European Network of Information Centres for the Performing Arts

Réseau Européen des Centres d'Information sur le Spectacle Vivant

Report General Assembly 22nd of April 2004, Teatrum, Millenaris Park, Budapest

Attending the meeting: Nicolea Scarlat (ARCUB, Romania), Sergey Shternin (Centre of Information Technologies for Theatre, Russia), Thomas Engel, Michael Freundt, Andrea Zagorski (German Centre of ITI, Germany), Luciano Brogi (IALS, Italy), Piia Ahonen (Information Centre for Dance, Finland), Mari Kolle (Information Centre of the Estonian Theatre Union / Estonian ITI, Estonia), Irina Khiginskaia, Elena Levshina (guests of Interstudio), Zane Kreicberga (guest of the New Theatre Institute of Latvia), Nao Black (The Place Artist Development, UK), Olga Perevezentseva (Russian ASSITEJ Theater Union, Russia), Don Nixon (Theatre Institute Prague), Bianca de Waal (Theater Instituut Nederland, The Netherlands), Dries Moreels, Nikol Wellens (Vlaams Theater Institut, Belgium), Riitta Seppälä (Finnish Theatre Information Centre, Finland), Zuzana Ulicianska (The Theatre Institute Bratislava, Slovakia)

Financial and legal affairs

In 2003 there where more costs than income because the board decided to have the dedicated to ENICPA members meeting in Brussels.

The General Assembly unanimously approved the accounts for 2003 and acquitted the board.

Centre National du Théâtre and The New Theatre Institute of Latvia expressed that they will no longer be a member.

We've lost contact with the IPAE in Portugal. It looks like they are now in another organisation, but they've paid their memberships fee. We have an new member in Poland, the Zbigniew Raszewski Theatre Institute.

The budget 2004 includes the meeting in Paris in December. The Centre National de la Danse will arrange and pay for the meeting room and theatre tickets. ENICPA will pay for the catering and other costs. The budget also includes the costs for a designer and the printing costs for the promotion card.

The invoice for the meeting room in Birmingham was extremely high. Higher than we had agreed on. Dries tried to negotiate with the Birmingham organisation but it looks like we have to pay for it.

All the financial documents will be in the reserved area of the website under **Download**.

Relation of the retiring board

The main focus of the board was to stimulate the internal communication within the network through website improvements. There have been developed tools to simplify the updating of the entries in the database. To know more about each other's organisations the project page was added to the website.

The activity of the members within the network has increased.

Now it's time to open up to the outside world. The network should be more visible. In the near future a promotion card will be realised. Luciano mentioned the designers competition again and requested the members to come up with designers to join the competition of designing the card and a logo. At the moment there is one design of a Spanish designer. The design can be found on the website under **Promotion cards**. The logo can be used to put on the members' own websites to link their users to ENICPA.

A discussion started on what the design of the logo and the card should represent. There where also questions about the technical and financial details. The board will discuss this in the near future and let the members know about the outcome.

Thomas expressed that he finds the improvements on the website really good. Now it's the task of the members to fill the database with new entries and update the old ones. The technique is really advanced and ENICPA made a big step. Thomas suggested making a document on all the technology behind it. Luciano mentioned that this document would be included in a handbook of the network. The handbook will be dynamic and the aim is to make the activities and procedures of the network clearer for new and old members and for the present and future board.

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Laurent of Centre National de la Dance (Paris, France) updated all the French texts and information of the website.

For the future of the network it's not only important to be in the outside world but also to bond with each other.

The board will ask members to present the network in their country in relevant congresses and meetings. If you know of such activities, please contact the board.

Conso Martin of the Centro de Documentación de las Artes Escénicas Andalucia (Seville, Spain) presented the network at the Euroamerican Campus for Cultural Co-operation last December. The report can be found on the website under **Meetings**.

Mari thanked the board for all the work they have been doing.

Luciano said the network has the power of knowledge, which we are not using enough. It's important to be a group and as a group make a statement about for example the cultural observatory.

Elections

The board is proposing to enlarge the board. Because the network is more active, the workload has increased. According to the new statutes it's possible to have a larger board. The board should have a minimum of three members to fill up the functions of president, secretary and treasurer. With an enlarged board the members of the board elect the president, secretary and treasurer. The candidates are:

- Nao Black
- Anneli Kurki
- Michael Freundt
- Dries Moreels
- Luciano Brogi
- Bianca de Waal

The board proposes to elect all the candidates for the board. The members voted unanimously for the proposal of the board

The new board will meet on Friday to have their first board meeting.

Presentation of ICDE (Information Centre for Drama in Europe) by Thomas Engel and Andrea Zagorski

The goal of the Information Centre is to set up an overview of translations of European drama on the internet and to create an international exchange of drama texts. The idea came out of a platform for contemporary theatre. A metasearcher will be developed to search in several databases. At the moment the technical details on the databases are collected. The second part of the project is to make a links list and an overview of projects. There will be a meeting in London in June at The Gate, where also a translation award will be presented. There will be two meetings a year. The project will make the national databases internationally visible. By the end of the year a pilot of the website will be ready. Andrea invited the members to co-operate and give any information that is connected with this topic. If you are interested or have information, please mail a.zagorski@iti-germany.de. There is also information on the project on the website under **Projects**.

Sergey mentioned a festival his organisation is co-organising together with Interstudio, The State Educational Institution for Continuing and Post-Graduate Education. It will be a one-week festival in which 7 performances (drama and dance) will be broadcasted on the internet. There will be online discussions and roundtables. Information on the project and the URL will be soon on the website under **Projects**.

Next meeting

The meeting in Paris, France at Centre National de la Danse will be on the **6th and 7th of December 2004**. Among the subjects will be services to the professionals in the performing arts and how members handle the material they receive from the companies (cataloguing, digitisation etc.) Laurent will conduct a questionnaire to let the members help with the preparations of the round table.