

Report on *Devil's Tango* book tour 8/5/12-8/13/12
by Hattie Nestel • 978.790.3075 • haley.antique@verizon.net



The idea of a book tour came after several of us in the Nuclear Free Future Coalition of Western Massachusetts had read Cecile Pineda's book, *Devil's Tango: How I Learned the Fukushima Step by Step*.



The mission of our group is:

The mission of the Nuclear Free Future Coalition is to bring about the abolition of nuclear weapons and nuclear power.

Through public programs, protests, civil resistance, dialogue, walks, and more, we seek to raise public awareness and create the political will to end the nuclear era. Our vision is to create a renewable energy future.

for further information contact

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Jnapolitano@afsc.org

or

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Hattieshalom@verizon.net

As we discussed what event we would have to commemorate Hiroshima and Nagasaki Days it seemed well suited to the occasions and our mission to invite Cecile to come on a book tour in our region and make the connection between nuclear power and nuclear weapons. We had the money to pay her airfare, and beyond that we would offer to bring her to other like-minded groups and ask them to give her some honoraria and allow us to sell her books.

Cecile agreed and before we knew it we had a full agenda of talks lined up for her. We ended up with 15 venues with events taking place over the nine days. Cecile was able to address four reactor communities in four states—Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire and New York. The reactor communities are actively engaged in campaigns to shut down Vermont Yankee, Seabrook, Pilgrim, and Indian Point nuclear power plants.

Here is the POSTER our group provided and which we adjusted for all venues:

CECILE PINEDA: DEVIL'S TANGO:

*How I
Learned the
Fukushima
Step by Step*



**AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR
CECILE PINEDA**

will be on a New England book tour August 5th -13th.
Her Northampton, Amherst, and Brattleboro appearances are:

SUNDAY - AUGUST 5 NORTHAMPTON

First Churches, 129 Main Street Potluck at 5:30 pm
7:00 pm talk and book signing. 8:00 pm proceed to Paradise Pond at
Smith College for Hiroshima Day Ceremony and candle float.

MONDAY - AUGUST 6

AMHERST Meet with Cecile Pineda, 1:30 pm
refreshments, book signing
Hosted by Dade Singapuri, 142 High Street

BRATTLEBORO Centre Congregational Church, 193 Main Street
7:00 pm talk and book signing

Information: Hattie at 1-978-790-3074 hattieshalom@verizon.net

We made and separately formatted the poster for each community.

Schedule:

AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR *CECILE PINEDA*

will be on a New England book tour August 5th -13th.

She will talk about and autograph her new book

DEVIL'S TANGO : HOW I LEARNED THE FUKUSHIMA STEP BY STEP)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 5

WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

West Springfield United Methodist Church, 802 Main Street. 12 noon.

Meeting with walkers from the Leverett Peace Pagoda for a nuclear free future

NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

First Churches, 129 Main Street. Potluck at 5:30 pm

talk and book signing. 7:00 pm

Paradise Pond at Smith College for Hiroshima Day Ceremony and candle float. 8:00 pm

Nuclear Free Future Coalition of Western Massachusetts (NFF)

Safe and Green. Citizens Awareness Network (CAN)

Traprock Center for Peace and Justice. CODE Pink

Western Massachusetts American Friends Service Committee

Information: Hattie at 978.790.3074 hattieshalom@verizon.net

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Meet with Cecile Pineda. 1:30 pm

refreshments and book signing

Hosted by Dade Singapuri, 142 High Street

Information: Hattie at 978.790.3074 hattieshalom@verizon.net

BRATTLEBORO, VERMONT

Centre Congregational Church, 193 Main Street

talk and book signing. 7:00 pm

Sponsors:

Safe and Green, New England Coalition (NEC), Citizens Awareness Network (CAN)

Information: Hattie at 978.790.3074 hattieshalom@verizon.net

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7

HANOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Howe Library, 13E South Street

talk and book signing. 6:00 pm

Sponsor:

Sierra Club

Contact: Denis Rydjeski at 802.885-4826 DRR@Dartmouth.edu

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8

NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS

50 Water Street. The Tannery Mill Building #1

Jabberwocky Bookshop

talk and book signing. 7 pm

Sponsors:

