

The City of Lasseran unveiled a fresco dedicated to peace

Report by Lorena Schlicht, Mayors for peace French chapter

Highly committed to the promotion of peace, Michel Soriano, the mayor of Lasseran, inaugurated in 2021, a fresco dedicated to peace (realized by the artist Francis Roca). The painting, inspired by Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper", brings together politicians and artists, such as Louise Michel, Averroès, Ghandi, Martin Luther King, John Lennon, Mother Teresa, Johnny Clegg, Joan Baez, Nelson Mandela, Jean Jaurès, Cabu, Marianne; those who worked for better understanding between culture and people. About the fresco, Michel Soriano said "It was important that everyone could choose their central character. Thus everyone can appropriate the painting, whatever his/her religion or cultural codes. This is why the doves appear to be coming out of the painting, while masking the face of the central character."



Michel Soriano and Francis Roca

A reproduction of this fresco was done on the wall of Lasseran public school. Under this reproduction, schoolchildren have put their handprints next to each other's and written their own message: "peace at hand". "It shows that we are all on a rope and if one person pushes someone else, everyone falls and peace disappears", told one schoolgirl. The mayor Soriano added: "We can see that these seeds we are sowing are beginning to bear fruit".



Schoolchildren of Lasseran

Michel Soriano and the municipal team of Lasseran (member of Mayors for Peace France), had already carried out many projects for peace (peace garden, peace square, panels representing Nobel prizes, an olive tree, signs with messages calling for fraternity, a washhouse for peace was also inaugurated...) and had been awarded in October 2021 with the prize "Innovation" for its peace actions during the contest "Mon beau village" (My beautiful village).



Francis Roca Fresco

The original fresco measures 2 meters by 1 meter. Francis Roca gave free access for all cities who wish to use it. The name of the city at the center can be modified. Glued on a hard base, it costs around 100€. Michel Soriano wanted to share this painting to all Mayors for peace members.