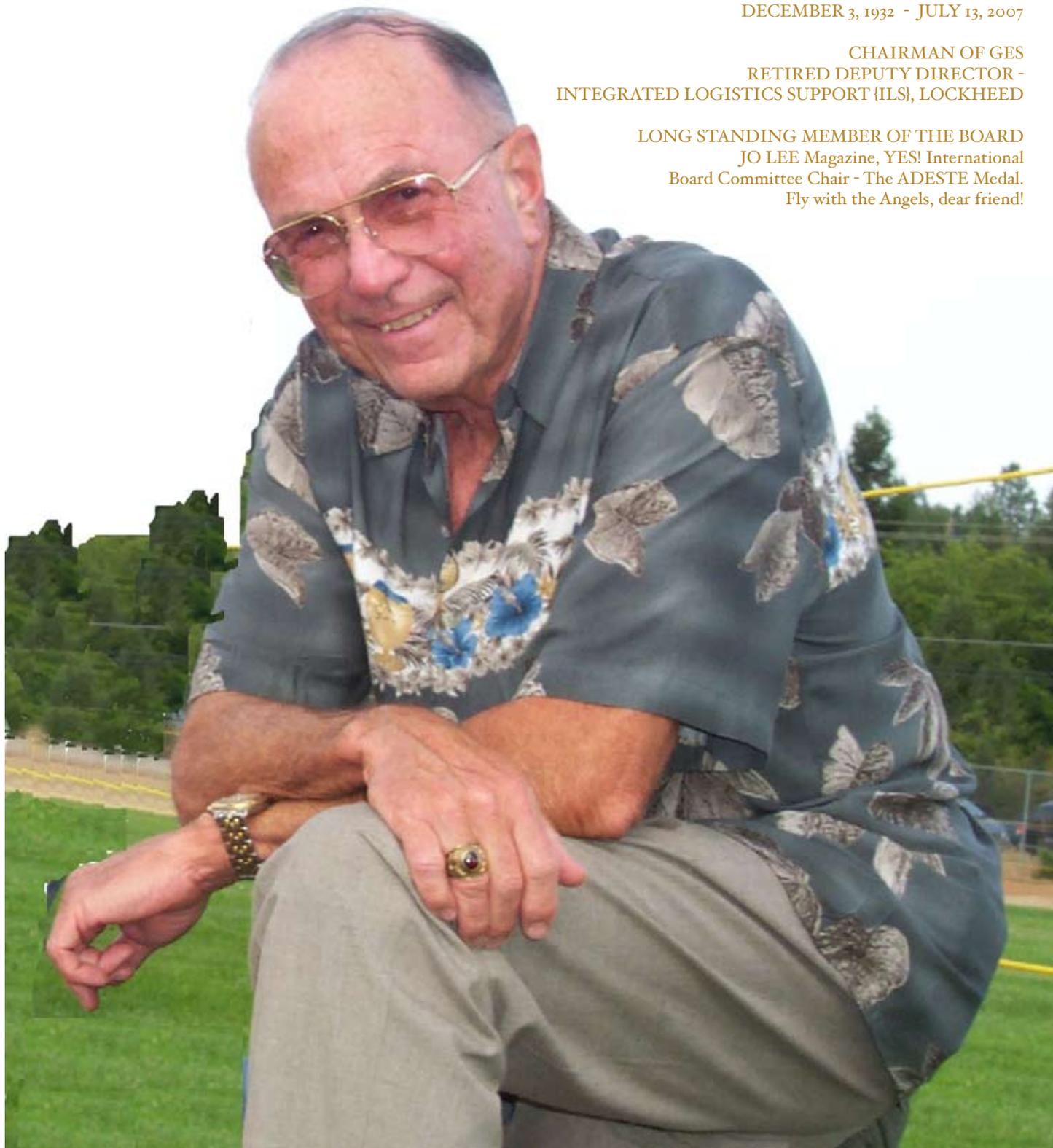
We salute our dear friend
who played a brilliant role in helping us realize our dreams!

CREAGHE H. GORDON

DECEMBER 3, 1932 - JULY 13, 2007

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EDITORIAL ENCORE

In this season's Anniversary 'Encore' – JO LEE Magazine's Nino A. Mascioli, Executive Editor Global Planning - JO LEE Magazine / Emissary - The ADESTE Medal reminisces about his world of creativity.



NINO A. MASCIOLI

By JO LEE Magazine

New York / San Francisco / Hong Kong / London / Tokyo / Rome / Toronto

BORN

Timmins - Canada

LANGUAGES

English, some Italian and French.

PARENTS

Great parents!

Mother hailed from Hibbing, Minnesota and was an amazing Maestro.

Father was from Italy and became a Canadian businessman and one of Canada's Italian Consuls.

MY PROFESSION

Founded The Duffy Group. A consulting consortium embracing the world of e-Commerce and Purchasing.

RESULT

Created several amazing computer

databases. Most notably 'The Wedding Tool' that is used to track everything from budgets to seating arrangements.

PASSION

Playing non-competitive golf with my friends.

HOBBIES

Ringing a few chords, playing the harmonica, listening to Wagner, entertaining.

FAMILY

My incredible wife, Julie, of 37 years, who continues to inspire me with her wisdom! My two beautiful children, Jennifer Lee and Bryan; their remarkable spouses, Matthew and Marissa; and my precious grandchildren: Mikaela Jane, Ian Matthew

and Addison Mireille Lee - my crowns and glories. And it goes without saying ... my siblings, all three wonderful, who have stood by and supported me throughout my life.

FINALE

Being Executive Editor Global Planning - JO LEE Magazine / Emissary - The ADESTE Medal has been a real joy and a great learning experience!

I ask you to Nominate a 40 or under individual who without your nomination, may never be recognized.

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FEATURE

One objective of investigators working to develop the future generation of pain medications is to take full advantage of the body's pain 'switching center' by formulating compounds that will prevent pain signals from being amplified or stop them altogether. Blocking or interrupting pain signals, especially when there is no injury or trauma to tissue, is an important goal in the development of pain medications. An increased understanding of the basic mechanisms of pain will have profound implications for the development of future medicines.

THE FUTURE OF CHRONIC PAIN

By T. Ethan McPherson
Los Angeles – California

SYSTEMS AND IMAGING

The idea of mapping cognitive functions to precise areas of the brain dates back to phrenology, the now archaic practice of studying bumps on the head. Positron emission tomography (PET), functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) and other imaging technologies offer a vivid picture of what is happening in the brain as it processes pain. Using imaging, investigators can now see that pain activates at least three or four key areas of the brain's cortex, the layer of tissue that covers the brain. Interestingly, when patients undergo hypnosis so that the unpleasantness of a painful stimulus is not experienced, activity in some, but not all, brain areas is reduced. This emphasizes that the experience of pain involves a strong emotional component as well as the sensory experience, namely the intensity of the stimulus.

CHANNELS

The frontier in the search for new drug targets is represented by channels. Channels are gate-like passages found along the membranes of cells that allow electrically charged chemical

particles called ions to pass into the cells. Ion channels are important for transmitting signals through the nerve's membrane. The possibility now exists for developing new classes of drugs, including pain cocktails that would act at the site of channel activity.

