

Aesthetical Education And the Beautiful

Helga Zepp-LaRouche opened the final panel discussion of the conference.

We will try to end on a beautiful note, which is the idea of Classical culture. I think yesterday evening, when we had the wonderful concert which integrated the professionals with the people who are in the learning process, and this indeed was so moving, that I think most of us who were there could not help to have tears in their eyes, and were carried away by a foretaste of what kind of a world would be possible, if this evil would not exist.

Now, I don't know if Bruce Fein¹ is still here, but I have a standing controversy with him about the nature of man. And I would like my opening remarks, and also for the short discussion we could have [to address that]:

Obviously, if you look at the world today, it's full of evil, it's full of depravity, it is a systemic crisis as Mr. Fursov was just saying. But I think we should not be confused about what is the *potential* of mankind. And while we are in a Dark Age, I'm absolutely convinced that, if we just think about the development of the human species, which has been around only for a very short period of time...

Recorded history, in terms of writings, is barely 200 generations, which is like yesterday; and in that short period of time, the development of science and technology has been quite impressive: A stone which used to be used, some thousands of years ago to kill your neighbor, a *Faustkeil* [a stone axe with two faces], today, the size of the same instrument—you have an iPhone which has computer capability where you can run economies from around the world; you have conferences, you're absolutely, incredibly connected, and you can do all your work—now, this is only a short period of time.

1. Bruce Fein spoke on "The Foundation of Civilization." His speech was published in *EIR*, April 17, 2013.



EIRNS/Christopher Lewis

Now, just think how mankind, if we make it, would look 1,000 years from now. In the same way that the developed person today says, "How ridiculous to use this stone to kill your neighbor; I now have the whole world in this little instrument!" Just think: In a thousand years from now, people will look back and say, "Ha-ha! These ridiculous people from 2013—they thought an iPhone was something special!" They will look at the iPhone as if it would be a *Faustkeil*.

So I think we should not be limited by the present condition of civilization, but have an idea that if we have this scientific and technological, and industrial reconstruction of the world, and combine that with a Classical education, the aesthetical education Schiller and others are talking about, why should we not be able to develop civilization in such a way, that in the future—okay, I mentioned four-year-old boys who kick you in the shins, I mean, that will probably always be like that, because children, especially little boys, tend to be uncontrollable monsters at a certain age! But then they grow up.

Getting Rid of Childhood Diseases

My vision of the future of civilization is that we get rid of these childhood diseases, like all the emotions which go along with globalization. And just imagine if every child on the planet would have universal education, would have parents who would be concerned about the creative potential of the children to be developed. Why should that not be possible? I think the Age of Reason which Schiller was talking about is not a utopia.

But I think that we are in a transition phase, where, if we create the new paradigm, we have a future of civilization, where people have their identity as scientists, creative composers, poets, engineers, teachers, parents—a completely different identity, devoted to the progression of civilization. I think that is the true identity of mankind, if we are going to make it as a civilization.

So, I think we have the incredible responsibility of making that transition, to leave this world of what I would really like to call "oligarchical childhood diseases" behind us. And in a certain sense, there will never be a second Beethoven, there will be never a second Schiller, but in the realm of creativity, the degrees of freedom are limitless. And I think we should have this idea of mankind becoming a truly creative species, where the majority of people will be creative, and not slaves!

So, that is something to work for and to fight for, and I think that great Classical art is really the way to get there. And therefore, I want to give the word now to Antonella [Banaudi].