

Dianne B. Collard
M.A.; D.Miss

Dianne is an international speaker and writer who is committed to the embracing of all the arts and the artists in the experience of worship and mission. Her extensive doctoral research in Europe regarding the current role of the arts in the Church and the alienation of the artists enable her to speak with authority and passion.

Dianne and her husband have been missionaries since 1986, serving in over 40 countries while living in Europe. Her role is multi-faceted: preparing and directing the work of hundreds of missionaries; speaking at conferences throughout Europe, the U.S. and Mexico; and directing the department of worship and the creative arts for an organization training European church planters. She has lectured in classes at Biola University and Columbia International University.

Dianne has published articles in such magazines as *Lydia*, a leading European magazine for Christian women; *Today's Christian Woman*; *Women of the Harvest*; *CIVA SEEN* and many others. She has contributed to the German version of the *Woman's Devotional Bible* and other Christian materials published throughout Europe. She also a contributor to the essential book for women in missions, *Frontline Women: Negotiating Cross-cultural Issues in Ministry*. Her current writing projects include a book on her journey of forgiveness following the murder of her eldest son and co-editing a Handbook for Church-Related Art Galleries with Sandra Bowden, an artist and former president of CIVA.

Dianne is the mother of three children and “Mimi” to her five granddaughters. She and her husband are leaders in an inner-city church which is serving the alienated and forgotten members of our culture—the homeless; former addicts and prison inmates; as well as the struggling artists of the “NoDa” (North of Davidson) artist district in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Currently, Dianne is on the staff at the Center for Intercultural Training in North Carolina which provides pre-field training for missionaries serving around the world. She continues to be in demand as a conference speaker and as a mentor of artists who are Christian through her personal ministry organization, Montage International. In 2007 Montage became a ministry department of Artists in Christian Testimony International. It exists to *challenge and train the Church and its artists to embrace the arts in worship, spiritual formation, and mission for the purpose of personal and cultural transformation.*

Through training, mentoring, researching and writing, Dianne challenges the Church concerning the value and need of re-embracing the arts. She also pleads with the artist to not abandon the Church, but to be God's messengers of beauty and creativity in the Body of Christ. The values of being culturally appropriate, Biblically based, and committed to adult learning principles make Dianne's messages powerful and effective.