

TIG MAGAZINE

issue 03



# Culture, Identity — and — Climate Change

a product of:

Adobe

YOUTH VOICES





## These are our issues. These are our voices.

In 2007 and 2008 TakingITGlobal, as part of the Adobe Youth Voices initiative, asked youth all over the world to respond creatively to two pressing issues: 'Climate Change' and 'Cultural Conflict'. Workshops held in Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, Egypt, Kenya, Mali, Russia, South Africa, and Sweden allowed youth to create their responses using digital image software, while the TakingITGlobal online Global Gallery allowed our international membership to become involved and submit their own artwork.

In the past few years the problem of Climate Change has been given increasing attention at all decision-making levels and youth are leading the response to this threat. We are not only taking action ourselves but we are demanding that action be taken by our leaders to combat climate change and the devastating effects it is having on our planet.

Young people are also the natural leaders in the response to cultural conflict. We are a generation raised in an age of growing interconnectivity, and we often identify with multiple cultures, communities and backgrounds. Youth are more aware and more accepting of other cultures. We have the knowledge and will to combat intolerance, discrimination and conflict amongst peoples and encourage cross cultural understanding and respect.

*All of the images in this magazine were submissions to a global contest hosted in TakingITGlobal's Global Gallery.*







# Good Morning, Climate Change



By Zoë Caron, Canada

From the article originally published  
in Shift Magazine May 2008

I was sitting at the kitchen table at 6 a.m. last Tuesday morning, a loyal cup of dark coffee to my left and a notebook displaying my sporadic hand-written notes to my right. My co-author, Elizabeth May, in an identical set-up on the other side of the table. Staring directly at me were the notes from a scientist from the Nobel Prize winning International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) who is reviewing our manuscript "Global Warming for Dummies." Tracked changes on my Word document sent a chill down my barely-awake spine as I focused my early-morning eyes:

"Deleted: 379 p.p.m."

"Inserted: 385 p.p.m."

Pp.m is short end for parts per million, the measurement used for the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. 400 is the number we want to stay away from. It's in between 400 and 500 that things get really messy. I hadn't planned on getting to know number 385 until 2010 or so. Now here I was, as if I'd been shot into the future, and it was staring at me on a glowing screen, two years early in 2008. "Good morning to you too, climate change," I thought.

Not enough has been done in the past 20 years to reduce emissions that are causing global warming. But in those 20 years, dedicated people built a base of international environmental awareness. And in those same 20 years, a new generation of people emerged taking a strong lead on climate change.

It's a common sentiment among people my age - those of us who were born when the first consensus came out on climate change by the international scientific community. Who was

watching when we were 5-years-old and the IPCC wrote the first major climate change report? Who was in charge when we were 10 and science showed that humans were changing the climate? And what was the world doing at the creation of the Kyoto Protocol when we were 12?

But then we get a twinkle in our eyes we remember that we dedicated ourselves to climate change at 18. We smile at each other when remembering being at the first meeting of the Kyoto Protocol at age 19. And we break into a full grin when we realize we're creating more changes than we ever thought possible at age 22. Meet my generation. The generation that woke up to climate change.

Never before have we been able to connect around the world in networks as far-reaching as today. Never in the history of humankind has there been real-time communication on a global level. And never before has there been an issue as global, time-dependent, and solution-based as climate change.

Youth are connecting to their local government representatives through Adopt-a-Politician programs to work on climate change at a federal level. We are taking up the issue in our own communities: our university and college campuses. Hundreds of international youth collaborate on an annual basis to represent our generation, and future generations, at international United Nations (UN) Climate Change Conferences.

I could sit down with you and talk for hours about the climate change work of young people around the globe. But for now I just want to convey that, as I pause for a moment to reflect on this exact moment in time, I feel a sense of security I've never felt before. I can't help but feel a surge of pride and independence as our generation moves on - seamlessly at times - influencing widespread changes to the best of our ability.

I know that much of this has been done before. I know what we are doing would never have been possible without groundwork laid before us. And I also know we all have stories to share - and we should. Because we all breathe the same air. We all drink the same water. And we all crave the same thing: Hope.

