

# Walfahrt

Social art project

Eike Eschholz



## KONZEPT



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# WALFAHRT – IN BRIEF

The project „Walfahrt“ is a social art project by Eike Eschholz which brings an impulse of high ethical value into society.

It focuses on the cultural Europe with its indigenous peoples and creates openness for a united spirit. In search of this spirit she will travel to the 13 representatives of the "Council of European Grandmothers". These women are the bearers of the cultural wisdom of their respective countries.

Each personifies the European values of tolerance, justice, peace, solidarity, worth, freedom and human dignity. This is a gift to society, leading the way to a new Europe.

These ancients share a living history which deserves attention and appreciation. This they will get through the public relations during the project process. The project will end with an exhibition presenting all works of art and a book. The book will be called, "13 Women of the Council of European Grandmothers".

This social art project "Walfahrt" creates a positive model and orientation for both young and old in Europe.



## MY VISION

What takes place when the human being is connected with the ancient roots of his country and of his ancestors?

What takes place when the human being has brought his female and male attributes in balance and can use these resulting forces for himself, his fellow people and his country?

Will then be peace?

On my travels, I will meet like minded women and men, also asking these questions. They are coined by their ancestors and the places where they live. They will open for me the door to their own country-specific qualities. I will go through and find far more than that: the source of mankind.

I will discover the power of the complete man and secrets that have no words yet. These secrets need the power of art to become discovered, expressed and transferred to our reality.

Then our countries will be reminded of the ethical values, which Europe has put on its flag. In that case each individual can live these values.

Then there will be peace.



# INSPIRATION AND IMPULSES

Often a great story begins with a dream:

I'm standing by the sea. My friend, the whale, appears and invites me, to dive with him deep into the underground cathedrals of the ice sea. I accept his invitation. There we meet beings from long past times. They keep the stories of those who were before me.

When I set out on search to understand the essence of the world, I discover with them the secret which can be revealed through our dives into the deep.

It is within the nature of these stories that they want to be retold. So I let myself be selected by them to reveal their secrets.

This dream has touched me intensely many years ago and given my life a new direction.

I began to tell with words and pictures stories while I let myself be inspired through journeys into my inner world and travels in the outer world with their manifold encounters.

In 2004, the „International Council of 13 indigenous Grandmothers“ met. These wise women came from all 4 heavenly directions of the earth, formed a historical alliance, raised their voices and offered their support to the world.

These ancients made themselves heard with their wisdom, for making a change in our present dealing with the planet.\*

Deeply impressed by these women, I started to find this powerful female energy in men and women within my area, by traveling through different cultures and religions and worked out these results in my art work. My project „33 Goddesses“ took place after 4 years with an exhibition in the largest private gallery in Schleswig-Holstein, „Galerie Carlshöhe“, in 2015.\*\*

In the meantime many grandmothers circles have been established all over the world, even in Europe.

„The Council of the European Grandmothers“\*\*\* was launched in September 2015 in Meran, with the blessing of Agnes Baker Pilgrim (the oldest member of „International Council of 13 indigenous Grandmothers,“). I could be at the second meeting of the Council of European Grandmothers in September 2016 and decided to work together with them on my project „Walfahrt“.

Further inspirations and impulses continue to write this story and put a dream on the ground of mother earth.\*

\* DVD „For the next 7 Generations“ a documentation.

Book „The Message of the Wise Old“, The spiritual advice of Grandmothers (Carol Schaefer)

\*\* Catalog „33 Goddesses“ is attached

\*\*\* Information about „Council of the European Grandmothers“ at [www.helgalanger.de](http://www.helgalanger.de)  
- an own website is in process



# INTENTION AND VALUES

I am a German woman and live in Europe.

This is reason enough for me to feel responsible for our continent that is committed to the values of tolerance, justice, peace, solidarity, equality, freedom and human dignity in society. These values get more and more in oblivion.

The Europe of politics and banks dominates the continent with the golden calf of profit optimization at any price. The European Community threatens to break apart.

