

Union Internationale de la Marionnette

UNIMA -Commission for International Festivals

Activities and projects - REPORT 2008-2012
President: Stanislav Doubrava (Czech Republic)



Members:

Miguel Arreche (Spain)
Anne-Françoise Cabanis (France)
Annette Dabs (Germany)
Jean Kaplan (France)
Louise Lapointe (Canada)
Philip Mitchell (Australia)
Robert Waltl (Slovenia)
Simon Wong (China)

Correspondent Members:

Phylemon Odhiambo Okoth (Kenya)
Janni Younge (South Africa)

Meetings:

Festival Marionnettissimo – Tournefeuille / France - 11/2008
Festival Mondial des Théâtres de Marionnettes - Charleville-Mézières / France - 09/2009
UNIMA Council - Dordrecht / Holland – 06/2010
MATEŘINKA Festival - Liberec / Czech Republic - 06/2011
Festival Mondial des Théâtres de Marionnettes - Charleville-Mézières / France - 09/2011

The Commission for International Festivals, founded at the Magdeburg Congress 2000, confirmed during the third period of its existence the importance in UNIMA structures. The Commission's activities were realized with the close collaboration of most members, and frequently in direct contact with the UNIMA President and the General Secretariat.

The Commission for International Festivals supported the project of the **Directory of Puppet Festival Programmes and Brochures**, aiming at collecting and cataloging puppet festivals programs from around the world. The collection is housed in the Europees Figurentheatercentrum, Trommelstraat 1, B-9000 Gent, Belgium. A communiqué was written on the UNIMA website, informing and asking festivals to send 2 copies of their printed programmes to Gent.

International Meeting of Festival Directors

After two highly successful events organized by commission member Mrs Annette Dabs – both connected with Fidena Festival in Germany, the 3rd Meeting of Festival Directors was considered to be organized into a non European country. Planned Kenya International Puppet Festival 2009 and its interest about hosting this event seemed to be good point due to the clear support of solidarity of UNIMA members coming to Africa (mostly on their own budgets). Later on, the unexpected changes of financial situation on KIPF were so serious that this idea was altogether abandoned. The next meeting, offered by Annette Dabs and connected again with Fidena Festival depends on financial situation in Germany. The new plan is aiming for 2013.

The Commission for International Festivals supported, by a letter of the President addressed to Ministry of Culture in Poland the situation of threatened "Meetings" - the festival with a long tradition, organized by theatre Baj Pomorski Toruń." (2012).

CHENGDU CONGRESS AND FESTIVAL

In 2011 The „**List of Recommendations of the UNIMA Commission for International Festivals**“ was updated and transmitted to the Chengdu Congress organizers by General Secretary, so they could be applied again.

Project of The Repertory of International Festivals

The top project of the UNIMA Commission for International Festivals was the project of **The Repertory of the International Festivals**

The first step was achieved thanks to great help of member of Commission - Mr. Miguel Arreche. The Commission was authorised to use the on line festival database of Tolosa Topic Centre. Thanks to Mr. Fabrice Guilliot, it is now easy to search, to send and to exploit the necessary information from the List of Festivals on www.unima.org (Festivals) or directly via link:

<http://www.unima.org/uniE15.htm>. On line Festivals Repertory is available in English, Spanish and Basque.

It was decided during Dordrecht meeting to prepare a printed copy of the Repertory for Chengdu UNIMA Congress 2012.

In this regard, a modified updating blank form was sent to in July 2011 to all National Centres, Councillors and Festival Directors already listed in former Repertory. More than 460 puppet festivals from 60 countries sent their information by the October 2011 deadline. Thanks to the collaboration of TOPiC in Tolosa and The Naive Theatre in Liberec Miguel Arreche, María San Sebastián Poch , together with Fabrice Guilliot, Stanislav Doubrava and most of Commission members, the new REPERTORY will be distributed in Chengdu, after long 11 years since the last printed edition. The Repertory is written in English with vocabulary in five UNIMA official languages and in Chinese as a friendly bonus.

This project was supported by UNIMA Commission Grant.

The front page view.




What to mention by the end of working period?

The intended aims of UNIMA Commission for International Festivals -to develop better communication, to share information more easily and fluently, to exchange competences, to encourage co-operation, to help festivals in need to help other people on other continents to be more present, to encourage festivals to program young companies, to search open platform for mutual work – all those seem to be filled.

I want to express the hope that the UNIMA Congress in Chengdu-China will bring the new lines for the upcoming development of UNIMA and also for the Commission for International Festivals.

The new President of Commission for International Festivals can surely continue on this field! Me personally and without doubt, can see and attests its importance for UNIMA future.

The work of the members of the Commission for International Festivals has been for me, for the whole period of twelve years, refreshing and admirable. Let me thank deeply all of them for this marvellous experience and for the possibility to collaborate with them.



STANISLAV DOUBRAVA

President of the UNIMA Commission for International Festivals (2000-2012)

Vice- president of UNIMA International (2004-2012)

Director of The Naive Theatre Liberec and MATEŘINKA Festival
Czech Republic