Despite the past, we're looking forward to the future. Considering old barriers, we're now watching change happen. And no matter who it is, we are working together.

To simply reiterate what we said on the world stage at the UN Climate Change Conference in Bali last November: Join Us.

► <http://profiles.takingitglobal.org/zcaron>





1



2



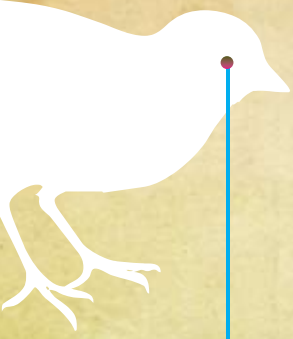
3

1 Mi comunidad  
**Anonymous**  
Argentina

2 Hands  
**Olga Pavlova (Winner)**  
Russia

3 One Root  
**Hagar S. (Winner)**  
Egypt





# Darfur

By *Alfia*

Her silence was forgotten as her tears stained her burnt skin

And the body she carried became limp  
Black eyes pierce through the camera  
Speaking words unknown to many among humankind

Asking

Searching

Hoping

Wanting to ask questions  
Yet not knowing the answers

Darfur

Wanting to ask questions why  
Yet fearing the answers

She walks carrying scars of rape between her legs  
And hopes of freedom within her heart  
As the dusty winds slow her stride  
Imprinting sorrow on her burnt skin

And she is reminded of the long journey ahead  
Leaving behind charred bodies reminiscent of her own

She remembers the women screaming  
Calabashes flying  
Bodies breaking  
Babies crying  
Head wraps floating in the wind  
Only to see the faces of clan unrecognizable  
to her piercing eyes



Lyric  
**Chester Anthony Elmore**  
USA

But that was yesterday  
Perhaps today will be a different day  
Where millet and rice will be plentiful  
And her belly will be full  
And yesterday's faces will be forgotten  
Until there is no food again  
And the memories of the charred bodies of  
women with burnt faces appears again

And the echoes of her silence

And the echoes of her silence  
Speak to yet another camera  
Her piercing eyes asking more questions  
Only to be silenced by voices once  
belonging to her clan that are now her own

Darfur

The journey has only begun



# Cambio Climático: un asunto de extrema gravedad y urgencia

por Leila Mucarsel

"The new century finds us blind, trying to evade the greatest threat facing humanity today: Climate Change."

This piece discusses the interconnectedness of all peoples in the response to climate change, the urgent need for a quick reaction, and pleads with us to recognize and reject any attempts to deny the grave nature of this threat.

Estúpidos hombres blancos, titula Michael Moore uno de sus libros. Con sólo analizar unos instantes la situación actual del planeta no quedan dudas acerca de la verdad de esta afirmación. El siglo XXI nos encuentra ciegos, tratando de evadir la mayor amenaza que enfrenta hoy la humanidad: el calentamiento global.

La temperatura del planeta sube de manera inclemente, casi 2°C en 100 años, y se calcula que esto se acelerará, a unos 4°C de aquí al 2100.

No es anecdótico, el 65% de la población mundial vive en ciudades costeras solo a entre 1 y 15 metros sobre el nivel del mar y por cada grado que aumenta, el nivel de los océanos sube proporcionalmente.

El calentamiento global es causado por la emisión de los gases efecto invernadero (GEI), fundamentalmente el CO<sup>2</sup> que emiten fábricas y automóviles. "Alarmante crecimiento de los mares, cambios drásticos de temperaturas planetarias, temporadas largas y destructivas de huracanes, desaparición de grandes áreas agrícolas, lluvias en períodos tradicionalmente secos, solo algunos ejemplos de las consecuencias que tiene este fenómeno en nuestro planeta"

Ante tal peligro, en 1997 se firmó el Protocolo de Kyoto, con el objetivo de que los países industrializados reduzcan entre 2008-2012 el nivel de emisiones de GEI en no menos del 5% al nivel emitido en 1990.

Como bien se sabe, de los 38 países obligados a limitar sus emanaciones, EEUU fue el único que se negó a suscribir el protocolo.