TROPHIC FACTORS

A class of 'rescuer' or 'restorer' drugs may emerge from our growing knowledge of trophic factors, natural chemical substances found in the human body that affect the survival and function of cells. Trophic factors also promote cell death, but little is known about how something beneficial can become harmful. Investigators have observed that an over-accumulation of certain trophic factors in the nerve cells of animals results in heightened pain sensitivity, and that some receptors found on cells respond to trophic factors and interact with each other. These receptors may provide targets for new pain therapies.

MOLECULAR GENETICS

Certain genetic mutations can change pain sensitivity and behavioral responses to

pain. People born genetically insensate to pain. That is, individuals who cannot feel pain - have a mutation in part of a gene that plays a role in cell survival. Using 'knockout' animal models - animals genetically engineered to lack a certain gene - scientists are able to visualize how mutations in genes cause animals to become anxious, make noise, rear, freeze, or become hypervigilant. These genetic mutations cause a disruption or alteration in the processing of pain information as it leaves the spinal cord and travels to the brain. Knockout animals can be used to complement efforts aimed at developing new drugs.

PLASTICITY

Following injury, the nervous system undergoes a tremendous reorganization. This phenomenon is known as plasticity. For example, the spinal cord is 'rewired' following trauma as nerve cell axons make new contacts, a phenomenon known as 'sprouting'. This in turn disrupts the cells' supply of trophic factors. Scientists can now identify and study the changes that occur during the processing of pain. For example, using a technique called polymerase chain

reaction (PCR), scientists can study the genes that are induced by injury and persistent pain. The dramatic changes that occur with injury and persistent pain underscore that chronic pain should be considered a disease of the nervous system, not just prolonged acute pain or a symptom of an injury.

NEUROTRANSMITTERS

Just as mutations in genes may affect behavior, they may also affect a number of neurotransmitters involved in the control of pain. Using sophisticated imaging technologies, investigators can now visualize what is happening chemically in the spinal cord.

Thousands of years ago, ancient peoples attributed pain to spirits and treated it with mysticism and incantations. Over the centuries, science has provided us with a remarkable ability to understand and control pain with medications, surgery and other treatments. For people who fight every day against the limitations imposed by pain, the work of scientists offers a powerful weapon in the battle to prolong and improve the lives of people with pain.

FEATURE

The Texas billionaire, Robert M. Bass, is not the kind of guy who flies on commercial planes and, if his latest venture takes to the skies - he will not be the kind who flies subsonic either.

FAST, DAZZLING AND DELUXE

By Jonathan Lancer
Los Angeles - California

Robert Bass is financing an effort to build the world's first supersonic business jet known as Aerion. With this plane: you can have breakfast in New York, fly to London, stay for four hours and fly back to New York for dinner.

Even with a minimum price of \$80 million, Bass's dream has drawn unbelievable interest which says everything we surmise about the market for private aircraft - the fastest-growing segment of the global aerospace industry.

A few months ago - Airbus confirmed it had booked an order from an individual for its A380 Superjumbo Jet, the buyer not being from either Europe or the United States. The \$300 million plane seats 525 people and is being converted 'for personal use for him and his entourage'.

At these economic altitudes, whether one opts for size or speed is mostly a matter of personal preference.

On the tarmac at Le Bourget airfield, where the air show is held, well-dressed visitors sauntered between Falcon, Gulfstream and Bombardier jets like shoppers in a Louis Vuitton boutique.

"These are people who are willing to pay any price," said Richard Aboulafia, an aerospace analyst at the Teal Group in Fairfax, Virginia. "The top end of society is also the fastest-growing segment of society."

Lines formed early at Falcon's new 7X. The gleaming \$41 million eight-seater is the newest entrant in the category for superlarge business jets, following Gulfstream's G500 and Bombardier's

Global series. Dassault Falcon has already booked more than 160 orders for the plane. Its first delivery in the United States is to Anheuser-Busch in St. Louis, a loyal Falcon customer.

The Teal Group estimates that manufacturers will produce 999 business jets, worth \$16.4 billion, this year. That is nearly double their output in 2003, when sales had bottomed out after the last big growth spurt ended in 2002.

Teal's figures do not include passenger planes, like the A380, that are converted to private use. Airbus and Boeing both sell business jet versions of their smaller planes. There are an estimated 150 such converted aircraft worldwide, but they account for only 5 percent of the market. Over the next decade, Teal projects manufacturers will turn out 12,000 business jets, worth a cumulative \$173.2 billion.

While analysts expect a temporary plateau in sales after 2009, few predict a recurrence of the boom-and-bust cycle that has haunted the market. In part, this has to do with the increasingly global nature of wealth. The United States used to be the dominant market for these jets. Dassault Falcon generates barely 30 percent of its sales in the United States, according to its chief executive, John Rosanvallon who this year, will deliver 10 planes to Russia where owning your own jet ranks behind only your own yacht or professional soccer club.

Brazil is another rising market, as is India, which has a growing class of rich executives.

China is still a great unrealized hope,

among other reasons because its airspace is sharply restricted by the military.

As private jets become closer in size to smaller passenger planes - supersonic jets could very well be the next great air of exclusivity.

Bass's Aerion would fly faster than the speed of sound only part of the time. With straight wings rather than the delta-shaped design of the Concorde, it is designed to cruise at speeds from Mach 0.95 to Mach 1.6, which is roughly twice as fast as the Falcon 7X.

This design makes the jet lighter, allowing it to use an existing Pratt & Whitney engine. The wings were designed by Richard R. Tracy, an aerodynamicist who created jets for Bill Lear, one of the industry's pioneers. Tracy signed up Bass as his main investor late in 2003.

Bass maintains there is a market for 300 supersonic jets over 10 years. His aim now is to find a manufacturer to share the risk of a five-year development program estimated to cost \$2 billion.

His pitch is simple: the jet would cut three hours off a typical Paris-to-New York flight; one hour off a New York-to-Miami trip; and five hours off a New York-to-Tokyo flight, even with an hour refueling stop in Alaska (the top Gulfstream and Bombardier jets can fly that route nonstop).

Bass, who was born into a Fort Worth oil dynasty, contends that "Customers are becoming more vocal and when they become more vocal, they put more pressure on the manufacturers to produce a plane like this."

ADESTE II



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photograph by Carolyn A. Ristau

AN EXCERPT FROM THE NIGERIAN DIARY BY JOSEPHINA LEA MASCIOLI-MANSELL

There was the grade school, the high school, recreational building and cyber café. The ladies' sewing school, medical clinic, the hospital, the soccer field and the bank. The police headquarters, bridges and roads. Amy's reconstruction of the oldest church and school house and Lucy's mother and father's home-to-be. I visited them all. I spoke with them all.

Schools, recreational centers, hospitals, police, firefighters, banks fall under: government. African Governments in many instances, can be 6+ months late in paying salaries. This means, people, as teachers, no longer go to their place of business. Rather, they leave each morning for the fishing boats and steal to subsidize their income. The government, having used the monies for their own personal greed, does nothing. So, the children sit in schools with no teachers, the recreational centers become run by the kids, the hospital is empty for no Dr. is there, the firefighters become those who

witness the fire, the banks open when government officials, only, need funds and policemen reside at checkpoints with their own interpretation of the law - insisting on bribes before citizens pass through. Their uniform signals 'power' and, if you are amongst the millions with no money to pay: you damn well better have a good line to proceed through that checkpoint or, life becomes another reality of hell.

