



Genesis of Poster Art: Comments by Roger Mello

Animals and people from all continents are inspired by the music of words as I was inspired by the music, the rhythm, and the beat in Margarita Engle’s poetic words.

A unique beat is the pulse of diversity, the beat of literature and of the arts that helps children all over the world to find in their thoughts the voice of the “other” – the voice of the world.

IBBY – with its dedication to the rights of children, their rights as readers and the rights to good literature – has always been in my heart and soul as the possibility of a harmonious polyphony. IBBY’s International Children’s Book Day provides a unique and meaningful way each year to celebrate this chorus of children worldwide.

Children are diverse, poetic and philosophical; just listen to their poetry, just listen to the beat.

In Margarita’s words: heartbeat, hoofbeats, and wingbeats.

I was trying to draw that borderless sound in the art of this poster. Music, words, images – as borderless as the soul of IBBY!



A MÚSICA DAS PALAVRAS Por Margarita Engle

Quando lemos, nossas mentes criam asa.
Quando escrevemos, nossos dedos cantam.

Palavras são toques de tambor e flautas na página,
Cantos de aves em voo e elefantes trombeteiros,
rios que correm, cachoeiras saltando,
borboletas num rodopio
alto no céu!

Palavras nos convidam a dançar ---
ritmos, rimas, batidas do coração,
Batidas de cascos e batidas de asa,
contos antigos e novos,
fantásticos ou reais.

Quer no aconchego de casa
ou correndo através de fronteiras, a uma nova terra
e uma língua estranha, histórias e poemas
pertencem a você.

Quando dividimos palavras, nossas vozes
se tornam a música do futuro,
paz, alegria e amizade,
uma melodia
de esperança.

LA MUSIQUE DES MOTS Écrit par Margarita Engle

Quand nous lisons, nos esprits prennent leur envol,
Quand nous écrivons, nos doigts chantent.
Les mots sont battements de tambour et flûtes sur
la page
oiseaux chanteurs s’élançant et éléphants
trompetant,
rivières qui coulent, cascades qui chutent,
papillons qui virevoltent
haut dans le ciel !

Les mots nous invitent à danser --- rythmes, rimes,
battements de cœur,
battements de sabots, battements d’ailes, contes
anciens et nouveaux,
fantaisies et contes vrais.

Que tu sois confortablement installé à la maison
ou t’élançant à travers les frontières vers une
nouvelle terre
et une langue étrange, histoires et poèmes
t’appartiennent.

Lorsque nous partageons des mots, nos voix
deviennent la musique du futur,
paix, joie et amitié,
une mélodie
d’espoir.



THE MUSIC OF WORDS Written by Margarita Engle

When we read, our minds grow wings.
When we write, our fingers sing.

Words are drumbeats and flutes on the page,
soaring songbirds and trumpeting elephants,
rivers that flow, waterfalls tumbling,
butterflies that twirl
high in the sky!

Words invite us to dance---
rhythms, rhymes, heartbeats,
hoofbeats, and wingbeats, old tales and new ones,
fantasies and true ones.

Whether you are cozy at home
or racing across borders toward a new land
and a strange language, stories and poems
belong to you.

When we share words, our voices
become the music of the future,
peace, joy and friendship,
a melody
of hope.

LA MÚSICA DE LAS PALABRAS Escrito por Margarita Engle

Cuando leemos, a nuestra mente le crecen alas.
Cuando escribimos, nuestros dedos cantan.

Las palabras son tambores y flautas en la página,
pájaros cantores que alzan el vuelo y elefantes
que trompetean,
ríos que fluyen, cascadas que caen,
mariposas que revolotean
¡en lo alto del cielo!

Las palabras nos invitan a bailar: ritmos,
rimas, latidos del corazón,
ruido de cascos y aleteos,
fábulas antiguas y nuevas,
ficticias y reales.

No importa si estás cómodamente en casa
o cruzando la frontera hacia un nuevo país
y un idioma desconocido, los cuentos y poemas
son tuyos.

Cuando compartimos las palabras, nuestras voces
se transforman en la música del futuro,
en paz, alegría y amistad,
una melodía de esperanza.

DIE MUSIK DER WORTE von Margarita Engle Translation von Claudia Soffner

Wenn wir lesen, wachsen unserer Seele Flügel.
Wenn wir schreiben, singen unsere Finger.

Worte sind Trommelschläge und Flöten auf Papier,
trillernde Vögel und trompetende Elefanten,
strudelnde Ströme, wirbelnde Wasserfälle,
kreiselnde Schmetterlinge
hoch oben am Himmel!

Worte laden uns zum Tanzen ein – Rhythmen,
Reime, Herzklopfen,
Huftrappeln und Flügelflattern, alte Geschichten
und neue,
erfundene und erlebte.

Ob Du gemütlich zu Hause sitzt
oder über Grenzen hinweg eilst, neuen Ländern
und fremden Sprachen entgegen, Geschichten und
Gedichte
sind immer bei Dir.

Wenn wir Worte mit anderen teilen, verwandeln sich
unsere Stimmen
in die Musik der Zukunft,
in Friede, Glück und Freundschaft,
in eine Melodie
der Hoffnung.



The Music of Words: Comments by Margarita Engle

For me, peacemaking words are personal. I come from a complicated family of refugees, immigrants, and people who have decided to stay wherever they were born. I choose to love them all equally. Poetry and stories help me feel hopeful. Rhymes, rhythms, and even the open spaces between words on a page create echoes in my mind, like the beautiful sounds you hear for a long time after ringing a bell. Language is music. It flows in a way that is both natural and human. When we share our stories and poems, our minds grow wings, fly, and meet in midair. We begin to understand each other. We become neighbors instead of strangers.