▼ <http://profiles.takingitglobal.org/leilamendoza>

¿Su alegato? El tratado frena el desarrollo económico y es injusto por no exigir iguales esfuerzos a los países en desarrollo. El gobierno de EEUU no lee las estadísticas: ya en 1990 era responsable del 36.1% de las emisiones de CO<sup>2</sup> mundiales (1) número que no para de crecer, representa además el 50% del consumo de combustible mundial. Mientras que EEUU y Europa suman el 62% de CO<sup>2</sup> emitido, alcanzando el 85% si sumamos a China, India y Rusia. ¡Sudamérica representa solo el 3% de las emisiones de CO<sup>2</sup>!

¿Sólo un "mal vecino"? El mundo es uno y todos estamos conectados.

Ningún individuo, grupo o nación existe en un vacío. Pobreza, cambio climático, y sub-desarrollo están conectados y comparten una raíz común: las maneras insostenibles del desarrollo económico y la acumulación desmedida que se han perseguido en los países desarrollados desde la Revolución industrial. "No existen catástrofes naturales que no sean al mismo tiempo los daños colaterales de un sistema económico intrínsecamente irracional en la medida en que no contabiliza en su producción de beneficios los costes ecológicos y humanos de su acción destructiva sobre el ecosistema"(2)



Danza Paraguaya  
**Mirian Brizuela**  
Argentina



Nadie parece percatarse de la gravedad y urgencia del tema: "la evidencia de que el mundo será peor es endeble. Lo cierto es que tendremos que adaptarnos, y cualquier adaptación siempre es dolorosa.

La población deberá desplazarse. En los próximos 200 años algunas regiones actualmente densamente pobladas estarán desiertas"(3).

¿Lo más grave? En general serán las comunidades más vulnerables quienes más sufrirán los efectos del cambio climático, siendo los menos preparados para hacer algo para



Climate Change  
**Stella Kipkapt**  
Kenya



Cola  
**Fatoumata**  
Mali

protegerse y adaptarse. La llamada "injusticia climática": "Mientras que Nueva York, Londres y Venecia tienen los recursos para construir muros marinos, los millones que viven en el delta del Ganges enfrentan un final sin salida. El Apartheid de la adaptación al clima, según Desmond Tutu"(4).

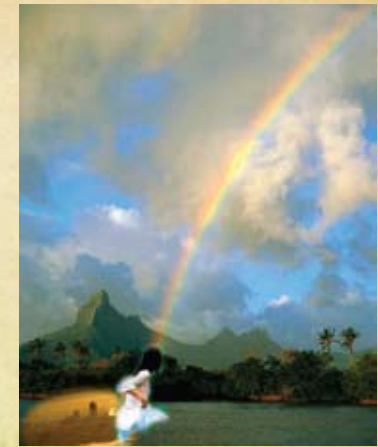
La Cumbre de Bali no tuvo definiciones importantes y solo marco la ruta hacia la Cumbre de Copenhague en 2009. El IPCC5 marcó que para contener el calentamiento global por debajo de los 2°C por encima de los cuales los desarreglos que podría causar el fenómeno climático serían irreversibles, es necesario reducir de aquí a 2020, las emisiones entre 25% y 40% con respecto a 1990.

Moore da dos alternativas: identificar objetos que sirvan como flotadores cuando se derritan los casquetes polares; o la otra, quizás nuestra única salvación: tomar conciencia de que lo único que detendrá esta dinámica es el rechazo tajante a las mentiras. Que las catástrofes naturales no se planteen hoy políticamente es inconcebible. Hoy más que nunca esto nos debe motivar a la acción.

Mañana será demasiado tarde.

#### Referencias

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Leave  
**Yang Pei**  
China







Flower from Heaven  
**Birendra Kumar**  
India

# Encanto Sertanejo

By Elaine Castro, Brasil

This article is about a strong part of Brazilian identity: deep roots, backwoods, suffering, tears, struggle, our land, love, feelings, it is about what wakes our hearts: the music and voices that describe everything in beautiful words.