Consequently - kids graduate from primary to high school and can't read. Diplomas are purchased. The more one pays - the better the diploma looks. In schools where teachers do teach - the higher percentage of children are molested. And for those who are fortunate enough to overcome or escape the sexual abuse and really REALLY want to be educated - yet another abuse is to follow.

The student graduating from high school {must purchase} the {electoral} from their teacher {who pockets the

money} - or, the student will not be permitted to carry on and into a life at a university.

This student, who was more than likely abandoned at birth, raised by a grandmother who believed in education, who begged borrowed to have her grandchild educated {for all schooling is paid for by the individual}, who walked miles to the next village each day, through eight months of torrential rains, to get to the old, tin or wooded building that was called: the school ... HAD A DREAM. The boy or the girl would be intuitive and believe in the honour system and study because of that dream and because of what a university education would afford them: the privilege of graduating and then - being able to give back to those around them.

WHAT HEROES!
'IS ANYONE LISTENING?'

Africa's most populous country – Nigeria – is expected to reach 350 million by 2050 with over 30 million in the Niger Delta TODAY – struggling on less than \$1. a day.

The Niger Delta holds some of the world's richest oil deposits yet, those living in the Delta ARE POORER THAN EVER and the land and water are fowled!

Dense, garbage-heaped slums stretch for miles. Choking black smoke from an open-air slaughterhouse rolls over rooftops. Streets are cratered with potholes and ruts.

This is Port Harcourt, Nigeria's oil hub, capital of Rivers state, smack-dab in the middle of oil reserves bigger than the United States' and Mexico's combined.

Beyond the city, within the labyrinth of creeks, rivers, and pipeline channels that vein the delta—one of the world's largest wetlands—exists a netherworld.

Villages and towns cling to the banks with little more than heaps of mud-walled huts and rusty shacks. Groups of hungry, half-naked children and sullen, idle adults wander dirt paths.

There is no electricity, no clean water, no medicine, few schools.

Fishing nets hang dry; dugout canoes sit unused on muddy banks. Decades of oil spills, acid rain from gas flares, and the stripping away of mangroves for pipelines have killed off fish.

A recent United Nations report shows that in quality of life, Nigeria rates below all other major oil nations, from Libya to Indonesia. Its annual per capita income of \$1,400 is less than that of Senegal.

“We can barely catch fish anymore. We can't support our families anymore. Surviving is no longer a dream anymore,” said Freddie, a 30-year-old father of three.

In this claustrophobic setting, houses in the several villages are tightly packed, where families of ten sleep in a single room under leaky thatch roofs that rain and wind ruin and have to be replaced: but there is no money! There is little room for gardens. Windows look out on walls. And stranded on the shore, are the village fishing boats with workers having to find other jobs: but there is no money to be had for the

training of these jobs! On land, there are oil spills, polluting groundwater and ruining cropland.

The oil money involved is staggering. The head of Nigeria's anticorruption agency estimated that in 2003, 70 percent of oil revenues, more than 14 billion dollars: was stolen or wasted.

“As a boy, I could stroll to the rivers or back swamps with a rod and a net and come back with enough fish to feed my family,” Freddie recalled. “There was usually enough left over to sell, providing income for us to go to school.

Today, for the delta's 30 million people — most of us struggle on less than one dollar a day.

Is anyone listening?”

WHAT HEROES!

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THINK OF IT!

The biggest disease today is not leprosy or HIV but the feeling of being unwanted.

And the mystery is this:

The more you go beyond yourself, the more you will become your true self;
the more you lose yourself in loving and serving others, the more you will find yourself;
the more you keep company with those who suffer, the more you will be healed.

Bishop of London

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FEATURE

Working from an office in Jerusalem, and another in the West Bank, Mr. Blair has become the special representative for the Middle East quartet of UN, EU, US and Russia – orchestrating a peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinians.



TONY BLAIR, TODAY CHIEF ENVOY TO THE MIDDLE EAST

By JO LEE Magazine
New York/San Francisco/Hong Kong/London/Tokyo/Rome/Toronto

Tony Blair has been heavily criticized for his role in the invasion and occupation of Iraq. He continues, nevertheless - to favor the cause of the Palestinians, despite their civil war, creating two entities: Hamastan and Fatah Land.

Today - Mr. Blair is trying to set things straight.

So, how does this man of the world expect to succeed in his endeavors?

It's going to be the chess game of his lifetime - in light of present events on the ground and with his own country becoming increasingly Islamicized and more unfriendly toward Israel.

The idea of Mr. Blair doing this job is understood to have originated with the

Prime Minister himself in conversation with George Bush, who then suggested it to the UN.

Diplomats, familiar with the proposed mandate for Mr. Blair, have said how little it differs in substance from that of his predecessor, Jim Wolfensohn, who left the job in April, 2006.

Wolfensohn, of course, resigned because he couldn't manage to enlist actual support from George Bush. But maybe Blair will do better. One thing in his favor is that the peace process is so completely broken down - that he hardly has any place to go but up.

"It's a tough assignment," commented former UN Secretary-General, Kofi

Annan, adding that the situation in the Middle East is "much worse today than it was a year ago. He obviously would like to make a difference but he, too, could struggle to make an impact if his role is limited to improving the economic situation in the Palestinian territory.

If it is an economic mandate in an environment where you have the kind of heightened tensions that exist today, it is a real challenge. But he's a very gifted man, and if anybody is going to be able to do it, it is Tony Blair."

* Blair has said that his task would be to prepare the ground for a future Palestinian state as an essential first step toward reaching a negotiated settlement in the region.

FEATURE

The private banking business is on a roll. Buoyant markets combined with break-neck globalization - have served to strengthen the ranks of the world's rich, boosting demand for bankers who can help augment their wealth.

MINTING IT

THE PRIVATE BANKING INDUSTRY BOOSTING ITS WEALTHY CLIENTS

By Horace Bell
UK

The scope of private banking is infamously difficult to quantify with larger and larger sums being kept offshore and clients reluctant to discuss the scale of their wealth.

Unsettling, is the 2-3 year rotation of private bankers between institutions – automatically eliminating the banker's claims of 'close relationships'. Reputable private banks are overcoming this by creating groups that allow clients to move away from relationships with individuals where they become more specialised in products such as hedge funds, commodities and private equity.

Wealth management is a lot

more difficult than it looks on the surface. It takes time to understand what matters and what doesn't matter to the investor. This is particularly true when advising entrepreneurs. The shift among the rich from those who have inherited their wealth to those who have earned it poses challenges for the private banking business.

Entrepreneurs who have thrown everything they own into creating a business may not initially meet a private bank's test of a certain minimum threshold in investable assets.

It is for this reason that the wealth management arm of Barclays, one of the more

aggressive recent entrants to the private banking industry, now offers a service it calls private investment banking. Other large institutions such as UBS, Credit Suisse and HSBC - are also seeking to exploit the links between their private banking and investment banking arms.

For all the growth in assets and increased sophistication in products ... it is said that the industry is no better prepared to explain the risks their clients are undertaking than it was in previous years.

Private banking executives dispute this view, arguing that their clients' portfolios are much more diversified today than they were years

ago. "More and more clients are reducing the amount they would have in equities and bonds," says Jeremy Marshall, UK chief executive of private banking at Credit Suisse. "As much as 20 to 30 per cent of their portfolios might be in commodities, private equity and hedge funds." Wealthy clients are also taking a broader view of their spread of assets – such as multiple homes that could add up to a heavy exposure to property.

