

Peace Wants You

A campus and community based
"Thinking Demonstration"

October 2004 | UC Irvine



This event, inspired by author and correspondent Jonathan Schell was, in his words, a means of "framing a new direction" to protest the way the U.S. administration is leading the country, and to discover ways from the grassroots to global perspectives that the world can be conducted in a peaceful way.

The festival was aimed at addressing the need for a creative civil movement or activity—not divorced from the political process, but which would inform it—and at the same time maintaining its own integrity. Schell challenged us to create a "Thinking Demonstration" with lectures, seminars, movies, books, etc. with a looseness of themes to help the constitutive movements represented in our local community.

The event brought together over 2,000 students, faculty and community members in a vibrant one-day festival designed to engage the community in connecting, talking, learning, and acting for peace. The day featured a series of forums led by prominent experts and community activists from various constituencies working for peace in our global society and concluded with the release of white doves.

Among those who led the dialogue about the power of citizen peacebuilding and paths to a safer world in a time of escalating global conflict and terrorism included:

CHRIS HEDGES, The New York Times investigative journalist, war correspondent and author, *"War is a Force that Gives us Meaning"*

JONATHAN SCHELL, author, *The Unconquerable World, Power, Non-Violence and the Will of the People* and correspondent for The Nation

RAMA VERNON, global citizen peace diplomat and Founder of the Center for International Dialogue

MARK LEVINE, Professor of Modern Middle Eastern History, Culture and Islamic Studies, UCI

OCEAN ROBBINS, Founder of Youth for Environmental Sanity (YES!) and author, *Choices for Our Future: A Generation Rising for Life on Earth*

DR. NADAV MORAG, Director of the Center for Israel Studies at the University of Judaism Chair of Political Science, University of Judaism, Los Angeles

"JERUSALEM WOMEN SPEAK, THREE WOMEN, THREE FAITHS, ONE SHARED VISION" tour sponsored by Partners for Peace, including: **MARIANNE ALBINA**, **HIDAYA SAID NAJMI** and **GILA SVIRSKY**, three women from three faiths who share a vision for peace.

**A PEACEBUILDING FESTIVAL OF
DIALOGUE, MUSIC, ART AND FOOD**

