

(Horse-Human Relationship Program, cont. from page 2)

Online Program Elements

A new Horse-Human Relationship Program **Blog** is being launched as this newsletter goes to press. Its first entries include an article that details the scientific evidence *against* the idea that humans and horses primarily relate as predators and their prey, and an essay about alternative views of relationship that focus on what horses and humans share in common. Future blog entries will continue to explore the relationship between horses and humans within Indigenous, Earth-based worldview. We are also developing a **distance education component** that can reach people who are not located in the northern New Mexico area. Through the use of articles, videos, and more, people will be able to learn how to connect with their horses in ways they have thought about but not known how to actualize.

Horse-Human Relationship Consortium

Finally, invitations are going out to select horse professionals and others who relate to horses in the spirit of kinship, to come together as founding members of a new Horse-Human Relationship Consortium. This Consortium will pursue our understanding of the horse-human relationship in focused ways, finding out how to better help horses and humans have the kind of relationship we all want and deserve.

This is a good place to acknowledge those who helped develop the progenitor of Tapestry's Horse-Human Relationship program back in 2001, our original "Trailmaster" Program, and those whose support since has kept the program alive. They include clinician and author Mark Rashid, actor and artist Pierce Brosnan and his wife Keely Shaye Smith, Chickasaw author and Tapestry Board Member Linda Hogan, clinicians Ray and Carolyn Hunt, and (more recently) Northern Cheyenne trainer and clinician Phillip Whiteman, Jr. We were tremendously saddened to learn of Ray Hunt's passing last week, at the age of 79, and will miss him desperately in our Program. More than ever, we must all work to keep alive the vision of horse-human relationship that Ray, and Tom and Bill Dorrance before him, articulated and taught so well. As they would have said, "We need to do it for the horses."

Carol's "Art" This Quarter . . .

. . . is almost, but not quite, art history. While we've all come to expect to see her latest digital collage in the quarterly newsletter, Carol's work has begun to take her in directions that tap her knowledge and expertise in world religions as well as art. In short, she's doing research and will eventually begin to produce articles and books that explain it all. We got her to share a brief glimpse into what she's doing, though, and here it is. We think you'll find it as fascinating as we do. Carol writes:



Keep reading to learn about the hidden levels of Rome's churches.

"In the months since the midwinter, I have been exploring remnants of early Mediterranean cultures. As an experiment in using art as a way of knowing, I study sculpture, painting, architecture, ceramics—whatever I can find in high-resolution photographs. Each thing comes to me as a human creation from an ancient land. I choose to know only a minimal context for each piece—a century, a culture, a place. I seek to learn whatever I can from the hands and hearts of the creators themselves, without historical valuations distorting my vision. As I discover more art from particular times and places, commonalities appear, and I begin to get a feel for a culture's visual language. The path lies open from there.

Ok, that was the introduction—now you have some idea why I'm about to talk about ancient Rome!

I forget sometimes, living in the United States, how very old some urban areas are. Our cities are mostly built on cleared earth. When a building outlives its usefulness we demolish it and clear it away. Of course there are exceptions, like the under-city in Seattle, where one city has been built upon the ruins of another, but overall, we are a fresh-start kind of people. Not so the city of Rome. We've all grown up on images of ancient Roman ruins excavated and preserved for posterity; but if you're like me, you never thought much about what buried them originally.

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In Memoriam: Ray Hunt

August 31, 1929 - March 12, 2009

"A horse will tell you what he understands and what he thinks about it. He's telling you all the time, but you just don't see it, you're just not willing to go that far in his direction. That's okay, but you're not going to get too much back. To have a willing communication with a horse, you'll find that first, you have to develop awareness and discipline within yourself so that you can have it with your horse later."— Ray Hunt

The horseworld lost a great horseman on March 12, 2009, with the passing of Ray Hunt. Hunt was one of a handful of horsepeople in modern culture who understand that our relationship with a horse must be one of partnership. He worked with riders to help them understand the horse from the horse's point of view. His 1991 book, "Think Harmony with Horses," worked to teach people how to achieve this point of view and, as the title states, how to have a harmonious relationship with horses. While he didn't seek it out, he earned recognition for his work with the Top Hand Award, his induction in to the California Reined Cow Horse Hall of Fame in 2004 and being named the first Western Horseman of the Year in 2005. Hunt was a part of our original Horse-Human Relationship Program planning team, and he expressed support for the work we do reconnecting people and their horses. He was a much-sought-after clinician and will be sorely missed by both humans and horses alike. Our condolences go out to his family and friends during this time of grieving.

