

Future Now! International Conference

By Nora Minassian

One of the most important biographical moments in the life of the International Christian Community this year was the Future Now Conference in Dortmund at Whitsun. The Conference was held in the Waldorf School and Georg School of Pedagogic Social Center in Dortmund, Germany from Friday May 21st till Tuesday May 25th. About 41 countries, 27 languages and over 1400 attendants with different ages, colors and cultures were represented.

The conference started with a Cello Concert performed by 24 Cellists from different Christian Communities, followed by the opening words on the “New Presence of Christ” by Rev. Vicke von Behr the Erzoberlenker of the Christian Community. There were 5 altars setup where the Act of Consecration of Man was celebrated in German, English, Romanian, Polish, Portuguese, Japanese, Norwegian, Italian, French, Russian, Georgian, Spanish, Dutch, Hungarian and Estonian. Every morning, there were 7 different lectures offered in different languages each translated in one other language followed by a colloquy about the lectures. Keynote lecture themes included “Warmth of Heart”, “The Freedom of Spirit” and “Seeing Christ?”

After Lunch, there were presentations from the seminaries, Youth Theater, and cultural performances of singing, dancing, reciting and acting from different communities.

Over fifty different workshops were offered in the afternoons with most varied themes such as: “Sacramental Music in the sphere of ethereal Christ”, “the formative power of Love”, “Conflict Resolution with the help of the Gospels”, “Globalization and Parousia”, “International Folkdance”, “The meeting of the planets in the Cosmos”.

Different communities had set up presentations, exhibitions and cafés throughout the center where one would get a little taste and picture of that particular community.

The conference was filled with incredible and surprising moments such as suddenly running into someone you had met many years ago, so many years that you had forgotten where and when that was, or sitting together with three or four people each from a different continent who you had only met two days ago and wondering what consecration of man means or suddenly meeting someone who looked so familiar with whom you start speaking one language and hear another language in response but somehow you both experience the feeling of understanding and being understood.



After experiencing so many of such incredible moments of destiny, one starts wondering – How are these moments formed? Who makes these moments possible? What are all the forces that have gone into the preparation of such setting and mood where we could experience these unforgettable moments? What do actually such incredibly profound and meaningful moments and days mean for the rest of the world and for the earth? How is it for the earth to experience at the time of Pentecost these celebrations, languages, intense attention of so many earnest people gathered in one place, looking together in one direction and experiencing the Future Now, the new presence of Christ in our midst?