

Janet Perry  
c/o Salzburg Festival  
Salzburg,  
Austria

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Concerning Residence Permit Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh

As an American citizen abroad, I am often called upon to describe, explain and discuss my country's essence, its policies and qualities. Being a well known artist of the operatic stage and performing in all the major European opera houses and festival places me in a position to express important things to a large public. Just to give you an example at what level I work, I am presently singing a major role at the Salzburg Festival with Herbert von Karajan, Pavarotti, James Levine etc. and was recently personal guest of the American Ambassador in Paris after one of my opera performances.

During the last few years I have had some contacts with the Rajneesh communes, and I must say, although I am not a member, that his methods of meditation have positively influenced my personality, my art and my career. In my opinion Rajneesh is a very important philosophical and religious leader.

That the United States should not welcome such a personality with open arms is inconceivable to me. The U.S. is what it is because of all the strong mixtures of races, creeds and ideas. This tolerance, which is also built into our constitution, is what makes our country unique. You who live in the U.S. do not realize how Europeans admire the freedom and generosity of thought that the Americans may exercise and incidentally, in contrast to a certain other world power !

Rajneesh definitely brings an enrichment for our culture. He is introducing a type of spirituality which is very ancient, but little known to our western thought. The results are tremendous energy and vitality.

In addition to his philosophical amplitude, he is a realist in the best sense of the word, building his community according to the newest scientific and ecological discoveries. This has made a great impression on many Europeans.

It would be a great mistake, an unforgivable lack of insight to expulse this man, also from the political standpoint. I ask you to reconsider his case with intelligence, diplomacy, and fairness.

sincerely yours

Janet Perry

