

“The Delicate Little World of Taean”  
A Festival for Children of Art & Music  
Celebrating the Environment

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[proposal]

Emanuel Pastreich

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A thick oozing sheet has coated the  
pristine coast of Taean in Korea since

December of 2007, transforming once spotless beaches into a black crust lining a sea of death.

As the shock of Korea's worst oil spill sinks in, we are forced to think about the terrible consequences of our dependence on oil not only for the fishermen of Taean, but for the entire world.

We think about such matters most of all when we watch our children. After all, the implications of oil, from creeping pollution to climate change, gather like dark clouds on the horizon, dark clouds that we are fearful to speak of with our young ones.

The only way forward is to create a sustainable world.

To do that, we must change culture  
itself, and we can only achieve that goal  
if we first turn to our children and offer  
them a vision of how the world could be.

That vision must be inspiring and  
creative.

It must be something that gives our  
children hope, makes them believe that  
they can plant the seeds that will  
rejuvenate our world.

And when children set out to change the world, their hope will radiate out to parents, neighbors and society.

The "Delicate Little World of Taeon" will be an artistic festival on a human scale in July of 2008 that brings children (and adults) from around the world to a beautiful field located a stone's throw away from the oil- sludge kneaded by the waves of the coast of Taeon.

Here in this field will stand original works  
of art designed and built by masters  
from around the world inspiring children  
to conceive of a future for all of us.

The hints of beauty, wonder and  
mystery that they derive from these  
original displays may lead them to a new  
awareness of what is possible.

The children who make their way to  
Taeon for this week of art, games &

music in July of 2008 will explore a magic landscape inspired in part by the efforts of Andre Heller to create original artistic spaces by renowned artists for children to explore in his "Luna Luna" festival.

Fifteen artists from around the world (nine from Asia) will build original structures in this field ornamented with wild and original motifs that children can touch, climb on and explore within.

Each structure will relate to some aspect of the environment and suggest something of how children can respond to the present day's challenges.

The structures will be temporary, available to the public for only that one week, but they will be of the highest artistic quality and inspire visitors of all ages.

In one corner of the field will be erected a small tent wherein musicians from around the world will perform the music of Europe and Asia for children.

In the intervals between performances, these masters will stop to show their instruments to the children.

Speaking intimately of the power of music to transform our universe, they

will bring into focus the harmony that music produces.

Finally, ground will be broken at this festival for a permanent monument that will inspire children for generations to come: the children's house.

This small house built entirely of wood and stone will be fitted for children. The little house will be carefully hewn and sanded by adult craftsmen but will have low ceilings that only children can enter.

It will be in no way commercial, but will nonetheless capture the imagination of children.

Each room of the house will embody a distinct theme related to the environment. One room will be devoted to wood, one to water, one to plants and one to the sea.

Budget:

Cost of flying artists and musicians to  
Taeon and housing them for two weeks  
(one week to set up their works of art  
and one week to display it) Cost of  
building materials for works of art &  
music tent. Cost of parking lot, ticket  
system, restrooms and tour system. Cost  
of worldwide publicity. Cost of starting  
work on the little house.

