

THE RESURGENCE TRUST

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## Did the Sixties really change the world?

**In celebration of the 300<sup>th</sup> issue of *Resurgence* and the culmination of its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year – the magazine looks back to the explosive era of its emergence, '66 - '70, and selects the defining revolutionary songs of the times**

Having started life in London in May '66 at the height of the revolutionary fervour of the late Sixties, [Resurgence](#) (titled *Resurgence & Ecologist* since 2012) – the UK's longest standing green magazine - now ends its landmark 50<sup>th</sup> birthday year with a 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary issue.

In celebration of *Resurgence's* 300<sup>th</sup> issue (published 20th December) – which aptly coincides with the current [You Say You Want a Revolution? Records and Rebels 1966-1970](#) exhibition at London's Victoria & Albert Museum - the staff at *Resurgence & Ecologist* have compiled their 'Top 20 Songs that Changed the World' from the turbulent late Sixties era which is available on the magazine's website ([www.resurgence.org/revolution](http://www.resurgence.org/revolution)).

The V&A exhibition focuses on late Sixties' pop culture and the wider perspectives which, like *Resurgence*, it gave voice to - such as the struggles for human and civil rights, a burgeoning interest in Eastern and other forms of spirituality, the development of environmentalism and feminism, and concerns about the impact of consumerism, to name a few.

Greg Neale, Editor-in-Chief of *Resurgence & Ecologist*, whose article about the flagship V&A exhibition for the 300<sup>th</sup> issue of the magazine, considers the influence of Sixties' counter-culture as a stimulus for lasting change, says:

"The *You Say You Want a Revolution?* exhibition provokes the question, 'did the Sixties really change the world?' While much of the work considered in the exhibition proved to be ephemeral, the explosion of creativity from the era is undeniable, as is the rising influence of the Green Movement which *Resurgence* pioneered. The emergent back-to-the-land ideas of self-sufficiency, return to Nature, and new technologies that focused on the Earth's fragility were to become the most far-reaching of the era."

Greg Neale continues:

"To celebrate our 300<sup>th</sup> issue of *Resurgence*, we've compiled our 'top songs from the era which changed the world'. Many of today's prevailing ideas about the environment, social justice, wellbeing and peace, as continuously featured in *Resurgence*, were fuelled by the legendary songs of this period – from The Beatles' *Revolution* and Lennon and Yoko's *Give Peace a Chance* to Joni Mitchell's *Big Yellow Taxi* and James Brown's *I'm Black and I'm Proud*. Our list includes protest, civil rights and anti-war songs, as well as tracks that powerfully evoke the emotional and revolutionary spirit of the times. We invite you to share your feedback on our song choices on the Resurgence Trust [Facebook](#) page, and we'd love to hear which songs you think most changed the world."

The milestone 300th issue of *Resurgence* comes in a year of milestones for the magazine, including: its 50<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations in London in May; touring with veteran rocker Neil Young in June to help spread his environmental message; Satish Kumar's stepping down as editor-in-chief of the magazine after his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in August; and Satish's 50-mile 'Ode to Gaia' pilgrimage to Oxford in September. Yet the most significant milestone – which represents a major milestone for the whole 50-year period, from '66 till present – was the 'One Earth, One Humanity, One Future' festival in Oxford in late September, which united the world's Green and Social Justice Movements to celebrate *Resurgence's* 50 years at the forefront of environmental change, and to share ideas for building a more sustainable, healthy and harmonious future.

Paul McCartney says: "Happy 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary *Resurgence!* My family and I have been involved in animal welfare and vegetarianism for many years and would like to congratulate you for the good work you do for the planet and the creatures who live in it. Best wishes for the future."

The pinnacle of *Resurgence's* 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, the 300<sup>th</sup> issue now flies the flag for many of the enduring ideas the magazine has pioneered since 1966, which remain relevant and critical, today. Highlights include Christine Toomey's profile on global mindfulness pioneer, Thich Nhat Hanh; Roman Krznaric's elucidation on how cultivating empathy can transform societies; articles by Meg Beresford (former General Secretary of CND) and Lone Bingley highlighting the plight of bees, butterflies and nature at risk; and an article by Fritjof Capra sharing new scientific evidence for the long held supposition of Buddhists and others that humans are interconnected and part of nature. The issue also infuses the magazine's usual rich mix of news, arts and book reviews, and includes pieces about the growing resistance to fracking worldwide; approaches to ending poverty; green business; natural foods; and the importance of scientific and religious groups cooperating on environmental issues.

***Resurgence's Top 10 Sixties Revolution Songs are attached***

***View Resurgence's Top 20 Sixties Revolution Songs and read Greg Neale's article re the V&A's 'You Say You Want a Revolution?' exhibition on the Resurgence website:***

**[www.resurgence.org/revolution](http://www.resurgence.org/revolution)**

**Greg Neale, Editor-in-Chief of *Resurgence & Ecologist* is available for interview**

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#### **Notes to Editors**

- To order the 300<sup>th</sup> issue of *Resurgence & Ecologist* (Jan/Feb 2016) in print or PDF format, visit: <http://www.resurgence.org/shop/issues.html>
- *Resurgence & Ecologist* magazine and its two websites ( [www.resurgence.org](http://www.resurgence.org); [www.theecologist.org](http://www.theecologist.org) ) are published by The Resurgence Trust, an educational charity (no. 1120414) which promotes ecological sustainability, social justice and spiritual values
- For details of The Resurgence Trust's special Christmas Gift Membership offer, visit: [www.resurgence.org/xmasgift](http://www.resurgence.org/xmasgift) or contact the Trust: 01208 841824; [members@resurgence.org](mailto:members@resurgence.org)
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