Por esse espaço habita um Coração Sertanejo que bate mais forte, Parece pular bem no centro do nosso chão tão arrasado por lutas das mais diversas ao longo do tempo.

E apesar de arrasado, vibra e renasce sempre por causa de um povo calejado que não cansa de clamar por uma vida decente e digna no Campo.

Lugar que nunca deveríamos ter deixado por influências externas.

Lugar de inocência, ingenuidade, pureza, magia que o cimento bruto e bem arquitetado das cidades grandes faz questão de esquecer, ignorar, cortar, quebrar, modificar, disfarçar.

Deveríamos fazer o caminho inverso agora.

O Coração Sertanejo bate forte até na cidade cheia de tecnologia que se acha o máximo por importar costumes padronizados que não combinam com essa realidade Brasileira.

Mas esse Coração Sertanejo continua pulsando lá no fundo da nossa essência.

Bonito mesmo é preservar, destacar e cultivar a identidade, a origem Caipira com personalidade.

Esse bendito Coração já nasce com a gente. E, graças a Deus, muitos sabem se Orgulhar disso.

Aflora desde muito tempo nas Vozes Sertanejas enraizadas na cultura Brasileira.

Sertanejos que trazem a sinceridade através do canto, combinado ou não, que abraça nossos momentos, que a cada dia nos faz sentir amor mesmo não carregando uma paixão no peito.

Nos levam às lágrimas em poucos segundos despertando lembranças cravadas nas entranhas esperando pelo despertar, lembranças que nunca deveriam ser esquecidas.

Eternos meninos sertanejos que nos acompanham em todas as horas, e assim, cada momento parece ser mais intenso com a vida e a cor que só eles sabem proporcionar com tanto sentimento!

Cantam com o corpo, com os olhos, as expressões, a alma, e eu falo dos meninos de verdade, dessa forma assimilamos o que sentem nas vozes sofridas, trêmulas, fortes, marcadas...

Só eles entendem e descrevem as questões do coração da maneira mais direta, fazendo arte da simplicidade, transformando tudo que é simples na coisa mais importante do mundo.

Apenas o Horizonte em sua infinita beleza pode se comparar ao canto sertanejo que transborda uma tristeza misturada com prazer que buscamos incessantemente, como um vício que penetra em cada célula e cutuca feridas, marcas, angústias chegando à um êxtase difícil de definir.

Foi nessa simplicidade cuidadosamente desenhada pela inspiração sertaneja que encontrei a face mais linda da caminhada humana!

Qualquer coisa se encaixa perfeitamente e ganha brilho especial em uma bela voz sertaneja, que carrega os valores da terra que nos alimenta e combina apenas com os mais puros e raros acontecimentos da natureza.

Cada um no fundo sabe: depois que certas circunstâncias separou grande parte da humanidade do convívio com a terra cheia de significados valiosos, muito se perdeu.







# Haifa

By Wiaamj, Syria

The writer reminisces about Haifa (an Arab city that was incorporated into the state of Israel) and describes how mothers teach their children that despite everything, living away from their homes will not alter their identity, and they have to fight for this identity.

صمت مطبق، صدى خفي، يهزني ويرعشني..برود في أطراف أصابعي .. يدي .. قدمي و شرايين قلبي..رائحة البحر في كل كان.. اخترقتني لدرجة أنني في الأعماق و الأمواج المألحة تؤرجحنني.. حيفا؟ أهى حيفا؟

في ذلك العالم الغريب تخلت العروبة عن أصالتها ..عن احتشامها.. عن دم استتر في حمرة خياطة الليل طويل.. نسجته حيفا و سمته بقطرة أرضنا المسلوية.

قد أفنت نهارها في المنزل بين عمل منزلي .. و ليل بين أكوام أبطال المستقبل.. تحكي لهم قصص المسيح في نضاله على لأرض و دمائه التي علينا أن نرويها كل يوم بدم شهيد.. لتكدهح أناملها فتزرع ورود جورية على علم سيكفن أحدهم يوماً ما..

