

FRED DALLMAYR

MARC CHAGALL

The Artist as Peacemaker





Chagall window in All Saints Church, Kent, UK, Tudeley, England.

Source: Getty Images



Taylor & Francis

Taylor & Francis Group

<http://taylorandfrancis.com>

MARC CHAGALL

This book follows Chagall's life through his art and his understanding of the role of the artist as a political being. It takes the reader through the different milieus of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries – including the World Wars and the Holocaust – to present a unique understanding of Chagall's artistic vision of peace in an age of extremes. At a time when all identities are being subsumed into a “national” identity, this book makes the case for a larger understanding of art as a way of transcending materiality. The volume explores how Platonic notions of truth, goodness, and beauty are linked and mutually illuminating in Chagall's work. A “spiritual-humanist” interpretation of his life and work renders Chagall's opus more transparent and accessible to the general reader.

It will be essential reading for students of art and art history, political philosophy, political science, and peace studies.

Fred Dallmayr is an American philosopher and political theorist. He is Packey J. Dee Professor Emeritus in Political Science with a joint appointment in Philosophy at the University of Notre Dame, USA. He holds a Doctorate of Law from the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Germany, and a PhD in Political Science from Duke University, USA. He has served as President of the Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy (SACP); as an advisory member of the Scientific Committee of RESET – Dialogue on Civilizations (Rome); as the Executive Co-Chair of World Public Forum – Dialogue of Civilizations (Vienna); and as a member of the Supervisory Board of the Dialogue of Civilizations Research Institute (Berlin).

A few of his major publications include *Between Freiburg and Frankfurt: Toward a Critical Ontology* (1991); *The Other Heidegger* (1993); *Beyond Orientalism: Essays on Cross-Cultural Encounter* (1996; Japanese translation 2001); *Alternative Visions: Paths in the Global Village* (1998; Farsi translation 2005); *Peace Talks – Who Will Listen?* (2004); *Small Wonder: Global Power and Its Discontents* (2005); *In Search of the Good Life: A Pedagogy for Troubled Times* (2007); *Being in the World: Dialogue and Cosmopolis* (2013); *Freedom and Solidarity: Toward New Beginnings* (2015); and *Post-Liberalism: Recovering a Shared World* (2019).

PEACEMAKERS
Series Editor: Ramin Jahanbegloo

Executive Director of the Mahatma Gandhi Centre for Nonviolence and Peace Studies and the Vice-Dean of the School of Law at Jindal Global University, India

Peace is one of the central concepts in the spiritual and political life of humanity. Peace does not imply the absence of war. It implies harmony, justice and empathy. Empathy is the key to education of peace in our world. In other words, despite the vast differences of values between cultures and traditions, it is still possible to grasp an understanding of one another, by 'empathy'. Throughout centuries, peacemakers have endorsed a 'shared human horizon' which according to them had the critical force of avoiding moral anarchy and relativism while acknowledging the plurality of modes of being human.

Today in a different manner and in a changed tone, but with the same moral courage and dissenting voice, this series on 'Peacemakers' offers the first comprehensive engagement with the problems of peace in our age, through a meticulous and thorough study of the lives and thoughts of peacemakers of all ages.

WITTGENSTEIN AND THE NATURE OF VIOLENCE
R. Krishnaswamy

MARC CHAGALL: THE ARTIST AS PEACEMAKER
Fred Dallmayr

For more information, please visit: www.routledge.com/Peacemakers/book-series/PCMK

MARC CHAGALL

The Artist as Peacemaker

Fred Dallmayr



Routledge
Taylor & Francis Group

LONDON AND NEW YORK

First published 2021
by Routledge
2 Park Square, Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4RN
and by Routledge
52 Vanderbilt Avenue, New York, NY 10017

*Routledge is an imprint of the Taylor & Francis Group, an informa
business*

© 2021 Fred Dallmayr

The right of Fred Dallmayr to be identified as author of this work has
been asserted by him in accordance with sections 77 and 78 of the
Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reprinted or
reproduced or utilised in any form or by any electronic, mechanical, or
other means, now known or hereafter invented, including photocopying
and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system,
without permission in writing from the publishers.

Trademark notice: Product or corporate names may be trademarks
or registered trademarks, and are used only for identification and
explanation without intent to infringe.

British Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

A catalog record for this book has been requested

ISBN: 978-0-367-47966-4 (hbk)

ISBN: 978-0-367-50677-3 (pbk)

ISBN: 978-1-003-05075-9 (ebk)

Typeset in Sabon
by Apex CoVantage, LLC

CONTENTS

<i>Series editor's preface by Ramin Jahanbegloo</i>	ix
<i>Preface</i>	xi
1 The story of a life	1
1. <i>Life in Vitebsk</i>	1
2. <i>St. Petersburg and Paris</i>	7
3. <i>Return to Russia and Belarus</i>	12
4. <i>In Paris to World War II</i>	16
5. <i>New York during World War II</i>	20
6. <i>Late life: other art forms and large works</i>	24
7. <i>Stained glass windows</i>	24
2 The artist as friend and peacemaker	30
8. <i>Who was Chagall?</i>	30
9. <i>The "Jewish" Chagall</i>	32
10. <i>Ethnic labeling</i>	33
11. <i>Wandering in multiple places</i>	37
12. <i>The artist as a friend and companion</i>	39
13. <i>The artist as a post-secular seeker</i>	42
14. <i>The painter as peacemaker</i>	45

CONTENTS

3	Appendices: texts by Chagall	50
15.	Artists and Jewish artists (<i>April 1939</i>)	50
16.	To my city Vitebsk (<i>February 1944</i>)	52
17.	The end of the War (<i>May 1945</i>)	53
18.	To Israel: on my exhibition in Tel Aviv (<i>July 1951</i>)	56
19.	Art and life: lecture delivered at The University of Chicago (<i>March 1958</i>)	58
20.	Erasmus Prize; response (<i>1960</i>)	61
21.	A crisis of color (<i>May 1963</i>)	62
22.	The tapestries in the Knesset in Jerusalem; speech at the unveiling (<i>August 1969</i>)	63
	<i>Index</i>	66