Jabberwocky Bookshop. Seacoast Anti-Pollution League (SAPL)

Greater Newburyport Women's Action for New Directions (WAND)

Amesbury Friends Peace Center. House of Peace

Merrimack Valley People for Peace (MVPP)

North Shore Coalition for Peace and Justice

Veterans for Peace Chapter 45. New Hampshire Peace Action

Seacoast Peace Response

contact: Joanna Hammond at 978.388.3230

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9

HARWICH, MASSACHUSETTS

Harwich Community Center, 100 Oak Street

talk and book signing. 1 pm

Sponsors:

Cape Codders for Peace & Justice. Cape Downwinders

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Contact: Mary Zepernick. people@poclاد.org. 508.398.1023

WEST FALMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

West Falmouth Friends Meeting House

Route 28A North of Brick Kiln Road

572 West Falmouth Highway

potluck followed by talk and book signing. 5:30 pm

Sponsors:

Occupy Falmouth. West Falmouth Friends

Falmouth Climate Action Team (FCAT)

Organizer: Joyce Johnson. cd.johnson@verizon.net or telephone 508.540.2238

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10

TAUNTON, MASSACHUSETTS

lunch followed by talk and book signing. 12:00 noon

43 Summer Street. Taunton

Sponsor:

Citizens for an Informed Democracy (CIC)

Contact: Pat McSweeney. patmcs1@juno.com or telephone 508.822.2882

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10

NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Joan Ecklein's house, 14 Sterling Street
potluck followed by talk and book signing. 6 pm

Sponsor:

Boston Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Contact: Joan Ecklein. 617.244.8054

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

GRAFTON, NEW YORK

Hiroshima Day Celebration

Grafton Peace Pagoda. 87 Crandall Road

book talk. 8 pm

Contact Hattie Nestel. hattieshalom@verizon.net or telephone 978.790.3074

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12 and MONDAY, AUGUST 13 (identical schedules)

ALBANY, NEW YORK

book talk and refreshments. 12:00 noon

Albany Friends meeting. 727 Madison Avenue

Sponsors:

Albany Friends. Upper Hudson Peace Action

NYS Interfaith Alliance. Bethlehem Neighbors for Peace

Women Against War. Saratoga Peace Alliance

Organizer: Pat Beetle. paxpat@nycap.rr.com or telephone 518.477.4004

Our estimated mileage was about 1,000 miles. Audiences varied in size from about 30 to about 100. About 30 different groups sponsored the talks. We sold about 125 books during the tour even though many in our audiences already had bought and read the book.

Each community worked hard before the event to have her interviewed by radio or cable networks and to get out letters, posters, and emails publicizing the event.

television and radio:

three videos taken, one in Brattleboro, one in Albany, one in Northampton

eight radio interviews throughout the tour

Media Release:

contact: Hattie Nestel, 978.790.3074 • hattieshalom@verizon.net

Award-winning author Cecile Pineda of Berkeley, California, will tour the Northeast early in August to promote her recent book, *Devil's Tango, How I Learned the Fukushima Step by Step*, published by WingsPress of San Antonio, Texas. Her previous books have earned prestigious prizes.

Devil's Tango chronicles the recent meltdowns of nuclear reactors at the Fukushima Daichi nuclear power plant in Fukushima prefecture Japan. The book demonstrates that the catastrophe has exposed the world and its people to disastrous amounts of lethal nuclear radiation and that those in authority have worked to deceive the public with regard to the extent of danger.

Devil's Tango is essential reading," said Hattie Nestel of Athol, Massachusetts, tour organizer and longtime antinuclear activist whose current emphasis is on shutting down the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant in Vernon, Vermont, along with all nuclear power plants. Nestel says that no further nuclear power plants should be built anywhere in the world.

The book tour will begin at 5:30 pm Sunday, August 5, in Northampton, Massachusetts, at First Churches, 129 Main Street, beginning with a potluck and followed by a talk and book signing at 7 pm.

Pineda will be in Amherst, Massachusetts, at 1:30 pm Monday, August 6, for refreshments and a book signing at the home of Dade Singapuri, 142 High Street. At 7 pm Monday, August 6, Pineda will appear at Centre Congregational Church, 193 Main Street, Brattleboro, Vermont, for a talk and book signing.

