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29.03.2022

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Interview with Alessandro Ienzi, Director of the Raizes Theater



The Press Office of the Global Campus of Human Rights had the opportunity to ask our partner in diverse art activities and Founding Director of Raizes Teatro, Alessandro Ienzi, about our future joint art and human rights activities like Human Freedom 2022.

Could you tell us more about yourself and your objectives as an artist for 2022?

The objectives of the artists are always filtered by sensitivity, by a sixth sense that allows us to observe the world from different perspectives. Therefore, as an artist, I have been focusing for some time on the sense of bewilderment that has gripped us as human beings since the beginning of the 21st century, and which has worsened over the course of the pandemic.

However, I hardly focus my artistic production on what is wrong or puts us in difficulty, but on the possible paths of evolution. Where does this bewilderment lead us? Where do we go as human beings? Who do we want to be? And what would we really like to experience? These will be the questions I will focus on in the coming months.

Please elaborate on the partnership with the Global Campus of Human Rights regarding the series of events part of Human Freedom 2021 and your performances at trainings like CHRA School and Venice School. Could you share the impact of such activities? Will there be a new edition of “Human Freedom” and other similar performances?

The collaboration with Global Campus and Human Freedom 21 has been fruitful and has had a strong impact on the arts and human rights. Our campaigns attracted the attention of the press and civil society, we were guests of the Human Rights Forum in Vienna, and we presented our work, in Barcelona, New York, Paris, and many Italian cities. Partnerships have grown in quality and quantity. Human Freedom 22 will start in February, this year we will dedicate ourselves to young people, young people, and young leadership, cultural and human rights. Shedding a light on the qualities of the little ones can be a very inspiring journey.

How is human rights education relevant to the art world and achieving the Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

Human rights and art are naturally connected and interdependent. Art is a lens through which we can look at ourselves, human beings, at our relationships with each other and with nature. Human rights are a rich interpretation of reality and, from a regulatory point of view, an excellent guide to keep the bar straight towards a world full of life and justice.

Artistic reflection and the strength of art in involving people are fundamental tools for pursuing the objectives of growth and sustainability, creating images, new senses, art can reveal to us as human beings what our shortcomings are and what our power is, to change the conditions of our lives and those around us. It can be through the arts that we can imagine first and build a world of equality, respect and full of joy and of the best part of humanity: imagination.

What will the most important challenges be in relation to promoting human rights and democracy in the years to come? How might artists continue to help?

The greatest challenge that art has to face is the reconstruction of the contact of human beings with themselves. There is a strong sense of loss, an inability to listen to oneself, to face one's fears and to build new worlds and new ideas. The economic crisis first and the health emergency then made us more fragile and anxious. Democracy, rights, philosophical and civil evolution also depend on our inner state of health. Art can, however, in moments of crisis awaken a certain humanity, because art is based on creativity. It will probably be art that will pull us out of this sense of inadequacy and this struggle between brothers that is filling the world on many levels.

Do you think there is a way for Venice (as a city hosting the well-known Venice Biennials) to become more efficient, attractive and well prepared to host artists, students, professors, experts, and authorities from all over the world?

Venice is a wonderful and efficient city, although its structure is not the easiest and most accessible. It is a city accustomed to hosting major events, promoting great cinema and great theater, the visual arts. It is a city of great patrons. However, what could be improved is the growing relationship between these festivals and public events, their content and civil society. Art and rights must be for everyone, they must be presented to everyone and we should all have the opportunity to participate in a debate on arts and law. The arts and the law should speak of us, not be above us, they should show us who we are and they should show it to the rich and the poor, the educated and the uneducated, the young and the old and so on.

Could you share a message with the Global Campus of Human Rights Community?

Let's try starting from ourselves, from our desires and from the shortcomings of the world that we have observed since childhood. Let's recover and raise the memory of our communities and transform them into desires, dreams and then projects. Let's get to work, day after day, to build a world as we have imagined it and as we imagine it together every time we meet on Campus.

For more information contact our [Press Office](#)

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