Regardless of the state of the markets – most executives agree that the rapid change that has gripped the private banking business in recent years - is set to continue and climb.



FEATURE

Ballet as a musical form is a musical composition intended for ballet performance. The same music can be used for several different ballet choreographies. Until the second half of the 19th century - the role of music in ballet was secondary, with main emphasis being on dance, with music being a compilation of danceable tunes. Writing ballet music used to be a job for composers known as specialists.

THE MUSIC OF BALLET

By Maria Van Sustran
New York - USA

From the earliest ballets up to the time of Lully {1632 – 1687} - the music of ballet was indistinguishable from ballroom dance music. Lully created a style that was separate, where the music told a story. It wasn't until 1717 that the first Ballet d'action was staged. This was a story told without using any words. The pioneer was John Weaver {1673 – 1760.} Both Lully and Rameau wrote opera-ballets where the story was partly danced and partly sung, but ballet music became gradually less important.

The next big step occurred in the early years of the nineteenth century, when principal dancers changed from using hard shoes to ballet pumps. This enabled a more free-flowing style of music to be used.

In 1832 Marie Taglione {1804 – 1884} is credited with being the first famous dancer to dance 'en pointe.' This was in "La Sylphide". It was now possible to have music which was more expressive.

Gradually, dancing became more daring with men lifting the ballerinas into the air - having them flying on suspended wires - as in "Swan Lake" {1876}.

Beginning with Adolphe Adam's 'Giselle' {1841}, characters were given leitmotifs, a recurring musical theme associated within a particular piece of music with a particular person, place or idea. Until the time of Tchaikovsky, the composer of ballets was considered to be separate from the composer of symphonies. In many cases, ballets were still short scenes within operas, to enable scenery to change, or singers to change costume.

Perhaps the best known example of ballet music which is part of an opera is "Dance of the Hours" from Ponchielli's opera "Gioconda" {1876}. There was a violent change in mood when Stravinsky's ballet "The Rite of Spring" {1913} was performed. The music was expressionistic and dischordant and the movements were highly stylised.

In 1924 Antheil wrote "Ballet Mechanique". This was actually for a film of moving objects, not for dancers, but it

was pioneering in the use of jazz music. From this point ballet music split into two directions - modernism and jazz-dance.

Jazz-dance is best represented by the choreographer Jerome Robbins who worked with Leonard Bernstein on "West Side Story" {1957}. In some respects, this is a return to opera-ballet since the story is mostly told in words. Modernism is best represented by Prokofiev's "Romeo and Juliet". Here the story is pure ballet and there is no influence from jazz, or any kind of popular music.

Another strand in the history of ballet music is the trend towards creative adaptations of old music. Respighi took works by Rossini {1792 – 1868} and strung them together into a ballet called "La Boutique Fantasque", premiered in 1919.

With audiences for ballet generally preferring romantic music, new ballets are concocted by a marriage of old works with new choreography. A famous example is: "The Dream" - music by Mendelssohn, adapted by Lanchberry.



FEATURE

Little is known of Mary's personal history from the New Testament. She was a relative of Elisabeth (biblical person Elizabeth), wife of the priest Zechariah of the priestly division of Abijah who herself was of the daughter of Aaron and so of the tribe of Levi.

WHO WAS THE VIRGIN MARY?

By Vada Lynn Schlusel
Stuttgart - Germany

In spite of this, some speculate that Mary, like Joseph, to whom she was betrothed, was of the House of David and so of the tribe of Judah, and that the genealogy presented in Luke was hers, while Joseph's is given in Matthew.

She resided at Nazareth in Galilee, presumably with her parents, and during her betrothal – the first stage of a Jewish view of marriage – the angel Gabriel announced to her that she was to be the mother of the promised Messiah by conceiving him through the Holy Spirit. An event described by Christians as the Annunciation.

When Joseph was told of her conception in a dream by 'an angel of the Lord', he was surprised; but the angel told him to be unafraid and take her as his wife, which Joseph did, thereby formally completing the wedding rites. Matthew's account of the Nativity of Jesus.

Since the angel had told Mary that Elisabeth, having previously been barren, was now miraculously pregnant, Mary hurried to visit Elisabeth, who was living with her husband Zechariah in a city of Judah 'in the hill country'.

Once Mary arrived at the house and greeted Elisabeth, Elisabeth proclaimed Mary as "the mother of her Lord" and Mary recited a song of thanksgiving commonly known as the 'Magnificat' from its first word in Latin. After three

months, Mary returned to her house.

According to the Gospel of Luke, a decree of the Roman emperor, Caesar Augustus, required that Joseph and his betrothed should proceed to Bethlehem for an enrollment. (Census of Quirinius) While they were there, Mary gave birth to Jesus; but because there was no place for them in the inn, she had to use a manger as a cradle.

After eight days, the boy Christ was circumcised and named Jesus, in accordance with the instructions that the 'angel of the Lord' had given to Joseph after the Annunciation to Mary. These customary ceremonies were followed by Jesus' presentation to the Lord at the Temple in Jerusalem in accordance with the law for firstborn males, then the visit of the Magi, the family's flight into Egypt, their return after the death of King Herod the Great about 21 BC and taking up residence in Nazareth.

Mary apparently remained in Nazareth for some thirty years. She is involved in the only event in Jesus' adolescent life that is recorded in the New Testament: at the age of twelve, Jesus having become separated from his parents on their return journey from the Passover celebration in Jerusalem, was found among the teachers in the temple.

Probably some time between this event and the opening of Jesus' public ministry Mary was widowed, for Joseph is not mentioned again.

According to the Gospel of James, Mary was the daughter of Joachim and Anna. Before Mary's conception, Anna had been barren, and her parents were quite old when she was conceived. They gave her to service as a consecrated virgin in the Temple in Jerusalem when she was three years old, much like Hannah took Samuel to the Tabernacle.

Mary's death is not recorded in Scripture.

According to tradition, Mary died while surrounded by the apostles in either Jerusalem or Ephesus between three and fifteen years after Christ's ascension. When the apostles later opened her tomb they found it empty and concluded that she had been bodily assumed into Heaven. The House of the Virgin Mary, near Ephesus, Turkey is believed by some to be the place where Mary lived until her assumption into Heaven.

The Gospel of John states that Mary went to live with the Disciple whom Jesus loved who is traditionally identified as John the Apostle.

Mary, mother of Jesus, enjoys a singularly distinguished and honored position amongst women in the Qur'an: She is the only woman directly named in the Book; declared (uniquely along with Jesus) to be a 'Ayat Allah' or 'Sign of The God' to mankind; as one who 'guarded her chastity'; a 'vessel for the Spirit of The God breathed into her'; and 'exalted above all women of The Worlds/Universes'.



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THE ODYSSEY BEGINS

By Craig Ricker
Moscow - Russia

At the end of June I finally arrived at Lake Baikal. I have been planning this trip for more than two years.

Lake Baikal, called the “Jewel of Siberia”, is the deepest and oldest lake in the world, renowned for its water purity. In the Spring, this water is transparent for 40 meters in depth. It is a UNESCO protected World Heritage site containing 22% of the world’s fresh water.

