

DRAWING AND PAINTING EXHIBITION

"Brushstrokes and colors in the Amazonia".



INTRODUCTION

We are here and now, beating with the AMAZONIA. A region that invites us to navigate its rivers and walk through its forests, not only to enjoy its biodiversity but also to find among its images, complex realities and halos of hope that are interwoven in it.

We present in this exhibition of drawing and painting from different points of view that present and express their feelings and commitment with the Amazonia, especially with its people.

The exhibition **covers seven thematic categories** in order to find the richness that each one of them offers us. For this purpose, we quote Pope Francis' document Dear Amazonia; reflections of Dominican missionaries and a brief missionary history in the Peruvian Amazonia, texts that accompany the images.

We invite you to enter into the Amazonian reality and culture from the virtual world which we hope will transmit the Amazonian feeling that moves us as a Dominican family to be more Samaritan and supportive.

EXHIBITION LAYOUT

1 CONTEMPLATING CREATION



[View Complete Gallery](#)

THEMATIC AXIS: "The Creator does not abandon us, He never looked away from His project of love, He does not regret having created us. Humanity still possesses the capacity to collaborate to build our common home. I wish to acknowledge, encourage and thank all those who, in the most varied sectors of human activity, are working to ensure the protection of our common home". (LS 13)



2

LIVING CULTURES


[View Complete Gallery](#)

THEMATIC AXIS: “The Amazonian indigenous peoples express the authentic quality of life as a "good life" that implies personal, family, community and cosmic harmony, and that is expressed in their communitarian way of thinking about existence, in the capacity to find joy and plenitude in the midst of an austere and simple life, as well as in the responsible care of nature that preserves the resources for the following generations. They know how to be happy with little, they enjoy the small gifts of God without accumulating so many things, they do not destroy unnecessarily, they take care of the ecosystems and recognize that the earth, while offering itself to sustain their life, as a generous source, has a maternal sense that awakens respectful gentleness. All of this must be valued and taken into account in evangelization.[102]” (QA 71)

"To know these peoples does not always mean to understand them, but it is for us an obligation that must go far beyond mere curiosity,... it is to feel that their culture and their ways of life are part of the (Amazonian) identity."

Lobo, Torralba, Barriales - Dominican Missionaries

3

OPEN WOUNDS OF THE AMAZONIA


[View Complete Gallery](#)

THEMATIC AXIS: "If the care of people and the care of ecosystems are inseparable, this becomes particularly significant where "the forest is not a resource to exploit, it is a being, or several beings to relate to". [49]. The wisdom of the native peoples of the Amazonia "inspires care and respect for creation, with a conscious awareness of its limits, prohibiting its abuse. To abuse nature is to abuse ancestors, brothers and sisters, creation, and the Creator, mortgaging the future." [50]. The indigenous people, "when they remain in their territories, are precisely the ones who take the best care of them" [51], as long as they do not allow themselves to be trapped by siren calls and the self-interested offers of powerful groups. Damage to nature affects them in a very direct and tangible way, because, they say, "We are water, air, earth and life of the environment created by God. Therefore, we ask for an end to the mistreatment and extermination of Mother Earth. The earth has blood and is bleeding, the multinationals have cut the veins of our Mother Earth" [52]" (QA 42).



4

DOMINICAN MISSIONARY HISTORY



[View Complete Gallery](#)

THEMATIC AXIS: The missionary history in the jungle, from its origins in colonial times, is rich in adventures, attempts, failures and multiple expeditions. Since the end of the 19th century, in a violent and tumultuous context due to the exploitation of rubber, the initiative arose to promote the presence of the Catholic Church in the Peruvian Amazon.

The first missionary to arrive was Rev. Fr. Ramón Zubieta y Les, who in 1902 founded the first two missions among the indigenous population: Chirumbia in Alto Urubamba and Ccosñipata in Alto Madre de Dios. His incipient missionary work was fully supported in 1906, when the Dominican Province of Spain took over these missions and sent the first group of missionaries, among whom Father José Pío Aza played a prominent role.

In 1913 the first Dominican nuns arrived in Peru, and only 2 years later they created the "Santa Rosa de Lima" School in Puerto Maldonado. Its promoters were Bishop Ramón Zubieta and Mother Ascensión Nicol, who in 1918 founded the Congregation of the "Dominican Missionary Sisters of the Most Holy Rosary", thus enriching the Mission in various fields.

The missionary territory expanded to new regions, and by the end of the 1940s, missionary activity extended to Alto Madre de Dios, Bajo Urubamba and the Purus River, creating new missions such as Shintuya, Sepahua, Timpía, Kirigueti, Puerto Esperanza and Curanja. During this decade, the intense missionary activity carried out by Fr. José Álvarez, known as "Apaktone", among the Harakmbut of Karene (Colorado) and Alto Madre de Dios, stands out as an example for missionaries that endures to this day.