أحبكم.. تصبحون على خير، و قبلة على الجبين و تلك أيضاً ليبقى الشموخ درس كل مساء.. لا تحنوا رؤوسكم.. سيحاولون يوماً ما دفعكم لتتنسوا لغتكم ، و حبكم.. ليزرعوا في قلوبكم الخيانة.. النسيان و نكران الجميل.. سيجرمونكم من أرض الأحلام و الحب.. و على شوك مسموم بالكراهية و التغريب سيرا قسونكم.. يقنعونكم أن هذي الأرض هي لكم الآن و أن هويتكم اثنتين بدل واحدة.. أن الأرض التي وطنها الأنبياء هي ليست لأمثالكم و أن مالكم فيها إلا عذاب كما كان لمن سبقكم .. يخفون عنكم أن هذه الأرض جنتهم وحدهم.

سيصنعون منكم أرواح .. دون أجساد.. أشباح غير مرئية.. أو بهوية هم اختاروها.. تنهيدة و بغضب، إن أحببتهم جردوكم من قلوبكم و إن وعدتم كان وعدكم خيانة .. و إن صرختم بحت أصواتكم .. و إذا ما تبادلتم نظرات صدق تعمي عيونكم بضياب مستورد.. فتحملوا.. تحملوا! او اجعلوا خياركم أن تبقوا.. أن تحبوا.. أن تختاروا .. و تصدقوا.. أن تموتوا لتحيًا روح الأقصى.. و أنكم ستسيرون بين صخور بيت لحم دون بكاء و تتركوا أثركم ليعلم القادمون الطريق..

► <http://profiles.takingitglobal.org/Wiaamj>

Yell  
Thabiso Selaolane / Glen Maseba  
South Africa





'Scape  
**Abby**  
 Canada



1000s of hopes... in eyes  
**Chachar Shahnawaz**  
 Pakistan



The Wall  
**Julia Kozlov**  
 Canada



Self Adornment  
**Akinloye Tunji Olu**  
 Kenya



Thoughts  
**Mo'men Sherif**  
 Egypt



# La dégradation de l'environnement

by Lovens Normil, Haiti

The author presents the causes of environmental degradation in our society and its impact on poverty. The piece proposes solutions to be implemented locally and globally to save our planet.

La dégradation de l'environnement n'est pas le fruit du hasard, c'est le fruit de la curiosité de certains de ses habitants qui essaient de mettre au jour le jour ceux que la nature nous a cachés pour nous préserver du malheur en vue de se faire passer pour des inventeurs, des savants. Ces derniers se sont mis à construire des usines, à fabriquer des machines, des armes nucléaires répandant des gaz nocifs dans l'air. Conséquence, l'air devient pollué, ce qui empêche les humbles fils de la nature de bien respirer et de vivre à leur aise. En plus, c'est la misère et la pauvreté des paysans des pays du sud qui contribuent également à la situation désastreuse de notre environnement car pour s'échapper de ces fléaux (pauvreté, misères), ces gens là se sentent obligés d'abattre les arbres pour confectionner du charbon, fabriquer des planches pour les vendre afin de recueillir quelques sous pour pourvoir aux besoins quotidiens de leurs familles, une chose intolérable provoquant l'érosion, la sécheresse et l'exode rurale. J'ai dit l'exode rurale parce qu'après avoir fini par exterminer les arbres, ces paysans n'ayant aucun recours se voient obliger de laisser leur communauté pour se réfugier en ville à la recherche d'une vie meilleure, dès lors, vous allez assister à la construction anarchique dans les grandes villes ce qui nuit au bien être de la nature. Enfin, c'est l'installation de l'homme sur des vastes domaines en dehors des normes de la nature qui est aussi à la base de ce phénomène car lorsque ce dernier va s'y installer ou va y construire de grands immeubles, ils oublient si les autres espèces de la nature sont aussi des héritiers, pour s'y faire, ils abattent les arbres et arrachent les plantes qui s'y étaient trouvés, une chose qui représente une insulte à la nature et qui le soulève contre nous.

