

1/101 Lee Street
Carlton North
Victoria
Australia

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to support the application by Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh for permanent residence in the USA, as a man of outstanding achievement in art and science.

My career as an art educator, researcher and dealer has always been a part of my search for truth and understanding of human beings, and the spiritual and material worlds that surround us. By entering the personal vision that a great artist seeks to express in his or her work we share in their creative processes, and extend and enrich ourselves.

My search for a spiritual teacher has been an integral part of my life since adolescence, and has taken me through many fields of scholarship and worship - through personal studies of philosophers such as Jean-Paul Sartre and Bertrand Russell, for example, and to many different Christian Churches in Australia and the U.K.

From my first encounter with Bhagwan's teaching, his daily discourses on his vision of existence and our place in it I was deeply touched by the synthesis of spiritual wisdom and profound practicality which he expounds. His writings and his spoken words combine the beauty of a great mystic poet with the inspired understanding of a unique and highly creative psychologist: these are the only ~~words~~ words I can find

to express my understanding of an enlightened master - a phenomenon for which in the west we have few religious or cultural precedents. For me, the clarity and breadth of Bhagwan's vision has enriched my own understanding of myself and my fellow-man, and his clarity has, for me, the same quality as that of a great artist, expressing his vision of the world. My experience of Bhagwan has given my whole life a new and very beautiful direction, growing in love and harmony in my daily life through contact with his sanyassin and by living in his presence, in his commune.

For me, it is a great gift that Bhagwan should be available to the people of the world through his presence in the U.S.A. Bhagwan's message is that a new kind of man is needed; sensitive, aware, meditative, conscious of the potential we all have to transcend the ugliness, violence and greed that colour so much of contemporary society. Only America, with its written constitutional guarantees of religious freedom and freedom of speech, and its economic, educational and social frameworks which allow freedom to build the kind of community Bhagwan envisions around him, can provide an environment where Bhagwan's message can be translated into a reality. Other countries of the west and of the developing world look to America for inspiration. Your generous hospitality to visitors from all over the world means that people can come for themselves for a while to see this phase of Bhagwan's work as it is growing around him in Rajneeshpuram, Oregon. Here, in the presence of Bhagwan, in his silence in satsang, we from other countries can freely come and go, experiencing, while we are here, life in a community which reflects Bhagwan's vision of existence: human beings living together in harmony with each other and with the environment,

using the practical tools of technology and psychology
in effective and creative ways, in a climate of love
and meditation which gives us all a place in which
we become spiritually nourished, healed and enriched

Yours sincerely
Ma Sagarpriya.

Curriculum Vitae

Sian Woolston / Ma Sagarpriya.

Educated at private girls schools, Australia.

- 1972 Graduated B.A. University of Melbourne, reading Fine Art, English and History, and with a Secondary Schools (High Schools) teaching diploma.
- 1973-4 Teaching English to senior high school students, Victoria Education Department.
- 1975-77 Member of the education unit, National Gallery of Victoria, Australia.
- 1977 Co-ordinator of the education unit, National Gallery of Victoria, Australia.
- 1978-83 Associate of Robert Downma Ltd, international dealers of antiquarian books and prints, based in London.
- 1979-83 Australian director and company secretary of Robert Downma Pty. Ltd., gallery in Melbourne, Australia.
1979. Post-graduate studies at University of Melbourne in Early Christian and Medieval Art under Professor Margaret Manion.