

Interview with Maria Bilasano by N.Bronzova

Maria Joceline Bilasano is a healer, spiritual teacher and a very educated modern woman. She founded the Academy of Wholistic Healing Arts. Her gift of healing emerged about 16 years ago. She has changed her own life, healed herself and since then she has dedicated her life to the Holy Spirit. Maria has a Russian soul; she loves Russia very much and spends there nearly half of her time. She has cured in Moscow for 15 years and she is more in demand in Russia, than in the Philippines, her native country. Maria says that in a past life, somewhere in the XV century, she was a Russian nun, who lived in the Yaroslavl monastery.



She is so delighted with Russia, that she idealizes it sometimes! Perhaps she's right? Because she is able to see, what common people cannot see... Maybe we should learn the right attitude to our country from this remarkable woman? Maria is grateful to Russia, not only for the realization of her gift, but also for returning of her first name: Maria! In the Philippines, she has been called Dr. Jo since her youth and business time. But Russians call her Maria, a holly name, meaningful to all Christians!

When you are within the sphere of Maria's aura, the healing process goes on constantly - she simply lives this way. She is an example of how to live in harmony, to understand life and

respect the laws of the Universe! She says that God lives inside each of us, but we ignore it, preferring to blame the distant Creator for all the complexities of life and our disappointments... This leads to disharmony with ourselves that brings to all our subsequent problems of health or social life. If only we could understand that God is within us and work to strengthen this bright side of ourselves, then many of our problems would disappear, and even our health would be restored! Anyone can become his own healer – one only needs an understanding, faith and gratitude – claims Maria. She lives this way herself! She seems not from this world - and the more you have contact with her - the more it feels this way! You understand that even though you can be close to this divine woman, even to touch her, that you will never raise yourself to her level!

Maria is chosen by God and I was lucky to be near her for a few days. I witnessed her work with others, how she talked to her students, how she prayed and meditated - these was absolute happy time for me! Well worth travelling halfway around the earth to meet such person. Once, she called herself my Filipino mother - I would add that she is my mother that God sent me! It is impossible not to adore her, because she gives her love to all of us!

I would like to relate here how I came to obtain an interview with Maria Bilasano. During those days when I was with Maria in Manila, I hoped that she would answer a few of my questions in front of the camera; although she had agreed, she really didn't have any free time to set it up.

Days went by, full of events, time compressed and my questions just multiplied from day to day; so I had finally lost any hope this would happen... But one day Maria announced to me, that the following day we'd be visiting the famous "Regina Rica" monastery and that perhaps there, I would be able to record an interview with her.

So I arrived at her clinic at 6 am and our group of eight left in a minivan. On the way, Maria offered us very tasty Filipino sweets. At the monastery, we met with more people and our group more than doubled! I thought how it would be very unlikely that she would have any free time for me today, so I dropped the interview idea and left my the computer in the van. The monastery was full of visitors - it was the religious festival and a helicopter even threw rose petals all over the area in honour of Our Lady. I followed Maria to a large decorated church, where there should have been a mass; instead the place was filled with noisy people and music and that annoyed Maria. She seemed so discouraged that this holiday turned into a show with so much noise that it prevented her quiet praying. Our group was dispersed at this moment, so Maria also left the church and invited me to follow her.

We headed in the opposite direction of the crowd, away from the gathering of people, toward a hill with at its top, a very large statue of the Virgin Mary styled in the Philipino way; it was the chapel of Our Lady. About a hundred meters away from us, we could see a long upward zig-zaging staircase leading to the chapel; as it was a long walk under the noon sun, so I suggested to Maria that we just climb the hill in front of us, which would be a much shorter route to the chapel. At first she hesitated, but as I was already climbing up the hill, she followed me. While we moved up the hill she told me that she always did things the proper way, obeying the rules and never walking out of set paths; I showed her that we could sometimes go in a simpler and faster way.



We prayed and meditated for a few minutes in the chapel, then we went out on the balcony of the chapel; from our vantage point we could see a procession down the hill moving up towards the chapel. Maria smiled and said that we had come at the right time, otherwise we would not have any peace and quiet; within a few minutes the chapel was filled with people, so we left. Close by the chapel, we walked through the labyrinth of "Gratitude", a lovely garden for prayer and meditation. Further away was a park with hundreds of unique trees: each tree bore a white ribbon with the name of a person, who had made

a donation to the monastery. I learned later that Maria made a donation in my name, for one of the trees! It was a luxury gift, in addition to all that she had already done for me... It made me shy and I tried to refuse, but she would not accept my plea. I take this occasion to publicly thank Maria for all she has done and is still doing for me: may God bless her strength, health and give her peace and prosperity!

After our long walks, climbing up and down the hill, we finally found a quiet bamboo gazebo, where this interview was recorded. Finally, everything turned out even better than I expected. I

did not even go fetch my computer, so afraid I was to miss this special moment; surely it had been chosen by God, who set us up for this unique dialogue; my small camera then, would have do the trick. Again, thank you Maria for the special moment and for the visit to this great monastery, the "Regina Rica"; it is a divine gift you've offered me.