The concept ... is to walk around Lake Baikal, which will involve approximately 120 days and 2,500 km of untamed Siberian wilderness. I have spoken with everyone possible - who knew something about the lake, including a few I do know who grew up on the lake. Virtually every Russian has some idea about the place.

Two ideas dominate:

First, it is impossible to walk all the way around Lake Baikal because it is too wild, too big, the terrain too rough and has too

many bears.

Second, and most commonly expressed - is that Lake Baikal is a magical place in which the water, the trees, the rocks and the mountains are living beings capable of action.

The gist of the concept is that if you are not pure in the soul ... the lake and surrounding mountains will finish you off. The local aborigines, called Buryat people, consider the lake to be God. There are many rituals to gain the favor of the all-powerful lake but there is no universal one. The main essence of them all is respect. A person must ask permission to drink the water and in general behave in a polite manner around the lake and, of course, maintain an attitude that is in harmony with the lake...

The lake is simply of another planet. You can dip a cup right into it and the water will be the sweetest you will ever taste. The scenery is beyond magnificent; it

stacks right up to the Grand Canyon and the Norwegian fjords.

The lake is also known to have healing properties, which I have already experienced. I have been suffering from asthma my whole life and I have to take a daily dose of a steroid inhaler to keep it under control. After three days on the lake, I forgot about my asthma, I no longer need the inhaler.

A major component of the trip is the total overhaul of my body.

At the moment I am 42 years old and in terrible physical condition after my rough fifteen years in Russia. The strategy is to drink the super pure water, eat good food from the shores of Baikal and naturally walk 2,500 km with a 75 lb backpack.

If I finish the trip, I should lose close to 60 lb and be as strong as a bull.

To be continued!



Priska's eyes through a completed Bell Krater.



WORLD FAMOUS RESTORER OF ANCIENT ART

By Ray Scotty Morris
San Francisco – California

Priska Schilling, a cheerful, petite Berliner has the awesome task of working on jigsaw puzzles daily – not any jigsaw puzzle, but ones that influence and record the history of art dating back 5000 years. For four years Priska studied this very specialized form of art at the Fachhochschule, in Berlin.

In the laboratory of the Altes Museum, one of the five world-renowned Museums on Berlin's Museum Island, Priska and her staff of 7 restorers reassemble ancient {primarily Greek and Roman} glass pottery. The tools used range from sophisticated medical microscopes, to state of the art computers, to the simple tools of needles, brushes, dental instruments and toothpicks.

Often she is confronted with hundreds of small pieces gathered in ancient soil by archeologists and is faced with the mystery of what fits where. Using moltofill plasta and water based paint – Priska recreates those missing links that have been worn away by time, with the longest time ever spent on the restoration of one object being one year.

The 4th century Etruscan antifix of Eos had been restored in previous times and needed to be disassembled and reassembled. Her restoration and reassembly of objects have been seen in major museums of the world including the Getty Museum in Malibu and the Metropolitan Museum in New York, the British Museum in London, the Louvre in Paris and the National Gallery in

Japan. In The Altes Museum as well as the Pergamon Museum in Berlin - her restored and conserved objects are on permanent display.

One of Priska's responsibilities is that of private courier for priceless objects that must be accompanied to the designated exhibition worldwide. This varies from being seated next to the crated object for which a seat must be purchased to overseeing the precise loading and unloading of the crated object into cargo. A police escort is often part of the delivery process. She then oversees the installation of the object, never leaving its side until it is installed and secured.

Priska is a divorced mother of two grown children and 3 grandchildren.



Looking at her restoration work at the Pergamon Museum.

opposite: Priska puzzling over fragments.





Priska carefully enhancing lost paint on the Greek vase.



Ancient glass waiting for reassembly.





Ancient pottery shards find their way to becoming a vase.

opposite: Priska holding a photo of all fragments of this ancient Greek vase, found in the Hermann Goering estate.





The work box, simple toothpick to kitchen spoons.

opposite: Priska working on the restoration of an Etruscan angel.

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WHEN ANGELS CRY

THE NEXT 100 YEARS, ONE CHILD'S JOURNEY - HOW SHE/HE WILL LIVE, LOVE AND NEVER REALLY DIE

THE RISING SUN

By Kelechi Eleanya & Oluwaseun Sotiyo
Nigeria - Africa

Very early in the morning ... it begins to unfold: a new brightness, a new reflection, a new degree of warmness, a new level of usable energy, a renewed assurance.

As it arises, all of creation begins to see darkness covered by light, coldness exchanged with warmness, dormancy broken for activity.

The rising sun ...

What a great hope it represents for our tomorrow; surely it affects every life beginning from the grass that is trampled under feet, the fields of wheat raised for food, the cattle, sheep and goat that offer meat, the great waters and the life it supports.

Plants tap the sun's energy, photosynthesis utilizes it to produce food. The energy is then passed successively to a next level of consumers like cattle, sheep and other herbivores, then other life forms benefit from this energy.

Think of it ...

Children signify a rising sun - they share their life and free energy with everyone around them. Just like the sun shares its light with the moon and stars; children represent a wealth of creativity and untapped potential energy.

So we ask ...

Are we still looking or living in the night

- when the morning is here - in a bright sun?

What we must do, and do now is ...

To give the children a chance!

Let's collectively reverse the trends of child helplessness and poverty.

Let's provide an opportunity - to let children express their life, their potential:
**THE LIGHT THEY CAN GIVE TO
THE ENTIRE WORLD.**

The rising sun is an empowerment to change the world's story!

We hope you can see this.

CAPRICCIO



LIZT ALFONSO DANZA CUBA VIDA!

By Danilo Navas
Nicaragua – Central America

There's probably no other word that better captures the spirit of Cuban music and dance than passion. And that's what permeates the dance musical *VIDA!* A real treat for the senses, *VIDA!* premiered on the first week of June, 2007 at the Royal Alexandra Theatre in Toronto, during the Luminato Festival.

A Cuban-Canadian production, *VIDA!* tells the story of a woman, now at an old age, as she reminisces about her past life and feels the end of the line is approaching. *VIDA!* portrays Vida's experiences as she goes through different stages in a difficult but rewarding life. Vida is the name of the main character. Her grandchild, Alma, listens intently to what Grandmother Vida has to say, as she gets ready to inherit her legacy. It comes as no surprise that Vida means "life" in Spanish and Alma means "soul."

In a country historically convoluted by war, injustice, political fight, revolution, Vida's life is full of challenges. Life is never an easy affair. But her choices and actions ultimately define who she is and the way she decides to overcome those challenges. Her upbringing and personal evolution vividly reflects the essence of Cuban society, a combination of Spanish and African cultures and traditions. Nothing exemplifies this mixture better than music and dance. Catholicism and flamenco intermingle with 'Santeria' and rumba. Elements of classical ballet, modern dance, theatrical performance and popular street manifestations, join the beautiful voice of legendary singer Omara Portuondo, who plays the main character, making *VIDA!* a celebration of life and the joy of living.

This is a superb production showcasing well-trained, disciplined dancers and

musicians. An all-young women (and girls) cast except for a single male performer – fill the stage gracefully and with elegance. But as I said before, 'passion' is the fuel that ignites the scene, remarkably conveying the emotions and fire of Cuban culture. Although it is sometimes a bit difficult to follow the storyline – the visuals, the rhythms, the colorful display of non-spoken elements help the audience to better understand the plot. It's actually simplistic but not without a dose of political charge. It could be interpreted at moments as revolutionary propaganda, but in the end the meaning of *VIDA!* is rooted in universal values.

