

To: Ms. Constance Thomas, Director ILO-IPEC
From: Antonio Mosca, Director Orchestra Suzuki, Torino

Declaration of Intent

Including the arts in children's education enhances their quality of life and gives them an avenue of communication even before they acquire spoken language.

The study of artistic subjects by means of group activities helps children develop a sense of responsibility and learn to share. The friendship that is the result of following a common objective stimulates behavioural and moral balance.

The joy of playing music, singing, dancing and acting is something that adults should make available to all children so that they can be happier and never fully alone.

Thank you UN, thank you IPEC for everything you believe in and work towards. The fight to eliminate child labour in its worst forms is what should move the powerful and the worthiest of us. Education and the study of the arts is the road to tolerance and harmony amongst peoples.

This is what I believe in and I try to work towards.

In signing the "Music Against Child Labour" manifesto with joy and conviction, I would like to remark that ever since 1999 the Turin Suzuki Orchestra has performed several concerts each year to intensify people's awareness of the phenomenon and increase solidarity and commitment to the young.

Thank you Maria Gabriella, thank you IPEC for guidance and motivation.

To read before performing "Liberate i bambini" (Libérez les enfants; Free all children)

For all the ill-treated children in the world

Forgive me children for not being aware of you who suffer down there in the mines, under the burning sun on mountains of foul rubbish, hidden in tin-roofed huts, undernourished and mistreated.

I always hope that the world will one day wake up to realizing that you are flowers just coming into bloom, helpless and in need of care and love.

I have always worked for you and whenever I could I have tended to you with music and I have taught you an instrument with which to dream and smile a little.

The world does not listen to your cries; it forgets that millions of you die each year from hunger and abuse of all kinds.

You children that are suffering forgive this deaf and blind world, without humanity and attracted only to money and luxury.

Your suffering must be a flag that unites the worthiest souls, those that, God willing, will save the world.

I WANT TO BE ONE OF THEM

Antonio