On Tuesday, August 7, the author will be at Howe Library, 13E South Street, Hanover, New Hampshire, at 6 pm for a talk and book signing.

Pineda will travel to Newburyport, Massachusetts, on Wednesday, August 8, for a 7pm talk and book signing at Jabberwocky Bookshop, 50 Water Street in The Tannery Mill Building #1.

The Harwich, Massachusetts, Community Center at 100 Oak Street will host Pineda on Thursday, August, 9, for a talk and book signing at 1 pm, and she will be at West Falmouth Friends Meeting House, Route 28, North of Brick Kiln Road, 572 West Falmouth Highway, the same day for a 5:30 pm potluck followed by a talk and book signing.

She will be in Taunton, Massachusetts, at noon on Friday, August 10, at 43 Summer Street, Taunton, for a talk and book signing after lunch. At 6 pm on Friday, August 10, she will be at Joan Ecklein's house, 14 Sterling Street, Newton, Massachusetts, for a talk and book signing after a pot luck.

Pineda will appear at the Hiroshima Day celebration scheduled for 8 pm Saturday, August, 11, at the Grafton Peace Pagoda, 87 Crandall Road, Grafton, New York, where she will give a talk.

The tour concludes at a book talk with refreshments scheduled at noon Sunday, August 12, at the Albany Friends Meeting, 727 Madison Avenue, Albany, New York.

Sponsors of the overall tour are the Nuclear Free Future Coalition of Western, Massachusetts (NFF) and the Traprock Center for Peace and Justice.

Other sponsors are, in Northampton, Safe and Green, Citizens Awareness Network (CAN), CODE Pink, and Western Massachusetts American Friends Service Committee; in Brattleboro, Safe and Green, new England Coalition (NEC), and CAN; in Hanover, Sierra Club; in Newburyport, Seacoast Anti-Pollution League (SAPL), Greater Newburyport Women's Action for New Directions (WAND), Amesbury Friends Peace Center, House of Peace, Merrimack Valley People for Peace (MVPP), North Shore Coalition for Peace and Justice, Veterans for Peace Chapter 45, New Hampshire Peace Action, and Seacoast Peace Response.

Also, in Harwich, Cape Codders for Peace & Justice, Cape Downwinders, and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF); in West Falmouth, Occupy Falmouth, West Falmouth Friends, and Falmouth Climate Action Team (FCAT); in Taunton, Citizens for an Informed Democracy (CIC); in Newton, WILPF; in Albany, Albany Friends, Upper Hudson Peace Action, NYS Interfaith Alliance, Bethlehem Neighbors for Peace, Women Against War, and Saratoga Peace Alliance.

articles:

Stephanie Kraft • *The Valley Advocate*, Pioneer Valley, Massachusetts

Archives

THIS STORY HAS BEEN FORMATTED FOR EASY PRINTING

The article you requested is displayed below.

Fukushima Is Closer Than You Think

Date: July 12, 2012 **Section:** News & Commentary

Five days after the nuclear catastrophe at Fukushima last year, Cecile Pineda's car hit a tree. She didn't die, however; instead, she wrote a book about the logistics of the meltdowns, their effects and their implications for people everywhere. The book, *Devil's Tango: How I Learned the Fukushima Step by Step*, was released this year by Wings Press. It contains little-known facts as well as highly publicized information about the disaster, which is now known to have been underway before the tsunami struck the Japanese coast.

"Millions of people in Japan are possibly living in radiation levels higher than the radioactive zone at Chernobyl," Pineda writes.

"Thirty-four thousand (34,000) Japanese children between the ages of 4 and 15 are wearing radiation detectors to monitor the presence of iodine 131 in their thyroid glands. At the request of the Japanese government, the EPA has stopped monitoring fallout over the United States since May. Before that it pegged iodine, cesium, xenon, and uranium levels at over 100 times the official limits. ...

"Because both the Japanese government and the U.S. government have mandated an information blackout on the degree of radiation being released from Fukushima we are being exposed without any say, and we don't know to what degree, nor do we understand the future health threat to us in terms of heightened incidence of cancer and birth defects brought about by chromosomal damage.

