DEC 5 Celebrating the Act of Giving



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Dear friend,

Today is the Dec 5. This date marks the beginning of colder days, a forthcoming end to an unusual year and the second time in a row that some might celebrate this day alone. In the Netherlands, on the 5th we celebrate Sinterklaas. It is a day in which family and friends come together to exchange gifts and write poems for one another. Some might even make surprises, the Dutch version of a Mexican piñata; self-sculpted pieces of art created to be destroyed by the receiver to get their hands on their gift.

It marks a day of giving. I would like to use the occasion to reflect upon the thoughts or feelings we would like to give shape through gifting a present. One could consider it as a ritual: it is an expression of an emotion, a treasured value, a tradition, an idea without the expectation of anything in return. It is a tradition integral with the good side of our human nature. Because of the simmering continuation of the global crisis we are living in, traditions like these cannot be celebrated in the same way we used to. Unfortunately, this has also caused the cancellation of the *SUPER T-market*, our event which was supposed to take place today. Regrettably, we have to wait for a moment in the (hopefully near) future.

Until that moment, I would like to invite you to participate in my chain of giving. I invite you to consider the love you have the share, the physical or non-physical connection you can manifest into the world and the beauty you would like to echo. My gift to you is *A Live II*, a video-concert which I created with cinematographer Reinier van Brummelen. It is a virtual installation where I perform *Canto Ostinato* by the late Dutch composer Simeon ten Holt. You will be able to watch, listen and gift the piece throughout the day. (The video is available only on Dec 5).

I hope you will celebrate a beautiful and personal Sinterklaas.

Much Love, Tomoko





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