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# GLOBAL CHORUS

365 VOICES ON THE FUTURE OF THE PLANET

*Featuring words by* JANE GOODALL, NELSON MANDELA,  
DAVID SUZUKI, ARCHBISHOP DESMOND TUTU, STEPHEN HAWKING,  
MAYA ANGELOU, THE DALAI LAMA *and hundreds more*

EDITED BY  
TODD E. MACLEAN

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NOVEMBER 5

## RICARDO ROZZI AND FRANCISCA MASSARDO

At the southern end of the Americas, a group of artists, philosophers, scientists, members of the Yahgan indigenous community, teachers, students, naval officers and government authorities created the Omora Ethnobotanical Park, and developed a methodological approach – Field Environmental Philosophy (FEP) – to integrate ecological sciences and ethics.

One of FEP's applications is "Ecotourism with a Hand-Lens," which has invited researchers, decision-makers and the general public to appreciate the aesthetic, economic, ecological and ethical values of the Miniature Forests of Cape Horn, a metaphoric expression to highlight the biodiversity hotspot of lichens, mosses and other bryophytes found in southwestern South America.

For global society, "Ecotourism with a Hand-Lens" not only amplifies the view of mosses and other small organisms, but it also offers a lens that broadens our mental, perceptual and affective images about Nature and our relationships with Nature. Science teaches us that mosses, humans

and all living beings share the common vital pulse of cellular respiration, growth and reproduction. If the southern "biocultural ethical hand-lens" could help global society to listen to the breathing of the mosses, to the calls of the birds, to the waves of the oceans, and to the many human languages that perceive the mosses, the birds, the oceans and other beings understood and respected as co-inhabitants – as sisters and brothers, rather than as mere natural resources; if global society could recover the capacity to listen to the multiple human and non-human voices of the community of co-inhabitants with whom we share our daily lives, at local or distant habitats, then hope would be present with us in a global chorus. Individual self-absorption will be understood as an idiocy that needs to be corrected.

A biocultural ethic will promote an integral life and a harmonic co-inhabitation that requires listening, respecting and understanding the beauty, the truth and the value of each of the human and the other-than-human voices of the life chorus.



Photo by Adam M. Wilson

– Ricardo Rozzi, PhD,  
philosopher, ecologist, professor,  
director of the Sub-Antarctic Biocultural Conservation Program in the Institute of Ecology and Biodiversity  
at University of Magallanes (Chile) and University of North Texas (USA)

– Francisca Massardo, PhD,  
plant physiologist, conservation biologist, professor,  
director of the Institute of Ecology and Biodiversity at University of Magallanes,  
director of Omora Ethnobotanical Park (Chile)



NOVEMBER 6

## ZACK METCALFE

I have to believe we will succeed in saving ourselves. As a young man in a struggling world, I have everything to lose by succumbing to apathy or despair. I have yet to find my place in life, to fall in love, to become a father or to change my own corner of the world for the better. As my grandfather likes to say: “Whether you think you can, or you think you can’t, you’re probably right.”

I believe the solutions to our problems are subtle. It isn’t necessarily about driving electric cars and shutting down coal plants. These are only signs of the cure, not the cure itself.

First, we need to put a greater emphasis on scientific literacy in the public. People need a healthy understanding of how the world works, through science. This makes them resistant to the pseudo-science, anti-science, junk science (take your pick) that plagues the world today, making people question whether or not climate change even exists! When we see through the clouds of nonsense to the real, frightening and approaching truth, it will be a resounding call to arms.

Second, we need to expand our borders of empathy, not only to one another but to the natural world and the animals we share it with. We need to acknowledge their right to land, their right to water, their right to exist and their right to prosper.

With these broad changes in place, we will stop robbing the oceans of fish faster than they can repopulate. We will fall short of deforestation, for fear of ruining the land for ourselves and our animal cousins. Profit margins from multinationals will mean nothing when compared to the free services offered by the natural world, and to the affection we rightfully have for it. There are a thousand solutions to every problem you could pose, environmental and social. We need the knowledge to see those solutions, make sound decisions on a global scale and have a moral compass to guide our steps.

Can we do it? Yes.

Do I have hope? I have no other choice.

– Zack Metcalfe,  
author, journalist