

My Neighbor & The People's Egypt since January 25th

In association with United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week

May 12-18, 2011

Curator of Visual Art: Roland Prime

Organizer: Rev. Paul-Gordon Chandler

The 2011 CARAVAN Festival of the Arts was held in celebration of the Egyptians who were walking together on the road toward a new Egypt. During the weeks of and following the "January 25 revolution," an unprecedented unity of Muslims and Christians was witnessed at the grassroots level, working side by side to re-shape their country. Hence a parallel revolution had taken place in the minds of many Egyptians about their value to each other...regardless of creed.



This 3rd CARAVAN Festival of the Arts, held at the historic St. John's Church / Maadi, Cairo, came out of a vision that the arts can be one of the most effective mediums to build bridges, deepen respect, and encourage friendship between Muslims and Christians, and between the Middle East and West.

48 premier Middle Eastern and Western visual artists submitted work for a selling exhibition that reflected the theme "My Neighbor," echoing the words of the early 20th century Lebanese writer and artist, Kahlil Gibran; "Your neighbor is your other self dwelling behind a wall. In understanding, all walls shall fall down."

Additionally, a parallel exhibition was held entitled "The Peoples' Egypt since January 25th," and the artists were invited to contribute artworks that were created in response to the events of the Egyptian revolution.

The 2011 CARAVAN festival's primary sponsors were British Council-Egypt, Coca-Cola, and the Episcopal Foundation of Wyoming.

OPENING NIGHT

The opening presentation on May 12, 2011 was given by the United Nations Resident Coordinator, The Honorable James Rawley, with an address by Bishop Boutros, General Bishop for the Coptic Orthodox Church, and Archbishop Mouneer H. Anis, President Bishop for the Episcopal Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East and Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Egypt. Special religious dignitaries included a visiting delegation of 20 Imams from Alexandria, Egypt.



LITERARY PRESENTATION



Khaled El Khamissi, the best-selling Egyptian author of the internationally acclaimed novels *Taxi* and *Noah's Ark*, gave a talk that was followed by a book-signing.

MUSIC CONCERT



Mohammed Antar, the world renowned Ney (Middle Eastern reed flute) player, gave a closing concert.

Throughout the festival the exhibitions “*My Neighbor*” and “*The Peoples’ Egypt since 25 January*” were open to the public with many thousands coming to view the artwork displayed. 20% of all sales went to the Spirit of Giving charity that assists local Egyptian charities serving the poor regardless of creed.



Rev. Canon Paul-Gordon Chandler, Founder of CARAVAN, conversing with a delegation of young imams at “*The Peoples’ Egypt since 25 January*” exhibition.



Caravan Festival of the Arts
My Neighbor
East & West

building bridges of understanding and respect between Faiths from East & West

The Re-Scheduled
Art Exhibition
45 Artists
coming together from East and West

**‘My Neighbor’
and
‘The Peoples’ Egypt since 25th January’
May 12 - 18, 2011**

Opening Night - 12 May 2011, 7pm (Thursday)
Opening remarks by
United Nations Resident Coordinator, **James Rawley**,
and Muslim & Christian dignitaries
Followed by the official opening and reception

Literature
14 May (Saturday) at 7pm
A talk and book-signing by best-selling
Egyptian novelist, **Khaled Al-Khamissi**,
author of the popular novel *TAXI*

Music
18 May (Wednesday) at 7pm
Closing Concert by **Mohammed Antar**
world renowned Ney player
(Oriental Flute)

St. John's Church, Maadi, Cairo
The Episcopal Diocese of Egypt & North Africa
(Corner of Port Said Rd and Road 17)
www.oncaravan.org / www.maadichurch.org
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