

## Publications on the QfWf-theme 2025 “Practices of Global Citizenship”

### Digitale ontmoetingsplek van de QfWf

Due to the funding of the QfWF-project “World Citizenship of the street” in 2024 the [Quest for Wisdom foundation](#) is focussing her activities on a yearly theme. Every month an artistic, intercultural or philosophical contribution around the theme by authors and artists of the Quest-Circle will be published.

Soul Circle Members (of honour) of the Quest for Wisdom are presenting their view and practice as World Citizens:



*Between two Waters – digital art Alexander Fontanilla*

De Gulden Snede Bijdrage van december 2025 is van de hand van Alexander Fontanilla, waarin hij vertelt waarom hij zijn moederland Colombia met zijn vrouw en kind heeft verlaten. Zij moesten er zowel hun familie als psychologische praktijk achterlaten - omdat hij zijn hulp aan adolescenten ook in menselijke zin opvatte wanneer er mensenrechten op het spel staan! Hij wil bijdragen aan een inclusieve cosmopolitische cultuur en wij zijn blij met zijn participatie aan het QfWf-programma wereldburgerschap!

he November contribution of the Golden Ration is written and illustrated by



*Mokum serie#10 – Aquarel Greg Suffanti*

Greg Suffanti and Angela Gilds added her Spoken Word, sharing her story on her ethos of helping the people in need of help. Greg is reflecting on the significance of the Amsterdam-jewish word *Mokum* for a good and safe place, as he paints and remembers his first memory in Honolulu. Both Greg and Angela show what has shaped them into the global citizens they are today. Like the Muses in the *Mouseion* in classical times —standing in a round dance at the birth of theaters, museums, libraries and concert halls — they share what drives them - together with the QfWf Soul Circle and Circle of Engaged Souls!

Thereby, passing sparks of inspiration in a contemporary Dance of the Muses around the fire of global citizenship:



*Mokum serie#10 – Aquarel Greg Suffanti*



*Dirk de Wachter - foto: ©Kristof Ghyselinck[/caption]*

The October-Golden Ratio-contribution contains a text as well as podcast with QfWf-Member of Honour [Dirk de Wachter](#) on the importance of critical thinking, religion and the arts for our times and culture - in interviewing the professor, psychiatrist and author we followed a red thread along his books. It was very inspiring to hear his fundamental tone of hope in harsh times: it is by sharing our stories and creating rituals that a sense of community will arise in a cosmopolitan culture! After Bachs Sarabande had sounded ... we received a wonderful message for our World Citizen-programme!



*In het Gion-district - Photo Harm Jaap Hartmans*

[Harm Jaap Hartmans](#) elaborates in the September-Golden Ratio contribution on his experiences in travelling all around the world, and thereby, having studied languages and having experienced differences in cultures. He tells about his last trip and exploration of

Japanese culture – an art of living lesson about how to be respectful while traveling instead of following the rather insensitive symptoms of mass-tourism ...



*Chiquita Odjo Seymonson giving a tour on the old Marine area in Amsterdam*

[Chiquita Odjo-Seymonson](#) has been interviewed for the August-Golden Ratio article on how World Citizenship starts in your own neighbourhood! She gives inspiring examples of her work collaborating with different organizations in Amsterdam, focussing on dialogue and celebrations with citizens from diverse cultures.



*Anatomy of encountering - drawing Robin Stemerding*

The July-Golden Ratio platform presents an impression of the start of the World Citizenship Soul Circle developing their intercultural programme through [Amor Fati Co-creation](#): By means of Arts Dialogues Methods the seven life themes from the board-game and book Amor Fati are explored in different creative media. Focus is the personal quest of the group members: *what does this theme mean in your life as World Citizen?*

The June-contribution on [De Gulden Snede](#) is by philosopher Erik Hoogcarspel:

“Today's society is making many people and especially many young people sick. The cause of this, they say, is the neoliberal economy, which places too much emphasis on performing and being competitive, thereby shortchanging an important part of human existence. Because market forces are considered sacred, in other words, Thomas Hobbes' (1588-1679) statement that man's state of nature is a state of war of all against all (bellum omnium in omnes) has become a reality. The objection that we should just get used to it because this is the new age, so-called progress, misses the point. The problem is precisely that it has proved impossible to get used to it because everything in us protests against it. We apparently cannot live with this reality. Why not?”



*War is everywhere – Aquarel Greg Suffanti*

The May contribution expresses a strong social ethos and personal involvement, originating from an exchange of ideas among the QfWf-Soul Circle: [Greg Suffanti](#) paints in words and aquarelles his encounters with rooted friends and how these wise beings inspire him as a global citizen:



*Trees as models of World Citizenship – Aquarel Greg Suffanti*

“Deep-rootedness as an inner compass to a world on fire I find highly evocative. Perhaps an idea that could be translated into various types of creative efforts? Like writing, singing and the visual arts? This multi-pronged approach could be one of the potential ways to expand on and share in helping others to understand what world citizenship means to themselves— and others. A Series - Roots of Global Citizenship. An inspiring idea!

I also feel/felt like certain trees were my friends... Or protectors, like the giant sycamore just outside my bedroom windows. Perhaps a way to tie this idea of trees/friendship to one’s own sense of interconnectedness and sameness with others? Also, the challenges of uncovering one’s own truth.... or Authenticity..., to use your word Heidi. Interesting perhaps, the idea of untangling your own ‘roots’ to become more ‘rooted’, and to connect to other ‘roots’ to really be able to flourish and help other ‘root’ systems to thrive?....”



Art work by Giovanni Rizzuto

The April contribution is made by philosopher [Giovanni Rizzuto](#) on

*Filosofisch tegenspel: Traag denken in tijden van versnelling (the title of his recent book ).*

In [this contribution](#) the author presents, illustrated with his own art work, a philosophical perspective as a response to the challenging times we are living in: with the *zero-sum games* reality of the neo-liberale market/society. In these contexts winning of some is at the cost of many others. As an alternative, Giovanni Rizzuto explores a 'counter-game' on basis of an open mind and explorative attitude setting the stage for world citizenship.

The first three contributions of 2025 are illustrated with colorful aquarelles of [Greg Suffanti](#)!

March: [Nivedita Yohana](#) on "[Interconnectedness](#)", the underground power of trees as powerful metaphor for world citizenship:



Underground movement – Aquarel Greg Suffanti

“In nature, trees stand as a testament to resilience, growth, and interconnectedness. Above ground, each tree presents its own unique characteristics: varying forms, sizes, and species, each adapted to thrive in its own environment. However, beneath the surface lies a hidden network that binds them together—their roots. These roots, often invisible to the naked eye, underscore a profound truth about existence: despite our apparent differences, we are all interconnected. This essay explores how the metaphor of tree roots reflects the concept of global citizenship, emphasizing our shared humanity amidst diverse cultures, beliefs, and backgrounds. I start with my own experience, followed by an exploration of the wisdom of the tree metaphor, after which I present some concluding remarks and give some ideas on how, from this perspective, we could develop global citizenship.”





*Love for trees – Aquarel Greg Suffanti*

February: [Tycho Muijen](#) on his work as an ecologist, specialized on trees, reflects on his love for trees since his childhood: [Trees of life als inspirerende rolmodellen voor wereldburgerschap](#)

January: [Mitra Muijen](#) explains the relevance of Amor Fati, the book on 'playing wisdom for the cosmopolis': [Interculturele therapie als antwoord op een maakbare gefragmenteerde wereld](#)



*Amor Fato, Handbeschilderde dobbelstenen — Agnes Roothaan*