



Mayors for Peace

Secretariat

C/O Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, 1-2 Nakajima-cho Naka-ku Hiroshima 730-0811 Japan
Phone:81-82-242-7821 Fax:81-82-242-7452 E-mail:mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

March 1, 2005

Re: *Back to the Garden* / Art Exhibition

To Whom It May Concern:

As Mayor of the city of Hiroshima and the President of the Mayors for Peace, which consist of 1,416 Mayors from 120 countries, representing over half a billion people - I am pleased to announce a landmark visual arts exhibition called *Back to the Garden* which is organized to address the greatest threat of our time, the use of nuclear weapons. This exhibition created by David Clark will commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the atomic bombing that obliterated the city of Hiroshima.

In part, the *Back to the Garden* art exhibition will be an honor to the approximately 85,000 living/witness survivors of the atomic bomb, the "Hibakusha," who have dedicated their lives to ensuring that no one should have to endure that hellish experience ever again. As you may know, they were nominated for the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize.

I am delighted to have David Clark coordinating the selection of artists and works for this momentous exhibition the day prior to the Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference at the United Nations, and for securing Yoko Ono to speak in the General Assembly on our behalf. David Clark, and other members of the EPOP event team will be contacting the artists, collectors, curators, and other organizations regarding this exhibition, and I urge the arts community to grant them the courtesy of their time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tadatoshi Akiba
President of Mayors for Peace
Mayor of Hiroshima