

Press release

"Becoming..." – a new film explores early childhood around the world in the 21st century.

Hamburg/Brussels, 02/May/2019/HKU/CA: On the occasion of the hundredth anniversary of Waldorf Education, Waldorf 100 in cooperation with the International Association for Steiner/Waldorf early childhood education (IASWECE) presents a film about early childhood today in the mirror of different cultures worldwide.

No age has a deeper impact on the whole of life than the first years of childhood. "During those first seven years, children develop their bodily foundation for life. They explore and experience the world with their senses and through meeting the other. These early encounters in life have a deep influence and long lasting effect on the making of their own being," says Clara Aerts, coordinating member of IASWECE and co-producer of the film, which was shot in the USA, Israel, Japan, India, South Africa, Guatemala, the Czech Republic, Switzerland and Germany. "The experiences that we make possible - or withhold - for our children at this age form the most elementary basis for their further lives and thus ultimately for the future of humanity."

"Becoming..." is the third film in a series of short films produced on the occasion of the centenary of Waldorf Education under the direction of the award-winning Californian documentary filmmaker [Paul Zehrer](#), and which provide an insight into the inclusive diversity of Waldorf Education under the most diverse cultural, social, religious and economic conditions around the globe. "Becoming..." was premiered at the international IASWECE congress "Inner Freedom – Social Responsibility", which took place in April at the Goetheanum in Switzerland. The film is now available on the websites of [Waldorf 100](#) and [IASWECE](#).

Today there are almost 2,000 early childhood centres and around 1,200 schools worldwide that work on the basis of Steiner/Waldorf education. In 2019, the anniversary year, a large number of events, congresses and activities take place all over the world, dedicated to the challenges of the present and the future and involving pupils, parents and teachers alike. Waldorf 100 coordinates these activities. On 19 September 2019, the central worldwide celebration will take place in Berlin's [Tempodrom](#).

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