In short, Cuban choreographer Liza Alfonso, her troupe of gorgeous and talented dancers – *Danza Cuba* – and Canadian director Kelly Robinson have made a memorable piece. No doubt about it.



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A reception room.

opposite: The Great Hall with the famous John Singer Sargent portrait of Nancy Astor and a 16th c. carved stone fireplace.

THE RICH & THE FAMOUS



THE REMARKABLE CLIVEDEN

By Heide Van Doren Betz
San Francisco – California

Cliveden {pronounced clif-din} is an extraordinary and luxurious estate about 40 minutes outside of London. Its 300 year social history, which includes the frolics of Monarchs, Dukes, Prime Ministers, Presidents, Politicians, Writers, Actors and Socialites is as remarkable as its distinctive architecture and grounds. The famous guest's pursuit for power and recognition often resulted in infamous tales.

The first house was built by the second Duke of Buckingham in 1666 as a country retreat for his friends and mistress.

The famous 'duel to the death' between Buckingham and the husband of his mistress, the Earl of Shrewsbury, is still commemorated in the gardens. The house was twice destroyed by fire. Famed architect, Sir Charles Barry, designed the present Italianate building for the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland in 1850.

Much to the dismay of Queen Victoria, who was a frequent visitor to Cliveden, the house was purchased by William Waldorf Astor, then America's wealthiest man. He gifted the estate to his son and daughter-in-law, Nancy Astor, in 1906. The Astor's name became synonymous with lavish entertaining and famous houseguests. Between the two World Wars - many political and social events took place at the art and antique filled

Cliveden. Notable guests included President Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, Charlie Chaplin, Rudyard Kipling, Lawrence of Arabia and George Bernard Shaw.

Perhaps the most infamous event for this historic estate is what became to be known as the 'Profumo Affair.' It was at Cliveden that Secretary of State for War, John Profumo, met showgirl Christine Keeler, who was also involved with a Russian naval minister. This scandal eventually led to the downfall of the Macmillan government in 1963. Today Cliveden is a luxury hotel. The 375 acres of formal gardens with distinctive parterre, forests and lakes and a panoramic view from the building's terraces is part of Britain's National Trust.



Cliveden, the imposing entrance.





Brussels
tapestries
and suits of
steel armor
decorate the
Great Hall.



View of the
gardens from
the Terrace
Dining
Room.



A sculptural fountain on the terrace.





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POLITICALLY RED

GET AUNG SAN SUU KYI'S PIANO FIXED!

By Lani Silver
San Francisco – California

The Nobel Prize winning leader of the democratic party of Burma, Aung San Kuu Kyi, who has been under house arrest for close to two decades, has a piano in her house, but the military dictatorship will not allow her to repair it. It does not play. Please write the leaders of Burma and ask them to repair Aung San Suu Kyi's piano. Allow Aung San Suu Kyi a moment's pleasure.

Oh, the human cruelty. I keep thinking that even in the most abhorrent of dictatorships, as Burma's present leadership – is it not human to show some humanity occasionally.

Suu Kyi was first sentenced to house arrest on July 20, 1989, and while free a few times, has mostly been confined to her home. She has been without any freedom at all for the last five years. Her sole luxury item is a radio.

So I ask: would it not be nice during this Winter Holiday time – to give the gift of compassion, as we would wish to have it given to us! Write via e-mail or telephone the Junta. Don't ask for Suu Kyi to be released, don't write about her house arrest, don't comment on her family that she hasn't seen in years, don't mention the assassination of her father, don't mention that she didn't get to go to her husband's death bed in England, don't mention that she has no fan or heat: just ask for a piano technician.

Having said that, the Burmese government needs to know that we will not stop leafletting or educating people about the military takeover of a vibrant democracy in 1988. We will not stop talking about the genocide that followed or the unjust imprisonment of thousands of demonstrators.

What we do ask – is for a moment of relief for one single insightful and brave woman - who keeps democracy alive for all of us.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Burma: [HYPERLINK "mailto:mofa.aung@mptmail.net.mm"](mailto:mofa.aung@mptmail.net.mm) mofa.aung@mptmail.net.mm
Telephone: 011.(95)1.222.844 x 303

Tell the government -
Aung San Suu Kyi needs her piano fixed,
so she can have a life!

DON STRATHDEE MAGIC

By John Paul Jarvis
Toronto – Canada

Don was the Head of the Music Department at an upscale Toronto high school from 1961 to 1986.

A handsome, energetic, sartorially minded, witty, very with it teacher who - at the time - seemed old but was a mere 31 when we met. Many resented his style, but only through envy.

An accomplished classical pianist he taught music as well as directed 'The Play', always a musical and always Broadway. This school didn't set up in the gym but in its own full theater with raked seating, orchestra pit, lighting and sets.

This was a privileged institution that graduated scholars, athletes, business leaders, politicians as well as actors and artists. I happened there through my parents divorce and my Grandmother's address.

I was cast in "Best Foot Forward" with three lines and a dance number and was hooked on live theater. Don provided the

opportunity and his gracious inclusion of me into an exclusive clique presented the platform to grow.

Strathdee never apologized for the fact that he pushed only the brightest and best and masterly mixed the diverse groups to permit interaction where teenage reticence and pubescent insecurity would have prohibited, but for him.

Don always drove distinctive vehicles, away ahead of trends. I borrowed his convertible Jeep to skip school when an SUV was just letters. At cast parties he made drinks, but common sense was a requirement. I was out for an evening with him in my mid 20s and delightfully saw a wild side that was hinted at but never witnessed.

His Toronto house was on acreage with custom re-construction of a dismantled Québec stone farmhouse with a Steinway in the living room and a walk-in fireplace.

Don decided to challenge the World's High School Band Competition in Venice, Italy in the early 80s. With 75 student

musicians, Strathdee won the Gold. He took no prisoners.

A school principal recently asked me "what was it about him?" I replied simply "he was just magic."

At his retirement, held in the classiest house in Toronto, Roy Thompson Hall, people attended from the entertainment capitals of Europe and North America, all personally influenced. This was the first time I had ever heard him play.

Don died of melanoma a few short years after his retirement. Many generations of Strathdee's kids came back to say goodbye. I reintroduced myself to Liz, Don's wife as she apologized, "Paul there have been so many students over the years" and we quietly smiled understanding our loss.