Only a resurgence of these ethical values in each one of us can re-establish the Europe as we wish it.

Europe is the continent that has most affected the other countries in the civilized world e.g. through Christian missionary. In this process Europe has the knowledge about its origin spirit, its source almost lost. But this spirit is preserved in the heritage of the ancestors.

Fortunately, there is still a cultural Europe with indigenous people who as the bearers of the cultural features know about the wisdom of the ancestors and the consistent spirit of Europe. Representatives of these European indigenous peoples have found together in the "Council of European Grandmothers".

I have met the „council of European Grandmothers“ and for understanding I would like to quote from the texts of the German-born, British Swami Nityamuktananda:\*

„Like all other cultures around the world, Europe has a long tradition „Wisdom of the Ancestors“. People was aware that there is a connection between the whole of existence, also called nature, the energy which something produces, creates and sustains life this was called „mother“, loved and honored as Divine Mother.

It is time for Europe to awake, take a more positive role and recreate and revive the knowledge of the connectedness of all life - time for respect and love for „Mother Nature“ and all wisdom, which is contained therein ...“

The Council sees itself as a living organism, dedicated to the gathering, Revive and share traditional and modern ways of knowledge for a deeper meaning, a deeper connection of life devotes to the well of all. It does not understand the term „grandmothers“ in his narrow social or biological function, but is open for all age groups whatever sex.

This is exciting for me and gives me hope for a peaceful coexistence in a colorful Europe.

\* Swami Nityamuktananda

From the brochure: Second Meeting, Altenmedingen/Germany 15.-18. September 2016

Book: Shree, A woman's journey to the centre, Swami Nityamuktananda Saraswati



# INTENTION AND VALUES

According to Wikipedia, the word „Europe“ means “woman with the wide view”.

The women with the wide view, 13 wise women in Europe, I will visit and become acquainted with, e.g. Mary Grant in Ireland.

Mary Grant can trace her family tree 2000 years back. The former Catholic nun has devoted herself to Irish-Celtic spirituality. Such as many of the Council of European Grandmothers she does peace work through her life, her works and her wisdom. She can not only answer questions concerning the condition of our world, but also guide pathways into a future which is enjoyable and loveable.

The value of art in society is undisputed. At all times it was the artists, who let themselves be inspired, crossed borders and brought and bring new impulses into society.

So I also want to use my life as an artist, to give impulses with my works. Through my observation, empathy, creativity, joy in communication and my passion for my artistic expression I will support the council of European grandmothers through my work.

My words and my pictures will make the work of the wise olds of Europe visible and accessible to the public. In a time that glorifies youth, I want to point out to the quality of the „old“ and to give them the respect and the dignity they earn.

I exemplify these 13 women who are taking courageous steps and leaving signs on the road to a Europe where values such as justice, peace, solidarity, equality, freedom and human dignity shall prevail.



## NAME AND MEANING

The name "Walfahrt" consists in German of the words „whale (Wal)" and „trip (fahrt)".

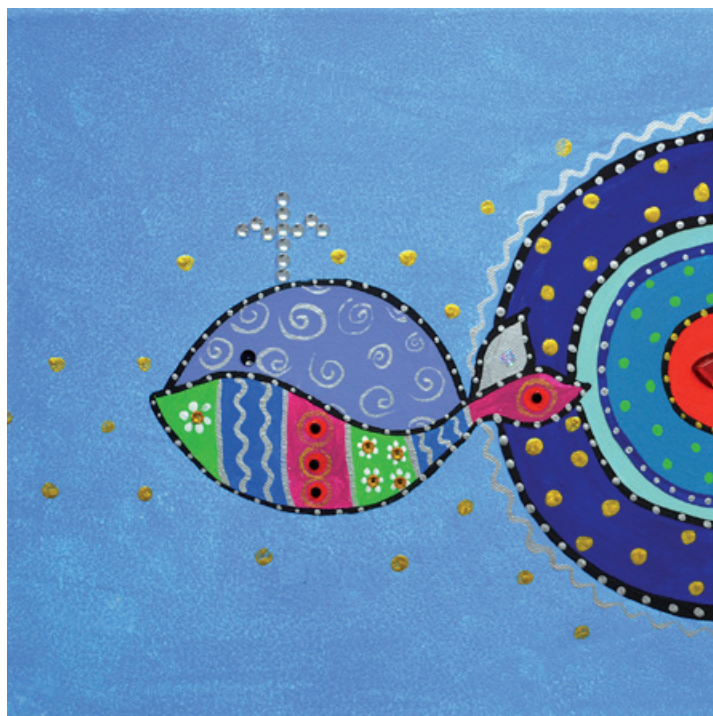
The whale is referred to as a pillar of the universe and part of its creation. As the oldest animal in the world, with about 50 million years, it has the greatest remembrance and richest experience. It is able to dive into the depths of the sea in order to bring out the old knowledge with great strength and gentleness, and to reveal the secret paths to the treasures of the primal ground.

