

# The American System or Fascism: A Celebration on the 200th Anniversary Of the Death of Friedrich Schiller

With this special double issue of *Fidelio*, we celebrate the living memory of the great *Poet of Freedom*, Friedrich Schiller, on the 200th anniversary of his death. We have designed this issue to provide “the young friend of truth and beauty” with a collection of articles about Schiller that will whet his or her appetite to nourish their souls further, by re-experiencing the beauty and truthfulness of Schiller’s poetry, drama, historical, and aesthetical writings.

Two hundred years after Schiller’s death, the world as a whole has reached a *punctum saliens*. As in a drama composed by Schiller himself, the action has reached a critical “jumping-off point.” Whatever decision is made at this moment, will determine the future development of the world. The choice, as Schiller presented it metaphorically in such writings as *Don Carlos* and the “Legislation of Lycurgus and Solon,” is between the American System and fascism.

On May 23, the U.S. Senate acted under the influence of Lyndon LaRouche, to thwart an attempted *coup d’état* by the Bush Administration, by defeating Vice President Cheney’s attempt to change the rules of the Senate so as to outlaw use of the filibuster against judicial nominations. Had Cheney succeeded in preventing the Senate from exercising its Constitutional responsibilities to provide advice and consent, nothing would have been able to stop the Bush Administration in its drive to eliminate the legacy of President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s commitment to promoting the General Welfare. Nothing would have stood in the way of the launching of more unjustified wars, according to the Cheney doctrine of preemptive *nuclear* warfare.

This victory in the U.S., which was designed by LaRouche, has opened the door to worldwide

collaboration for the convening of an international conference to create a New Bretton Woods monetary system, to reverse the collapse of real physical production which has proceeded in an accelerating fashion globally since George Pratt Shultz convinced President Richard Nixon to abandon Roosevelt’s original Bretton Woods system on Aug. 15, 1971.

On April 6, the Italian Parliament passed a resolution calling for such a conference, and this issue of *Fidelio* contains a call issued by Schiller Institute founder Helga Zepp LaRouche, which is being

circulated internationally in support of this effort.

In his poem “The Artists,” Schiller writes:

The dignity of Man into your hands is given,  
Its keeper be!  
It sinks with you! With you it will be risen!

It is with this sense of personal moral responsibility for all mankind, past, present and future, that we must act now.

Forty years ago, Amelia Boynton Robinson, now vice chairwoman of the Schiller Institute in the United States, was beaten unconscious as she and others began to march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama, towards the state capital of Montgomery. She and her husband, S.W. Boynton, had fought for years in rural Alabama to register Black Americans to vote. Amelia and Bill Boynton, who were both honored in Selma this past March, are examples of what Schiller had in mind when he wrote the above-cited lines from “The Artists.”

We hope that our celebration of Schiller in this issue of *Fidelio* will inspire the LaRouche Youth Movement to follow in the footsteps of Lyndon and Helga LaRouche and the Boyntons. Our celebration consists of the following items:

## EDITORIAL

- “What Is, and To What End Do We Study, Friedrich Schiller in the Year 2005?” by Helga Zepp LaRouche
  - A translation and commentary on Friedrich Schiller’s “The Song of the Bell” by Marianna Wertz, the late vice president of the Schiller Institute in the United States
  - “Schiller’s Thought-Poetry: ‘The Artists,’” by Helga Zepp LaRouche, accompanied by a translation by Marianna Wertz
  - A brief biography in letters and reminiscences, entitled “Friedrich Schiller and His Friends,” by William Jones, and
  - “A Reader’s Guide to Schiller’s *Letters on the Aesthetical Education of Man*,” by William F. Wertz, Jr., president of the Schiller Institute in the United States.

If you apply yourself to studying these articles as an introduction to Schiller’s writings, you will receive the greatest gift imaginable. You will gain access to the capacity to develop within yourself and others, what Schiller refers to as an “aesthetical state of mind.” In such a state of mind, as Schiller writes in his *Aesthetical Letters*, our humanity is recreated by beauty. It is for this reason that Schiller says that beauty is our “second creator.” Beauty makes it possible for us to be fully human. As Schiller writes: “Man plays only where he in the full meaning of the word is man, and he is only there fully man, where he plays.”

In his essay, “Science: The Power To Prosper,” Lyndon LaRouche elaborates on the science that underlies man’s capacity, through the power of creative play—or as the Russian scientist V.I. Vernadsky calls it, the realm of the *Noösphere*—to transform the physical universe, so as to increase the potential relative population density of the human species. This is the power which must now be unleashed, if mankind is to have any hope of

## Hope

All people discuss it and dream on end  
Of better days that are coming,  
After a golden and prosperous end  
They are seen chasing and running;  
The world grows old and grows young in turn,  
Yet doth man for betterment hope eterne.

’Tis hope delivers him into life,  
Round the frolicsome boy doth it flutter,  
The youth is allur’d by its magic rife,  
It will not be interr’d with the elder;  
Though i’th’ coffin he ends his weary lope,  
Yet upon that coffin he plants—his hope.

It is no empty, fawning deceit,  
Begot in the brain of a jester,  
Proclaim’d aloud in the heart is it:  
We are born for that which is better!  
And what the innermost voice conveys,  
The hoping spirit ne’er that betrays.

—Friedrich Schiller

reversing the systemic collapse of physical production brought on by the onrushing breakdown-crisis of the today’s Anglo-Dutch floating-exchange-rate monetary system.

This issue of *Fidelio* ends with two additional items: a memorial to, and interview with, the late Norbert Brainin, founder and *primarius* of the legendary Amadeus Quartet; and a review by Lyndon LaRouche of Pope John Paul II’s last book, *Memory and Identity*. We wish to leave the reader with the words with which Lyndon LaRouche concludes that review:

“There is a power in the universe, which the creative powers of the individual human mind can know. I have devoted most of my life to discovering such powers, and that with at least sufficient success to prove the point. Those who have the courage to recognize that power, and employ its instruction, express thus the continuity of the worthy institutions which mortal men and women inhabit. To become such a person within society, is the nature of what Leibniz identified as ‘the pursuit of happiness,’ the principle upon which the U.S. republic was founded. When men and women devoted to the work of such leadership pass, the survivors mourn. That mourning of such great men and women of institutions can be, in itself, a creative act by those who must then mourn; let it be so now.”