

**The World Academy of Arts, Literature and Media
- WAALM -
SCHOOL OF CULTURAL DIPLOMACY**



Diplomatic Journal

60Qs WITH

Maestro
Andrea Bocelli
Pop-tenor Vocal Artist



On Role of Music in Peace, Understanding and Social Awareness

“I sing with a deep sense of duty” and modesty ..., bringing a message of peace & tolerance”

Maestro Andrea Bocelli

DJ: *Maestro, welcome to our Journal. As you know, vocal artists and music communities around the world, often through various programmes outreach to facilitate understanding, dialogue and encourage social awareness. In one of your recent recorded and performed songs with extremely talented Katherine Jenkins, produced by David Foster, your lyrics reads:*

*“One day I’ll hear
The laugh of children
In a world where war has been banned.”*

And it goes on....

*“I believe in the people
Of all nations
To join and to care
For love.”*

Q1 - How do you view the role of music and the vocal artists in particular, in raising the bars of social awareness? For example, in areas such as ‘tolerance’, ‘peace’ and ‘child’s rights’.

M° AB: Each of us is called to do something to leave a world for our children which is a little better than we found it and I intend not to shirk from this which I consider to be a moral obligation. I sing, with a deep sense of duty and modesty, for children, men and women, of very different cultures and religions, in many parts of the world, bringing a message of peace and tolerance. This is what I feel I should do and I will do it with all my strength. I feel particularly close to the problems of children and old people, which are at times neglected and ignored. They represent the past and the future, and where we are going cannot avoid being affected by where we have come from.



DJ: *Like millions of others, we too have observed the progress of your astonishing career that has made you not only an extraordinary icon but also a formidable ambassador for Italian music around the world. You have worked and performed with many international talents and stars on many world stages, which could be a true interpretation of your interest in cross-cultural activities or promotion of cultural diplomacy.*

Q2 – In your view, how can ‘Music’ contribute to promotion of understanding and dialogue?

M° AB: I believe that music, like love, is a promise of happiness, an important conjugation of the verb “to live”, an art and art is emotion. As I said before, music reaches the most pure and primitive parts of our being without any interference or mediation, it modulates our hopes with just a few simple stratagems, it freely offers us an oasis of tranquillity as only the most precious travelling companion can do.



"I think that society today would need to recover those values of simplicity and modesty"

DJ: *You have always been caring and sensitive to the calls for solidarity: your name is often found heading the list of artists appearing at concerts to support causes close to your heart. And despite of your extraordinary achievements as a renowned artist, you are approachable!*

Q3 – A) What makes you to be sensitive and caring?

M° AB: I can't imagine why I should be different to the way I am. Instead I think that society today would need to recover those values of simplicity and modesty which, freeing us from the frenzy of the pursuit of success at all cost, would give us greater trust in the future for the generations that will follow us.

In your exciting website (www.adreabocelli.com), yet again, you humbly mention:

"...I only know that God has given me a voice which allows me to express what I feel, and in this sense I believe I can describe it as a recognizable voice"

Q4 – If you would be able to get one message across the world, what would that message be?

M° AB: I believe love to be the common denominator of all the possible ways of living and I am convinced that love for life is the primary engine of existence and that its power opens our hearts to hope. That seems to me to be a message worth reflecting upon.





Q5 – Any particular experience that you wish to share with your peers and those who are reading this interview?

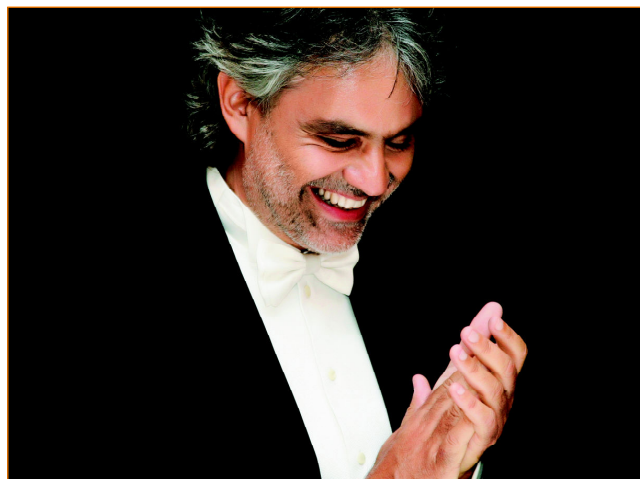
M° AB: My artistic career is something of a fairy tale. In just a few years I have had the most exciting and incredible experiences that an artist could possibly imagine or hope for. I can't forget that I have sung before two Popes, and in the most extraordinary places such as the pyramids in Egypt, the twin towers before the terrible 9/11, in the splendid square of the Hermitage in St Petersburg.... And I have had the privilege of hearing the most important voices in the world close up. For one who is as passionate about voices as I am, this has been one of the best gifts life has brought me.

Q6 – For those who wish to follow you, please tell us about your current and upcoming projects and productions.

M° AB: Many years ago I learned from my mentor that one cannot make serious plans more than twenty-four hours in advance and I have always followed this precious advice which is also matched by the words of a famous Italian film director who once said: "We have many plans for the future; it's a pity that very often our future has such different plans for us."

DJ: *Maestro Andrea Bocelli, thank you for accepting our invitation to have this exclusive interview with WAALM – Diplomatic Journal.*

M° AB: Thanks to you, for your kindness!



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It supports, develops, and promotes the dramatic and fine arts, creative writing and poetry, as well as professional journalism and media productions. WAALM regularly identifies and rewards excellence, inspires practitioners, and benefits the public, by means of an awarding event. As a nonprofit, independent and secular organisation, *WAALM promotes cross-cultural activities and humanitarian efforts.*

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It is a division of WAALM and the first ever School of Cultural Diplomacy. It offers further and continuing distance learning education for adults.

WAALM – School of Cultural Diplomacy is a secular, non-governmental organisation (NGO) and belongs to no political party.

Diplomatic Journal

It is an electronic journal, a media center for WAALM – School of Cultural Diplomacy.

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