Like the whales, it is the „grandmothers" of Europe who are the supporting pillars of the family and thus the supporting pillars of society. Their knowledge, their experiences and their connections to their country and culture give their fellow human beings impulses for working self-responsible and joyful in society.

Already our Germanic ancestors undertook forest (in German "Wald") trips to the sacred groves. The forest trips have become pilgrimages (in German "Wallfahrt"), the purpose is unchanged:

A holy place is sought for exaltation.

The women and the countries in which I will travel are sacred to me - in the sense of „especially" and „praiseworthy".







# AIM AND IMPLEMENTATION

- Explore the indigenous roots exemplified by 13 people.
- Become aware and make conscious of the country-specific qualities of my guests.
- Bring in impulses of high ethical values into society.
- Recall European values such as tolerance, justice, peace, solidarity, equality, freedom and human dignity.
- Appreciation and honor of the elderly in society.
- Create guiding principles as an orientation, especially for young, but also for old people.
- Travel preparations consisting of organization, financing, and painting of the guest gift, „Walfahrt“.
- Travel to 13 European countries to the 13 representatives of the Council of European Grandmothers.
- Artistic reworking of the respective journeys with painting of 3-4 pictures and designing, creating and printing a multilingual brochure with pictures, photo and text. These brochures are distributed free of charge primarily in the host country.  
They also serve the sponsors and other project-interested people for information as well as stimulation for the work in the other host countries.
- Annual reports will be sent to the sponsors and the Council of European Grandmothers.
- Extension and strengthening of networks, in order to implement the suggestions developed in the project.
- Event with presentation of approx. 66 pictures and the book „Walfahrt“. The book describes the journeys, the 13 „Grandmothers“ and shows the painted works with words that describe the essence of the picture contents.
- Foundations, sponsors and donors can be mentioned not only in the brochures, but also in the book „Walfahrt“.

# SCHEDULE AND ROAD

Great stories always start with the first step.

The duration of the project „Walfahrt“ I estimate to 4-5 years.  
The duration depends on the financial viability of my project and the arrangements with the European hosts.

## 2016

- Painting of the model „Walfahrt“.
- Painting the 13 „Walfahrt“ pictures/guest gifts.
- Develop and write the concept.
- Sponsor search, contacts with foundations, presentation of the concept to members of the Council of European Grandmothers.
- Set up a blog and start advertising for the project.

## Start of travel 2017

Each hostess receives one of 13 signed pictures „Walfahrt“ as a gift.

- January      Germany, followed by artistic work
- April        Italy, followed by artistic work
- July         Ireland, followed by artistic work
- October     Lithuania, followed by artistic work

The places and times are without guarantee.

## In the years 2017 - 2020

- Travel and artistic processing

The artistic work-up involves the painting of the pictures, writing of texts, creating multilingual brochures and sending them to the hosts of the respective country, the sponsors and the council.

