

Selected Statements by Artists in the 2009 Search For Peace Art Exhibit

The cost of war in human lives and the huge waste of resources means that no one wins, everyone loses. A house of the victorious is a fragile construction that is unlikely to last.

This painting is about loss of property and disruption of lives caused by war. As soldiers pick their way through the rubble of a destroyed city, a figure sits alone in what remains of a shattered life and environment.

In this picture the Arc de Triomphe is the backdrop for the triumph of Peace and Hope.

Peace was restored through the incarnation, Bells ring for this reason.

Only through Christ is Peace found.

Peace is the fruit of Prayer.

And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks:

Nations shall not lift up the sword

against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. Isiah 2:4

This image depicts the Holy Spirit bestowing the seven gifts: Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, and Fear of the Lord, on a conflicted humanity, bringing about reconciliation and establishing peace on earth.

The "Taxi Driver" relates to the themes of compassionate communication and reconciliation.

"Think With Your Heart" relates to the Search For Peace because it suggests that the crises that we are in, are our opportunity to cooperate to create the peaceful future we want, and that imagination is key to empowering that future, making is inevitable.

Historically we are in a time of great change. No matter how much we rebuild the only way peace will be successful is to mimic these two bird's. We need to accept the world will never be one religion, one race, one country and there will always be two sides of a story. We must tolerate our differences to make peace possible.

*The two birds are small but are far from insignificant in the final result. Such as you are only one but you are at the very heart of creating a world that can thrive in peace. **It is not about changing another to be like you, peace begins with accepting others as they are.***

Peace of Mind or Peace On Earth....Believing Will Make It Possible.

My artwork illustrates one way of thinking about peace. We are drawn forward by faith and uplifted by hope in our performance of acts of both love and justice. Sometimes we act more out of love, sometimes more out of justice. Joy can't be sought by following any particular path or formula; it's a gift from the Spirit that just appears spontaneously and irrationally, but only at times that we are open to the Spirit. When love and justice are in perfect harmony, the result can be peace. Peace on earth is a foreshadowing of heaven. There will be heaven on earth—lasting peace—when all actions are motivated by love; and perfect love incorporates and supersedes justice.

I've dreamt of peace many times. My painting has a rosary embedded in the earth. We are all connected. Pray the rosary!

Peace can be a very simple thing. It can be very complex, too! It is your choice. Everyone will have a different idea of how to accomplish this; however all will be wonderful.

Selected Statements by Artists

I watched President Obama's inauguration on television as the event occurred. The cameras showed thousands of people on the Washington Mall and dignitaries in the stands and viewers around the world. Their faces and emotions moved me greatly – I smiled and cried and laughed with them all. *And then a deep sense of peace came over me.* It has been decades since I had this feeling of peace and hopeful expectation about politics and our government. I don't expect all this nation's and the world's problems to be solved soon or some even at all. But at last I see a man and his family who show love, joy, intelligence, compassion, and common sense. It has been awhile since the reflecting pool on the Washington Mall has had such a wondrous event to reflect.

Selected statements by young artists

I think owls are peaceful because God made their wings feathery and when they fly they don't make any sound because their wings are like your hands if you spread them apart. (if your fingers are close together, they make wind).”

There needs to be more Peace On Earth – Stop All Wars!

We need to love each other to live in peace.

This picture relates to peace because all people of different races are holding hands around the earth and to us it means that the world is covered with different people, all working for peace!!

This relates to peace because first of all there is a peace sign in it and also it has the Sun, the earth, and the grass, so it connects all things in life.

We need to love each other to live in peace.

Peace means to me, that there should be love in the world, nobody should be fighting.

I think peace should be everywhere. But it is. Even in the war. It may take a little looking but you'll see. People holding hands is an example.

I was fighting and then came peace. I was fighting with my brother. And there came peace. I said stop. He stopped He said sorry and he hugged me.

Let's have war!!! No. Let's stop this war. OK Yeah!!!

This picture is showing peace because it says, no matter where you come from or what gender you are, we are all children of God!

This picture is about two people shaking hands. One person is African American and one is not. They are showing no matter what race you are God created you in the perfect image.

My picture is about two people helping each other which is peaceful.

People were fighting, not now. Sharing
God is saying “Stop.”