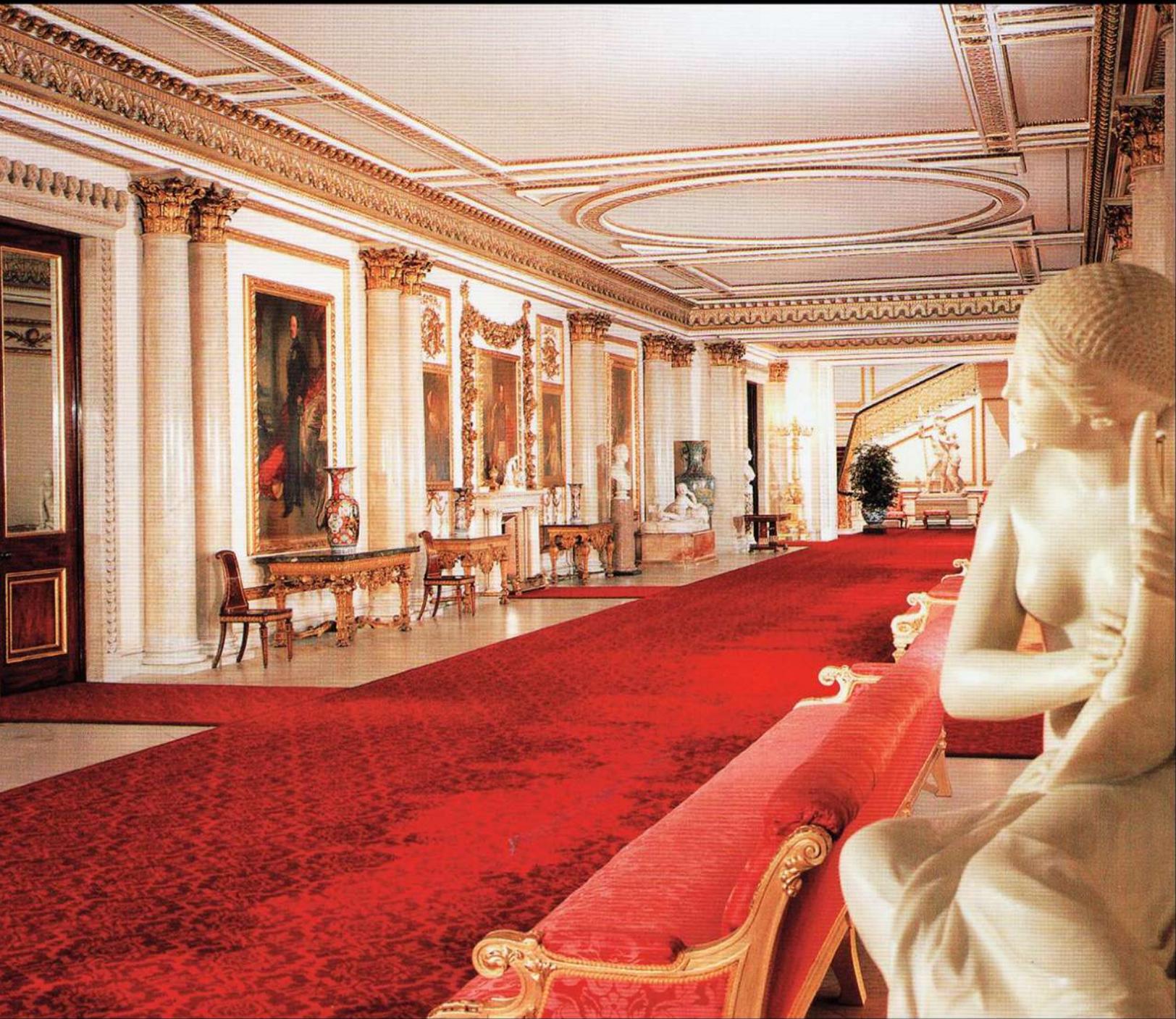




JOLEE MAGAZINE  
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# Jo Lee Magazine

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## *Dining With Josephina Lee* *A Milieu Meant To Revitalize*

BY JO LEE FOR JO LEE MAGAZINE

NEW YORK/SAN FRANCISCO/HONG KONG/LONDON/TOKYO/ROME/TORONTO

Hello dear friends,

Won't you join me as I take you to another of my glorious settings, yes, a cool tonic for the soul as I skip along and smile.

So when the opportunity arrives for me to immerse myself in another setting, I “kick off my shoes” and entertain, entertain, entertain, and I wouldn't have it any other way.

For this Issue, I thought it would be enjoyable to have fun within a milieu meant to revitalize. Marvelous wines and hors d'oeuvres, great minds, flowers that speak, and the ultimate design in Christmas trees. Imagine! All reflecting my loves in life. Candle lights,

crystals, gold-framed mirrors reflecting the Christmas music atop the imagery of a piano, the lace with Persian carpeting enhancing the wallpaper of silk and gold.

The title of my gathering? Unending Love. Ah—ah! To know the outcome of the evening? It shall be told around “carol-singing” amongst the crackling, wood-burning fire. Immaginare!

Saluti e Buon appetito from my home to yours!

“A thing of beauty – is a joy forever,” John Keats

ON THE COVER:

Jo Lee atop the Toronto Fairmont Royal York Hotel.

Photography by Arthur William Dyson. Digital Imaging by Julia Sera Viola.

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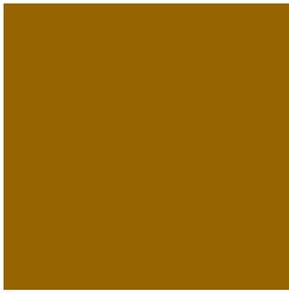
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2005 Laureate: Social Justice, Phil Arkell, The Niger Delta – Nigeria



Page 112: The Claude I. Taylor, O.C. Tribute Award



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*Exclusives*

24

**THE GROUP OF 16  
GEOGRAPHICAL WONDERS**

For our 2022 WORLD LUXURY Issue we offer 16 of the world's most stunning and majestic Geographical wonders.

By Susan Berger  
New York/San Francisco/Hong Kong/ London/Tokyo/  
Rome/Toronto

82

**MANSIONS & BILLIONAIRES  
SIX BILLIONAIRES WHO MATTER**

By Victoria Franciosa  
Rome/Toronto

122

**FROM THE CHILDREN OF UKRAINE  
MY DREAM OF PEACE**

Presented By TIMOTCA  
Art in Pursuit of Peace since 1980  
Laguna Beach, California

*Features*

16

**THE MARVELOUS MAVERICK  
VALUE REVERSALS**

By H. Gail Regan  
Toronto, Canada

18

**PROS & EX.CON  
DELEGATION**

By Stanley J. Dorst  
San Francisco, California

94

**A MAN WHO GAVE YOU  
WHATEVER HE HAD!**

By Peter Merrick  
San Diego, California

112

**THE CLAUDE I. TAYLOR, O.C.  
TRIBUTE AWARD**

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

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## *Intoxicating Opinions*

22

### SENSING THE UNSEEN INNER BEAUTY

By Alan Briskin  
San Francisco, California

56

### FUTURE ON THE EDGE AN AGE OF UNCERTAINTY

By Dr. Rose A. Dyson  
Toronto, Canada

62

### UBIQUITOUS FASHION IN A CHANGING WORLD

By Victoria Franciosa  
Rome/Toronto

72

### THE PRIVATE MUSEUMS CITY GARAGE CAR MUSEUM – GREENEVILLE, TENNESSEE

By Julie Re kai Richerd  
Toronto, Canada

74

### THE KING OF MAIN STREET THIS IS YOUR FINAL TEST

By Peter Merrick, TEP  
San Diego, California

92

### WHEN ANGELS CRY LOOKING AHEAD: 50 YEARS FROM STOCKHOLM

By Kelechi Eleanya  
The Niger Delta, Nigeria

96

### SYNAPTIC TRANSMISSION THE WAR IN UKRAINE

By James T. Rutka, MD  
Toronto, Canada

98

### NOSTALGIA & YOU LEO TOLSTOY, ELIZABETH TAYLOR, STARS IN DRESSES, THE MENU 1929 – THE 1ST OSCARS

By Kerry Baker  
Brisbane, Australia

## *Philanthropic*

10

### THE ADESTE GOLD MEDAL

adestelive.com

## *Wealth*

6

### THRU THE EYES OF JO LEE A MILIEU MEANT TO REVITALIZE

Jo Lee For JO LEE Magazine  
New York/San Francisco/Hong Kong/London/Tokyo/  
Rome/Toronto

68

### PIZZAZZ LITTLE THINGS MEAN A LOT

By Peter Merrick  
San Francisco, California

## *Indulgences*

14

### CONTRIBUTORS

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

76

### THE POET'S CORNER

By Joan Chisholm, Vera Resnik &  
Gary Sweeney

## *Travel*

58

### YES, VIRGINIA! RIO DE JANIERO

By Lois M. Gordon  
Silicon Valley, California

## *Limoncello*

132

### WITS END WINSTON CHURCHILL

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

## CONTRIBUTORS

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### *Susan Berger*



#### THE GROUP OF 16

Susan Berger, after a successful career in finance, embraced journalism as JO LEE Magazine's Marketing Editor and writer of The Group Of 16. Previously, Susan held financial positions with major institutions including TD Financial Group and Alliance Atlantis Communications.

### *Kerry Baker*



#### NOSTALGIA AND YOU

Kerry Baker has been a student, lover and aficionado of Film from his pre double figure age range. He loves to write of his reactions and impressions after seeing new release movies and indeed, his abject immersion in reel life at times may have rivalled his existence in real life.

### *Alan Briskin*



#### SENSING THE UNSEEN

Alan Briskin is an author, artist, and pioneer in the field of organizational learning. His co-authored "The Power of Collective Wisdom" won the Nautilus Book Award in Leadership. His work is distinguished by a grasp of unseen forces underlying our actions.

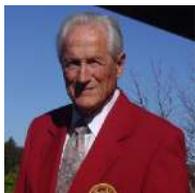
### *Joan Chisholm*



#### THE POET'S CORNER

Joan Chisholm's drive is being an example of how to live a life of excellence. Her book "Spirit Love", Barnes & Noble & Amazon websites, is a transcendental and practical memoir about fulfilling your life's dreams and passions.

### *Stanley J. Dorst*



#### PROS & EX.CONS

Stanley J. Dorst is a retired officer of Chevron Land Development Co. and CEO of Grosvenor Development Co. He's 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 interest in feature writing has encompassed 'the study of life'. In September, 2008, she was appointed Intellectual Advisor to the YES! E-Help Campus which assists 44+ million young people worldwide with their problems. [campusatyes.com](http://campusatyes.com)

### *Rose A. Dyson*



#### FUTURE ON THE EDGE

Rose A. Dyson, EdD, media education consultant experienced in nursing psychiatry, psychology and the arts, is president of Canadians Concerned About Violence in Entertainment. She was co-founder of the 1996 International Cultural

Environment Movement, and serves on executive committees for Canadian Peace Research Association and World Federalists, Toronto Branch.

### *Kelechi Eleanya*



#### WHEN ANGELS CRY

Kelechi Eleanya is an economist and a committed development expert with the UNDP. He holds a degree in Renewable Natural Resources Management and a Master's in Forest Economics.

### *Al Emid*

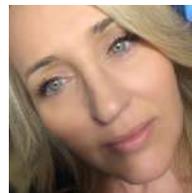


#### THE GLAMOURS LIFE OF AN AUTHOR

Al Emid's career spans 50+ years in communicating ideas, concepts and information as a producer, broadcaster, and as a journalist with bylines in various

financial publications in several countries. In addition, Al has been a Business Studies Instructor at the community college level. In May 2019, we saw Al's latest eBook release on Volatility.

### *Victoria Franciosa*



#### MANSIONS & BILLIONAIRES

Victoria Franciosa's background in Art History has afforded her a unique approach to branding and advertising on the world stage. She is one of the founding members of AmpedMediaStudios as well as founder and head designer of Bishop & Medusa.



*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.



*Peter J. Merrick*

THE KING OF MAIN STREET

Peter J. Merrick is a Business Succession & Estate Planning Expert in San Diego, California with four books published on these subjects.



*Dr. Margaret R. O’Keeffe Umanzio*

THE POET’S CORNER

Dr. Margaret R. O’Keeffe Umanzio, Peggy, has been an advisor to CEOs and corporate executive teams. She was a cofounder of the

first fully-integrated alternative public school in the U.S., has lectured at Boston University as well as at Stanford, Berkeley and Tufts. She is currently writing a book titled Delivering on the Promise.



*H. Gail Regan*

THE MARVELOUS MAVERICK

Gail Regan is vice-chair of Cara Operations, retired. She chairs Energy Probe Research Foundation and is a member of the Canadian Association of Family Enterprise.

She has a PhD in Educational Theory and an M.B.A. in Finance. Her background in sociology and personal experience of business has given her an intellectual interest in the problem of evil.



*Julie Reikai Rickerd*

THE PRIVATE MUSEUMS

Julie Reikai Rickerd is a travel and arts journalist who specializes in discovering private museums around the globe, finding many on each of the seven continents she has visited. Antarctica being unlike any of

the others. The entire continent is a fascinating private museum with the cleanest air on the face of the earth.



*Vera Resnik*

THE POET’S CORNER

Born in Prague, Czechoslovakia, Vera Resnik lost most of her family in the Holocaust. Her volunteer work in the New Jersey court system – as a conflict resolution resource and advocate for children’s rights – led to a court appointment to the child review committee. Today, Vera’s writings are widely read.



