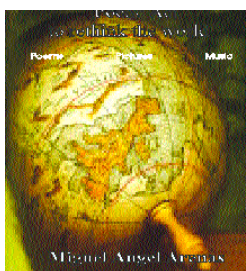




“Poems to Rethink the World”, a Multimedia Performance

BY MIGUEL ANGEL ARENAS



“Poems to rethink the world”, by Miguel Angel Arenas, is a work which combines poetry, music and photo-

graphies to build a space where sensations and reflections are present in every second. This work has been presented at an international level in countries like Spain, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Croatia, Poland, and Sweden... where this was used as a basis for discussion on a range of topics: like Human Rights, Democracy, Identity, Religion, Education, Gender, Racism, International Aid, etc. all of this dealt from the perspective of emotions, trying to go into people's emotions.

Bringing these topics through the vehicle of poetry is the way this work manages making young people feel sensitive with world's situations. From this awareness is easier for them to get involve in social work to make this world a better place.

The work “Poems to rethink the world” has been used for performances of a couple of hours and in training courses of several days. It depends on the use young activist want to make of it.

In this period of globalization, multimedia works have got a huge power. There are enormous amounts of messages and informations which influence in youth.

The roots of this performance are the reflections about a time spent in Israel and Palestine in the frame of a Euromed seminar. From this point of beginning the whole world is referred in this work tool. It opens a dialogue among different ways of understanding life, hope, peace and justice.

The spectator feels like own places the places and situations which are brought in the poems.

The music is the result of a compilation of ten master pieces which accompany the ten pictures and the ten poems. These songs make a trip around the world gathering many tones and traditions of various geographies: England, France, Israel, Morocco, Spain, etc.

As a Non formal Education instrument has got a very powerful potential and it is open to social, cultural and youth organizations which want to bring this experience to their work, seminars, courses, etc.

A very near translation into Arabic will open this Multimedia work to more countries and people. This work is made and written in a universal language, understood by all humans: the language of heart.



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Where am I from if I am I everywhere?

MIGUEL ANGEL ARENAS
SPAIN

*I was born from my mother's womb,
further more than that, my land is the air
I breath.*

*Because I've been ancient Greek
in front of the Aegean,
with my pupils full of undefined seas.
I've been Italian when the Vesuvius
buried me and French when I kissed
for first time in Paris.
I became a Swiss when I heard Rousseau
in Geneve,
I've got from Finns thirteen Sunday evenings.
I lost a ventricle of my heart in Saint
Petersburg,
and Stockholm adopted me as an Olof
Palme's brother
on that morning of June.
Where am I from if I am I everywhere?*

*I get emotional when I listen to the Estonian
hymn,
I've said I love you in Hungarian on the shore
of the Danube,
I've heard Mozart saying I love you in Vienna,
One of my seven lives keeps begging
in the Prague streets,
and another one stays incarcerated
in the British Museum.
In Dresden, the English bombs fell on me
and in Warsaw the German ones.
I'm Danish in all my blood when silence
talks for me, and every 8th January
I'm Finnish again.*

*Which country would I defend if I feel
attacked everywhere?*

*I got married in Rabat with a knife and a hat,
In Fez I painted myself dark black.
In Sahara I crossed frontiers without lines
in the maps.
I was Jewish in Tel-Aviv and Muslim in Jaffo.
In the Holy Tomb I was Catholic
at five o'clock, and at seven I was Orthodox.
I've prayed in Shinto temples
and nobody ever noticed.
I've been Argentinean in the anger fists
and Brazilian in the hope.
I've been from every place I've been in.*

*Which country would I die for if I feel alive
everywhere?*