

Photo – Connor Monahan

Yoko Ono's IMAGINE PEACE TOWER stands on a platform 17m in diameter, at the centre of which a light source emerges from a cylindrical 'Wishing Well' 4m in diameter and 2m high.

As directed by Yoko Ono, the platform is faced with three types of native Icelandic stone in reddish ochre, light grey and bluish grey, in a striped mosaic pattern. The surface of the platform is divided by six 'light corridors' which radiate inward towards the Wishing Well. At the outer ends of these corridors are six searchlights which project light horizontally through the corridors. Inside the well, the beams strike mirrors angled at 45° which act as prisms, reflecting the light upwards. People are free to walk over the corridors on the platform, and the mirrors are made of special materials which ensure 99.9% reflectivity. This design is Yoko's symbolic expression of the instruction she originally wrote for her 'Light House' in 1965.

The surface of the Wishing Well itself is covered with special slabs of pure white glass developed in Japan. Carved into these slabs is Yoko's instruction 'Imagine Peace' in 24 different languages. Visitors can feel the message of 'Imagine Peace' coming from all over the world as they walk around the well.

In addition to the six special mirrors which act as prisms, there are nine powerful Italian-built searchlights on the floor of the Well which send beams of pure light upwards, meaning that the tower of light is created from a combination of 15 beams.

VIÐEY — **The island of Viðey is historic, sacred and peaceful land. It abounds with birdlife, grasses and soft hollows, combined with tranquility and the spirit of bygone centuries. Some fine walking paths have been laid out on the island. The beach is a treasure for learning, experiencing and creating, and the difference between low and high tide is very marked. In Viðey there is also a major public art work by Richard Serra, Áfangar (Milestones) from 1990 by the artist Richard Serra.**

Viðey was first inhabited shortly after Iceland's settlement, and was the site of a major monastery in medieval times. During the eighteenth century, it became the seat of the first Icelandic Governor of Iceland, Skúli Magnússon, who took up official residence in the Videyjarstofa house. A printing press was later set up there, and in the early twentieth century the island boasted the country's most state-of-the-art dairy farm. The Icelandic State gave the island to the City of Reykjavík on the city's 200th anniversary in 1986, in the wake of which Viðeyjarstofa house was renovated.

IMAGINE PEACE

சமாதானத்தை நினையுங்கள் | KÉPZELD EL A BÉKÉT | KUVITTELE RAUHA | წარმოიდგინეთ მშვიდობა | ཞི་བ་སྒྲིགས། | IMAGINA A PAZ | ᓴᐃᒪᖅᑎᑎᒋᑦ | IMAGINE PEACE | 平和な世界を想像してごらん | HUGSA SÉR FRIÐ | احلم سلام | 想像世界有了和平

"I hope the **IMAGINE PEACE TOWER** will give light to the strong wishes of World Peace from all corners of the planet and give encouragement, inspiration and a sense of solidarity in a world now filled with fear and confusion. Let us come together to realize a peaceful world." —YOKO ONO

The IMAGINE PEACE TOWER **was conceived by artist, musician, and peace advocate Yoko Ono as a beacon dedicated to world peace. The artwork takes the form of a wishing well inscribed with the words IMAGINE PEACE in 24 languages. From this well rises a tower of light made from multiple beams that merge into a single column reaching toward the sky.**

Six of the lights travel through channels around the well and are reflected upward by mirrors. The surrounding platform is faced with three types of native Icelandic stone. The concept for the IMAGINE PEACE TOWER originates from Ono's 1965 artwork LIGHT HOUSE, a vision of a structure made entirely of light.

"The light house is a phantom house that is built by sheer light. You set up prisms and at a certain time of day, under a certain evening light which goes through the prisms, the light house appears in the middle of the field like an image, except that, with this image, you can actually go inside if you wanted to. The light house may not emerge every day, just as the sun doesn't shine every day." — Yoko Ono, 1967

The IMAGINE PEACE TOWER **was dedicated on October 9, 2007, in memory of John Lennon on what would have been his 67th birthday. Each year, the tower is illuminated nightly from October 9 through January 1. The light is powered entirely by renewable geothermal energy supplied by Reykjavik Energy.**

The creation of the IMAGINE PEACE TOWER was a collaboration among Yoko Ono, the City of Reykjavik, the Reykjavik Art Museum, and Reykjavik Energy.

"A dream you dream alone is only a dream.
A dream you dream together is reality."
— Yoko Ono

"Imagine all the people living life in peace."
– John Lennon



Photo — Miguel Angel Valero

Yoko Ono's interactive artwork WISH TREE (1996) has been integral to many of her exhibitions around the world in museums and cultural centers where people have been invited to write their personal wishes for peace and tie them to a tree branch.

Yoko continues to collect all the wishes from her Wish Trees from all over the world – currently totaling over a million. They are preserved and their messages continue on in the Wishing Well of IMAGINE PEACE TOWER – to send their power out the world and to the Universe.

평화를 꿈꾸자 | ILARAWAN ANG MUNDONG MAPAYAPA | رویای صلح | BARIŞI DÜŞLE | IMMAGINA LA PACE | חלום שלום | IMAGINA LA PAZ | IMAGINEZ LA PAIX | TUFIKIRIENI AMANI | ПРЕДСТАВЬТЕ СЕБЕ МИР | शान्ति की कल्पना करें | STELL DIR VOR ES IST FRIEDEN