*Mark Raynes Roberts*

THE RICH & THE FAMOUS

Mark Raynes Roberts is Principal of Raynes Art + Design Ltd, an internationally recognized crystal art and design firm, providing interior design solutions for luxury environments. Born and trained in England, his sculptures can be found in private and corporate art collections around the world.



*Dr. James T. Rutka*

SYNAPTIC TRANSMISSION

Dr. James T. Rutka is the R.S. McLaughlin Chair, Department of Surgery, University of Toronto, Director of The Arthur and Sonia Labatt Brain Tumour Research Centre, and pediatric neurosurgeon at The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada. He has

served as President of AANS, AAoNS and World Academy of Neurological Surgery. He is Editor-in- Chief of the Journal of Neurosurgery.



*Kathleen Mailliard Solmssen*

PIZZAZZ

Renowned designer, writer, successful photographer, hilarious speaker, chef, mixologist Kathleen Mailliard Solmssen resides in the magnificent outskirts of San Francisco. Her [pinterest.com/fashionandflair](http://pinterest.com/fashionandflair)

and [fashionwithflair.blogspot.com](http://fashionwithflair.blogspot.com) is filled with life lessons and laughter, exquisitely mirrored in her column Pizzazz.



## *Value Reversals*

BY H. GAIL REGAN  
TORONTO, CANADA

Back in 1965, I was getting ready to graduate university in sociology. I saw myself as an arrogant, rebellious kid and I had resolved to reverse values, to be a more diplomatic young adult, more willing to take responsibility for what goes wrong.

A popular issue in Canada at the time was whether to integrate the Canadian Army, Navy and Air Force. I arrived at class one day and opined that I thought they would be integrated. (They were in 1968.)

A fellow student heard my opinion and went ballistic. The idea that we would change the organizations and traditions that had served so well in World War 11 made her hysterical. She had frustrated my goal of being

more diplomatic and I apologized, even though my youthful self had done nothing wrong.

Sociology taught that Canadian society is more than finding resources and selling them in international markets. We depend on scientific values that are the basis for Canadian ‘knowhow’ and feminist values that lead to prosperity.

I thought that these values would pile up on each other and that my society would offer me painless childbirth, freedom from anemia and a comfortable menopause. Oh no. Two generations later, Canadian women still struggle with trauma in childbirth, blood and hormone disorders, even though we have the medical technology

to solve these problems and the benefits of doing so are large.

But people like the girl in my class back in 1965 would be very pleased with the progress of our armed services. Names of the traditional forces have been restored, as have uniforms and rank insignia.

I have been mystified by why the restoration matters, but the conflict in Ukraine has shown me that it does. I am learning that there are dark forces that perpetuate war and entrap women, even though these are precisely what we do not value. Similarly there may be forces of light that make us uncomfortable but lead to what we cherish.



## *Delegation*

BY STANLEY J. DORST  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

As a leader you conceptualize a program that meets a need, obtain funding and delegate implementation.

The program fails to take off.

I had six managers carrying out programs in six cities and none of them achieved the potential of those programs. A potential of billions of dollars. Yes, eventually others realized the opportunities and results.

Several delegates don't appreciate why the program will succeed better than the competition – why this inspiration of yours is unique

and meets the need better than any alternative. So you are likely to proceed very cautiously and fail to realize the full potential of the program.

Continual inspiration is needed by managers.

For support the manager may commission a study by a consultant or seek counsel from an associate which forecasts the usual income and market share. Any new program depends upon eliciting a new response from a better product. But the product will not be better if the delegate doesn't believe it is better or does not understand

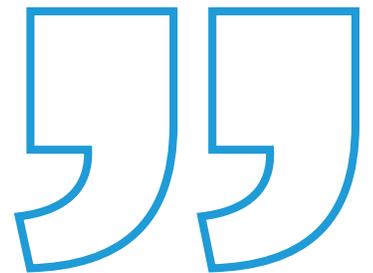
why it is better. What is obvious to you may not be to him.

Failure to have faith in the program can result in its failure. It will result in failure. A better product needs better character and presentation. For example: a piece of raw land for urban development needs a loss leader to establish a quality program; any new program requires a break-even or loss leader start which requires faith in the project. And it requires each element to be characterized by the ultimate objective.

What do you think?



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*DSYTC Graduate*



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The Village of Hope is a community of people who want to be a part of the lifesaving work that we do every single day for Ontario’s youth. Together we can make a difference, we can transform lives and give youth and their families a second chance at a fresh start. ***Be part of our village, donate today!***

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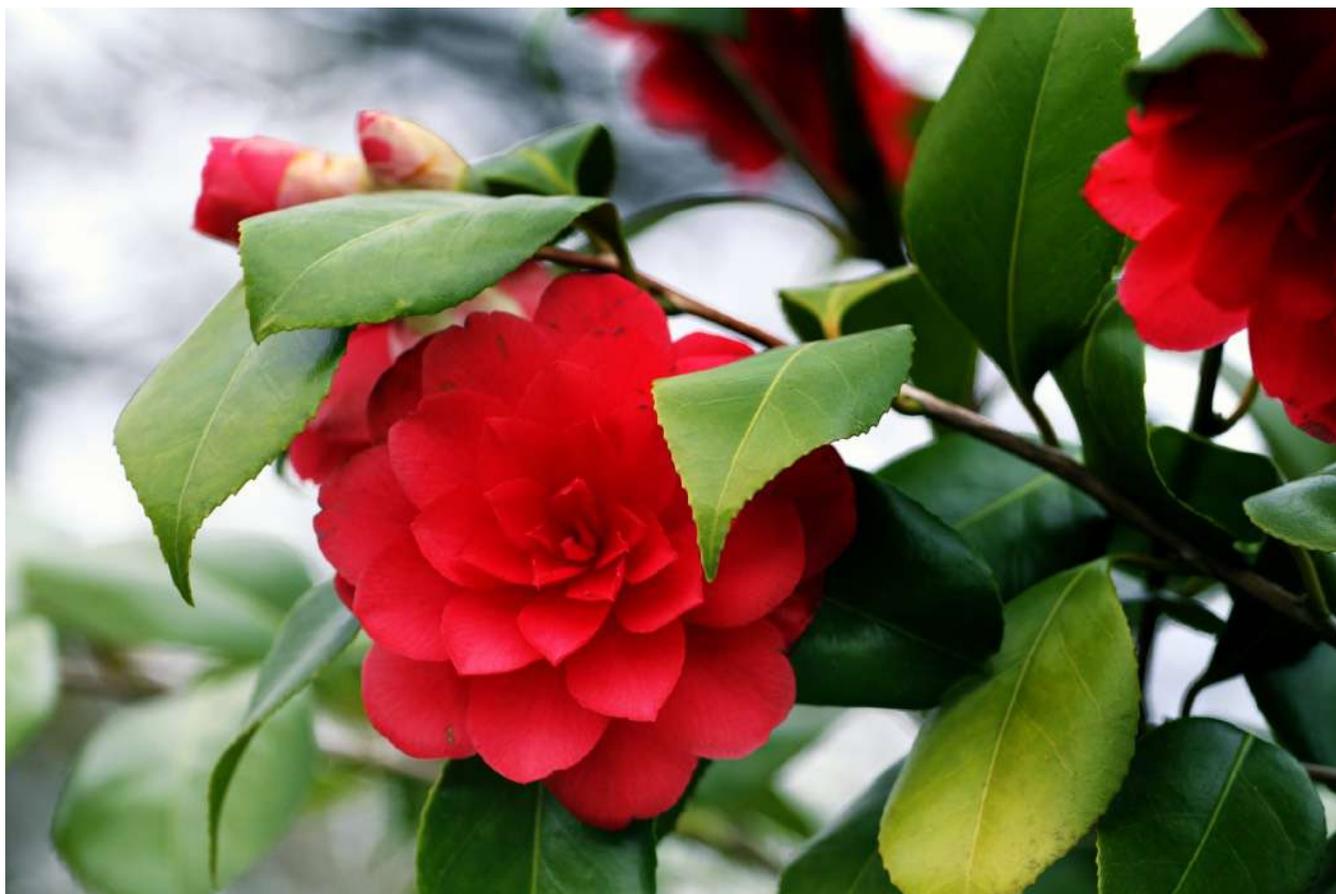
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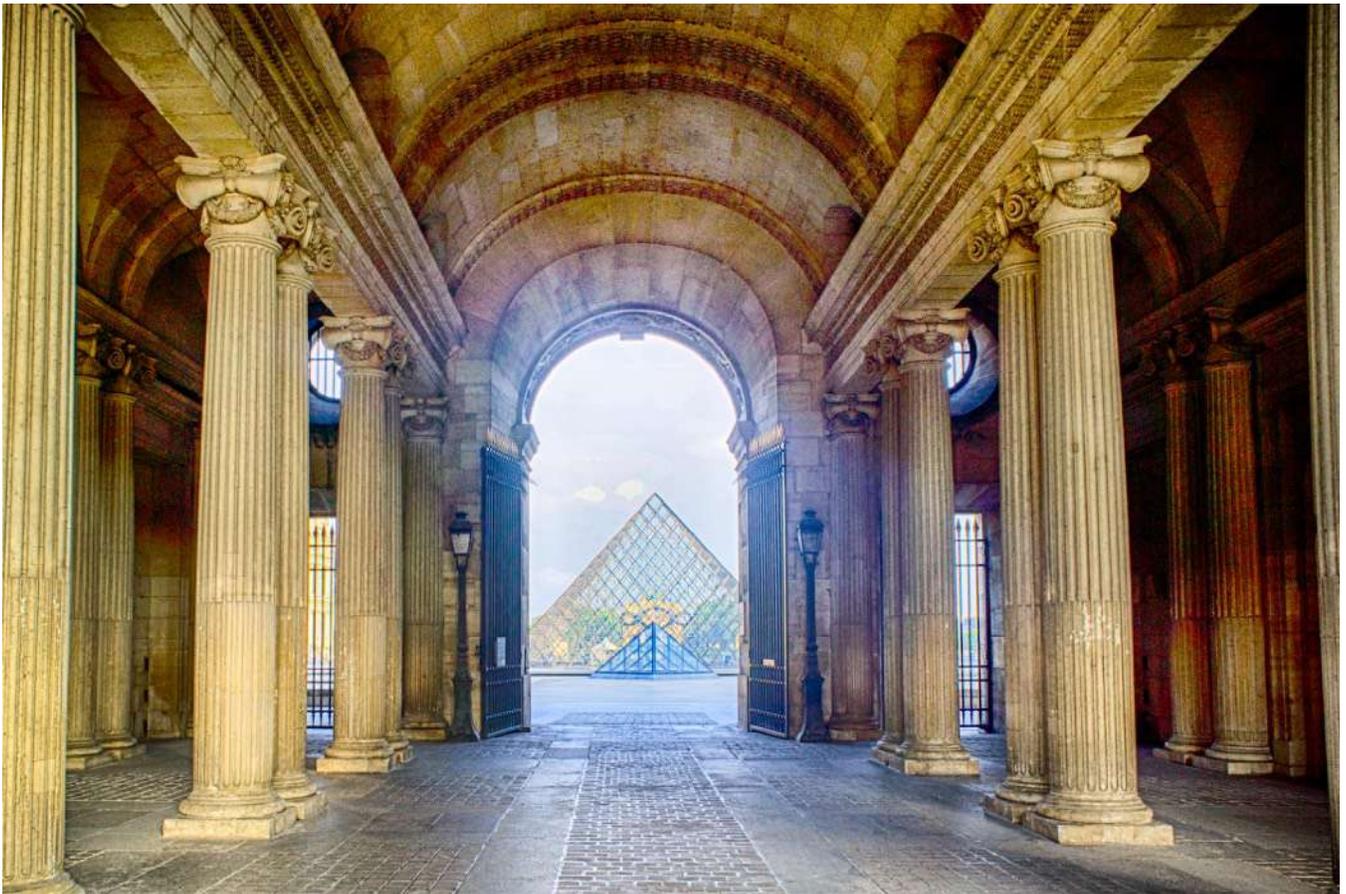
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## *Inner Knowing*

BY ALAN BRISKIN  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA



Sometimes, all we need to say is YES. A flower requires no explanation.



Art opens our hearts and secretly draws us inward to the inner beauty, previously invisible or unnoticed.

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# *Geological Wonders Antarctica*

## MCMURDO DRY VALLEYS

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO /  
ROME / TORONTO

Discovered by Captain Robert Scott in 1903, the 15 separate valleys that comprise the McMurdo Dry Valleys are a highly unusual part of Antarctica as they are the largest mostly ice-free region on the continent. Over an area of 4800 square km, they are covered in gravel, granite and dirt rather than the snow and ice which covers the other valleys.

Although most of Antarctica sits under a 1.5 km sheet of ice, the McMurdo valleys remain dry because precipitation that falls to the continent in this area is lifted upwards and away by the extremely strong winds that blow through the area. Additionally, the surrounding Transantarctic Mountain Range prevents the glaciers from sliding down into the valleys. As the driest, windiest and coldest desert on Earth, it was long thought that life could not survive in this environment. The discovery of more than 20 permanent lakes and ponds, some of which are hypersaline, was extremely surprising, and modern molecular methods have found that a large variety of aquatic ecosystems flourish in this harsh environment. The Dry Valleys support diverse species, mostly cyanobacteria, as there are few other plants or animals competing for the limited resources. While remaining mostly in a freeze-dried state, a phenomenal feature of cyanobacteria is their ability to start the photosynthesis process within 48 hours of receiving water.

