

GOGANESHAGO

Our planet earth and her inhabitants have been in the midst of a crisis for some time. This crisis has different dimensions: ecological, socio-economic, political and humanitarian ones. The ongoing crisis in all these dimensions seems to result in the inability of mankind to lift its current awareness of the meaning and purpose of its existence on this planet to a more complex and evolved level. The complexity theory postulates that any dynamic system (biological, physical, chemical, political or economic in nature) cannot sustain its current complexity level and will have to regress to a less complex one unless it manages to evolve into a more complex system after some time. The present global ecological, socio-economic and international political conditions suggest that as a dynamic system the present order of life on our planet has reached a threshold point beyond which further instability is likely to produce "chaos" in the system. A chaotic dynamic system has two alternatives: either it can evolve into a more complex one (which would represent a quantum shift in our consciousness) or end up as a primitive system.

One of the fundamental concepts of chaos theory is the "butterfly effect". This simply states that even a butterfly has the potential to generate a storm by slightly changing the weather conditions in its micro environment whose initial conditions were stable.

The Elephant for Peace project initiated by German artist and art historian Rose Marie Gnausch can best be defined as an attempt to generate a "butterfly effect" in the existing state of consciousness of human beings. And towards this end it is an invitation to all those willing to take the lead in opening themselves to the possibility of transforming their consciousness and lifting it to a more evolved level. The Elephants for Peace project is about art's capacity to create a new symbol with an impact on human consciousness: a peaceful attitude and living in harmony with other species are the two corner stones building this new consciousness, both at an individual and at a collective level. That is why the main meaning of the project has been described by Rose Marie Gnausch as "Peace made visible". She offers the abstract concept of peace a new symbol which combines strength and kindness. One of the innovative aspects of the Elephants for Peace project is the fact that it is conceived as a "civic art movement" by the German artist. She has envisioned it as a dynamic process which involves participation of not only artists, but also non-artists, including everybody, the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd generation from all walks of life, of different nationalities, gender, and professions around the globe. The main motivation behind this non-traditional vision of the artist is to use art as a tool for the participants from across the globe to make a collective statement about their desire to create a shift of consciousness which will embody the wisdom of peace and the joy of living in harmony with each other on this planet. Rose Marie Gnausch is convinced that the energy that will be activated by the joy experienced in the process of creating their respective "peace" elephants and the inner knowledge of the participants that they are all united together in making a statement for peace and harmony has the potential to materialize the shift of consciousness necessary in our evolution. The form of life on our planet in the future seems to depend on this inner evolution.

The present exhibition at Famagusta Gate is a preliminary activity of the project in relation to Cyprus: it features some of the finished and donated works of participants between 14 and 22 January 2009. The main activities and the final exhibition will take place in May 2009 on Ledra Street. However, there is a continuation to the project: The Elephants for Peace are intended to move to other parts of the world, such as Israel, Palestine, Georgia, Korea and Iraq.

In this respect, Cypriots can make use of the opportunity of the Elephant for Peace project to make a statement and help generate this shift of consciousness, which ultimately, for the survival of mankind has the significance of a quantum leap. Through their attitude, Cypriots can serve as role models for the transformation of consciousness of other conflict-ridden societies.

Participation in the Peace Project is welcome.

If you are interested in participating, please write to: participate@go-ganesha-go.com

RSL – Team of Naturalmente ROMA