Par contre, pour sauver notre chère planète: Tout d'abord, je pense que ces soi-disant savants et inventeurs doivent mettre fin à leurs prétendues inventions qui nuisent constamment à la santé de notre planète. En outre, il faut que les nations unies (ONU) puissent mener une vraie campagne de sensibilisation et de conscientisation pour éradiquer la pauvreté afin d'établir l'égalité des vies sur terre. En plus, il faut qu'on choissent les jeunes de partout dans le monde sans discrimination ni de race ni de classe

aucune comme des 'avant-gardes pour mener à bon port des campagnes contre la dégradation de l'environnement visant à encourager les gens à reboiser la terre pour éviter l'érosion et la sécheresse, à ne pas jeter les ordures dans les rues pour éviter la pollution de l'air, à encourager les paysans à rester dans leurs communautés en vue de participer au développement rural, à reprendre le chemin de la terre pour planter afin d'éviter la faim pour arriver à un environnement dépouillé de tout déchets nuisibles et à un développement durable certain et véritable.

Pour finir, il faut que l'homme pense que les autres espèces sont aussi des héritiers de la nature, qu'ils ont aussi droit de s'y installer comme eux sans subir de dommages et ni d'extermination.

► <http://profiles.takingitglobal.org/lovens2008>

Animal  
**Zhenya (Winner)**  
Russia







1



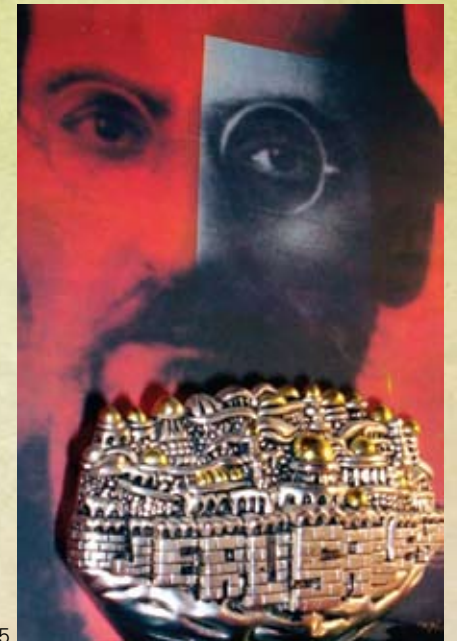
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5

1 Effect of Climate Change  
**Adewole Taiwo**  
Nigeria

2 Climate Change  
**Riham Essam (Winner)**  
Egypt

3 Guarded Chairs  
**Anne-Marie Lavigne**  
Mozambique

4 Posesión Simbólica del  
Presidente Rafael Correa  
**Francisco Hurtado**  
Ecuador

5 Jerusalem  
**Ashpaa**  
Israel



# TIG Magazine Issue 3

A production of TakingITGlobal Youth



This publication is part of The Adobe Youth Voices Project, an initiative of TakingITGlobal with the support of the Adobe Foundation, where young people from around the world were provided with an opportunity to respond to Climate Change and Cultural Conflict through artistic expression and digital media training.

Youth in 10 countries - Argentina, Brazil, China, Canada, Egypt, Kenya, Mali, Russia, South Africa, and Sweden – have taken part in workshops facilitated by TakingITGlobal coordinators in partnership with local host organizations focused on the themes of 'Climate Change' and 'Culture & Identity'. The workshops helped underserved youth learn how technology tools can be used to create a positive impact in their communities and around the world. Using various Adobe digital imagery software the workshop participants were able to communicate their perspectives on two important topics - 'Climate Change' and 'Culture & Identity' - through the creation of digital images.

Adobe Youth Voices is the Adobe Foundation's global philanthropic initiative that empowers youth from underserved communities worldwide to comment on their world using multimedia and digital tools to communicate and share their ideas, demonstrate their potential, and take action in their communities. By harnessing the energy and insight of youth and enabling them to express themselves, their opinions, and aspirations, Adobe Youth Voices aims to inspire a dialogue for change in their communities.

The images created during the workshops were entered into two digital art competitions run in TakingITGlobal's Global Gallery. This project has helped to foster cross-cultural dialogue, understanding and youth empowerment amongst youth at large.



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