The scant precipitation, low temperatures and high salt accumulation of the McMurdo Valleys makes the region more like Mars than Earth, and has been used to test equipment intended for use on Mars.

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## *Geological Wonders Australia*

### ULURU

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO /  
ROME / TORONTO

The largest monolith in the world, Uluru is believed to have been created 500 million years ago. Once submerged at the bottom of a sea, today it stands 348 meters above the surrounding plain and has a circumference of 9.4 kilometers. As the softer rock eroded over millions of years, the valleys, ridges and caves that exist on the surface were formed. The dramatic orange-red hue of the rock, which changes color according to the sun's position and is spectacularly vibrant at sunset, is the result of the surface oxidation of its iron content.

Located close to the center of Australia near Alice Springs in the Kuluru-Kata Tjuta National Park, Uluru is a sacred Aboriginal site. The local Aboriginal tribe, the Anangu, have lived in the area for 60,000 years. They teach that the landscape was formed during the Dreaming, the time when the land and the people were formed by the ancestor beings as they travelled across the region. The Anangu believe they are the direct descendants of these beings, and so are responsible for the protection and management of the land. Although always known as Uluru to the Anangu, European explorers renamed it Ayers Rock in 1872. Finally, in 1995 the name was officially changed back to Uluru and the rock and national park leased to the Anangu for 99 years.

Uluru is considered a sacred site and the resting place for ancient spirits. Petroglyphs telling the story of the ancestors can be found in the rock's caves, cliffs and fissures. The Anangu believe that by touching certain rocks, which represent the ancestral spirits, they can communicate with Dreamtime and obtain blessings from their ancestors.

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## *Geological Wonders Austria*

### EISRIENWELT

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO /  
ROME / TORONTO

Translated as “World of Ice Giants”, Eisrienwelt is the largest ice cave in the world. Located south of Salzburg near the town of Werfen in the Hochkogel Mountain, the cave was discovered in 1879. Prior to that time, people had noticed the hole in the mountain but were frightened to explore it, believing it was inhabited by evil spirits. The caves are estimated to be between 50 and 100 million years old, although the ice formations are only about 1000 years old.

Eisrienwelt is a 42 kilometer long maze of ice and rock caves connected by tunnels, some deep in the mountain and others on the surface. In the springtime, water melts and seeps through the rocks and crevices, encountering freezing temperatures when it reaches the coldest part of the caves, forming spectacular blue-green ice formations and frozen waterfalls.

The cave must be visited with a guide, and only a portion is open to the public. Even in summer, the temperature inside remains below freezing. The entrance is a massive hole in the mountain, 20 meters across. Beyond the entrance sits a 445 foot high ice wall and 700 steps to the top. Following an ice passage leads to an impressive domed hall filled with huge ice towers. The largest room in the cave, the Alexander von Mork Cathedral, measures 70 by 47 meters. Many of the formations have names, such as the Ice Organ, which has pipes formed from immense icicles, and the 18-meter high Ice Men.

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## *Geological Wonders Belize*

### GREAT BLUE HOLE

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO /  
ROME / TORONTO

Ranked by the Discovery Channel as number one on its list of “The 10 Most Amazing Places on Earth”, the Great Blue Hole is the world’s largest sinkhole. Circular in shape, 300 meters wide and 125 meters deep, it is located underwater off the coast of Belize in the center of an offshore atoll called Lighthouse Reef.

The hole was formed hundreds of thousands of years ago during the last Ice Age. Water flowed through the rock, creating multicolored stalactites and stalagmites. Eventually they collapsed in on each other, creating a massive chasm. As the polar ice caps receded, the Caribbean Sea moved in to fill the hole.

The crystal clear, sapphire waters of the hole were explored by marine biologist Jacques Cousteau in the 1970s and declared one of the top ten best dive spots on Earth. Divers from around the world explore the massive underwater stalactites and stalagmites, some measuring up to 12 meters high, as well as the profusion of marine life such as sharks, tropical fish and coral formations. Visibility is good down to 60 meters, but experienced divers can descend to 80 meters to explore underwater dunes and bedrock ledges. Divers encounter total darkness at about 90 meters, where, due to the lack of oxygen in the water, it is totally devoid of life.

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## *Geological Wonders Bolivia*

### SALAR DE UYUNI

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO /  
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The world's largest salt flat is located near the peak of the Andes at 3,656 meters above sea level in southwestern Bolivia. It is a 10,582 square kilometer expanse of windswept, cracked white salt and is one of the driest places on Earth.

Salar de Uyuni was once covered by Lake Minchin, formed 25 million years ago during the uplifting of the Andes. Approximately 40,000 years ago, the climate got drier and the lake began to evaporate, leaving a thick layer of salt. The evaporation process stopped around 10,000 years ago, resulting in the landscape we see today. During the rainy season from December to April, nearby lakes overflow and leave a thin layer of water on the flats, creating what is called "The World's Largest Mirror" and providing a stunning reflection of the sky. It is so remarkable that it is difficult to tell where the sky ends and the land begins.

Underneath the salt are large deposits of lithium-rich brine, and in fact 70% of the world's lithium reserves are found here. Used to power laptops, smart phones and electric cars, this has resulted in an industry dedicated to its extraction.

The flats are home to the unusual salt hotels, the most famous of which is the Palacio de Sal, constructed from one million blocks of compressed salt. The rooms are built entirely from salt, including the walls, floor and furniture.

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# *Geological Wonders China*

## STONE FOREST

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO /  
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Shilin, meaning “stone forest”, is an area of 350 square kilometers near Kunming in Yunan Province filled with thousands of karst (limestone) rock formations of different sizes which soar, like stalagmites, towards the sky.

The area was once a shallow sea. At least 270 million years ago, the sea receded, and the limestone was eroded by wind and water, creating the stone pillars. Because they look like an enormous forest of stone, resembling petrified trees, the site was given the name “stone forest”. Many of the formations have strange shapes, looking like animals or humans. Shilin is divided into numerous smaller stone forests, filled with caves, waterfalls, ponds, a lake with an island, an underground river and the occasional tree to add some greenery to the otherwise stark, grey landscape.

One of the most visited landmarks is the Ashima stone, believed to have been formed when the beautiful girl, Ashima, ran into the forest and was turned into stone after she was forbidden to marry the man she loved. Each year on June 24, the local Sani people hold the Torch Festival in the forest, where they celebrate with lion dancing, bullfighting, wrestling, pole climbing, and the A-xi Moon Dance. At night, people light hundreds of torches and move throughout the forest in a manner that looks like a dragon moving through the night. The Ashima stone is of great cultural significance to the local people, signifying hope for the freedom to marry.

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## *Geological Wonders Indonesia*

### THE BLUE VOLCANO

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO / ROME /  
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Soaring almost 3,000 meters above sea level and covering an area of 19 kilometers, the Kawah Ijen volcano on the island of Java lights up the night sky with what appears to be blue lava rushing down the side. In fact, the lava erupting from the volcano is the same orange color as other volcanoes. The blue results from the emission of gases through volcanic steam vents at high pressure and temperatures of 600 degrees Celsius that contain high levels of sulphur. The gases ignite when they come in contact with the oxygen in the air, resulting in blue flames which flow down the rock face as they burn, looking like blue lava.

In the center of the volcano is a one-kilometer-wide caldera lake filled with turquoise water; with a pH of 0.5 it is the world's largest highly acidic lake. The spectacular color of the water is the result of its concentration of dissolved minerals.

Sulfuric rock, formed after the blue flames have stopped and the sulfur gas cools and combines with the lava to form solidified rock, is extracted by miners who walk up the side of the mountain and down into the steep walls of the caldera. They break up the rock with steel bars, load it into baskets, retrace their steps and take it to the refinery for use in the food and chemical industries. Carrying up to 90 kilograms of sulfur, they make one or two trips a day, sometimes even at night, earning a few dollars per trip. Most of the miners do not have gas masks, and suffer extreme health problems from exposure to sulfur dioxide and other toxic gases.

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# *Geological Wonders Lebanon*

## JEITA GROTTA

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO /  
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The longest cave in the Middle East, the Jeita Grotto is comprised of two interconnected limestone caverns known as the Upper Grotto and the Lower Grotto. The Grotto, located 18 kilometers north of Beirut, was formed over millions of years as water oozed into cracks in the limestone created by tectonic forces. The cave was discovered by an American missionary, Reverent William Thomson, in 1836 when he ventured into the cave, shot his gun and realized from the echoes that he had discovered a cave of major importance. Evidence exists, however, that the cave was inhabited by prehistoric man to produce swords.

The Upper Grotto is 2130 meters long, although only 750 meters is open to the public. This section of the cave, which contains spectacular formations such as stalagmites, stalactites, ponds, mushrooms, natural columns and curtains, can be visited on foot via raised walkways. It contains the world's longest stalactite, measuring 8 meters in length. Visitors can explore three chambers: the white chamber, containing the most impressive formations; the red chamber, named for its color and reaching 106 meters in height; and the tallest chamber, soaring 120 meters.

The Lower Grotto is located 60 meters below the Upper and is almost three times as long. Its floor consists of an underground lake and river, which is broken up by small cataracts and rapids. This part of the cave is visited on a boat on the black lake, taking the visitor from the sounds of rushing water to total silence. The lower cave is closed to visitors in the winter due to the annual swelling.

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## *Geological Wonders Mauritania*

### EYE OF THE SAHARA

BY SUSAN BERGER

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Also known as the Richat Structure, the Eye of the Sahara is a geological formation resembling a massive bullseye spanning 40 kilometers in the western Sahara Desert. Hard to see from ground level and hence known only by a few local nomadic tribes, it was first seen from space and was photographed in the 1960s by the Gemini astronauts. Since then it has been used as a landmark to track the progress of the landing sequences of astronauts.

Originally thought to have been created by an impact crater when an object from space crashed into the surface of the Earth, studies of the rocks inside the formation have shown it to be completely Earth-based. It is thought that the Eye's formation began more than 100 million years ago as the supercontinent Pangea was torn apart by plate tectonics and what are now South America and Africa were pulled apart from each other. During this process, molten rock from deep beneath the Earth's surface was pushed up from the Earth's mantle, forming a circle-shaped rocky dome surrounded by layers of sandstone. As the igneous rocks and sandstones were eroded and the dome subsided, circular ridges were left behind, giving the formation its current circular shape.

The rings are made of different types of rock that erode at different speeds, with the paler circle near the center of the Eye being the volcanic rock created during the initial explosion. Today, the Eye sits somewhat below the level of the surrounding landscape.

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## *Geological Wonders Mexico*

### CAVE OF THE CRYSTALS

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO /  
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Comprised of three co-joined caves, the Cave of the Crystals contains some of the largest crystals on the planet. Discovered in the year 2000 by two miners searching for fresh ore deposits, it is buried 300 meters underground below the mountain where the zinc, silver and lead filled Naica Mine is located. The crystals, 12 meters long and one meter wide, weighing 55 tons, are longer than telephone poles and are so massive that they can be walked on. They are made of gypsum, a mineral used in the textile, cement and paper industries.

Approximately four kilometers below the earth's surface in southeastern Mexico is an enormous pool of magma. 26 million years ago, a huge mound of magma pushed upwards through the surface of the earth, creating a limestone mountain in what is now the state of Chihuahua. Caverns in the rock flooded over time as groundwater rich in gypsum seeped in, forming the crystals. The intense heat from the magma continued to heat the crystals, which have grown steadily for 500,000 years. Unless the cave floods again, there will be no further growth.

The heat from the magma makes the cave unbearable. Temperatures have been known to reach 65 degrees Celsius with 100% humidity. The air is highly acidic, and there is no natural light, making it extremely dangerous for human beings. Visitors are not allowed and scientists require a special permit. Even so, no person can spend more than a few minutes inside the cave.