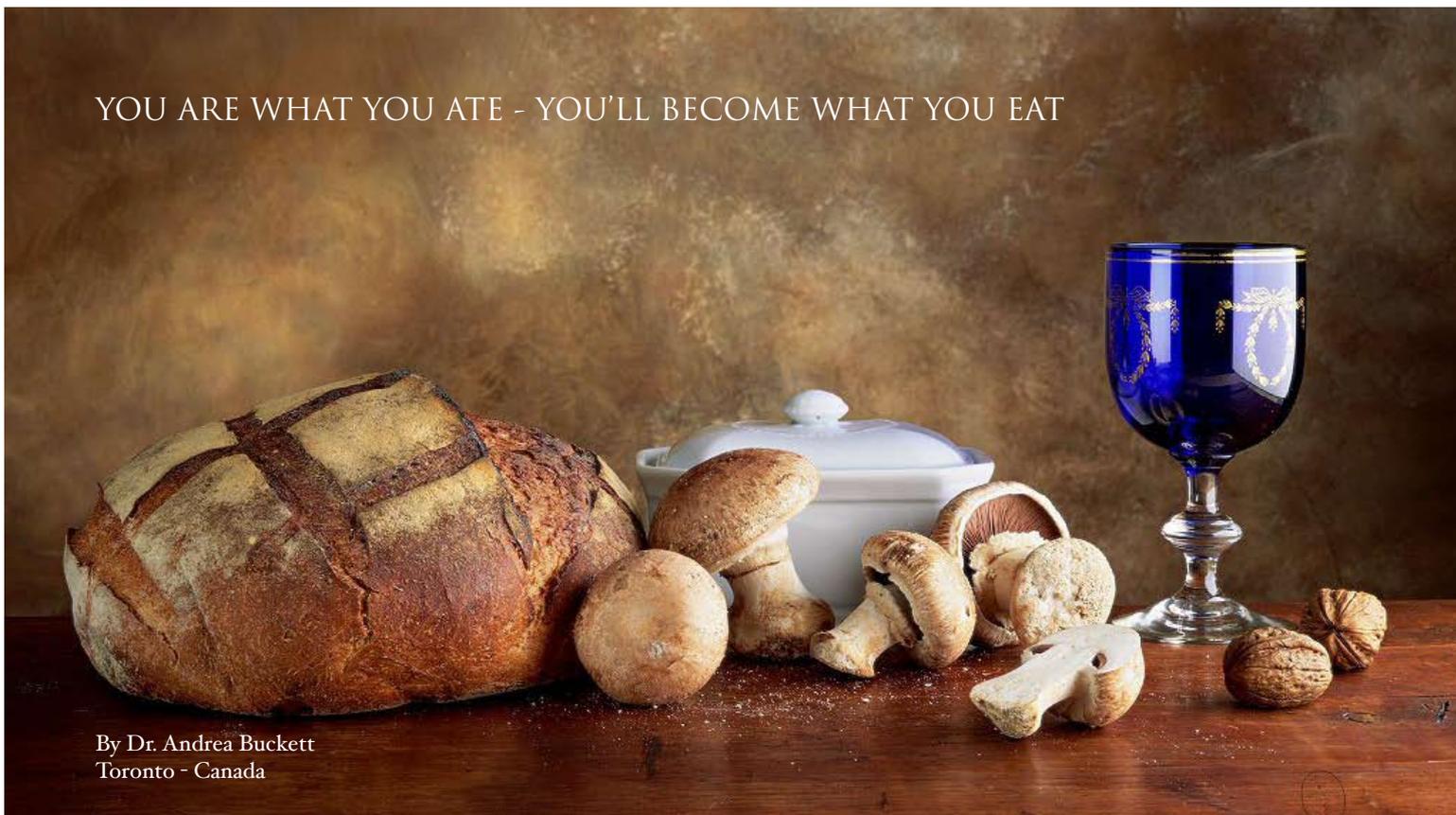
Don's kindness to me was at a time when all I had was pride and he inspired personal belief.

Liz quietly said: "he was like a shooting star, gone first but brighter than all the rest".



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YOU ARE WHAT YOU ATE - YOU'LL BECOME WHAT YOU EAT



By Dr. Andrea Buckett
Toronto - Canada

AND I'LL BET THE SWEEPS ON THAT!

Q: I'm told melatonin is 'a very powerful anti-oxidant' and should be taken daily! Can you please explain this, Andrea. What will it do for me? Jo Lee - JO LEE Magazine

AB: Jo Lee, melatonin is a hormone that is crucial for regulating our sleep/wake cycle and crucial for getting deep, regenerative sleep. However, only recently has it been reported that melatonin is stronger than both vitamin C and E as an anti-oxidant - free radical fighter. Furthermore, melatonin has been shown to have an effect on estrogen dominant cancers such as breast cancers. Therefore, melatonin production is essential for breast cancer protection as it helps prevent the initiation of tumors, slows tumors' growth and prevents the metastasis of tumors.

Q: I love eating cured meats as a snack. Are these high protein snacks a healthy option for me? Boris - Stockholm, Sweden

AB: As always, Boris - everything in moderation. These meats may be protein rich but they contain a significant amount of saturated fat, sodium and unwanted nitrates. Nitrates are added to cured meats as preservatives or anti-bacterial agents. A study published in the Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine has reported a link between consumption of these high nitrate foods and impaired lung function. Consuming them on a daily basis is not recommended.

Q: I am a big tea drinker but would like to reduce the amount of caffeine I consume. Can you suggest some herbal teas that would improve my overall health while satisfying my desire for a warm cup of tea. Heidi - Stamford, Connecticut.

AB: There are literally hundreds of different types of herbal teas you could try, Heidi. Not all teas are going to be pleasant to taste, however. I'm going to suggest a few common ones with pleasant tastes to get you started. Nettle tea is

mild tasting and provides the body with many needed minerals such as calcium and magnesium. Red clover is also a good choice as it is a very cleansing herb. Mint tea is wonderful after a meal to help with digestion and chamomile is great in the evening to help you wind down.

Q: What protocol would you suggest one follow - when diagnosed with high levels of mercury! What helpful dietary strategies should one use to enhance their route to better health and decrease their symptom load? Rob - Toronto, Canada.

AB: Many people live with toxic mercury levels, Rob, and never get diagnosed! There are many pieces to consider when dealing with mercury toxicity - translating into different symptoms and treatments for different people. Put these super foods on the top of your list - greens, essential fatty acids, red and blue vegetables and fruit, lots of clean pure water and a metal cleansing program from your Naturopathic Doctor.

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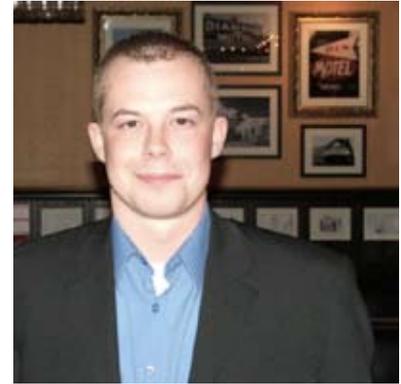
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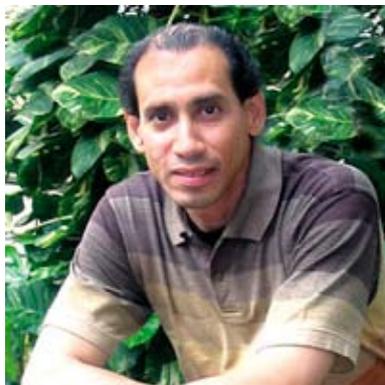
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A HALF!

George Carlin's Views on Aging

Do you realize that the only time in our lives when we like to get old is when we're kids?

"How old are you?" "I'm four and a half!"
You're never thirty-six and a half.
You're four and a half, going on five!
That's the key.

You get into your teens,
now they can't hold you back.
You jump to the next number,
or even a few ahead.

"How old are you?"
"I'm gonna be 16!"
You could be 13, but hey,
you're gonna be 16!
And then the greatest day of your life!
You become 21.
Even the words sound like a ceremony -
YOU BECOME 21.
Yesssss!

