

May 16, 2006

I first met Claude Desjardins when she came to CRTV where I work as a producer and volunteer coordinator, with a wonderful innovative idea to bring French programming to Channel 10. It was there that I realized Claude was a bright spark and a wonderful addition to our community. As I got to know Claude better I learned of her intriguing world peace community project. The project makes sense to me.

I have been behind the project since I first heard about it and I would often ask Claude when she was going to put on her first workshop here. I was absolutely delighted when Claude announced to me last summer, she was going to be conducting her first workshop. The word is spreading, her project has captured great local print coverage and people of all ages feel enriched by making clay soldiers of peace. I was honoured to work with Claude to produce a 12 minute video using footage collected from various workshops. The video which airs on CRTV frequently is yet another valuable tool to help show people what the project is all about. It is a mammoth project in many ways and I have no doubt it will come to fruition. Claude has what it takes to make this happen.

I firmly believe in order to expedite the project; Claude needs more "Claude's" to be trained to conduct workshops in order to get the word out faster and more widely.

What would really help is a strong informational marketing plan. The concept is simple and powerful and most importantly worthwhile.

I feel very fortunate to have met Claude. I will do what I can to support her efforts. I know I am not alone. I have friends outside Campbell River who hope they can take a workshop where they live.

I wish Claude every success and I hope there is help out there to move her project along. Claude is so capable and I know she can share her knowledge and expertise to give people pause to think. I know of no other community art project like this one. It encompasses the whole community with no barriers to age or gender. The philosophy of Soldiers for Peace makes sense.

I would urge anyone to treat themselves to a 3 hour workshop, play with clay and think about inner and world peace.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Greaves
Producer, CRTV
287-2323