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# *Geological Wonders Namibia*

## FAIRY CIRCLES

BY SUSAN BERGER

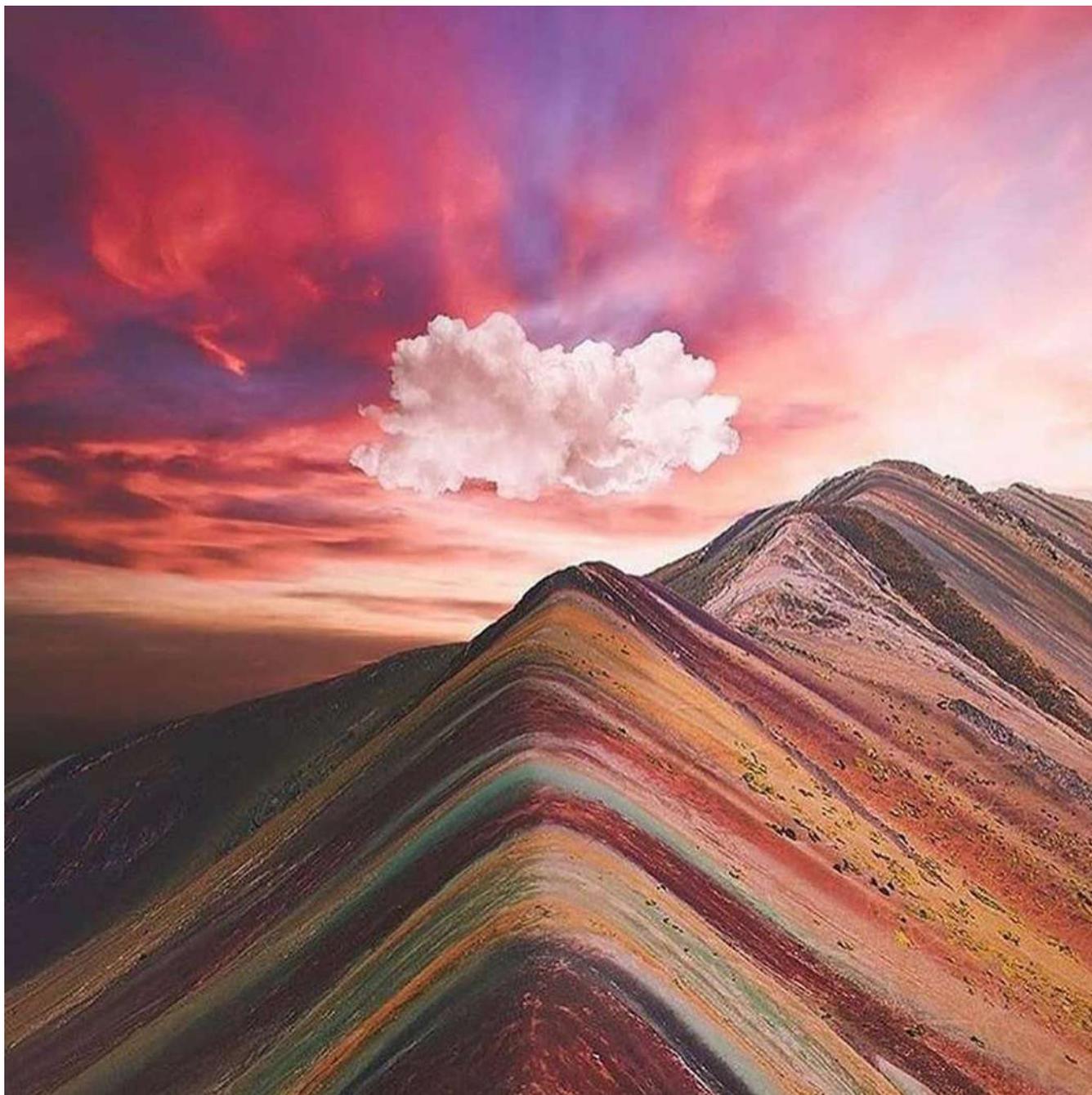
NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO /  
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The subject of considerable research and one of nature's great mysteries, the baffling fairy circles in the Namib Desert of Namibia are bare circles surrounded by dry grasses that cover thousands of kilometers. These naturally occurring circles, 2-10 meters in diameter, are evenly spaced and do not overlap. Best seen from satellite imagery, local Himba legend says they were created by gods who left their footprints on the red earth or were caused by a mythical dragon, which created patterns with its poisonous breath.

Theories abound as to the cause of the circles, with two being the top contenders. One states that the empty circles are caused by termites which build circular, underground nests called arena nests under the soil. The arenas are 5-10 meters across, roughly the size of the fairy circles. The nest itself inhibits plant growth, and the remaining vegetation is eaten by the termites, denuding all plant growth in the area of the nest and resulting in a permanent bare patch. By making the soil porous, they create a permanent supply of rainwater below the surface, which provides them with sustenance.

The second most popular explanation is that the circles are made as plants compete for water. The plants assist other nearby plants by creating shade and therefore keeping water on the soil's surface, but grow long roots that extract water from the soil from plants farther away. Currently, scientists think the explanation for the circles is likely a combination of the two theories.

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## *Geological Wonders Peru*

### RAINBOW MOUNTAIN

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO /  
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The beauty of Rainbow Mountain was only revealed in 2015 when the snow covering it melted as a result of climate change. Located in the Peruvian Andes near Cusco, it is also known as Vinicunca, meaning “colored mountain” in the native Quechua language. It is made up of 14 different, colorful minerals. The red areas are iron oxide, the green are chlorite, the yellows iron sulfide, and purples are from goethite.

Visiting Rainbow Mountain is a challenging experience. For a one-day tour, pick up in Cusco is at 3:00 am for a three-hour drive to the trailhead, which starts at 4,300 meters. The hike, which takes approximately three hours, is mostly flat until the final ascent to 5,200 meters, a height of more than half of Mount Everest. The high altitude with the risk of altitude sickness makes the climb very difficult. In addition, temperatures can be extremely cold and the UV rays are very strong due to the elevation. For those who opt not to hike, horses are usually available for rent along the trail, however they go only to the end of the flat part; the climb to the summit must be done on foot. Along the way, hikers are sure to see llamas and alpacas wandering along the mountain.

There are two seasons in the Andes; the dry season from April until October and the rainy season from November until March. Visiting Rainbow Mountain is best done in the drier months, as rain and snow not only makes the trail harder to hike, but also dulls the colors.

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# *Geological Wonders Turkey*

## PAMUKKALE

BY SUSAN BERGER

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The UNESCO World Heritage Site of Pamukkale, meaning Cotton Castle, is a spectacular cascade of white travertine terraces flowing down from 17 hot springs. The pools, which range in temperature from 35 degrees Celsius to boiling, form when hot water containing a mixture of minerals pushes up from the volcanic region 300 meters below the surface. The water drips down the cliffs, leaving behind calcium carbonate deposits that harden first into gel and then into travertine stone. The landscape, visible from the plains 16 kilometers away, is filled with mineral forests, petrified waterfalls and terraced basins.

The pools are surrounded by Greek ruins dating back to the second century BCE, when the town of Hierapolis became known as a holy city and spa town. Doctors sent their patients to bathe in the pools and it was a destination for terminally ill pilgrims seeking cures. A necropolis, just outside the old city's walls, contains more than 1200 tombs from the period. Hierapolis flourished until it was destroyed by an earthquake in 1179 AD. Walking around Pamukkale, you can see ruins from its heyday such as the city's Byzantine gate, baths, temple ruins and a theatre. A museum showcases the archeological finds from the site, including statues and sarcophagi.

Today it is possible to bathe in specified pools only in order to preserve the landscape. Travertine is very delicate and can be easily destroyed, so visitors must stay on the official path.

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# *Geological Wonders Turkmenistan*

## GATES OF HELL

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO /  
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For more than 50 years, a massive pit of fire has been burning in Turkmenistan's Karakum Desert, 260 kilometers north of the capital of Ashgabat, near the 350-person village of Darvaza. The Gates of Hell or Darvaza Crater, officially renamed "The Shining of Karakum", is 70 meters wide and 20 meters deep.

Gaining an understanding of the cause of the fire pit is impeded by Turkmenistan's extreme seclusion from the rest of the world; it is considered the world's second most isolated country. Turkmenistan sits on one of the largest natural gas deposits in the world. The Gates of Hell crater was formed when a Soviet drilling rig accidentally drilled into a gas cavern, forcing the drilling rig to fall in and the earth to collapse underneath it, releasing poisonous fumes. The Soviets then lit the collapsed area on fire to burn off the methane gas, mistakenly expecting the fire to last a couple of days. Five decades later it is still burning, and all efforts to put out the fire have failed.

Despite the inferno, the crater is a popular tourist destination. In January, 2022, President Berdymukhamedov ordered the government of Turkmenistan to research how to put out the fire, stating that it negatively affects both the health of the people living nearby and the environment.

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## *Geological Wonders United States*

### ANTELOPE CANYON

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO /  
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Considered one of the most photographed spots on Earth, Antelope Canyon near Page, Arizona is located within the Navajo Nation. It is a slot canyon of swirling, colored rock comprised of two sections, Upper Antelope Canyon and Lower Antelope Canyon.

Slot canyons are formed primarily in deserts, not from the usual flow of a river but from flash flood waters. Antelope Canyon was created and continues to be formed by storms up to 24 kilometers away; the water rushes down the wash and seeps into cracks in the ground. This is followed by hot, dry periods, allowing the curved shapes to harden. The canyon is deceptive – from the surface, a narrow opening in the ground gives no indication of the magical cavern below. Although the walls are only a few centimeters apart in spots, in some places it is up to several hundred meters deep. When the sun is overhead, rays penetrate and illuminate the canyon, showcasing the multiple layers of pink, red and orange sandstone in twisting passages and spectacular formations.

Although a major tourist attraction, the canyon is dangerous. Access to the canyon is only accessible with a Navajo guide. In 1997, 11 tourists died in a surprise flash flood which swept through the canyon. Staircases are now positioned at many points throughout the canyon to facilitate a fast evacuation if needed, and the guides are trained to watch the skies and keep up with the weather forecasts. Most people visit the Upper Canyon, known in Navajo as “the place where water runs through rocks”, because the entrance and exit are all at ground level. Lower Antelope Canyon, or “spiral rock arches” in the Navajo language, requires that visitors climb up and down a series of staircases to the lower canyon floor.

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# *Geological Wonders Vietnam*

## HA LONG BAY

BY SUSAN BERGER

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The most visited spot in Vietnam, Ha Long Bay in the Gulf of Tonkin is a spectacular natural wonder of limestone pillars, or karst formations, thrusting out of the crystal-clear emerald waters. Over 1900 formations dot Ha Long Bay, and only one, Tuan Chau Island, is inhabited. Half of the them have been given names which represent their shapes – for instance, Hon Ga Choi, or Fighting Cocks Islet.

Scientists estimate that the limestone formations took over 500 million years to form, and the discovery of stone artifacts provides evidence that humans have lived in the area for 10,000 years. Local legend explains that long ago gods sent dragons to protect the people from an invasion by sea. The dragons dropped jewels from their mouths into the bay to create islands, which provided a defense against the invaders, and then dove into the water. They have provided protection ever since, and the area was given the name Ha Long Bay, or “Where the Dragon Descends to the Sea”.

The best way to visit Ha Long Bay is on a cruise. Boats range from very small to large, from luxury to inexpensive, from day trips to multi-day excursions. From the boat, you can swim, kayak, snorkel, explore caves, visit floating villages, or simply stay on the boat and appreciate the beauty of the landscape. Fishing boats dot the coastline, and floating villages provide space for people to work and live. The prettiest floating village is Cua Van, with its brightly painted huts and fishing boats covered with drying nets. Despite its long history and high tourist traffic, Ha Long Bay is not seriously degraded. Activities in the area are highly regulated, including the operation of the tourist boats, fishing, and floating house management.



## *An Age Of Uncertainty*

BY DR. ROSE A. DYSON  
TORONTO, CANADA

To say that we are living in an era of extreme unpredictability would be an understatement. Will this Covid pandemic ever end? Every few weeks we learn of a new variant. We also now have the added uncertainty and unfolding tragedy of the war in Ukraine. The horrific coverage on television is interspersed with endless speculation as to what goes on in the mind of Vladimir Putin. What is his end goal? Is he in his right mind? Meanwhile, refugees continue streaming across the border into neighboring countries.

But the most sobering scenario before us is the looming climate crisis. The International Panel on Climate Change frequently reports that we must end fossil fuel use now. Yet rapid conversion to carbon emission-free renewable energy sources are stalled by government denial, coupled with the

illusionary thinking that we can have it both ways.

This is hardly surprising given that our culture is fraught with mixed signals. Advertising tells us to consume stuff to be happy, that we must have the latest gadget for the new and the novel. For decades environmentalists have tried to impress upon us that less is more and small is beautiful but little has happened to appease our impulsive acquisitiveness.

The sharp thrust of profit-driven marketing techniques has meant that corporate executives have been given free rein to target and exploit the young. Health experts advocating for restrictions on advertising to children on the basis of research showing harmful effects has led to adoption of legislation in the province of Quebec and a number of European countries

for a variety of reasons. In some cases the focus has been on the harm caused by violent media entertainment and advertising messaging itself. In others it is the consumption of junk food which leads to heart disease, diabetes and obesity. The addiction to digital devices is increasingly recognized as mentally unhealthy and low-level radiation from digital devices has been recognized by the World Health Organization as a potential cause of cancer. Sadly, the relentless sexual exploitation of children online has yet to be seriously addressed. Too often these warnings are drowned out by industrial interests lobbying governments with misplaced cautions against censorship. Free corporate enterprise rhetoric has overshadowed the right to individual freedom of expression. That needs to change.



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## *Rio de Janeiro*

BY LOIS M. GORDON  
SILICON VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

The son of a friend lives in Rio with his wife and children. And with this, John gave us an itinerary that we followed to the letter. Lunch for three hours? Every day? How can one sit still for three hours eating, talking, watching? We tried and succeeded once! After two hours we wanted to leave but for whatever reason, we couldn't get our check. So, we stayed and enjoyed every minute. The Samba School Parade at Rio's Sambodrome is something everybody should experience once in a lifetime. You have to mingle with the crowd, sweat, and yes, maybe even march with a samba school. The parade consists of "schools", groups of people who call themselves schools, and who dance in the parade all night long.