The interview was very interesting and covered many aspects. Maria was open and talked with so much inspiration. I'm sorry, it was not possible to put here the whole interview. You read here, only what Maria felt was important.

N.B.: Tell me about yourself. How did you become a healer?

M.B.: I was born in Malilipot, Albay province. My mother and grandfather were healers. I did my masters degree at the state University of Santa Isabel in Naga city, Cam Sur. After, I taught business psychology, economics and management at the Agriculture College in Guinobatan in the province of Albay. Later I did my Ph. D. in Cosmic Anthropology at the Asian Social Institute in Manila. During those years I was always week, exhausted and felt that perhaps I should change my way of life.

In 1992 I decided to go to Manila, but it did not solve my health issues. In 1996, Mabel Tecson, a good friend of mine, referred me to rev. Virgilio Gutierrez, in Manila. I called him up for a healing appointment, but over the phone he told me that nothing was wrong with my health, that I had only blockages of my healing energy. He invited me instead to help with his seminars. I came one Sunday and there, met Russian Reiki master, Alexander Gregoriev and mother Eugenia. After three months of participation in rev. Virgilio's spiritual seminars, one day he patted me on the back and told me that I was ready to practice healing, but not in the Philippines, in Europe. It came as quite a surprise! Then he asked me to prepare my passport, so that I could join him on a trip to Moscow on an invitation by Reiki master Gregoriev. Thus in April 9, 1996, I arrived in Moscow for a 20 days healing mission. I conducted spiritual seminars with rev. Virgilio and from then on, I was regularly invited by master Alex for more spiritual seminars in Moscow.

In 2006, a Russian doctor, Yuri Vedov, was in Manila looking for a healer. He called up Paul Boucard, the French psychic surgeon, but was answered by Danielle, his wife. Paul had suffered an accident and was bedridden. Danielle introduced me as Paul's assistant healer and Dr. Vedov visited me in my Makati clinic. He invited me to come to Moscow, and since this time we are partners. I continued on, by myself, learning new healing methods.

N.B.: Tell me more about Reiki healing?

M.B.: I was introduced to Reiki healing by Russian Reiki Master Alexander Grigoriev in 1997. He observed that after healing sessions I looked exhausted. He suggested that I should be attuned to Reiki, so that I could manage my energy



better. He said that Reiki transmutes automatically unpleasant energies in the aura. He added that every time I would channel the flow of Reiki to others, my body would also receive the energy. He taught me the 1st level, self-healing; and true enough I didn't feel tired anymore after healing sessions. My life completely changed after the training. It awakened and enhanced my spiritual gifts of feeling, hearing, seeing and knowing. It was like a jump-start of my soul journey. It attracted more opportunities for my material and spiritual abundance. I owe a deep gratitude to Reiki Master Alexander.

Reiki healing is a Japanese system of energy practice, rediscovered by Dr. Mikao Usui in the 19th Century. "Rei" is the Japanese word for universal or divine and "ki" means energy. Reiki comes to us in violet energy vibrations, the highest in the color spectrum, the divine ray of peace and gentleness. It is a very intelligent energy; it goes to the parts of the body where it is needed the most. It is soft and calming, peaceful and powerful. To become a channel, one must be attuned to its vibration by a Reiki master. Some people acquired it from a past life through soul practice. According to spiritual masters during the Lemurian and Atlantean period spiritual practitioners were attuned to Reiki. So, it is possible that the souls of present spiritual practitioners are incarnations from those lost civilizations.

The sacred ritual attunement activates the energy centers or chakras of the person. These chakras are like antennas that connect the physical body to the cosmic. The procedure also heals the receiver at all four levels: spiritual, mental, emotional and physical. The receiver is taught by a master to perform self healing practice of chakra balance and hand positions for 21 days, to enhance the healing effect.

Reiki flow has only one source of spiritual energy coming from the purest light of God. But different cultures and teachers introduced various methods of channeling the energy. From my



lineage, I incorporated in my practice the use of prayers, in order to bridge the faith of the practitioner with the Reiki symbols. This is the Hiyang Reiki system. Hiyang is the Filipino word for harmony. The name was coined by my Cosmic Anthropology professor Dr. Felipe de Leon, to describe the Filipino method of energy medicine. In Hiyang Reiki I teach practitioners to speak the prayers of their own religions adding the use of Reiki symbols to call the flow of Reiki energy. With this approach they feel comfortable adopting the Reiki practice. They understand that it is not contrary to their faith. Hiyang Reiki becomes a way of life and a tool for their spiritual growth.

N.B.: You also teach about kindness and gratitude. I think that this is the base of the Filipino character!

M.B.: I am deeply grateful to you Natalya for appreciating our cultural traits of kindness and gratitude. It is of great significance to our history and country's consciousness, that you titled your book "Philippines: a country of kindness and gratitude". It is like a decree sown in the cosmic field that will continuously nourish our people's consciousness.

N.B.: Thank you Maria. Did you ever count how many people you've healed?

M.B.: Oh, I have lost count, thousands of people for sure!

N.B.: Did you ever refuse someone?

