

"A Living Memorial Park At Naharayim Seven Girls One Dream For The World" Presentation at the 58th Japan-American Student Conference at the American University in Washington, D.C on the subject of Conflict and Resolution:

“Konichiwa...Hello!

Of all weapons, the most powerful are people. Much can be accomplished through our dreams for a safe environment for our selves, for our children, and for our families. It is always better to begin talking about Conflict as a singular disease that affects an individual human being. Even though I am not a psychologist, I believe that Conflict begins within us: our tensions, dreams, understanding, and in most cases our misunderstandings. In looking into myself, I discovered a picture of the world that I perceive to be ugly, inhospitable. Slowly...slowly, the question was...Who am I...? I came to the conclusion that as a human being I had inherent rights and responsibilities to afford changes for myself and changes for others. In looking at the world and its conditions, I realized that Conflict has contaminated the entire earth.

I call it contamination since I consider it to be a disease. Some diseases are not curable, but with medication, the life of the sick person can be prolonged.

You are people that have looked into yourself and have decided to embark on the journey I call the Human existence: Camus said that we live a life of numerical absurdity. We do, but just like Camus, you can become engaged. You can become the doctors that administer the medication to the sickness we call Conflict. There are far too many!!!

Look at us in this room. We begin to see that Resolution is possible. I Am here due to a wonderful composer/singer whose name is Yoko

Kamitani. Coming from different parts of the world and not speaking the same language did not keep us apart. Instead we were open to each other and slowly, slowly we entered into each others lives as two human beings, as women and artists. We discovered through our link our fundamental common ground.

As another example of the kind of Resolution I seek through my work, I offer "A Living Memorial Park At Naharayim Seven Girls One Dream For The World". I began thinking that I as an artist had a responsibility to tell the story and create a Memorial that will be a bridge to understanding and that will bring Israeli, Jordanian, and Palestinian children together to play and learn respect for each other that will lead to a lasting peace. “