We arrived at nine p.m. along with 90,000 other people. Our guide was terrific, fighting her way through the crowd to a space that would accommodate us. Everyone dances and sings. And wow was it hot: the people, dancers and weather! 95 degrees with humidity to match. Six hundred million years ago, Mother Nature formed a princely natural wonder: Pão de Açúcar or Sugarloaf Mountain. At one time, sugarcane was the primary export of the Portuguese and the finished product was packed into bread like loaves for shipment. Hence, the name Sugarloaf. Today, Sugarloaf is the most commonly recognized and sought-after tourist attraction in Rio, serving past inhabitants well – for navigators would spot

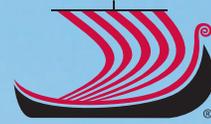
the imposing figure at the entrance to Guanabara Bay. The landmark was a settling location, as the magnitude of visibility afforded towards the sea and mountains assured their continued protection. Reaching the top of Sugarloaf is done in two stages. The first cable car ascends over 700 feet up Urca Hill, offering marvelous views of Corcovado Mountain, the Niteroi Bridge and Guanabara Bay. Transferring to a second car elevates you an additional 1,300 feet to the top where views of Copacabana and other beaches can be admired. Christ the Redeemer statue, towering above the marvelous city with open arms, gives it a permanent hug.

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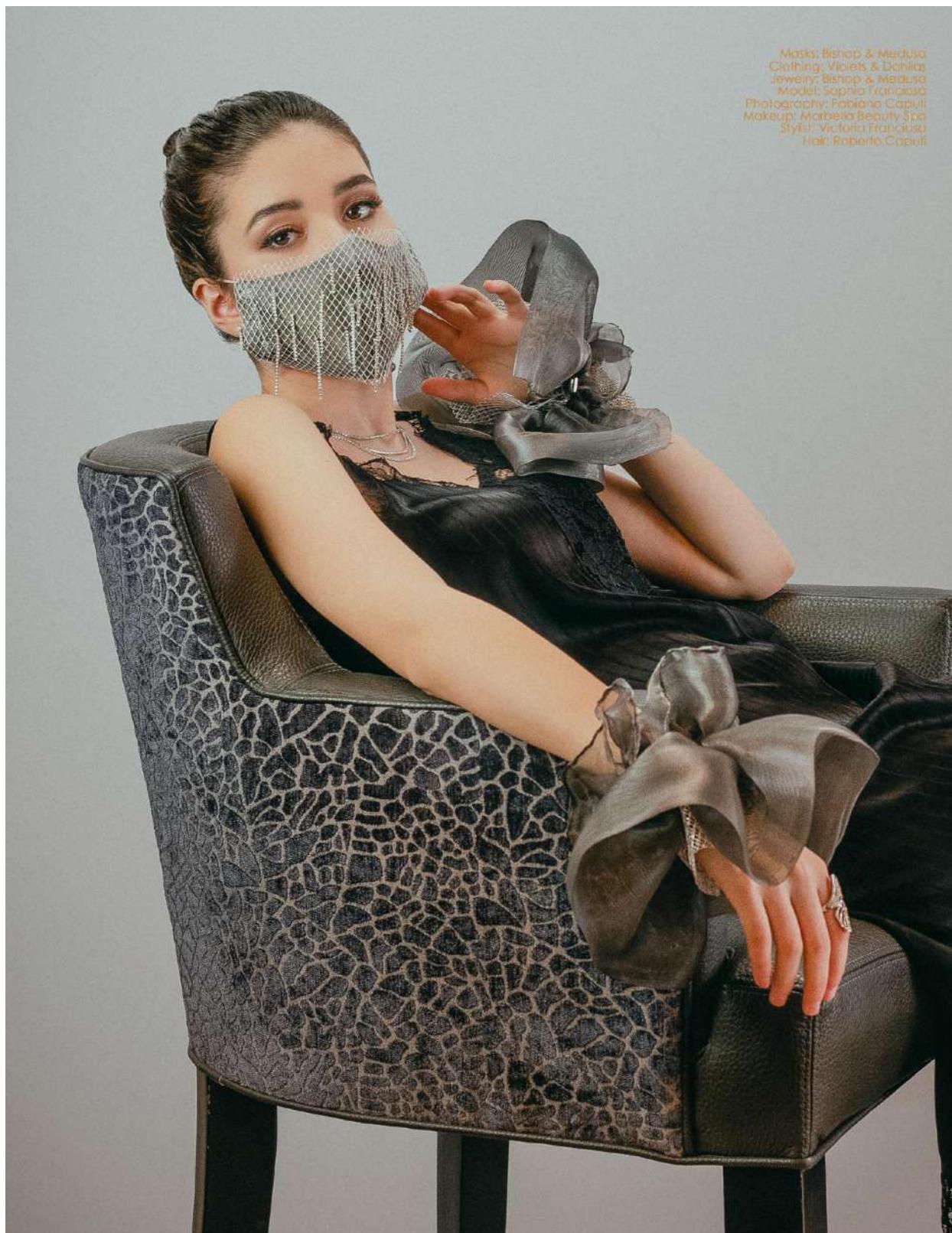


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Makeup: Marietta Beauty Spa  
Stylist: Victoria Franchini  
Hair: Roberto Capuli

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Clothing: Violets & Dahlias  
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Jewelry: Bishop & Medusa  
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*Bolade Ajomale*  
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## *Little Things Mean A Lot*

BY KATHLEEN MAILLIARD SOLMSEN  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PHOTOGRAPHY BY PETER SOLMSEN

We've all heard lines like "think big" and "the bigger the better". Many of us grew up with lines like these as being "words to live by". In truth... is "the bigger the better?" As we think back and if memory serves us right, quite often, it is the small things and events that are the real treasures – the heartfelt memories that hold on strongly in our hearts.

After a lifetime of travels, globe-trotting and jetting to divine destinations, I realized that bringing home gifts for family and friends had become a stress-filled burden. Then one day, in Buenos Aires by chance, I happened upon a sweet little lady who was selling her hand-made tiny trucks. I thought, "How perfect for our new grandson!" I took a picture of this dear artist. The street vendor at the next table

whispered to me, "She is 85 years old and totally blind." That story and the photo traveled back home and made the precious fire truck even more of a "save forever" toy. That benchmark experience changed my travel shopping forever!

Nowadays, I find total pleasure in discovering handmade ethnic treasures on all of my trips! The icing on the cake is the picture I take of the pleased artist. In Dubrovnik, a lady knitting woolen slippers was delighted to be photographed with my purchases. In Rio, I discovered a gentleman printing soccer shirts. I was fascinated to watch an elderly lady crafting thimbles out of vintage wood thread spools. I was completely charmed to observe a young girl building rings using elastic thread and beads in San Tropez.

She was all smiles as I took her picture just after buying her entire collection! After picking up a few berets just outside of Paris, I realized that I was becoming a real connoisseur of back road keepsakes. After that fruitful purchase in Buenos Aires, with my passport in hand, all of my past burdens and struggles had become real treasure hunts.

It's funny how we think that gifts from abroad make a really big impact if they are expensive. In the past, I thought that family and friends would appreciate gifts with heavy price tags and well-known brands. Nowadays, I am thrilled to bring "little things that mean a lot" back home.... and that's pizzazz!!

Sure there's competition,  
but it diminishes when you're original.



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## *City Garage Car Museum*

BY JULIE REKAI RICKERD  
TORONTO, CANADA

Private museums are spreading like weeds around the world as ultra wealthy collectors of art and artifacts run out of space for their vast collections or want to share them with the public. The variety of these museums' contents is endless and many are quite unique.

Such is businessman Kent Bewley's private City Garage Car Museum. His 12,000 square-foot space has dozens of new, special, and antique cars on display. Bewley has been collecting these cars for years and wanted to share his automobile passion with others.

Divided into sections around an old Texaco Service Station, the collection includes A and T Model service trucks, a mule-drawn 1903 Studebaker oil tanker wagon, and Texaco

gasoline pumps that show a price of 17 cents per gallon. The museum covers the history of the Texaco Company from 1903 to 1929.

Its Nascar section includes a car that won the 1994 Daytona 500. The Number 4 Kodak Chevrolet was driven by Sterling Marlin, and Marlin's fireproof driver's suit is displayed next to the car. There are Muscle cars, a 1939 Cadillac Sedan, as well as Ford and General Motors automobiles that date back to between 1914 and 1901. A 1955 Ford Thunderbird and a 1959 Nash Metropolitan elicit nostalgia in those of a certain age; a race-ready 2008 Viper and a 1915 Van Blerck Speedster are nearby. Also of special interest are the 1975 Bricklin and 1981 DeLorean Gullwings, a 1964 Rolls Royce

Corniche Convertible previously owned by Elton John, and a 1971 DeTomaso Pantera.

Vintage signs, pictures and auto-themed accessories surround these magnificent cars, adding to the museum's unique atmosphere.

City Garage Car Museum  
210 South Main Street,  
Greeneville, Tennessee, 37743

Friday and Saturday:  
10:00am – 4:00PM  
or by appointment.

Admission: \$5.00  
Children under age 10: Free

(423)638-6971  
info@citygaragecarmuseum.com  
citygaragecarmuseum.com



Peter J. Merrick is a Business Legacy Philosopher. He's also a sought-after consultant and speaker.  
Peter@TheKingofMainStreet.com

## *This Is Your Final Test*

BY PETER J. MERRICK, TEP  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

These are the times that men and women of good character and good conscience are called upon to action to be counted on by humanity to step forward – to make the stand together and say no to tyranny – stopping it – pushing it back – castrating it – along with destroying its demons that willingly or worst – blindly obey – EVIL.

For the first time in my life the line dividing good from evil has never been so clear. There are three types of individuals/groups in this epic conflict:

1. The wolves dressed in sheep's clothing (the 0.000001%) that are nothing more than pure psychopaths in disguise – lying to us – telling humanity that they are being draconian and evil for our own good. They need to feed on humanity's goodness, naivety and ignorance. In nature we call these parasitic relationships.
2. The sheeple (the 80%) that empower and blindly follow the

psychopaths by acquiescing to their evil – allowing themselves to be used, led towards their own enslavement and to their eventual end at the slaughterhouse. This mass of the asleep if they are to be remembered will only be for their cowardice and for their compliance to EVIL that condemned humanity into a millennium of servitude.

3. The Now AWAKENED (the 20%) that are humanity's only and last hope for survival. These are the AWARE that are now entering the battlefield – pushing back against the psychopaths and their anti-human agenda. These women and men of good character, having moral clarity – have always been humanity's immune defense system fighting off those that would pass evil edicts and those that would enforce those evil acts.

It has always been the AWAKENED INDIVIDUAL in our history – men and

women of good character and good conscience that would rather die fighting for human dignity that have ended all tyrannies.

If not for you – stand your ground and do it for the children and those yet to be born. Freedom needs to be fought for in each generation – by each Awake member of that generation.

Remember: Courage is contagious! Freedom is not for the weak – nor is it free. You have yet to live your greatest moment to contribute!

KEATS  
1795-1821

SHELLEY  
1792-1822

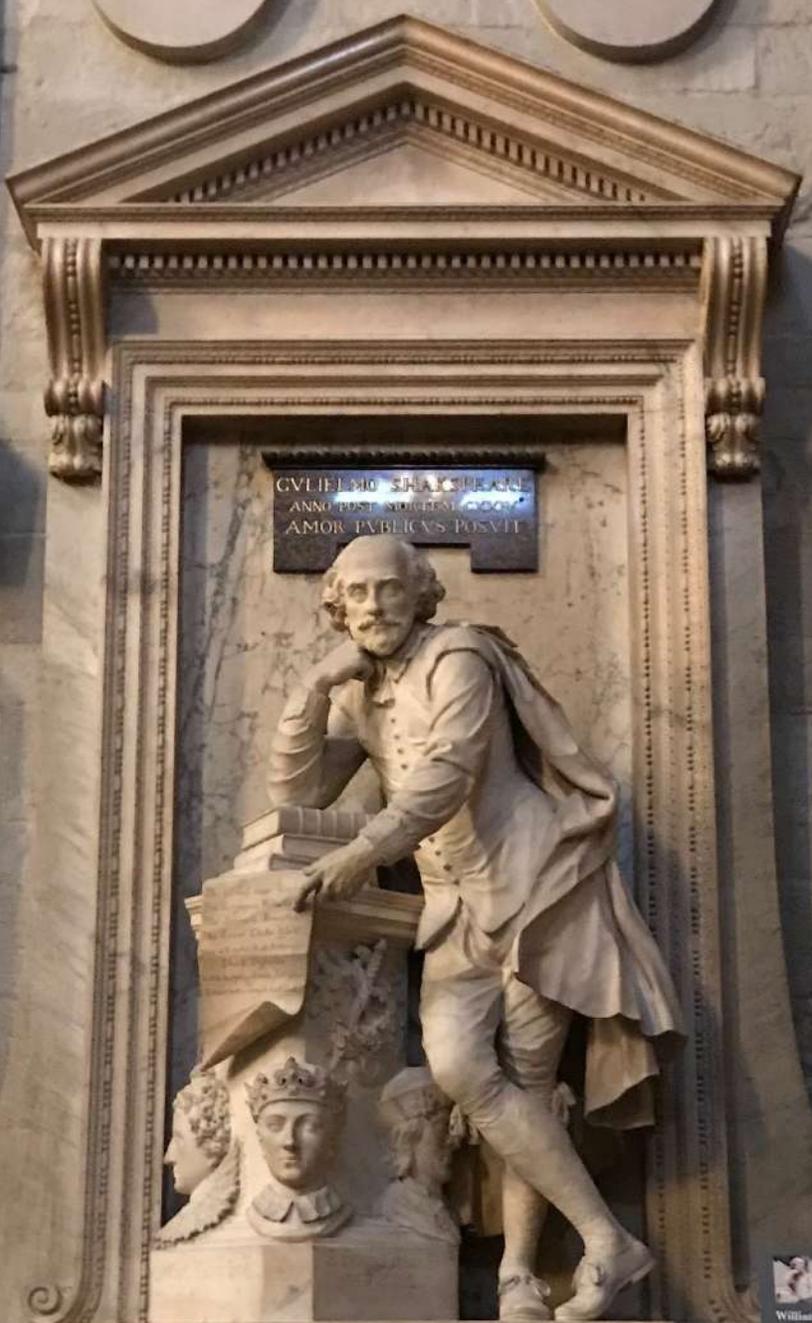


ROBERT SOUTHEY.  
AUGUST 13<sup>TH</sup> 1774. DIED MARCH 21<sup>ST</sup> 1843.



