

# MAKING PEACE – Geneva - 6 JUNE 2010

by Colin Archer, IPB Secretary-General

A brief report on the grand opening day/festival of IPB's outdoor exhibition 'Making Peace' that took place on June 6 here in Geneva. It was a great success ! especially as the sun shone (almost) the whole day and the lakeshore was packed with visitors of all kinds, all ages, all origins....a wonderful way to celebrate the centenary of the Nobel Peace Prize awarded to IPB in 1910. Many thanks to all those who helped put this ambitious programme together.

**The Weekend:** IPB's big day was a part of a larger event, a joint International Weekend co-organised with the United Nations in Geneva, and notably the UN Environment Programme and the World Intellectual Property Organisation. The purpose was to bring closer together Geneva's international community and local residents. Sat. June 5 was World Environment Day, so the UN opened its gardens to the public and organised a wide range of activities. See: <http://www.journeeverteonugeneve.org/>

**The Exhibit:** covers a variety of issues, countries, campaigns and personalities relating to the peace struggles of the last 100 years. It is composed of 120 large size photos by renowned photographers on 100 panels, displayed along the promenade in front of the Palais Wilson (original seat of the League of Nations, now the HQ of the UN High Commissioner of Human Rights) - on show until JULY 4. Free of charge. The exhibition was formally opened by Mr Pierre Maudet, Vice-President of the Administrative Council of the City of Geneva. The city's Mayor and many other officials were present at the evening Garden Party.

Curator and Project Manager: Ashley Woods

Soon available for viewing on the web! See: <http://www.makingpeace.org>

**The Village:** consisted of 5 main tents, one for each of the coloured sections/themes of the exhibition:

- Purple - Disarmament and Nonviolence
- Red – Conflict Prevention and Resolution
- Yellow - Economic and Social Justice
- Blue - Human Rights, Law and Democracy
- Green - Environment and Sustainable Development

In each tent there were 4 stands, each showing the work of a different NGO or UN agency.

**The Debates:** Three 45-minute discussions with local specialists presenting some of the major issues related to peace-making :

- Environment and Peace - with Earth Focus and Noé 21
- La paix au quotidien/everyday peacemaking - with Graines de paix and les Araignées de la paix
- Disarmament for Development - with IPB and the Group for a Switzerland without an Army (GSSA).

**The Garden Party:** on the terrace of the Palais Wilson. Organised by IPB with the support of the Fondation pour Genève and the Geneva Welcome Centre. Speakers:

- Tomas Magnusson, IPB President
- Sergei Ordzhonikidze, Director-General of the Office of the UN at Geneva
- Benthe Angell-Hansen, Ambassador of Norway

- Dante Martinelli, Ambassador of Switzerland

**Special Guests:** we were delighted to have with us two personalities from the world of culture who are engaged in different ways with the themes of the Making Peace day:

- Reza : world renowned photographer (National Geographic) + founder of the Aina Foundation –promotes independent Afghan media, training local journalists, men and women, in all media.
- Patrick Chappatte, cartoonist, member of Cartooning for Peace (Hon. Pres. Kofi Annan).

**Photo competition:** prizes were awarded to 3 young women, winners of the photo competition sponsored by Hewlett-Packard and run by the Geneva International School.

**Kids and culture:** several organisations arranged activities for children and the Bains des Pâquis swimming/café complex organised a whole string of jazz/rock performances.

### Media coverage:

#### MAIN WEBSITE

Info on the exhibition and opening day events (French and English pages)

<http://www.makingpeace.org>

#### 24 HEURES/PLANETE PHOTOS

extensive photo gallery (also on Green Day) + blog on the inauguration

<http://planetephotos.blog.24heures.ch/archive/2010/06/06/inauguration-de-making-peace.html>

#### LA CHAINE.TV

10 min clip with interviews: (French)

- Colin Archer, IPB
- Reza – AINA

Others

<http://www.lachaine.ch/spip/spip.php?article190>

RADIO CITE interviews (French) with:

- Colin Archer, IPB
- Aurore Bui, Making Peace press officer
- Marie Heuzé, Cartooning for Peace
- Reza, AINA

<http://www.radiocite.ch/menu-152-143-19h20h-%3A-o-delhoume.html>

+ Many more links too!

[http://www.tdg.ch/pages/recherche?cx=016589137478740691181%3A39bxmzqznl4&cof=FORID%3A9&ie=UTF-8&as\\_q=Making+Peace&sa=#1165](http://www.tdg.ch/pages/recherche?cx=016589137478740691181%3A39bxmzqznl4&cof=FORID%3A9&ie=UTF-8&as_q=Making+Peace&sa=#1165)

### Sponsors:

Financial sponsorship was received from the City and Canton of Geneva, the Swiss Foreign Ministry, the Loterie Romande and Hewlett Packard.

In addition, over 30 other partners (commercial and non-commercial) made contributions in kind, and some 25 NGOs and UN agencies participated in the Village, debates and other activities.

**International distribution:** IPB is now starting to explore other possible locations around the world for the exhibition to be shown:

- a. in major open air spaces
- b. in schools (smaller format)

We are especially interested in setting up partnerships with cities, towns, galleries and museums. If you have requests or suggestions for places to show this unique exhibit, please contact the Secretariat: [secgen@ipb.org](mailto:secgen@ipb.org)

### **Centenary celebrations- part two ! SEPT 2010 conference - Norway**

From Sept. 23-26 IPB will hold a special international conference in OSLO, under the title '**A Climate of Peace**'. Topics: Disarmament for development, Nuclear abolition, Peace education, Peace history, Conflict prevention, Women in peacemaking, Afghanistan, Norway as a peace nation, and more!....including a 2 day youth programme (in Norwegian).

Venues: Nobel Centre, House of Literature, Nobel Institute.

IPB Triennial Assembly: will be held on Sept 26.

Key partner: Norwegian Peace Council [www.norgesfredsrad.no](http://www.norgesfredsrad.no)

For full details see : <http://ipb100.org/>