"We are all Fukushima now."

From August 5 to August 13, Pineda will be in New England to sign her book and discuss what she refers to as "Fukushima: the nuclear industry's gift to our planet." Sunday, August 5 will find her in Northampton at First Churches, 129 Main Street, for a talk and book signing at 7 p.m. (following a potluck supper at 5:30). At 8 p.m. Hiroshima Day ceremonies, including a candle float, to mourn the anniversary of the use of atomic weapons in Japan will take place at Paradise Pond at Smith College.

On Monday, August 6, Pineda will be at 142 High Street in Amherst at 1:30 p.m. for a book signing and refreshments hosted by Dade

The Falmouth Enterprise

Author To Discuss Book On Fukushima Plant

Award-winning author Cecile Pineda of Berkeley, California, is touring the Northeast to promote her recent book, "Devil's Tango, How I Learned the Fukushima Step by Step," published by Wings Press of San Antonio, Texas. She plans to be at the West Falmouth Friends Meeting House, 572 West Falmouth Highway, on Thursday, August 9, at 5:30 PM for a potluck followed by a talk and book signing. The public is invited to both events.

"Devil's Tango" chronicles the recent meltdowns of nuclear reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant in Fukushima Prefecture, Japan. The book demonstrates that the catastrophe has exposed the world and its people to disastrous amounts of lethal nuclear radiation and reports that those in authority have worked to deceive the public with regard to the extent of the danger. Written as a "cinematic memoir," Ms. Pineda recounts the days and weeks following the disaster, reminding the reader of mundane and routine events. Her prose paints a portrait of the disaster: "The 20-mile exclusion zone around Fukushima Daiichi is eerily empty. There are no people, no traffic, no sound...piles of earthquake and tsunami rubble...that can never be re-inhabited for 100,000

years."

"Devil's Tango" is essential reading," said Hattie Nestel of Athol, tour organizer and long-time antinuclear activist whose current emphasis is on shutting down the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant in Vernon, Vermont.

Joyce Johnson, Falmouth event organizer, said, "This issue is extremely important for Falmouth and all of Cape Cod. We should all be working to close down the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant in Plymouth for the health and safety of everyone on Cape Cod. It is of the same design as the Fukushima plant. This aging plant should never have been relicensed." Recently the US Nuclear Regulator Commission relicensed the aging Plymouth plant for 20 more years.

Tour sponsors include the Nuclear Free Future Coalition of Western Massachusetts (NFF), the Traprock Center for Peace and Justice, CODE Pink, Cape Codders for Peace & Justice, Cape Downwinders, and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), Occupy Falmouth, West Falmouth Friends, and Falmouth Climate Action Team (FCAT).

For more information, call Joyce Johnson at 508-540-2238 or e-mail cd.johnson@verizon.net.

Lessons learned:

Having a long lead time was indispensable. With all the varied people and locations, taking care of all their needs and getting them the support they needed took many weeks. It allowed all of us to get her on the air and in the press before she arrived.

I did not do enough map work in advance and wasn't as familiar with the routes as I wish I had been.

We always managed to be on time and we did have enough handouts, books on hand and even a credit card machine.

Having phone conversations with the organizers as well as email communications was a big help in getting to know each other and collaborating with a good plan going forward.

Cecile appreciated the check-in circle we always conducted beforehand as it helped her. She got a good heads-up that allowed her a sense of the audience before she began.

Some comments after the tour:

"Cecile, you started by saying that people find it hard to get into your book. I couldn't put it down--twice. I will be reading it a third time. Cecile is a natural wisdom teacher. *Devil's Tango* will help me keep on keeping on."

—Alice Kast • Boston, Massachusetts

"It is difficult to face the actual possibility of a nuclear disaster; the effects of disaster movies I think actually help us to see disasters as fiction and promotes denial. Maybe the most powerful image of Cecile's book was the cover, showing the power plant in Fukushima with the fuel rods sitting out in the exposed top of the building and the water pipes to keep it cool at the sides. ...Cecile's book tour and her book refocused my thinking on the nuclear power plants and Fukushima."

