



Union Internationale de la Marionnette
organisation internationale non gouvernementale bénéficiant du statut consultatif auprès de l'UNESCO
Founded in 1929

The Electronic Newsletter of the General Secretary N° 5 - October 2009

Dear friends,

The last weeks have been very productive for UNIMA. The members of the Executive Committee got together in Ekaterinbourg, Russia, from september 9 to 11th 2009.



Unima Executive Committee welcomed in the City Hall of Ekaterinbourg

The decisions that have been taken should bring a new breath to the UNIMA diverse working Commissions.

They also gave their support to a project which objective is to create the First World Festival of Puppet Schools coming from the 5 continents that should be hold in the city of St-Petersburg, Russia, from August 25th to September 5th 2010.

I want to thank deeply Mrs Svetlana Uchaykina, director of the Ekaterinbourg Puppet Theatre, also UNIMA Russia, the Actors Federation of Russia, the Maire and Art council of Ekaterinbourg and the Russian Ministry of Culture. We were received as kings. Our meeting create a lot of interest in the press and other media because the event was presented as an International Summit.

Few days after, I was invited to inaugurate the First International Puppet Festival in Omsk, Siberia, thanks to the invitation of Mr Stanislav Dubkov, together with Dr Henryk Jurkowski, president of the jury.

That city, where the culture is very alive, owns one of the largest and most modern Puppet Theatre Complex in the world with its 3 different scales auditoriums, its Puppet museum, its rehearsal and fabrication rooms, its large halls and even exercises rooms for its 250 employees.

I had the privilege to make UNIMA 's activities known in press conferences.



Puppet Theater, Omsk, Siberia

From September 18th to 27th was held in the city of Charleville-Mézières, France, the 15th edition of The Festival mondial des Théâtres de Marionnettes.

UNIMA was very active organizing 3 main events that received an enthusiastic response by professionals, puppet lovers and the general public:

1- An exposition of our archives, (in collaboration with the museum of Chrudim, Czech Republic, and Central Puppet Theatre of Moscow) took place in our head quarter, on Cours Briand.

It shows the first steps of our organization, from 1928 to 1968, with pictures, drawings and few puppets among them some of Sergei Obraztsov.



Opening of the exposition of UNIMA's archives

2- A very moving tribute paid to 3 giants, still very active, that have greatly influenced the history of UNIMA: Margareta Niculescu, Henryk Jurkowski, and Michael Meschke.

I would like to thank those great personalities who, again during the ceremony, knew how to inspire and galvanize us. I thank also all the people around the world who sent us their messages of appreciation. You made their eyes twinkle.



Henryk Jurkowski, Margareta Niculescu, Michael Meschke and Dadi Pudumjee

3- The launching of the WEPA. What a happy moment it was to launch officially the french version of the wonderful WEPA, on September 25th 2009.

Intended to an advised public not only to specialists, the text provides an historic, cultural and technical description of puppetry around the world.

It offers the result of innovative investigations, observations by scientifics and practitioners. (864 pages, 1200 articles, 506 drawings and photographs). The book is unique in its kind, collecting such an amount of informations that has no preceding. The result goes over our expectations. The Encyclopedia is imposing, the quality of printing is excellent. We received a lot of positive commentaries. The selling goes very well.



Jacques Trudeau, Claudine Ledoux (Mayor of Charleville-Mézières), Dadi Pudumjee

The price is 80 euros, but UNIMA members can get it for 60 euros. Postage fees not included.

UNIMA invites you slowly to prepare yourselves for the Council meeting that will be hold in Dordrecht, Holland, from June 19 to 22th 2010 in the frame of UNIMA-Holland 55 years of birth and 25th anniversary of the International Poppentheaterfestival Dordrecht. More details will be given to you in a few months. The event is very promising and all the councillors must be present.

You will also receive soon, a new proposition of the UNIMA Commission of Statutes that we will ask you to study and present to your members because one of the 4 sessions of the Council meeting in Dordrecht will be value of Congress as planned in Perth.

I wish you the best in your activities!

Jacques Trudeau
UNIMA General Secretary

Delphine Sohier
Assistant

The UNIMA wants to thank the town of Charleville-Mézières, the Conseil Général des Ardennes, the Conseil Régional de Champagne-Ardenne and the Ministry of Culture for their help.



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