JOHNSON

JANE AUSTEN



CVLIELMO SHAKESPEARE  
ANNO DOMINI MDCLXVI  
AMOR PVBLICVS POSVIT

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE 1564 - 1616  
BURIED AT STRATFORD-ON-AVON



1759 BURNS 1796



JAMES WATT  
1736-1819

18<sup>th</sup>  
William Shakespeare  
Memorial

CHARLES  
DUNN  
ANNE

## *Aging*

BY VERA RESNIK

My life has been abundant:  
multifarious fruit bowl  
bitter, flavorless, bruised.  
Usually sweet, satisfying, desiring more  
juicy, ripening.

I am an old woman  
thinking of times  
hundred disappeared moons ago,  
I was young,  
vital, full of spirited steps,  
giddy, madly  
over the stars in love.

Whatever happened to my used to be?  
Are Mother Nature MN or Father Time FT, responsible?

One, the other, or both  
In the beginning FT allows MN the upper hand.  
How high to jump, spin, twist.  
FT fizzles youthful effervescence.

Aging: great mischief maker, youth's foe  
your might can't make me forget bare feet touching snow  
nor eyes feasting on rainbows,  
obtund eyes which twinkle  
rule my spirit that loves  
emits hearty laughter  
dampen wisdom  
recalls a million happy golden moments.

Tick————tock

## *Destiny*

BY JOAN CHISHOLM

I am weakened by negative thoughts  
That course through my body

Of who did me wrong  
Of anger swelling the opening of my throat

I am speechless

Of pain in my chest  
Of weakness in my belly  
Of thoughts of lying down  
And closing my eyes  
Then, I remember

I am power, divinity and light

I breathe deeply  
Oxygen lifts me up  
I exhale and release  
I inhale and a larger capacity of air fills the void

I am love

Embodied through my senses  
Directed by myself and you  
The Goddess in me and The God in you  
Live again.

## *I Hold That*

BY GARY SWEENEY

Imagine those colorful waves, those experiences that warm the ice of reason. Travel as you must, in no particular pattern, but rather, in the embrace of a thousand years that weigh no more than seconds. Allow the possibilities to become unfulfilled realities, which in turn, you bring to the surface of light. To say something is possible, leaves breath in its nemesis, impossibility. I hold that, things are already done, and my traveling is a perpetual game board of stops and passes.

How complex has simplicity become, when our cynical nature punishes truth to satisfy our belief of superiority? If something were tangible, we'd have discovered it, and thereby, validated it as a worthy piece of our collection, right? But, how many wrongs have been discovered only in contrast to new rights? I hold that, truth lies within the man who is unafraid to question.

# THE LIGHT OF OTHER

"Sweeney's tribute to the man who was his hero and his role model during an often cruel and miserable childhood is a heartfelt one."  
- *The BookLife Prize/Publishers Weekly*

## THE LIGHT OF OTHER DAYS

GARY SWEENEY

*The Light of Other* is a story of a young boy's life in a turbulent household, his struggles with mental health issues, and his journey to find himself in an emotionally-difficult world.

It is also a story of a young boy's life in a turbulent household, his struggles with mental health issues, and his journey to find himself in an emotionally-difficult world.

Beginning in the 1950s and continuing over two decades, the story follows a young boy's life in a turbulent household, his struggles with mental health issues, and his journey to find himself in an emotionally-difficult world.

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# HER DAYS A MEMOIR

*er Days* is a memoir about growing up in a world with an anxiety disorder, depression, sensory version while struggling with an absent father and constant stepfather.

about a wonderful relationship between a boy and her, a man who unwittingly filled a parental void s own depression.

blue-collar world of 1970s Philadelphia and ending later, *The Light of Other Days* follows the trials of an internal monologue that was often louder than

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## Elon Musk

BY VICTORIA FRANCIOSA  
ROME / TORONTO

Source Of Wealth  
Through Companies He  
Founded And Passive  
Investments

At the top of all lists, we find Elon Musk, who is famous for many things, including the moniker “No one ever changed the world with a 40 hour work week”.

With a net worth of \$219 billion, there seems to be a buzz on him 24 hours a day.

Born in South Africa, ever growing and expanding, Elon was first recognized for his revolutionary car, Tesla. With sales going through the roof, Tesla positioned itself with retail locations in shopping malls. It's

value topped the charts at \$800 billion.

Elon's next move was developing SpaceX. Flying a 4 astronaut crew mission, it took under 16 hours to reach the ISS. With SpaceX setting a new record for its fastest Dragon astronaut trip in April of 2022, this brought its value to nearly \$100 billion.

In the beginning of the year 2022, Elon began his acquisition process of Twitter. The world sits watching in wait. As he vows to correct the user experience of the social platform giant, Elon Musk shows that he not only wants to change the world, but he strives for justice and equality.



## *Bernard, Arnault & Family*

BY VICTORIA FRANCIOSA  
ROME / TORONTO

Source Of Wealth  
The World's Leading Luxury  
Products

With a net worth of \$139.1 billion, Bernard Arnault is the richest man in Europe, and the second richest man in the world.

CEO of LVMH, his companies encompass 70 luxury retail brands, including Louis Vuitton, Dior, Bulgari, Tiffany, TAG Heuer, Givenchy, Guerlain, Marc Jacobs, Fenty, Benefit, Fendi, Celine, Dom Pérignon, and so many more.

What started out to be a life in engineering soon brought him

to becoming a businessman, investor and an avid art collector. He has also been awarded the honorary titles of Grand Officier de la Légion d'Honneur and Commandeur des Arts et des Lettres.

Prestige follows in every step. His is not just business; he is attracted to fine consumables, with the ability to show the world why they want and need his products.



## Jeff Bezos

BY VICTORIA FRANCIOSA  
ROME / TORONTO

Source of Wealth  
Founder Of Amazon, The  
World's Biggest Online Retailer

Founder of Amazon, Jeff Bezos has a net worth of \$133.4 billion. He is the third richest man in the world.

Starting Amazon from his garage in 1994, he founded a new way of creating a shopping site that eventually gave the consumer a safe forum to shop untouched items through a digital platform, growing into the world's largest retail platform. The genius was found in the assurance of the purchase without the concern of a bad-buy.

During the pandemic, Amazon saw a record incline of sales, increasing its worth exponentially. Today Mr. Bezos owns less than 10% of the company.

In a streak of good luck and business awareness, Jeff Bezos

met the Google founders in 1998. He was one of its angel investors with an investment of \$250,000.

Blue Origin, another company founded by Jeff in 2000, is an aerospace company developing rockets; he briefly flew to space in one on July 20, 2021. Blue Origin is currently working on delivering an Orbital Reef in this decade.

In 2013, Jeff bought The Washington Post for \$250 million. Under his direction, he more than doubled its on-line readership, turning it back into a profitable media company.

All this accomplished by the age of 58. The world waits to see what Jeff Bezos brings to us next.



## *Francoise Bettencourt Meyers*

BY VICTORIA FRANCIOSA  
ROME / TORONTO

Source Of Wealth  
The World's Largest Cosmetics  
Company

With a net worth of \$74.8 billion, the richest woman in the world is Francoise Bettencourt Meyers at age 68.

She is the granddaughter of the founder of L'Oreal. In 2017 she inherited L'Oreal, and now owns approximately 33% of L'Oreal stock.

Francoise had to take legal action when, upon her mother's death, the family almost lost the entire fortune to a man who attempted to swindle it through her ailing mother.

As the chairwoman of the holding company, she has been

on the board for 25 years. She is also the president of the family philanthropic foundation that focuses on art and science in France, which donated \$226 million to help restore Notre Dame.

Francoise has written two books; one in which she translates the Bible with her commentary, and the second in which she writes of Greek Gods and mythology.

In the past two years she has virtually doubled her wealth.



## *Ryan Breslow*

BY VICTORIA FRANCIOSA  
ROME / TORONTO

Source of Wealth  
E-commerce Software

Ruffling a few feathers is nothing new to millennial billionaire Ryan Breslow. At the age of 27, he is worth \$2 billion.

By challenging the tech industry's culture, Ryan is making waves with his FinTech, Bolt. What started out as a Bitcoin wallet soon grew to an E-commerce payments platform, through a promised smooth checkout experience.

Working in seclusion, almost that of a hermit, his \$11 billion company employs 700 people. Priding himself on living that of a Monk lifestyle, he lives a (somewhat) simple and quiet life away from distractions and elitism.

“Working like a Lion” in high intensity spurts, he has managed

to raise \$1 billion from venture capitalists, most of it in the last couple of years.

Ryan has more than 12 million user deals signed with Adobe and Forever 21 and numerous deals in the works with major social networks as well as some of America's largest department stores.

Aside from writing two books and launching two non-profit organizations, Ryan also purchased Tipster at the end of 2021.

Ryan Breslow dropped out of Stanford in 2014 to launch Bolt.

In a surprising move in 2022, Ryan stepped down as Bolt's CEO to become its Executive Chairman.



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

## *Looking Ahead: 50 Years From Stockholm*

BY KELECHI ELEANYA  
THE NIGER DELTA, NIGERIA

Securing The Future of The Child 50 Years Plus Forward.

Fifty years represents half a century, five decades, six hundred months, and approximately 2,400 weeks, not to mention the number of days. Fifty years ago, precisely in June 1972, the world came together to chart a course for a “future world”, a pattern of relating and doing things in line with a careful plan to keep the planet safe for living and survival of all forms of life.

This meeting hinged on the concept of Sustainable “Development” – meaning that the world hoped to keep developing by meeting present generations’ needs in a manner that didn’t undermine the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

During these many years, children were born and have now moved from age 0 to 50, based on the year of birth until

2022. The many decisions reached, and commitments made by governments in 1972, have shaped and guided our global thinking and action to date. Also, the actions and inactions arising in pursuit of these global development milestones are impacting the world we live in.

Can a good decision be made in the absence of the proposed beneficiary? How much of their needs and aspirations are captured? Today, the beneficiaries of these global decisions/actions are navigating ways to enjoy life to the fullest, to get their part of the world’s wealth equitably.

These beneficiaries are the over two billion children in the world today. How can they be well catered to in the current plans made on their behalf?

In other words, sustainable development must balance the scales of equity on all fronts to

break cycles of poverty and ensure that the children of today and tomorrow are able to have and inherit a liveable, safe world. For this to happen, development decisions made by adults today should be good for both people and the planet to avoid economic or social crises arising from gross inequalities and injustice in order to avert irreversible environmental damages that our children and their children will inherit according to UNICEF.

As we look forward to the next fifty years and beyond, let’s promote the child as the “participant and custodian” of the future and allow children to live a better life everywhere.

Let’s do it! We can!!!



## *A Man Who Gave You Whatever He Had!*

BY PETER MERRICK  
SAN DIEGO, USA

This is a tribute to Al Emid, a loyal contributor to this publication.

Al passed away in the spring of 2022. He was one of the great financial writers and commentators I met during my three decades in the financial industry. Most importantly, he was one of my greatest mentors. As time passes, I have learned that a mentorship relationship is one of the most complex, developmentally important, and life-enhancing events that anyone could ever engage in.

I was fortunate to have known Al for over 25 years, first as a reader of his well thought-out

and researched articles and columns. I felt a sense of pride to have had the pleasure to have been interviewed by Al as a subject expert several times. What was most impressive was his care for detail. When you read one of Al's articles you knew you were in store for some very insightful ideas that you could apply to your daily financial life immediately. Al was the best resource to have because of his wealth of experience, knowledge, and hard-earned wisdom. What tens of thousands and I valued and relied on from Al and the work that he produced was that he was a self-learner and approached every writing

and communication assignment as an opportunity to expand his knowledge and teach. It is clear through his writing that his prime intent was to share what he had discovered to help his audiences come to their own conclusions on important issues. Most important, Al was a real person! The greatest value one received from Al was that he believed in your potential, sometimes well before you believed in it yourself. I miss my friend Al and I wish I could introduce you to him. Today Al's brilliance and kindness still lives through his written words.



