

The PAX GAIA/PAX TO GAIA Mandalas, Dedicated to Thomas Berry

T Mullin

T Mullin's biography takes the form of a mandala—in the center, a core of LOVE and ENERGY seething with feeling and creativity, often prone to sensation and moments of awe and wonder. His career has gone in five directions—public relations, advertising (media, marketing, copywriting), art, television, film production, and product innovation and design), architecture and performing arts. He is presently writing his story: "My Experiences of the Great Spirit."



The Pax Gaia Mandala

In 1984 while attending one of Jean Houston's Mystery School weekends, an advance copy of Thomas Berry's *The Dream of the Earth* was floating about. No pun, but the cover was an extraordinarily beautiful photograph of water flowing over a series of cascades into a foaming white pool. The defused lighting created a warm glow on the water and a cool blue white on the froth. Backgrounded with trees with faint green leaves—nature at her best. Such inviting water! I plunged into *The Dream of the Earth*.

For ten years or more I had been hearing praise of this estimable man. At long last! I had him in my hands! Eureka! Or should I say, OIKOS! Or sigh, HOME- at last! Reading *The Dream of the Earth* was a combination sweatlodge/vision quest experience for me. I wept. I sweated. I jumped for joy. So many emotions. The beauty of nature. The terrible troubles of Mother Earth. To settle pain and joy in my heart, I began to create a mandala using Tom's call for Pax Gaia. His was a message of Hope. Hope that we could restore our humus (earth). Resuscitate our Mother Earth. A gigantic cultural, economic, political and spiritual undertaking required for the fate of the Earth. And so, I embraced iconic APOLLO 16 photograph of our home planet with her name, "Gaia." Repeating it four times to form a circle of healing into which I inserted PAX intersecting at the letter "A" to form a second circle of "X's" representing the Christ sign and healing, for it was Christ who said, "I come to bring life..."

I dedicated the mandala to Tom referring to it as my Berry banner. Sister Katherine Marie Di Miceli of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd made the fabric translation of the PAX GAIA and later PAX TO GAIA adaptation. Over the years since then, the banner has been a feature of the St. Francis Day procession at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City and frequently displayed at the Earth bay.

In preparation to writing this remembrance tribute, the image of the Good Shepherd came up. For Tom it don't work! How 'bout "COSMIC CONDUIT" and "STARlings" for sheep?!!

In closing I should like to include a paraphrase of The Lord's Prayer that came to me in the middle of the ocean while at Star Island Conference Center in the summer of 1998.

O Creator

O Creator who art in Heaven

Hallowed be thy reign.

Thy Wisdom come. Thy will be done On Earth as it is in the Universe.

Give us this day our daily Breath, And forgive us our blasphemy

As we forgive those who blaspheme us. And lead us not into dysfunction,
But deliver us into Whollyness.

For this Thine is the Beauty and the Glory

Forever and ever. AMEN.