## Project end in 2020

- Create and print the book „Walfahrt“, which will show the results of this project.
- Closing event 2020 or 2021

# OPERATION AND COSTS

For my cost estimate I have set a project duration of 4 to 5 years and it is composed as follows:

- 13 journeys to 13 different countries in Europe.  
The duration of a trip is 1-2 weeks.  
Per trip I calculate an average of 1.300 €  
for travel expenses and accommodation  
 $13 \text{ journeys} \times 1.300 \text{ €} = 16.900 \text{ €}$
- The artistic follow-up for each trip takes 2-3 months  
including the creation of multilingual brochure.  
The cost is estimated to be around € 5.000 each.  
 $13 \text{ Journeys} \times 5.000 \text{ €} = 65.000 \text{ €}$
- For each trip I will create 3-4 paintings.  
The material requirement for a painting is 50 €  
13 trips x 4 paintings, 1 model, 13 pictures/guest gifts  
 $66 \text{ pictures} \times 50 \text{ €} = 3.300 \text{ €}$

**The estimate amounts to a total of approximately € 85.200**

At the end of the project, all experiences and information are combined with photos and texts in a book, which is then calculated and financed accordingly.

The funding will be provided by foundations, sponsors and donations.  
The donors can be published in the multilingual brochures and in the book „Walfahrt“, if they wish.

# EIKE ESCHHOLZ

## Artist

Painter and author

art symbolon

Art and mysticism or spiritual painting.



At all times, what appeared to us human beings to be sacred, was provided with shining and colorful colors, in order to direct the eye of the beholder to the special, the higher.

With colorful acrylic paints on canvas, jewelry and sequins I achieve the same effect. The light is always reflecting differently, the painting is alive and shows the grandeur that is in everything that is. In my interpretation of the world, every form and every color has a special meaning.

My pictures serve me as a response to my search for knowledge. As a researcher of the spirit I walk through the planes of being. What I find on my inner and outer research trips is expressed by means of symbols. So I get answers to the questions about life and recognize its spiritual interrelations.

My artistic style is assigned to both symbolism and mediumism.

I call this: art symbolon

The word „symbolon“ comes from Greek and denotes an entry card like in antiquity, which consists of two suit each other parts of a circle.

art symbolon“ is the entry card that empowers me to dive into the space that exists beyond time and place. What I find there, I use symbols to transport into our reality. Thus, e.g. an important element in my work is the sequin. It shows a circle and is the symbol of the ONE. Through different light incidents or different ways of viewing, the ONE always presents itself differently, again and again new, but it remains what it is. The pictures sometimes seem archaic and remind of the preform of art, but “art symbolon” is able to combine through the interplay of simplicity and complexity that what belongs together.

## EIKE ESCHHOLZ – Artist

My artistic work has its home in the studios at Carlshöhe in Eckernförde and expands from there into all 4 heavenly directions. For years, I have been active on the Carlshöhe in an artists' community, which now includes a pool of about 180 creatives.

My travels to remote places in the world, different religions, cultures and the study of symbolism enable me to carry out this project „Walfahrt“. Even though I am responsible for this task, working with other creatives is for me the guarantee for success and is my heart.

Image and word often form a unit in my work. Therefore, it is not surprising that stories that reveal the secrets of life\* are being created, as it will be the case with the project “Walfahrt”.

\* For example “33 Goddesses”

# COVER PICTURE AND SYMBOLISM

80 x 80 cm, acrylic painting on canvas, jewelery, sequins, 2016

13 grandmothers dive into the ancient knowledge of the ancestors and meet in the center of the Great Mother. From there they carry the ancient secrets in all four heavenly directions into the grandmother-circles of their countries.

