

Report of ENICPA meeting in Barcelona 14-16 October 1999

1. A general overview of ENICPA's activities since April 1999, Helsinki was given:

- Final report for Kaleidoscope 1998
- Funding proposal for Experimental Measures under the framework programme in support of culture, Action 2 of DGX:
 - Publication of the *InTO Europe* in partnership with the International Workshop Festival
 - Residency programme: first experiment with the Instituto Portugues Artes do Espectaculo
 - IT seminars
- Funding proposal for the European Cultural Foundation:
 - Introduction of membership fee system
 - Marketing campaign and feasibility study for on-line sales
 - Development of new partnerships

2. ENICPA information projects:

2.1. Website and database

The website and database are up and running. The French version is finished.

The International Workshop Festival has recently added a selection of 50 entries of the *InTO Europe*

2.2. Marketing of website

The ENICPA website needs an important marketing campaign to ensure that potential users learn about our database:

- Firstly all members have to start marketing the site via their own publications.
- We have to ask for links on important websites in every country.
- Make a promotion card or brochure
- Start advertising campaign in professional specialist publication
- Mail outs to members' mailing lists

2.3. Fact sheets about members:

As discussed in Helsinki, we will start making the fact sheets about the members. A format will be sent to everyone at beginning of November on paper and via email.

2.4. Country information:

It was decided to start work on providing policy and legal information about each country in Europe. A short text will describe the performing arts system and policies. It is not the purpose to solve people's practical problems but to give signposts or places to start their research. Therefore a short list of essential addresses will be provided about the following topics: work permits, copyright, unions, tax, royalties, customs. Since the situation is very different in every country it is up to the members to interpret what will be usefull for a international organisation and what not.

Deadline end of this year. The co-ordinate will send out more information later.

3. Membership fee

ENICPA will establish a membership fee system. With the membership fee we can secure a minimum of own income that guarantee the continuation of ENICPA's basic activities when all other financial sources fail. This will be used for the hosting of the website and a minimum of administrative costs.

A mission statement with regulations about the fees will be drawn up and sent out to everyone. It will be based on three levels:

- 400 € as standard fee for members
- 1000 € for the larger or better off organisations
- 100 € as a symbolical sum for organisations who can not afford the standard sum at the moment or who have to prepare it in their budgets for the next year.

This will be implemented in the beginning of 2000 and evaluated for 2001. An invoice with the bank account details will be sent out in January 2000.

4. Residencies

IPEA is setting up a new information unit within their institute. Gil Mendo suggested a stay of one week in one of ENICPA's member organisations to look at a model of how things can be done.

We have to look into the needs and wishes of members in relation to residencies. They can take different forms. For example a specialist from one centre can go work for a week in another centre. At TIN they have some experience with residencies based on a project for which they interview people and select people. People work on a clearly defined project for a period of three months. This way a partnership is created.

A residency for IPEA will be organised and other residency activities will have to be further discussed.

5. Training

ENICPA is always trying to develop training and peer to peer exchange of skills. A lot of expertise in the field of documentation and information is present within the network. We should look for ways and forms to transfer that know how.

We have expertise in:

- Recording the theatrical production process
- Recording production at a city or regional level
- Managing current information
- Digital image storage
- Website management
- ...

We can create training modules, standard information packages, user guides for organisations like the Amsterdam-Maastricht Summer University, Culture Management Education (Ecume, Fondation Marcel Hicter, Budapest Summer Academy, Kulturkontakt Austria,...).

Plans have to be further developed.

6. Prague April 2000

We are invited for our next meeting to Prague in April 2000.

The Theatre Institute is working within the framework of Prague 2000 on the Arena Project. The project wants to connect all performing art websites in Central and Eastern Europe. A simple navigation system will be developed to search it. English resumes will be given. In a second phase, the creation of websites on a national and international level will be stimulated and in the long term a decentralised updating system will be put in place.

ENICPA's advice with the evaluation of structure and thesaurus will be appreciated.

The project will be launched in April in Prague with representatives from Central and Eastern Europe. It would be a perfect moment to organise a wider ENICPA meeting with a strong Central and Eastern European participation.

More news will follow in January 2000.

7. Training session in Centro de documentacion

For new members and those who were not present in Helsinki a demonstration and training session was held in the Centro de Documentacion of the Institut del Teatre.

We also went on a guided tour of the Centro de Documentacion.

8. IETM info cell

The info cell of IETM was used to present ENICPA's work. We asked several people to present their own information activities: International Workshop Festival talked about the *Into Europe* and the collaboration with ENICPA, John Bojanowski talked about the Festpass.com website with its database of European festivals. This database is aimed at a wide audience throughout Europe. Scott Stoner talked about Arts International's project for an International Presenters' Database and another information project that will create a clearinghouse and on-line community for global arts and culture.

From information projects everywhere one can deduce that a lot of information is not on-line yet. On the other hand there is also duplication happening. It is certainly important to link up sites with information from different geographical sources. Therefore there is a clear need to create an overview of existing professional information sites and draw up a map. This way information providers can look for collaboration or define their own focus better. It is necessary to create some transparency for the users: the performing arts professionals.

Next time we will call this session Signpost Session instead of Information Session but.

We will look into the possibilities of organising a meeting with a broad group of information providers in and out of Europe. The Prague meeting could be used for this. Possible partners are: Dacor, ITI, IETM, Soros Centres, Forum of European Cultural Networks, Arts International, Arena Project, Eurosud, Festpass and IFEA, new network of video collections, la RED in Latin America,...

9. Action points

- *Marketing Website*
Link up to important national and international sites
Promotion card
Advertising in members' publications
- *Fact sheet:*
Decide on format
Deadline November
- *Country information*
Send out description and purpose
Deadline end of year
- *Membership fee*
Formulate and send out proposal made in Barcelona. Send invoices in January 2000.
- *Residency*
Link up IPEA with right host
- *Training*
Look at possibilities and opportunities to develop training modules and standard information packages
- *Prague 2000*
Collaboration with Arena Project
Prepare meeting
Invite a broader group of information providers

European Network of Information Centres for the Performing Arts
Réseau Européen des Centres d'Information sur le Spectacle Vivant

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