



IWASHERE

Bridging Worlds - one song at a time

Volume 1

BROTHERS

A dedication to Paul Howard and Jay Coates

Paul Howard

Richland in Washington State.

or about 20 years ago this man found Martines music online. The music touched him and he decided to write her telling what he felt about the music. The summer of 2013 Martine and her Band was going to headline a festival in Eugene (WA), and he invited Martine and Nils Jørgen to come one week ahead to join him on the annual "Tamkaliks Celebration", a friendship celebration and a place of reunion for descendants of the original inhabitants of Waláwa, the Wallowa country. At this gathering participants enjoy three days of song and dance, culminating in a walasit service and a Friendship feast. Martine and Nils Jørgen met Paul for the very first time and had an unforgettable time at Tamkaliks. On this trip they also met Jay and Fred for the very first time.



Two decades later, Paul is a precious extended family member and also much of the reason behind the Family Krafts collaboration with the Native American people.

Paul is an artistic soul with an openness and love for life and creativity. Here is how Paul tells about his first meeting with the Native people;

"Many people over the years have asked about my friendships with Native American people and Martine Kraft. About '94, my son Chris and myself were invited to a council meeting on The Umatilla reservation, where Taz Conner (descendant of Old Chief Joseph) invited us to come to their Tamkaliks Friendship Celebration at Wallowa Oregon, where the Nez Perce had been run out by General O.O. Howard, with many being killed. Although apprehensive at first, their hospitality soon developed into friendships. Years later, in mentioning to Martine via internet, that my lady and I were going to Tamkaliks Celebration, Martine said that had always been her dream. In working the details with the producers of the huge Faerieworlds festival, where Martine Kraft would headline, she asked that air fare be purchased early so they could attend Tamkaliks. This began the many friendships and collaborations, like with Fred Hill and Acosia Red Elk, leading to the Iwashere - Bridging Worlds One Song at a Time. Respect, friendship and music has been instrumental."

Jay Coates

Valley in Spokane, Washington State.

A cowboy to his inner bone and with a heart of light. This man has travelled up and down dusty roads further than the wildest horse, and is a horse man, a blacksmith and a hand crafter with an impressive and passionate artistic precision.

Jay is the creator behind the very first thought of the name "Bridging Worlds - one song at a time". He discovered

Martine's music through his friend Paul Howard in 2005, and brought the music further to another friend, an elder Lakota Chief, Marlene Locke, in the Pine Ridge Reservation. This resulted in Martine receiving an invitation to the homeland of the Great Sioux Nation, followed with a wish that she could contribute telling their story through art and music. 15 years later, after many travels, meetings and friendships within several Native American Nations, IWASHERE releases their first album, with ten compositions dedicated to Marlene, her people and other inspiring people that has been a huge part of their travels in the Native American worlds.

Thank you Jay for all those early mornings and late nights around the fire, for all the new friendship you facilitate, for guarding the sweats, for endless hours of storytelling and for never giving up. You truly carry a rare gift of bringing the life of histories further.



BROTHERS



Music: Martine Kraft
Arrangements and productions:
Sven Andréen og Nils Jørgen Nygaard Kraft

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