

Steek èrens in jou woonplek 'n kers aan terwyl jy lees.

Tema: "Die mooie van ontferming."
Desperaatheid en genade.

Skriflesing: Matteus 15:21-28

Broodjies vir die pad

"Only the man who has had to face despair is really convinced that he needs mercy. Those who do not want mercy never seek it. It is better to find God on the threshold of despair than to risk our lives in a complacency that has never felt the need of forgiveness. A life that is without problems may literally be more hopeless than one that always verges on despair."

— Thomas Merton, No Man Is an Island

"Leaving traces of ourselves, as in creative productivity, could then be seen as part of the definition of consciousness for us as well. We know that in order to progress we must stretch for something just out of reach--if only for a life that will be more compassionate and decent than the cruelty, paranoia, greed, narrow corporatism, or narcissism we mostly indulge in and find such ample justification for. And so we dream."

— Breyten Breytenbach

"We should ask God to increase our hope when it is small, awaken it when it is dormant, confirm it when it is wavering, strengthen it when it is weak, and raise it up when it is overthrown."

— John Calvin

"I do not accept any absolute formulas for living. No preconceived code can see ahead to everything that can happen in a man's life. As we live, we grow and our beliefs change. They must change. So I think we should live with this constant discovery. We should be open to this adventure in heightened awareness of living. We should stake our whole existence on our willingness to explore and experience."

— Martin Buber

Vryburg

Nog eenmaal wil ek
kaalvoet in die rooi sand staan
van die wye grootwordplek,
waar my jeug gevorm het.

Nog eenmaal wil ek
die Kalahari-veld kan ruik,
duweltasies groen en geel die grond
oortrek
waar vaal- en rosyttjebos koppig
droogtes dra.

Nog eenmaal wil ek,
waar herinneringe van jare draal
en trane van verlange lek
wil ek myself wees, weer gaan haal.
Nog eenmaal.

Kobus van Tonder

"The plain fact is that the planet does not need more successful people. But it does desperately need more peacemakers, healers, restorers, storytellers, and lovers of every kind. It needs people who live well in their places. It needs people of moral courage willing to join the fight to make the world habitable and humane. And these qualities have little to do with success as we have defined it."

— David W. Orr, Ecological Literacy: Educating Our Children for a Sustainable World

Akteurs wil gemoedere lig met monoloog-kompetisie

Christiaan Boonzaier

'n Kunswedstryd wat ná die begin van die staat van inperking aanlyn begin is, het die aktrise en regisseur Maryka Roux die idee gegee om 'n aanlyn kompetisie van haar eie op die been te bring.

Nadat sy die akteur Luan Jacobs, wat tot onlangs nog in die kykNET-reeks *Fynskrif* te sien was, van haar plan vertel het, het hy sonder skroom besluit om die projek saam met haar te verwesenlik.

Hul eindprodukt, 'n monoloog-kompetisie, daag enigiemand uit om 'n monoloog van een minuut op te neem waarin hulle sê hoe hulle die wêreld sal verander. Almal wat ingeskryf het sal terugvoering van Roux en Jacobs ontvang, voordat 'n wenner aangekondig sal word.

Roux sê die monoloog-kompetisie verskil ietwat van bestaande kunswedstryde omdat dit onder meer op een kunsvorm fokus, 'n meer bekostigbare inskrywingsfooi het, en pryse op die spel is wat "langtermyndrome stut". Dit dien ook as aansporing in hierdie donker tyd.

"In 'n krisistyd moet 'n mens kreatief wees," sê sy. "Drome, talente en kreatiwiteit is nie gekanselleer nie, so dit is moontlik om jou passie uit te leef, ander ook aan te moedig om dit uit te leef, hulle en jouself op te bou en 'n bietjie hoop te skep in 'n vreemde seisoen."

Jacobs sê hy het die geleentheid dadelik aangegryp juis omdat die kompetisie se uitgangspunt is om "good vibes in die wêreld te versprei terwyl ons die kunste ondersteun".

"Daar is hierdie denkwysie dat 'n mens met een kers nog 'n kers kan aansteek – dan is daar meer lig daarbuite," sê hy.

"Dit is interessant hoe die inperking vuur onder mense gemaak het om kompetisies en soortgelyke projekte aan te pak. Om jouself bloot te stel, is 'n moeilike gedoente, maar kom ons wees in hierdie tyd dapper en deel ons lig met mekaar."

Roux sê sy moedig enigiemand van enige ouderdom en alle vlakke van ervaring aan om in te skryf.

"Ek glo daar is baie mense wat verskuilde talente het wat veral in hierdie tyd ontdek word. As iemand wat self geleenthede gekry het om my passie uit te leef sonder formele opleiding, wil ek dit ook aan ander bied."

Sy sê die monoloë moet "kort en kragtig" wees – tussen 30

en 60 sekondes. Deelnemers kan hul eie monoloog skryf of een op die webwerf www.buttonup.co.za aanskaf.