## *The War In Ukraine*

BY JAMES T. RUTKA, MD  
TORONTO, CANADA

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAMES T. RUTKA, MD

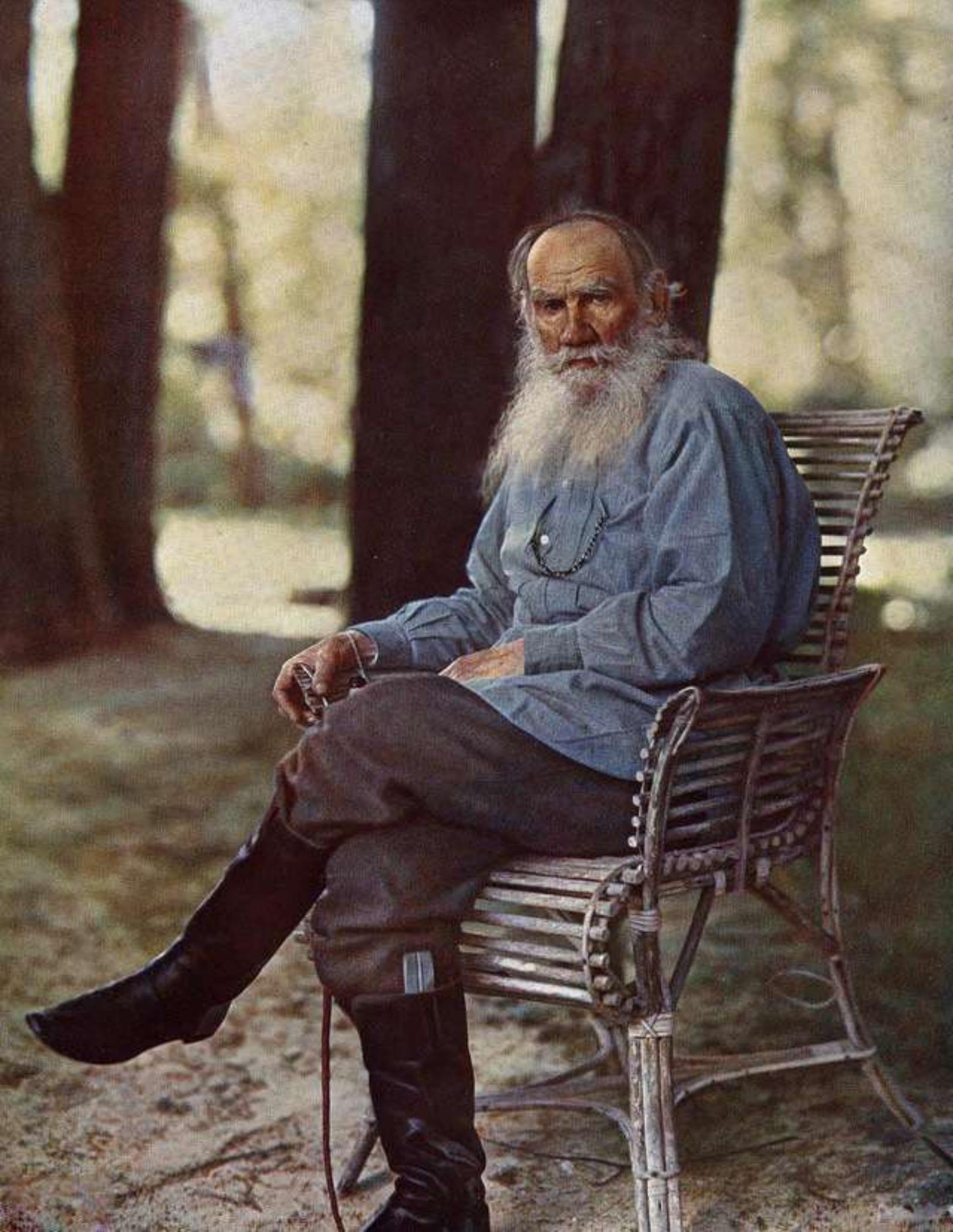
As a neurosurgeon with Ukrainian heritage, for the past several years I have been involved in global outreach missions to Ukraine. During these missions, I have met and become friends with numerous Ukrainian doctors and surgeons. It has been heartwarming to see the results of this work in Ukraine, where my colleagues wish nothing more than to do better for their families and the patients they serve. My efforts in Ukraine have resulted in a palpable and tangible impact within this low to middle income country. On one occasion in 2015, I had the defining experience of traveling to a small village in southwestern Ukraine to visit family members I had never seen or met before. We were greeted with the utmost generosity, kindness, and hospitality, as if we had known each other all our lives. This has been my experience with so

many people we have had the good fortune to meet in Ukraine.

On Thursday, February 24, 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine. What transpired in the mere course of two months was large scale, destructive, and unprovoked assault on the people of Ukraine. I stand aghast as I witness in real time the senseless killings perpetrated by Putin's tyrannical regime, and the blatant disregard for human life and values. At the same time, I am heartened by the groundswell of support that has come from all corners of the globe towards Ukrainians as they heroically engage in the defence of their country.

I am saddened by the daily reports I am receiving now from my Ukrainian colleagues regarding the tremendous hardships they are facing. Children with cancer

are unable to receive the critical chemotherapy they need as there are no drugs. Scheduled surgeries cannot be undertaken. There is limited capacity to perform urgent surgeries. Hospital basements are being dually used as patient wards and bomb shelters. The supply chain is weak. These unspeakable realities are the results of a despot who considers Russian imperialism as a way to secure his legacy. And while this view may shape the current actions of Russia's leaders, we should not assume that it is reflected in the thinking of all Russian people. We must recognize the challenges of standing up to protest injustice in a totalitarian state that tightly controls access to information and severely punishes dissent. I know I am not alone advocating for and working towards a peaceful resolution to the war in Ukraine.



## Leo Tolstoy

BY KERRY BAKER  
BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

Count Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy, usually referred to in English as Leo Tolstoy, was a Russian writer who is regarded as one of the greatest authors of all time. He received nominations for the Nobel Prize in Literature every year from 1902 to 1906 and for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1901, 1902, and 1909.

Tolstoy found both solace and inspiration in nature. He described his home, Yasnaya Polyana, set within 1000 acres of forest land, as his cathedral, his muse, his inspiration. Tolstoy's favourite garden resting spot, a birch log bench in a small clearing, backed onto a large open field of bright yellow mustard weed and faced directly

into a dense grove of fir trees. Here Tolstoy would sit and meditate. A rustic garden chair elsewhere in the estate was another. Clearly the subtle changes of the seasons charmed and fascinated him. In *Anna Karenina* he refers to "the thawing of the earth" and the sound of "grass growing". In "War and Peace" he uses nature to reflect the inner state of the individual. It is as if nature itself is a receptacle within which are insights that reveal themselves to those seekers of truth and meaning.

Tolstoy's passionate engagement with the land was an integral element of the man's heart, mind and soul and runs strongly through his work. Examples

abound. In "War and Peace" the wounded Prince Andrei at the battle of Austerlitz ponders the quiet and solemnity of the infinite sky and is calmed. The same character says in another chapter "I know that no one can help if nature does not do her work."

A famous quote by Tolstoy says it all: "One of the first conditions of happiness is that the link between man and nature shall not be broken."



## Elizabeth Taylor

BY KERRY BAKER  
BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

In 1985, the year Rock Hudson died, Elizabeth Taylor co-founded amfAR – the American Foundation for AIDS Research. From 1986 – 1991 she promoted it by making television spots and travelled extensively in Europe and the Far East, facing barrages of cameras and media storms everywhere to further its reach. She masterminded a World AIDS Day Symposium at the U.N., supported the “Cinema Against AIDS” event at Cannes annually, and donated two of her gowns to the “Unforgettable: Fashion of the Oscars” AIDS Charity Auction,

one being the dress in which she presented the Best Picture Oscar in 1969 and which fetched \$167,500. Then in 1991 she also started her own organisation – “The Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation” – which has since raised vast sums.

In June 1992 she appeared before the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources. She had learned that of the \$875 million allocated for alternate housing for AIDS sufferers in America's major cities, only \$275 million had been spent for that purpose.

The rest had been “appropriated” for other uses. Elizabeth was furious. She delivered an impassioned speech about the responsibilities the government had to “its citizens, whoever and wherever they may be” and demanded that the usage of the money be made public. After she finished, she fixed those flashing violet eyes on Senators Thurmond, Hatch, Kennedy and the rest and said, “And I will not be silenced. And I will not give up. And I will not be ignored”.



## *Stars In Dresses*

BY KERRY BAKER  
BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

Upon its initial release in 1959, “Some Like it Hot” was banned in Kansas. The reason given at the time? “Cross-dressing is too disturbing for Kansans.” But was it disturbing for the actors?

When Tony Curtis and Jack Lemmon first put on the female make-up and costumes, they walked around the Goldwyn Studio lot to see if they could “pass” as women. Then they tried using mirrors in public ladies’ rooms to fix their makeup, and when none of the women using the facilities complained, they knew they could be convincing as women.

The main complaint from the two men was that they had to kick off their shoes and soak their painful feet the second Billy Wilder said “Cut,” after standing around for hours in high heels while Marilyn Monroe continually fluffed her lines.

Years after the film’s release, a movie reviewer asked Tony Curtis why his “Josephine” was so much more feminine than Jack Lemmon’s “Daphne”. Curtis explained he was so scared to be playing a woman (or a man pretending to be one) that his tightly wound body

language could be read as demure and shy, traditionally feminine traits, whereas Lemmon, who was completely unbothered, kept much more of his masculine body language.

In 2008, a Californian man who found a little black dress in his closet was stunned when appraisers determined it once belonged to Marilyn Monroe. The frock – which Monroe was sewn into for “Some Like It Hot” – was estimated to be worth \$250,000.

Academy of Motion  
Picture Arts and  
Science Library,  
Beverly Hills, Calif.

The  
Academy of Motion Picture  
Arts and Sciences



*Banquet*  
FOR THE BESTOWAL OF  
*Merit Awards*  
AND TO CELEBRATE THE ACADEMY'S  
*Second Anniversary*

Roosevelt Hotel  
MAY 16, 1929

Menu

\*\*\* \*\*

HORS D'OEUVRE VARIE

CELERY      OLIVES      NUTS      ROLLS

CONSOMME CELESTINE

FILET OF SOLE SAUTE AU BEURRE

HALF BROILED CHICKEN ON TOAST

NEW STRING BEANS      LONG BRANCH POTATOES

LETTUCE AND TOMATOES WITH FRENCH DRESSING

VANILLA AND CHOCOLATE ICE CREAM

CAKES

DEMI TASSE

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VANILLA AND CHOCOLATE ICE CREAM

CAKES

DEMI TASSE

## *The Menu 1929 – The 1<sup>st</sup> Oscars*

BY KERRY BAKER  
BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

By 1929, the fledgling movie industry in Hollywood had grown so strongly in output, stature and popularity it was felt that recognitions of excellence in various elements of film-making were warranted. Louis B. Mayer created the Awards. There were 12 categories and a Special Award. On 16 May 1929, a private dinner was held in the Blossom Room of the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel and hosted by AMPAS President Douglas Fairbanks. 270 people attended, tickets were \$5, and the presentation ceremony lasted 15 minutes. It was the only Academy Awards event not broadcast either on radio or television. (A radio

broadcast was introduced during the 2nd Academy Awards.)

Mayer asked Cedric Gibbons, art director at MGM, to design a statuette and Oscar was born, although he would not be named thus until 10 years later in 1939 when Academy executive director Margaret Herrick said the statuettes given out to winners resembled her uncle Oscar.

Seated around 36 banquet tables were the top Hollywood power brokers and major stars of the day. The menu may seem fairly “ordinaire” to us now (guests dined on a variety of items that

ranged from celery stalks to broiled chicken on toast), but their presentation was reflective of what Hollywood considered to be sophisticated European dining trends of the time. There have been vast changes since that inaugural evening. The number of Awards, attendance figures and time taken have all increased significantly. But some things never change. Mary Pickford, Al Jolson and Buster Keaton were among the “snubs and omissions” on that occasion.

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## *The Claude I. Taylor, O.C. Tribute Award*

BY JO LEE MAGAZINE

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

Claude I. Taylor, O.C., the renowned Air Canada Icon had a dream of acknowledging people who embraced a need. He had a deep appreciation and a considerable admiration for his inaugural recipients and their philanthropic works that spanned the essence of his dream.

With profound pride, in this, our World Luxury issue, it is JO LEE Magazine's Distinct privilege to announce Claude Taylor's 2022 Recipients. Rose A. Dyson, EdD, Saul Levine, MD, CM, Shawn Zahedi, Social Health Technology.

Claude Taylor's belief in goodness was all encompassing. To say he was a "White Knight", as he was referred to by international colleagues,

humbled him. But he was a "White Knight" and in their own right, so too are Rose, Saul and Shawn.

We do by these presents officially honor you, Rose, Saul and Shawn to hold and enjoy the dignity of such honor.

"Foresight requires a curiosity as deep as it is boundless... The will to dream bigger and beyond."  
Claude I. Taylor, O.C.



THE  
CLAUDE I. TAYLOR O.C.  
TRIBUTE AWARD

## *The Claude I. Taylor, O.C. Tribute Award*

BY JO LEE MAGAZINE

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

The Claude I. Taylor O.C. Tribute Award has been created by renowned crystal artist and designer, Mark Raynes Roberts, whose sculptures and awards can be found in art collections around the world.

The newly designed Crystal Sculpture Award is made of the purest optical crystal, a material used in the space and aeronautical industry, and reflective of the vision, clarity of thinking and excellence each of the Claude I. Taylor O.C.

Tribute Award recipients possess. The Crystal Orb Sculpture is hand-engraved with a globe and linear lines on the cube symbolic of communication and the technological world we live in today.