## SQUARE

Manifestation, earth, the quality of the „Council of European Grandmothers“ and the project „Whaling“ manifest themselves on this earth in this life

## POINTS

Source of all things, totality

## DESIGN IN THE CENTER

Mother, Great Mother, creator, Europe (woman with wide view)

## BLACK BODY COLOR

Origin, power, dark districts of healing and initiation

## SILVER FISH BODY

transformation, vitality, expansion, we are sea-born

## SEQUINS

Symbol of unity, one

## RED SPHERE

Blood of life, life, rose - completeness, spiral - the ups and downs of life, death and birth

## MAGENTA COLOR SLEEVES

The red of the earth and the blue of heaven create the life, are the bridge of life, man is the bridge between heaven and earth

## BLUE STAR COAT

Sky, star (pentagram - the vision of the perfect man), inspiration, the seed from the universe fertilized mother earth

## BLACK/WHITE EYES

The all-seeing eye recognizes the world of polarities and brings them together in the heart of unity



# COVER PICTURE AND SYMBOLISM

## **GOLDEN CROWN**

Dignity, blessing, completeness

## **CRYSTALLINE JEWELRY STONES**

clarity

## **PEARLS**

Beauty, experiences, wisdom

## **INNER CIRCLE**

## **LAGOON BLUE**

In the center there is silence, out of silence life grows,  
life was born in the sea, guarded space  
for all creatures of life

## **GREEN FISH PLANTS**

Green-love, heart, nature

## **FISHES**

Souls, all creatures of life, vagina,  
everything grows to its inner perfection,  
pentagram/number 5

## **GOLDEN WAVE**

Creative inspiration, on divine creative soil,  
in the ups and downs of life grow the plants of the  
love, blessed ground

## **NARROW DARK BLUE RING / SILVER POINTS**

Divine creation in expanding power

## **FROZEN COLOR RING WITH GOLDEN STRUCTURES**

The underground mysteries/stories  
of past times, stored in the eternal ice

## **THICK DARK BLUE RING / GOLDEN POINTS**

The divine power reveals itself, expands,  
knowledge out of the deep, the origin of all being

## **YEWELRY RING**

To recognize love in all experiences made  
and to have peace with what was and what is





# COVER PICTURE AND SYMBOLISM

## WHALE

- Supporting pillar of the universe, is directly involved in creation
- Is chosen to be the memory of the world
- The oldest animal in the world with about 50 million years
- Greatest power of recall, richest experience
- The whale is a beautiful woman (sirens) who produces the whale songs, preserves the ancient knowledge and has a connection to sunken cities and continents such as Atlantis and Lemuria
- Takes one into the depths of being

## SWIMMING WHALE

- Comes from the depth with great strength and gentleness and transports the old, preserved knowledge into the circles of their respective society and shows the originally secret paths for the spiritual and emotional development of the individual
- The whale recalls and leads to one's own wisdom, helps to understand and appreciate life, connects heaven and the depth of the ocean

## BEAM / CRYSTAL STONES

Brings life into motion through release the original wisdom, changes society bright, powerful, clear

## LIGHT BLUE

The whales move in all directions with ease, joy and play (cloudlets), heaven, Christ energy, communication, laryngeal chakra

## 4 OUTER CIRCLES

Four heavenly directions, through the impulses of the whales (- women of the "European Council of Grandmothers") the fishes (members of the „Grandmother circles“ in the European countries) learn to develop the whale in themselves and to dive into the deep of mysteries (Moon and dark blue) and so in turn to change their own life circle (dark blue with silver (change) and golden (Blessings) points) because of their recognition and the knowledge of the welfare of human community in the nature.

## NUMBER 13

The number 13 is assigned to the holy female, the wise woman. It allows the transition to a new level, number of creation



# SHARE AND HAVE

Dear supporters!

I am looking forward with pleasure to traveling through Europe with its rich encounters. I am looking forward to the wonderful task that lies ahead and I am looking forward to you all - the people who will accompany me on my "Walfahrt" and support this project with their qualities, enthusiasm and money.

**"Walfahrt" is a benefit:  
for you, for me, for us all**

Sincerely



Eike Eschholz

**ACCOUNT CONNECTION:**

Eckernförder Bank eG

IBAN DE14 2109 2023 0011 5650 01

BIC GENODEF1EFO

**keyword „Walfahrt“**

The foundations and the sponsors are mentioned in the individual brochures, in the book „Walfahrt“, on the internet and at events, if they so wish.

# CONTACT

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