But then you turn 30.
Oh, what happened there?
Makes you sound like bad milk!
He TURNED ... we had to throw him out.
There's no fun now,
you're just a sour-dumpling.
What's wrong?
What's changed?

You BECOME 21,
you TURN 30,
then you're PUSHING 40.
Whoa!
Put on the brakes. It's all slipping away.
Before you know it, you REACH 50
And your dreams are gone.

But wait!!!
You MAKE it to 60.
You didn't think you would!
So you BECOME 21, TURN 30, PUSH 40, REACH 50 and
MAKE it to 60.

You've built up so much speed that you HIT 70!
After that it's a day-by-day thing.

You HIT Wednesday!

You get into your 80s and every day is a complete cycle.
You HIT lunch, you TURN 4:30, you REACH bedtime.
And it doesn't end there.

Into the 90s, you start going backwards!
"I was JUST 92."

Then a strange thing happens.
If you make it over 100,
you become a little kid again.
"I'm 100 and a half!"

May you all make it to a healthy 100 and a half!!

GLOBALIZATION

What is the truest definition of Globalization?

Princess Diana's death.

How come?

Answer:

She was an English princess
with an Egyptian boyfriend
who crashed in a French tunnel
in a German car
with a Dutch engine
driven by a Belgian
who was drunk on Scottish whisky
reported by Italian Paparazzi
on Japanese motorcycles
treated by an American doctor
using Brazilian medicines.
You are probably reading this on your computer
that uses Taiwanese chips
and a Korean monitor
assembled by Bangladeshi workers
in a Singapore plant
transported via India
unloaded by Sicilian longshoremen
and trucked to you by Irishmen.

And this, is Globalization!



BRAVE THE OUTDOORS EVEN WHEN THE WEATHER IS FRIGHTFUL

By Carla Dragnea
Bucharest – Romania

... and your body will experience the invigorating ‘aliveness’ equating that of a good workout at the gym. Make sure you involve the entire family in outdoor activities. It will double the fun!

SNOW SHOEING

Try snowshoeing and discover how relaxing it is. Trekking across an open field, early in the morning, gets your heart pumping and gives you an incredible

sense of peace.

SLEDDING

My favorite sport is sledding with my son. Coming down those big hills so many times is a tremendous workout. The bonus? Screaming like a little kid all the way down.

HAVE A SNOWBALL FIGHT

Snowball fighting is a perfect workout and

fun activity for the family. What a reward in all the smiling faces.

MAKE A SNOWMAN

Keeping yourself active through the magic words of ‘let’s make a snowman’ has become one of the wonders of Winter time. Then, with a schnapps or mug of hot chocolate you can toast:

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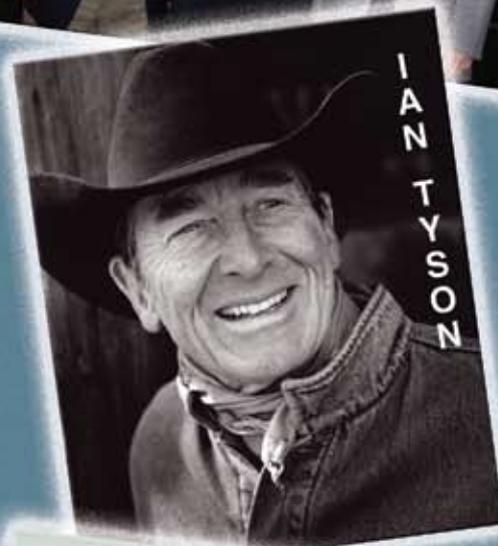
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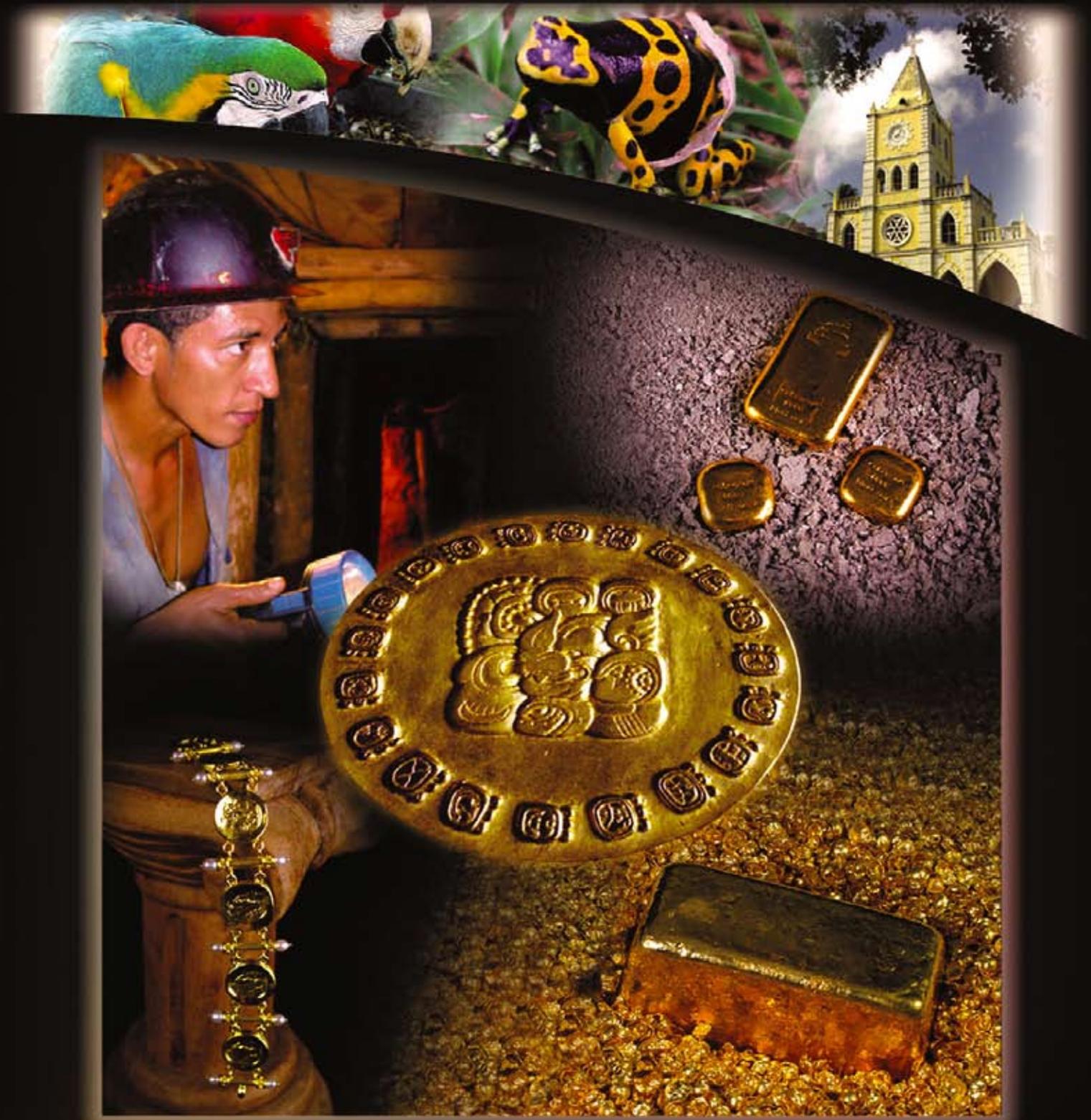
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