—Frank Gatti • Amherst, Massachusetts

"The book tour presentation by author Cecile Pineda in Hanover, NH, was by all measures both successful and inspirational. Approximately 40 individuals were present including legislative activists, Dartmouth College faculty, and concerned members of the community. The questions asked during the follow-on Q/A session demonstrated the degree of enthusiasm among those present to continue to press for a more progressive, non-nuclear energy policy."

—Denis Rydjeski • Springfield, Vermont

"I am glad the book tour with Cecile went well. I was blessed to meet this wonderful woman. I am not done with the book yet, but what I HAVE READ HAS MOVED ME PROFOUNDLY! I always feel guilty for not doing enough for the cause of peace and for the end of nuclear proliferation. Cecile is certainly a great inspiration for getting out there and denouncing the horrible truth of nuclear activity."

—Maria Dominguez, Brattleboro, Vermont

"Thank you so much for your gift of *Devil's Tango*. I'm halfway thru it and will finish it this weekend. It is an amazing read—a very interesting style combined with good data. I will be recommending it to others."

—Jeff Patterson, MD • Wisconsin

"Cecile Pineda is one of the best speakers I have ever heard. She is reminding us of the chilling fact that we are in a life and death struggle for the survival of human existence on our beautiful planet. At the same time she is energizing us and giving us hope. When she describes how the experts present their "facts" she is so on target. She should be invited to speak at all churches, synagogues and mosques in our country. I wish she would move to Boston."

—Cornelia Sullivan • Boston, Massachusetts

"I admire and appreciate Cecile's ability to challenge us to fight the corporate life destroying devil that has such a stranglehold on our civilization, and threatens to destroy our world. Cecile's message is intimate and profound."

—Joyce Johnson • Falmouth, Massachusetts

"Thanks for bringing this very good speaker to us, Hattie. An encouragement in the long struggle."

—Sonny Robinson • Gloucester, Massachusetts

"There were around thirty people gathered at the Harwich Community Center on Cape Cod. Cecile Pineda's talk had particular relevance for us (nearby Pilgrim is the same model as Fukushima). Cecile more than lived up to her billing as an extremely knowledgeable and persuasive speaker. She has a unique combination of an enormous command of detail and a light touch that enhanced rather than diminished the seriousness of nuclear power run amok. Cecile is very direct, in keeping with the nature of her topic and the stakes at issue, and is crisp and clear in responding to questions. Having read *Devil's Tango*, I wasn't surprised to find Cecile Pineda to be a force to be reckoned with. Her talk gives me hope that we will prevail."

—Mary Zepernick • South Yarmouth, Massachusetts

"Cecile was MAGNIFICENT! You've seen her do her magic, so you wouldn't be surprised...her small person dominated the scene with the Pagoda behind her....she started with a moment of silence...then as she began to read her voice deepened and was very strong, timing perfect....she was more poet than nuclear opponent, in the usual sense, and more dramatic than poet, let's say...and did she ever strike the right notes in reading from her book! pointed out how the whole world was different since those August days in 1945, brought it all together."

—Joy McNulty • Williamstown, Massachusetts

"I have practically worn out my copy of *Devil's Tango* and am fully prepared to join Cecile in her Dance of Death. I have become a thorough Pineda groupie, and as a result am sufficiently enthused to waltz the thin line you mention, while keeping in mind that our dance card contains the threat of tapping Entergy on the shoulder and requesting that we dance with "his" partner, in other words, the promise to "do the trespass" again if excluded from the festivities."

—Mike Risch • Falmouth, Massachusetts

"For me, Cecile made the connection to the interconnected web of life, our existence together. She showed me by example how to ask thoughtful questions in the moment of dialogue with others in your community. ...Likely, if they continue to research on their own, they just might discover how really reliable these renewable sources of electrical power are."

—Marie-Louise Jackson-Miller • Quincy, Massachusetts

"Cecile's knowledge about the ongoing nuclear situation in Japan and the nuclear energy cycle from mining to waste and her intimate yet provocative writing style made people connect with the issues as emotionally as Cecile does. I am particularly impressed with her ability to style her talk very effectively to the particular audience."

—Pat Beetle • Castleton, New York