



New Year Issue



Keys of Change
Can music change the world? We believe it can.



KEYS OF CHANGE IN
SIERRA LEONE, APRIL 2012

It's been a very busy year for us!

It all started with a simple "what if" idea: "What would happen if a pianist went to the Amazon to play classical music for the local communities?". Within a few months I was in the heart of the rainforest to test with my own eyes and ears the limits of music and the rest was history. Because once you feel the real power and full potential of music it is impossible to stop: three journeys in Ecuador and Peru, three visits to Japan, two projects in Africa.

It must be because my piano teacher always half jokingly said that "if everyone played the piano, there would be no wars", or perhaps because of the real desire to see with my own eyes the possibilities of classical music, or even simply because I was bored of being heard only by people that can afford a ticket, that in the course of the last 18 months I have performed more than 150 recitals for audiences among people that have been through some

extraordinary circumstances in life: in remote villages halfway across the Amazon, in war and poverty torn communities of Sierra Leone and Uganda, and for tsunami survivors in northeastern Japan.

One thing is certain: I take the cliché phrase "Music Can Change the World" very seriously, And with this very simple belief, in May 2011, Keys of Change was born.

Panos Karan, Keys of Change founder



BACH IN THE AMAZON



JOURNEY OF HOPE



AFRICAN RHYTHMS

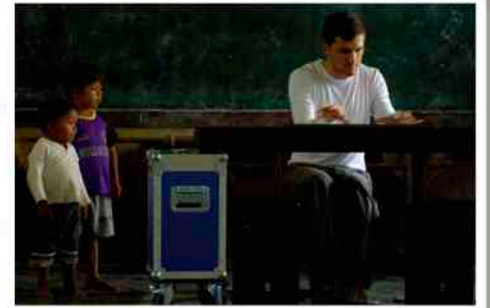
Bach in the Amazon

The pioneering project Bach in the Amazon started in March 2011 and was continued in November of the same year, as Panos Karan and his team travelled to remote villages in Ecuador and Peru and performed classical music recitals for indigenous communities. The project will continue in Brazil 2013 and will be completed in 2014, having navigated the entire length of the river, aiming to perform classical music for 88 communities - a symbolic number after the number of keys on a piano.

But it's not just about crossing the Amazon. While on the way (or rather on the canoe) Keys of Change team is looking for communities eager to participate in our musical education programme. Guitar lessons for children supported jointly by Keys of Change and the Condor Trust for Education started in September 2011 in Quito and Sani Isla community and continue in 2012.

We are planning an expansion of our music education programmes to Iquitos (Peru) in 2013 and Manaus (Brazil) in 2014.

To do in 2013...
✓ Continue the Amazon journey in Brazil
✓ Expansion of music education programme to Iquitos



Journey of Hope

Keys of Change visited Japan for the first time in 2011, six months after the earthquake and tsunami, which resulted in more than 18,000 casualties and left more than one million people homeless. We returned to Fukushima with more music and concerts with student orchestras in March and October 2012. Three musicians (Panos Karan, Zach Topagos and Raul Jimenes) spent two weeks teaching, rehearsing and performing with school children, and reminding survivors that the world has not forgotten, and using once again the power of music to give hope and encouragement. Keys of Change supporters have sponsored a day trip full of activities and music for 50

kindergarden children that are not able to play outside because of the radiation threat. We are now planning our next trip to Japan, visiting schools in Soma and Minami-Soma, and again playing with student orchestras.

To do in 2013...
✓ Return to Japan in March 2013 for music activities in Tohoku
✓ Bring orchestra from Tohoku Horai School to London to perform a series of concerts.

But we also have a more ambitious plan for next year: we would like to bring a student orchestra to play a concert in one of London's best venues, as these children's devotion to music, energy and eagerness to perform deserves a truly grand stage.



African Rhythms

Keys of Change first came to Sierra Leone in April 2012, invited by the Ballanta Academy in Freetown to play piano recitals in amputee centre, women's support group, prison, elderly home, school for blind children, local clinics and slum communities. Since then we have been working with Ballanta Academy on musical education programme and creating an orchestra for street and other disadvantaged children. We are starting with the first group of ten young wind orchestra members from 1st October 2012.

We then went to Uganda in August 2012 to perform in orphanages, schools, HIV clinics and communities outside Kampala. Currently we are looking into bringing music lessons to the Rainbow House in Kampala, where children attending school at Ashiniaga foundation expressed a great interest in learning to play the music.

To do in 2013...
✓ Expand Ballanta Wind Orchestra to 20 children
✓ Return to Sierra Leone to rehearse with the orchestra and perform for local communities



How together we make this happen!

Apart from traveling all over the world playing classical music there has been a lot of work going on in London. Keys of Change organized a series of events, private and open to public, to fundraise and to share our stories and passion. Panos Karan has given dozens of fundraising recitals, speeches, interviews and lectures.

Keys of Change has featured on BBC World, national television in Greece, Peru and Sierra Leone, radio in Greece and Ecuador, in numerous publications including the International Piano Magazine.

Special thanks goes to our photographers: Miklos Csepely-Knorr, Eloise Campbell (campbellpicks.com) and Tariq Zaidi (tariqzaidi.com), whose pictures have been used throughout this newsletter and in all our publicity materials. In September 2012 Eloise and

Tariq had a joint exhibition, followed by Panos Karan's recital at the Hellenic Centre in London.

We thank our collaborators - the Condor Trust for Education, Ashiniaga Foundation, Children of Uganda UK-BSUF, American Airlines and the Manatee Explorer.

And the most special thanks goes to you - our supporters, who donated generously, strongly believed in our cause and encouraged us every step of the way!

We wish all our supporters, volunteers, collaborators, listeners, photographers and all the music students around the world a happy and healthy New Year filled with more and more music!

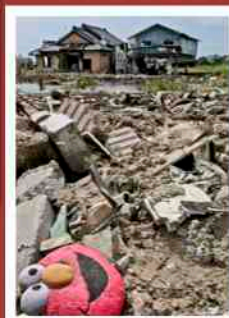
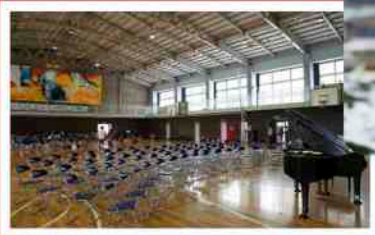
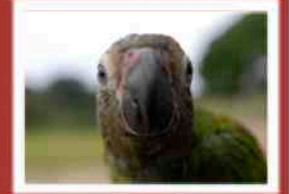
Keys of Change team

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GET INVOLVED IN ANY OF OUR PROJECTS PLEASE EMAIL US ON INFO@KEYSOFCCHANGE.ORG

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www.keysofchange.org



Another day in the office...



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