



"Music is not a metaphor of peace, it is a source of peace through the links it forges, the bridges it crosses, and, let us not forget, the pleasure it provides".

Irina Bokova, Director General of UNESCO, 19 October 2010, Paris

In March 2013 the towns of Lucca and Florence hosted the Executive Board of the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (WFUCA) as well as the first International Conference on "The Universal Language of Music and Art for a Global Ethic" with workshops on ethics, art, culture, music and economics as well as a rich cultural programme. The Towns of Lucca and Florence were chosen for their exceptional musical heritage and architectural heritage. Indeed, in 2012 Lucca was nominated for recognition as a UNESCO Creative City of Music.

Together with Nuderlin Satti, president of the UNESCO economic and cultural fund, and Carli Fracci (Italian ambassador to UNESCO) the Mayor of Lucca, Alessandro Tambellini and Maria Luisa Stringa, president of the Italian UNESCO Federation welcomed over 250 delegates from the WFUCA.

At the close of the Conference it was my good fortune to meet baritone and "impresario" Mattia Campetti and talk about common interests in music. The next day under the protection of his umbrella, eating freshly baked maize foccacci from the bakery of one of his loyal sponsors, Mattia explained more about the LuccaOPERAfestival and this year's performance of three operas by Mozart based on the libretti of Da Ponte. We also visited the beautiful oratorio degli Angeli Custodi where later the inauguration of the *I concerti degli Angeli Custodi* season received the blessing of the Bishop.

The Bishop, the Baritone and the Baker - serving and nourishing their community - an expression of the moral solidarity called for by the Constitution of UNESCO and particularly needed in these challenging times. It is a privilege to become part of the community of sponsors and in a modest way express gratitude to the people of Lucca for the spirit of human kindness, care and consideration shown every day and at all levels during the Conference calling for a Global Ethic.

Fran E. Wright

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"...since wars begin in the minds of men it is in the minds of men that the defences of Peace must be constructed...Peace must be founded, if it is not to fail, upon the intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind." (Constitution of UNESCO)