

Rome, September 29, 2003

FRANCO COSTA'S MESSAGE FOR THE FUTURE

The last few years have been particularly kind to me as I have been extremely fortunate in having my art recognised globally, none more so than in the Yachting and boating world. I have been appointed the official artist for many sailing events including the 150th America's Cup Jubilee in Cowes, the Volvo Ocean Race 2001-2002, the Daimler Chrysler North Atlantic Challenge Race 2003 and the J24 Worlds to name but a few. I have been delighted that I should have found such recognition whilst in my 70th year.

The recent conflict in Countries like Iraq has left me horrified at the distress and meaningless suffering, specifically to children, in our 'civilised' modern world . I have long considered how I may be able to use my privileged position, as a successful artist, to reduce the underlying causes of war on the underprivileged young.

I have been truly moved by the passion of the youth in my own Country, Italy, and the youth of other nations, who are at a loss to understand the motivation of others for the death and destruction of innocents.

A common theme from those I have spoken to, is that education, in its widest sense, and an appreciation of one another's perceptions, ideals and cultures, is a clear path to mutual understanding and tolerance.

I have noticed over many years how art manages, with ease, to bridge cultural divides and brings enormous pleasure to artist and client alike. A common denominator of appreciation.

I have been extremely fortunate in having my art exhibited throughout the world in every continent. I am now launching a scheme to try and give something back to our troubled world and hope that, through art, a seed may be planted to help create a better world for our children, by our children.

I will be exhibiting my work at the following exhibitions, Thessaloniki (05/06)
Newport., Rhode Island (14/06)
Humblebaek, Denmark (19/06)
Kiel, (20/06)
Stockholm (26/06)
Hamburg
Munich
Oslo
Bergen
Monte Carlo
Monaco
Porto Cervo
United Arab Emirates
Iraq
London
Paris

I intend to dedicate a substantial part of this exhibition space to art created by children of these nations to be sold at the exhibitions and via the internet for the sole benefit of less fortunate children. The aim being to share a common message of peace and mutual understanding. The more fortunate offering a helping hand to the less fortunate. Paintings by children for children.

Franco Costa