

Recommendation letter
For Rose Marie Gnausch
Project initiator and organizer of
Elephants for Peace

September 28, 2009

To Whom It May Concern;

Peace is a topic that is of interest to all people worldwide.

The idea of peace as a basic condition of living should be celebrated every day, fostered and reaffirmed by all.

Peace is strong and powerful. It should be allowed to remain when people meet.

In Rose Marie Gnausch we have found a person who has the will and desire to give peace a setting, someone who is consciously and actively dealing with the topic of world peace. The German artist and art historian put to herself the task of making peace visible and tangible, to provide a space for the majority of peaceful individuals on planet earth to express their desire for peace through art. This peaceful majority is unseen, unheard and non-active due to an overwhelming sense of loss and hopelessness which accompanies organized strife and conflict in the world. The individual feels powerless against such organized and sanctioned aggression; unable to produce that gentle gesture which will be seen, and therefore not be in vain.

To break with this paralysis is one main goal of *Elephants for Peace*. By participating in this movement, the desire for peace of each individual is given expression and is made visible for others. *Elephants for Peace* fosters the idea that individuals can come together and be viewed as majority, and therefore feel that their gesture counts.

The concept is to work through symbolism. The new symbol for a strong and powerful concept of peace is represented through the grand yet gentle visage of the elephant.

The abstract concept of peace is given a functioning symbol which states: "I can be powerful yet peaceful".

Art can deliver not only images of the status quo but also of the world we want to live in. It renders visible.

There are many places of conflict throughout our world.

The first place to have seen an event of Elephants for Peace was the inner border of Cyprus.

Due to the protective frame of hundreds of art works the two sides could meet in a friendly yet festive atmosphere and a symbolic abolition of border and conflict was achieved. The press was euphoric; the art peace movement was the news item of the day. We regard this effort as a highly valuable one and recommend to support an event of this kind in your city by all means. It has the outstanding capacity to achieve a situation that seems unlikable under normal circumstances.

Rose Marie Gnausch has the capacity to deal with the topic of peace on a purely human level. She inspires people to let go of differences and to be taken by her enthusiasm.

The specialness of the project lies in the fact that each and everyone regardless of his or her personal situation can be part of the movement.
The more who join the movement the more hope will be spread.

This project does not need to hide. It is in line with the great peace movements of the 60's, yet with one difference, that it is not fighting against anything but only making visible the power of peacefulness.

Rose Marie Gnausch acts outside of the mainstream. She has put her entire life into the realization of this project and is risking her existence on all levels.

To find a person like her in our current time is a rarity and her altruism commands some respect.

I am fully and heartily supporting this movement and appeal to you to support this project, and the realization of it, in your hometown as well.

Sincerely Yours,



Celal CİN
Deputy Mayor
Nicosia Turkish Municipality