Markraynesroberts.com

2022

Rose A. Dyson, EdD — Award winning writer, Speaker — Mind Abuse  
Saul Levine, MD, CM — Professor Psychiatry U of T. Professor Emeritus Psychiatry, UCSD  
Shawn Zahedi — Leading the successful implementation of the Social Health Technology Program at Kaiser Permanente

2021

Brian Hanington — Relentless ghostwriter in the corridors of power  
Dr. James T. Rutka — R.S. McLaughlin Chair, Department of Surgery, University of Toronto  
Sue K. Wallingford — Life-long career in Humanities

2020

Bette Laderoute Sampson — Special Assignment Chief JO LEE Magazine  
The Honorable Judith M. Bahemuka — Chancellor The University of Eldoret, Kenya  
Ray Scotty Morris — Internationally Renowned Photojournalist

2019

Jason Chipman Howlett — Entrepreneur  
Dr. Margaret R. O’Keeffe Umanzio — Corporate CEO Advisor  
John Wildman — Heinz USA Divisional CEO, Retired

2018

John Black — COO JO LEE Magazine  
Lois M. Gordon — Entrepreneur  
David Smith, O.C. — Humanitarian

2017

Ann Graham Calderisi — Philanthropist  
Thomas A. McKee — International Law  
Nino A. Mascioli — Humanitarian

2016

Stanley J. Dorst — Global Land Development Chairman  
H. Gail Regan — Vice Chair CARA  
Thomas J. Smyth — Chairman/CEO Heinz Canada, Retired



## *Saul Levine, MD, CM*

BY JO LEE MAGAZINE

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

"I want to tell you about a friend from Montreal whose foresight into the human mind has been as deep as it is boundless: helping those in need. Saul and I have never met. But our souls have! His goals and his dreams have spread goodness around and, as I speak these words to Jo Lee, I want him to know of my admiration for him."

Saul is Professor Emeritus, Psychiatry at the University of California, San Diego, after having been Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto. He was educated at McGill University in Montreal and at Stanford University in California. Saul is an author of six books, many professional papers and journalism articles, and is a columnist for two magazines. He is also a former host of a long-running televised advice show and is especially interested in human resilience and the great paradox of humanity, to wit: people are capable of such remarkable creativity and benevolence, yet also harbor a destructive propensity to hatred and brutality.



## *Rose A. Dyson, EdD*

BY JO LEE MAGAZINE

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

"I want to commend a remarkable lady whose works permeate a strategic stratum of life, in our world of yesterday and, today. A lady of determination with passion about results. Rose has been a friend for many years and with each year, I've found myself wanting to compliment her more."

Rose is a media education consultant experienced in psychology and the arts and is president of Canadians Concerned About Violence in Entertainment. She was a co-founder of the 1996 International Cultural Environment Movement and served on the executive committee for the Canadian Peace Research Association until 2020.

Rose is now Vice President of the World Federalist Movement – Toronto Branch.



## *Shawn Zahedi*

BY JO LEE MAGAZINE

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

"Shawn Zahedi I came to appreciate through his many years of giving to Jo Lee's Charity and subsequently to JO LEE Magazine of which I became Chairman of the Board. Shawn was dedicated and exact and, I soon began to appreciate him growing into one of America's most exciting leaders: for he exemplifies honor."

As a Senior Program Manager, Shawn is leading the successful implementation of the Social Health Technology Program on behalf of the Social Health Practice at Kaiser Permanente.

In addition to more than 15 years of project and program management experience, Shawn embraces extensive strategy consulting and leadership experience with a focus on stakeholder engagement through digital channels, helping Fortune 500 companies build measurable and meaningful customer touch points.

Shawn currently lives in Los Angeles with his husband, is an avid skier, and enjoys learning new languages.

PostCards From the World, My Dream of Peace - Collector's Special Edition 2022



FROM THE CHILDREN OF UKRAINE

*My Dream of Peace*

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*There* are few things more vital to the development of the human spirit than the arts.

2022

10.7 million children in Ukraine are living in a terrifying crisis. Forced from their homes and leaving loved ones behind, without food, water and the means to stay warm. Frightened. Scared. And not sure what tomorrow brings.

*Parents who've lost children will never find peace regardless of how bloody the conflict between Russia and Ukraine ends. We can all work on how to rebuild apartments and houses and compensate them. How do you compensate for the loss of a child? I don't think anyone in the world has an answer for that.*

Volodymyr Zelenskyy – President, Ukraine

# LIFE IS A JOURNEY

## UKRAINE

Victoria Yeriomenko - Age 8  
Peace and Harmony

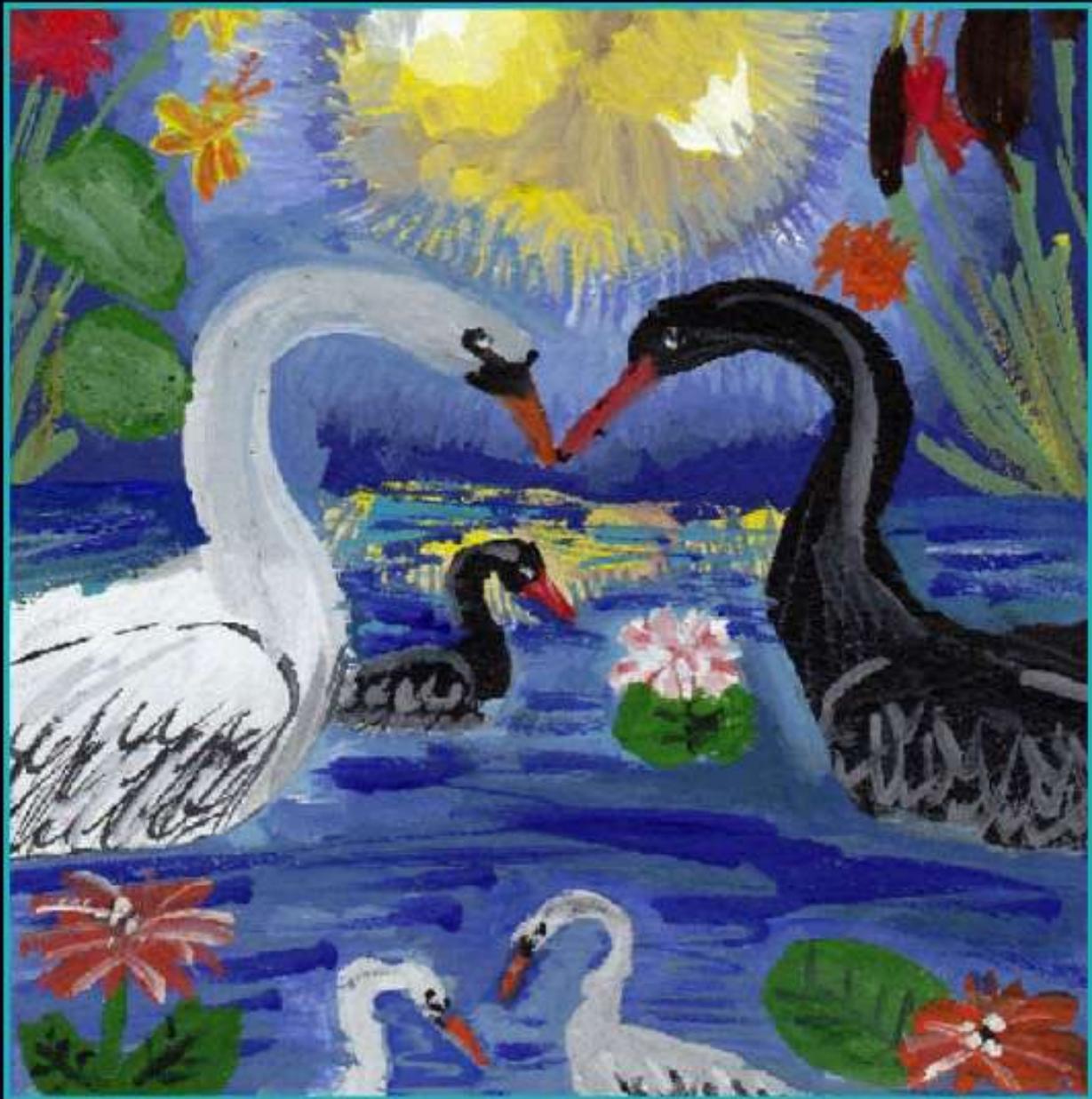


Of the thousands of pieces of art received from around the globe, these inspired works from the children of Ukraine and Russia . . .

# WE TAKE TOGETHER

## RUSSIA

Polina Trusova - Age 10  
My Beautiful Black and White World



... demonstrate the kindred spirit  
and creative connection shared by  
all human beings on Earth.

Oleksandra Molubovska - Age 12  
Our future is in our hands.



Dasha Sauchenko - Age 11  
Say yes to peace  
and no to war.



Oleksiy Budantsev - Age 10  
I want peace.  
I don't want war.



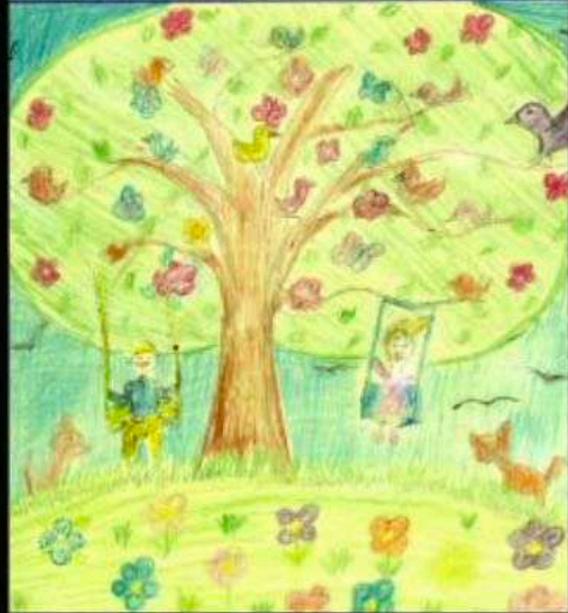
Sofia Huba - Age 8



Roman Velychko - Age 8  
Sweet people! Let's  
keep the peace together.



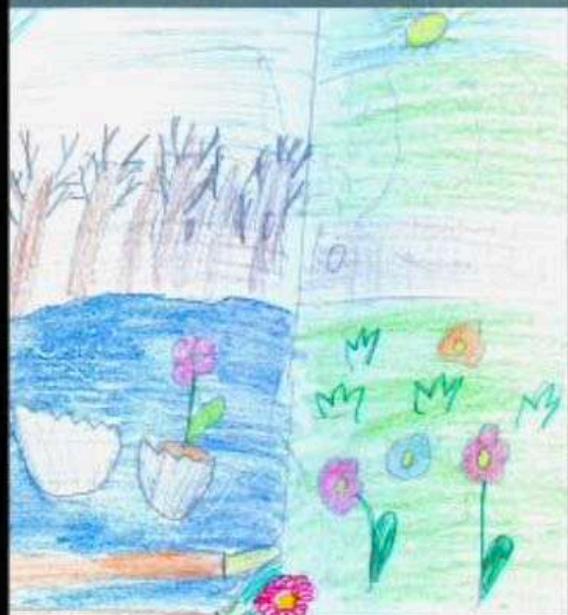
Sofia Sheremetovo - Age 9  
Magical World



Alex Hanzina - Age 10  
Let it be peace in Ukraine  
and the world.



Daria Matnenko - Age 10  
May there always  
be Peace and beauty.







## My Dream Of Peace

*A*cross the globe children experience fear as a way of life. Yet miraculously, they still dream of a peaceful world. And, like children everywhere they express their joys, fear and pain through drawing.

TIMOTCA invited teachers in countries around the world to participate in PostCards from the World, My Dream of Peace. From Mongolia to Israel, from Lebanon to Myanmar to the United States, Mexico, Russia, Canada, Kenya and Ukraine - from 34 countries - precious PostCards with little works of art came pouring in from children expressing their Dreams of Peace. Many of the children gave their art a title and shared their thoughts with us, which we have included on their postcards.

Joining hands and hearts with children everywhere they help us believe that peace is possible, as their innocent images powerfully weave the fabric of hope. TIMOTCA is honored to share the heartwarming postcards we received from 105 children in Ukraine whose Dreams of Peace we present on the following pages.

The purchase of this Collector's Special Edition is a lifesaving gift to the children of Ukraine. Proceeds are donated to deliver aid to hundreds of thousands of children and families whose lives and futures hang in the balance.



## *Winston Churchill – A Great Leader*

BY JO LEE MAGAZINE

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

Diplomacy is the art of telling people to go to hell in such a way that they ask for directions.

You will never reach your destination if you stop and throw stones at every dog that barks.

Fear is a reaction. Courage is a decision.

A nature that forgets its past has no future.

If you're not a Liberal at twenty, you have no heart.  
If you're not a Conservative at forty, you have no brain.

There is nothing Government can give you that it hasn't taken from you in the first place.

Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm.

A good speech should be like a woman's skirt: long enough to cover the subject and short enough to create interest.

A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.

One man with conviction will overwhelm a hundred who have only opinions.

However beautiful the strategy, you should occasionally look at the results.

You don't make the poor rich by making the rich poorer.

Life can either be accepted or changed. If it is not accepted, it must be changed. If it cannot be changed, then it must be accepted.

We contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle.

I'd rather argue against a hundred idiots, than have one agree with me.

In the course of my life, I have often had to eat my words, and I must confess that I have always found it a wholesome diet.

Life is fraught with opportunities to keep your mouth shut.

An appeaser is one who feeds a crocodile, hoping it will eat him last.





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