Source: CCJPA www.selvasperu.org



5

ACCOMPANIMENT AND MISSION



[View Complete Gallery](#)

THEMATIC AXIS: “The authentic option for the poorest and most forgotten, at the same time that it moves us to free them from material misery and to defend their rights, implies proposing to them friendship with the Lord who supports and dignifies them. It would be sad if they were to receive from us a set of doctrines or a moral imperative, but not the great salvific proclamation, that missionary cry that points to the heart and gives meaning to everything else. We cannot be content with only a social message either. If we give our lives for them, for the justice and dignity they deserve, we cannot hide from them that we do so because we recognize Christ in them and because we discover the immense dignity granted to them by the Father God who loves them infinitely.”(QA 63)

6

COMMITTED TO EDUCATION AND HEALTH



[View Complete Gallery](#)

THEMATIC AXIS: “The point is to promote the Amazonia, but this does not imply colonizing it culturally, but helping it to bring out the best of its own. That is the meaning of the ultimate educational task: to cultivate without uprooting, to make it grow without weakening its identity, to promote it without invading it. Just as there are wonders in nature that could be lost forever, the same can happen with cultures that have a message still unheard and that today are threatened more than ever.” (QA 28)



7

CALLED TO MAKE A SYNODAL JOURNEY



[View Complete Gallery](#)

THEMATIC AXIS: To achieve a renewed inculturation of the Gospel in the Amazonia (QA70)... we are called "to be their friends, to listen to them, to interpret them and to grasp the mysterious wisdom that God wants to communicate to us through them".[103]... The Church itself can be a vehicle to help this cultural recovery in a beautiful harmony with the proclamation of the Gospel. Moreover, it becomes an instrument of charity to the extent that urban communities are not only missionary in their own surroundings, but also welcoming to the poor who come from the interior, beset by misery. It is also to the extent that communities are close to young migrants to help them integrate into the city without falling into degradation networks. These ecclesial actions, which stem from love, are valuable steps in a process of inculturation. (QA 72). But inculturation uplifts and fulfills (QA 73)

METHODOLOGY TO PARTICIPATE

The methodology of the proposed activity allows for individual and community participation, which is distributed in the following steps:

Step 1: Observe the photography exhibition by means of a virtual tour through the 7 thematic axes previously mentioned.

Step 2: Choose 1 or 2 images from the photographic exhibition that caught your attention or inspired you the most.

Step 3: With the choice of these photographs and taking into account the 4 pillars of the order, we will make a **pictorial composition inspired by the Amazonia**, for which we suggest you consider the following:

- Observe the photo(s) you selected with a prayerful and contemplative gaze.
- Study and investigate what the photo means beyond what is explicit (composition, framing, situations or people represented).

- Share in community or with your closest circle, what the picture says. (How do you interpret it, what memories did it bring back, what did it inspire in you?)
- Preach by means of a drawing or painting what inspired you about the photograph(s) selected and related to a theme allusive to the Amazonia (paint freely, using a specific technique or a mixed technique).
Suggested techniques: Colored pencil, oil, watercolor, pastel or acrylic.

Step 4: Capture this moment by taking a picture or scanning your drawing or painting, then fill in your personal information in the form and upload your picture through this link: <https://forms.gle/5NwuRABLZfx4Pdof8>

EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. Creativity and Originality: It evaluates the originality of the work and the artist's creativity in the choice of subject matter, style, technique and approach. It must also show an innovative approach and a unique perspective, with interesting visual effects for the viewer. (3 points)
2. Technique and artistic skills: It evaluates the artist's skill in handling the painting technique. Quality of strokes, use of color, texture and composition. (3 points)
3. Message or narrative: The artwork communicates a clear and effective message or narrative. It has a purpose or tells a story that is understandable to the viewer. (8 points)
4. Expression and emotion: The artwork conveys emotion and expression. It provokes an emotional response in the viewer and communicates the artist's feelings about what is observed in the photographs. (2 points)
5. Composition and design: The visual organization of the work, including elements, balance, proportion and harmony. (2 points)
6. Attention to details: Accuracy in the depiction of objects, figures or scenes in the artwork. Details must be well cared for and relevant to the whole. (2 points)



DRAWING EXHIBITION

The central commission of the Dominican Month for Peace 2023 will select the 10 best drawings and/or paintings according to the following categories:

1st Category – Children from 6 to 12 years old
(Registration deadline: December 15, 2023)

2nd Category – Young people from 12 to 17 years old
(Registration deadline: December 15, 2023)

3rd Category - People with different abilities.
(Registration deadline: February 2, 2024)

4th Category – Adults over 18 years of age.
(Registration deadline: March 15, 2024)

The drawings and/or paintings will be presented and published in different rooms online.

1st ROOM: Children and Young people
Publication Date - December 24, 2023

2nd ROOM: People with different abilities.
Publication Date - February 14, 2024

3rd ROOM: Adults
Publication Date - March 31, 2024

The first 4 drawings in each category will be exhibited in promotional materials that showcase our Amazonia.

If you have any doubts or inquiries, please contact us at:
misiones@peru.op.org

