

JUST RELEASED — AFTER 35 YEARS IN THE MAKING

INTERPRETIVE DESIGN AND THE DANCE OF EXPERIENCE

Interpretive Design is for all those who assist visitors in getting to know their public jewels – parks and preserves, gardens and galleries, museums and monuments – in short, leisure sites from Aquaria to Zoos, and who aim to enrich those visitors' experience in meaningful and memorable ways. In these pages you will find:

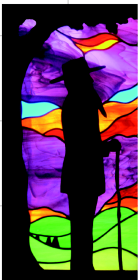
- 15 Developmental Steps for structuring the dance of experience
- Practical Exercises for individuals or groups
- Key Password Questions interpretive designers use daily
- Design Challenges based on actual natural and cultural sites
- Useful Pointers and Tools for leaders and guides everywhere

If you are an interpreter, ranger, guide, docent, tour leader, informal educator, or designer for leisure sites with a mission, you cannot afford to miss this important new perspective on your work. This book will change what you do.

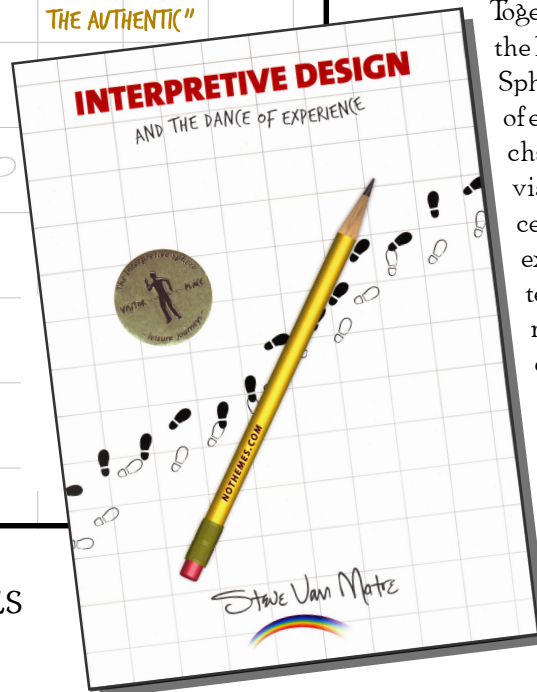
STEVE VAN MATRE

Steve Van Matre is the international chair of The Institute for Earth Education, a worldwide nonprofit volunteer organization which focuses on the triadic composition of interpretation, education, and contemplation in developing a more joyous and harmonious relationship with the earth and its life. He has been one of the world's leading nature educators ever since the 1970 release of his pioneering work, *Acclimatization*, which led to a dozen other landmark publications in the field, including *Sunship Earth*, *The Earth Speaks*, *Earthkeepers*, and *Earth Education... A New Beginning*.

At various points in his career he has been a youth leader, school teacher, camp director, educational consultant, university professor, public speaker, workshop trainer, and interpretive designer. Today, Professor Van Matre travels the world introducing educators and interpreters to this vital work.



"INTERPRETATION IS THE BRIDGE BETWEEN THE ARTIFICIAL AND THE AUTHENTIC"



a
new book
by
Steve Van Matre

Interpretation is the craft of enriching the experience of leisure visitors with places established for the public good

Together, the visitor and a place make up the key components of the Interpretive Sphere. They are partners in the dance of experience. In interpretation the challenge is to meet the needs of the visitor while illuminating the processes of the place through direct experience. That should be the litmus test for all interpretive techniques and materials: how do they enhance the direct experience of the visitor with the place and its mission?

* 290 PAGES

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