“Die idee is nie om negatief (in die monoloog) te wees nie. Die idee is om hoop, verbeelding en kreatiwiteit te wek,” sê sy.

Die monoloë moet dan op video opgeneem en deur middel van WhatsApp ingedien word. Inskrywings, wat R25 elk kos, moet aan streng vereistes voldoen, wat op die webwerf <https://buttonup.co.za/competitions/> gelys word.

Almal wat inskryf sal ’n digitale ButtonUp-sertifikaat ontvang. Die top-drie sal ButtonUp-pryse wen, terwyl die wenner ’n akteurspel-slypskool deur Roux en Jacobs ryker sal wees.

Inskrywings sluit op 30 Augustus.

<https://www.netwerk24.com/Vermaak/Teater/akteurs-wil-gemoedere-lig-met-monoloog-kompesisie-20200811>

“The revolution of Jesus is in the first place and continuously a revolution of the human heart or spirit. It did not and does not proceed by means of the formation of social institutions and laws, the outer forms of our existence, intending that these would then impose a good order of life upon people who come under their power. Rather, his is a revolution of character, which proceeds by changing people from the inside through ongoing personal relationship to God in Christ and to one another. It is one that changes their ideas, beliefs, feelings, and habits of choice, as well as their bodily tendencies and social relations. It penetrates to the deepest layers of their soul.”

— Dallas Willard, *Renovation of the Heart: Putting On the Character of Christ*

But today’s society is characterized by achievement orientation, and consequently it adores people who are successful and happy and, in particular, it adores the young. It virtually ignores the value of all those who are otherwise, and in so doing blurs the decisive difference between being valuable in the sense of dignity and being valuable in the sense of usefulness. If one is not cognizant of this difference and holds that an individual’s value stems only from his present usefulness, then, believe me, one owes it only to personal inconsistency not to plead for euthanasia along the lines of Hitler’s program, that is to say, ‘mercy’ killing of all those who have lost their social usefulness, be it because of old age, incurable illness, mental deterioration, or whatever handicap they may suffer. Confounding the dignity of man with mere usefulness arises from conceptual confusion that in turn may be traced back to the contemporary nihilism transmitted on many an academic campus and many an analytical couch.”

— Viktor E. Frankl, *Man's Search for Meaning*

“At issue here is the question: "To whom do I belong? God or to the world?" Many of my daily preoccupations suggest that I belong more to the world than to God. A little criticism makes me angry, and a little rejection makes me depressed. A little praise raises my spirits, and a little success excites me. It takes very little to raise me up or thrust me down. Often I am like a small boat on the ocean, completely at the mercy of its waves. All the time and energy I spend in keeping some kind of balance and preventing myself from being tipped over and drowning shows that my life is mostly

a struggle for survival: not a holy struggle, but an anxious struggle resulting from the mistaken idea that it is the world that defines me.

As long as I keep running about asking: "Do you love me? Do you really love me?" I give all power to the voices of the world and put myself in bondage because the world is filled with "ifs." The world says: "Yes, I love you if you are good-looking, intelligent, and wealthy. I love you if you have a good education, a good job, and good connections. I love you if you produce much, sell much, and buy much." There are endless "ifs" hidden in the world's love. These "ifs" enslave me, since it is impossible to respond adequately to all of them. The world's love is and always will be conditional. As long as I keep looking for my true self in the world of conditional love, I will remain "hooked" to the world-trying, failing, and trying again. It is a world that fosters addictions because what it offers cannot satisfy the deepest craving of my heart.”

— Henri J.M. Nouwen

“i am a little church(no great cathedral)
far from the splendor and squalor of hurrying cities
--i do not worry if briefer days grow briefest,
i am not sorry when sun and rain make april
my life is the life of the reaper and the sower;
my prayers are prayers of earth's own clumsily striving
(finding and losing and laughing and crying)children
whose any sadness or joy is my grief or my gladness
around me surges a miracle of unceasing
birth and glory and death and resurrection:
over my sleeping self float flaming symbols
of hope,and i wake to a perfect patience of mountains
i am a little church(far from the frantic
world with its rapture and anguish)at peace with nature
--i do not worry if longer nights grow longest;
i am not sorry when silence becomes singing

winter by spring,i lift my diminutive spire to
merciful Him Whose only now is forever:
standing erect in the deathless truth of His presence
(welcoming humbly His light and proudly His darkness)”
— E.E. Cummings

“Animals are more than ever a test of our character, of mankind's capacity for empathy and for decent, honorable conduct and faithful stewardship. We are called to treat them with kindness, not because they have rights or power or some claim to equality, but in a sense because they don't; because they all stand unequal and powerless before us.”
— Matthew Scully, *Dominion: The Power of Man, the Suffering of Animals, and the Call to Mercy*

“Christian mission is not to preach Christ, but to be Christians in life. There”

— Alexander Schmemmann, *For the Life of the World: Sacraments and Orthodoxy*