



## "My sole inspiration is a telephone call from a director."

- Cole Porter; American composer, songwriter

appy Anniversary to us! August 2017 is the 4th anniversary of Celebrating NOW, the only Ezine we know dedicated to the most important moment in the life of everyone on the planet, this one.

To the right is the very first issue, published August 2013. That means for 49 months we have cranked out a new issue

At first, each issue was essentially a platform to share the pictures we'd taken of CelebratingNOW moments in places from Paris to Puerto Rico and San Francisco to San Antonio. But we soon found it more engaging for us, and hopefully more compelling for you, to have each issue themed around a Celebrating NOW concept like construction (how to build a moment worth celebrating), our senses (how to celebrate with each of our senses), and "The Superhero Issue" (celebrating the hidden powers in each of us).

Just as Cole Porter's

inspiration to write unforgettable songs like "Anything Goes," "You're The Top," and "Let's Do It (Let's Fall In Love)" was a call from a director, the inspiration for this month's Celebrating NOW, like ever month's issue, began in similar forgettable fashion—the month was drawing to a close. Well, the ending of the month wasn't the inspiration for the issue, per se, but it started us looking for some,. We knew that whatever the theme of this month's issue would be, since it was to be our 4th anniversary publication, we wanted a theme that was worthy of both this milestone and your time and attention. We thought, "Where can we find great inspiration for a fun issue?" Then it hit us. Finding inspiration was not just the task before us, it was the

compelling theme we were looking for.

The word "inspiration" comes from the Latin "inspirare," meaning "to breathe into." Wikipedia notes it as an "unconscious burst of creativity in a literary, musical, or other artistic endeavour." But we don't necessarily agree. Inspiration can be unconscious, a thought that pops in to our head seemingly on its own. However, while that moment of inspiration might appear seemingly of its own accord, there are certainly any number of things we can do to help it appear.

Whether we're looking for inspiration for a book, a gift, an invention, or someone to share our life with, there are many things we can do to create a fertile environment from which inspiration might "unconsciously" appear.

The Greeks believed that inspiration was given to us by the muses, literally the inspirational goddesses of literature, science, and the arts in Greek mythology.

18th century physician and philosopher John Locke proposed that inspiration is the result of ideas associating and resonating with one another in our mind.

Renowned American painter and photographer Chuck Close, famed for his massive photorealism

portraits, has a different take on inspiration, one that doesn't rely on muses or anything of the like. "I always thought that inspiration is for amateurs. The rest of us just show and get to work. If you're going to wait around for the clouds to open up and lightning to strike you in the brain you're not going to make an awful lot of work."

We take a view of inspiration somewhere between the Greeks and Chuck Close. Sometimes we are struck by an inspirational "muse." Other times, the "director" calls and we have to find inspiration. Since we believe that there is something worth celebrating in every NOW moment, this 4th anniversary issue is dedicated to helping you find the inspiration in each one.