M.B.: There are times when the karma of a person is not ready to be touched. When I see that someone has first to experience pain, I don't force things; this is a lesson to be learned first. This step is needed before one is ready for healing. We name it the "sacred pain". When I see people, who are not ready to experience healing, I advise them to first find out about themselves.

N.B.: Do people understand that?

M.B.: Yes, 90% of my patients understand that it's not me who heals; I am just a catalyst of the healing process. The body has its own healing mechanism but it can't function if it is blocked by negative thoughts, bad habits and physical toxins.

N.B.: Do you see the future? Do you know what is going to happen to me next?

M.B.: I can see that you will pursue your work on your art. Through your art, you will help other people learn about themselves. Continue your creativity!

N.B.: Do you have a dream?

M.B.: My dream is to be always in harmony with the light of God, so that I have a continuous supply of divine energy to share with people.

N.B.: Did you ever "see" the Virgin Mary or Jesus Christ?

M.B.: With my spiritual eye, yes. During deep prayer and meditation, their faces appear alive, as if talking to me.

N.B.: When you work with patients, how do you protect yourself from negative energies?

M.B.: This is a very important question. To protect myself from disharmonious vibrations I must always anchor myself to my divine sources. I pray Jesus Christ for his unconditional love, Mother Mary for her love and compassion, Saint Michael Archangel for his protection, Saint Rafael and my own spiritual guide Saint Luca, for healing.



N.B.: I know that healers usually do not contact each other, but you are connected to many of them...

M.B.: This is a common, because of our lack of understanding of each other. Some practitioners are afraid that if they connect to other healers, they will be overpowered; many believe they will

not shine enough as healers. But for myself, I believe that the Sun is for everybody, as well as the gift of healing. We must respect each other and not compete. We all have different gifts, different ways and specializations or certain things to practice. There is no place for competition, because it may cut the flow of divine energy... I always try to do the best for my patients and even send them to other healers if a patient has more specific needs.

N.B.: Lets talk about you now. How do you see your mission on Earth?

M.B.: I feel my mission on Earth is to help people, in their healing journey and soul discovery. I try to give them valuable information; with it, they will find their own way, how God wished it for them.

N.B.: You travel a lot. Did you ever visit America or Canada?

M.B.: In 2006 I first visited the USA; I went to New York, New Jersey, Chicago and Los Angeles. After that, I went to Canada and visited Quebec City. I was very welcomed everywhere I went.

N.B.: You have spent half of your time in Russia. Do you understand the "Russian" soul?

M.B.: Russia has become part of me already. I have a very special attachment to Russia. I think the «Russian soul» is very much a part of Russian people's faith! My soul realization started in Russia, when Dr. Yuri called me Maria, not Dr. Jo as everyone called me in the Philippines. When I was first there, one man told me that in past life I had been a Russian nun! I didn't really reflect on these words until much later, when I visited a Yaroslavl convent. The place seemed very familiar to me, I recognized the walls, the churches. I had a vision of myself living in this convent in the 15th Century! These recollections confirmed to me that I indeed had a Russian past. It makes me feel very close to the Russian people and I love them, because my soul is partly Russian. In Russia you have so many spiritual places. I visit them as much as I can, to recharge my own energy.



N.B.: Which places do you prefer in Russia? Where is energy more pure or stronger?

M.B.: I love to visit the monasteries. Most of all, I prefer the Saint Trinity Laura in Sergiyev Posad. It is a very spiritual place. People stay in line for hours, by their strong faith, to see Saint Sergey's sarcophagus and bring back Holy water. It is quite impressive...

N.B.: Do you feel more at home in Russia or in the Philippines?

M.B.: When I am in Russia I feel at home, just as in the Philippines. My friends in Russia often tell me: "Oh, you are going home to recharge and have a holiday rest in Manila". And my answer is: "Sorry, but I always feel I am on a holiday while in Russia!"

N.B.: Do you like Russian food?

M.B.: The Russian climate is quite cold and they eat a lot of hot soups; I also begin to like a soup and borsch, now I can make them myself.

N.B.: The famous Russian sculptor Gregory Pototsky cast a bronze portrait of you. What did you feel while he was sculpting the original work?

M.B.: Gregory is a great sculptor! While he made the bust, it reminded me of a past life I'd lived in Russia. The bronze image looked like me when I was a nun in the Yaroslavl convent. I am very grateful to him, because while the portrait was being made, some unpleasant vibrations were deleted from my aura. Deep inside me I was very happy he offered it to me; I don't think I would ever have asked for it myself. He suggested that the bust would be a symbol of harmony within the Russian community. It is a very big gift and a great blessing for me! I never expected that a Russian friend would give me such gift. Now I share energy in harmony with Russia! The bust was erected in a very nice place called Ethno Mir, in the Kaluga region. I am very grateful!



N.B.: Thank you dear Maria! I am very grateful for the time you gave me and for this unique spiritual place, you or God have chosen for our interview. Thank you also for the time you have given me these two weeks; they were great moments that I will remember all my life!

M.B.: Thank you my dear Natalya for your time and effort. It was nice to have you with us; today you showed me, that one could go strait up without using stairs, if one wants to! God bless you dear!

Natalya Bronzova

Writer, artist, Manila – Montreal, 2012.