International Theatre Institute ITI

World Organization for the Performing Arts

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Maguy Marin 1993

I am deeply moved by the request from the Dance Committee of the International Theatre Institute to express my thoughts on a subject so dear to me in these times of crisis which increase my worries constantly.

I have always believed that Art, and in particular the art of Dance is a means of bringing the peoples of different nations closer, a means of communication, of mutual understanding, and that with this sacred language all exchange was possible.

It would be a serious mistake on the part of the peoples of the industrialized countries to forget the magic of dance, or if their leaders a deaf ear to it.

Dance has become an art only found in closed circles, in theatres, an art for the initiated, when its place is amongst the people, in their homes, on the streets or in the fields. On behalf of our children I wish that we could enrich the education offered to them, where music, dance and the arts in general are only given very little place.

I wish that the material needs we as thoughtless adults create for our children could be replaced by a need to communicate with the children of the world through dance, any form of dance, the one which so well brings hearts and bodies closer, the one we need so badly in order to start caring for one another again.