

AICA

association internationale des critiques d'art
international association of art critics
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lettre d'information

IN ENGLISH

TRIMESTRIEL
OCT.NOV.DEC.1984

37th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
XVIIth CONGRESS
ATHENS - DELPHI - 1984

SOMMURAY

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For the first time, the AICA held its 37th General Assembly and its XVIIIth congress in Athens and Delphi, from september 14 to 21, 1984, invited by the Greek section and its President Georges Simos-Petris, supported by the Secretary of Culture, Mrs. Melina Mercouri.

About 150 delegates and guests took part in the work. Apologized for not attending : Valentina Anker (Switzerland), Ion Fronzetti (Rumania), Daniel-Giralt-Miracle (Spain), Rafael Pineda (Venezuela), Pierre Restany (France).

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The board of directors met twice. The first meeting took place in Athens, Saturday September 15th, 1984.

Were presents :

Harry-Paul Aletrino (Netherland)
Nora Aradi (Hungary)
René Berger (Switzerland)
Florent Bex (Belgium)
Palma Bucarelli (Italy)
Christian Chambert (Sweden)
Silvia Chico (Portugal)
Maria-José Corominas (Spain)
Fernande Duchateau-Meuris (Free section)
Peter Feist (GDR)
Giuseppe Gatt (Italy)
Rui-Mario Gonçalves (Portugal)
Dan Haulica (Rumania)
Hans-Jorg Heusser (Switzerland)
Wladyslawa Jaworska (Poland)
Liam Kelly (Ireland)
et Palmina d'Ascoli, administrative secretary.

Marina Lambraki-Plaka (Greece)
Jacques Leenhardt (France)
Jaakko Lintinen (Finland)
Jacques Meuris (Belgium)
Raoul-Jean Moulin (France)
Andrée Paradis (Canada)
Boris Petkovski (Yugoslavia)
Maurice Piazola (Switzerland)
Vadim Polevoi (USSR)
Nicola Ponomarev (USSR)
Belgica Rodriguez (Venezuela)
Atanas Stoikov (Bulgaria)
Slava Sverakova (Great Britain)
Olga Schmedling (Norway)
Gertrud Sutton (Denmark)
Guy Weelen (France)

Dan Haulica insisted on one of the AICA's aims ; the formation of new sections throughout the world. The President then enumerated the different points of his activities :

a. Slides collection on contemporary art

After the meeting in Paris, in December 1983, the President formed a commission that would be in charge of selecting slides and of drawing up introductory texts and presentations on the subject of Latin-American art 1960-1980.

b. Commission on important exhibitions

In 1985, could take place a meeting centered on the analysis of the effects of international manifestations, biennales and triennales on artistic creation and on the art market.

c. International colloquium

Moderated by Dan Haulica, an international colloquium organized by the UNESCO and the AICA, gathered at the Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon, twenty people. The subject was : " The situation of art in contemporary society ".

d. AICARC Bulletin

The President warmly thanked Hans-Jorg Heusser for having linked the bulletin's themes to the ones of the congresses. He announced the publication of the bulletin in spanish on Latin America as well as the one on Greece. Dan Haulica insisted on the fact that because of a delay in the Unesco subvention's payment, Hans-Jorg Heusser could never have fulfilled his contract if he had not personally made a down payment for the printing expenses.

e. AICA Review

President Haulica, reminding that he had been mandated last year by the Board of Directors in Finland to continue taking the necessary steps concerning the AICA review with the Cahiers de l'Herne, then mentioned the project of a collaboration proposed by the Cahiers de l'Herne in view of a 700 pages special issue on the specific subject of "The temptation of archeology". The AICA would take the responsibility of the editorial staff.

f. Commission on Art and Environment

The President recalled the double sorrow that had just hit the commission for the loss of its two main directors, Ulrich Kuhirt and Hans L.C. Jaffé who passed away during the year. Dan Haulica wished to see their work continued by successors.

g. Commission on Art of the image/Image of art

The French film-library, the worldwide audio-visual council for art publishing and research (CAMERA), the UNESCO film and television international council (CICT) and the AICA concretized the collaboration started of the Sophia-Antipolis congress in 1982, on the theme of Art criticism in the era of communications, through a first meeting of the Arts of the Image/Images of arts cycle. These encounters have for object to enhance art films as well as films made by artists.

Discussion about the reports

In front of the Treasurer's concern, Jacques Leenhardt wondered about the national sections' disaffection and regretted the lack of information during the year that just ended, as to the activities mentioned above.

Hans Jorg Heusser and Sven Sandström joined with Jacques Leenhardt in the concern about the future of the AICARC Bulletin. Andrée Paradis proposed to open the pages of the bulletin to advertisers as to help the financing. Guy Weelen offered that the bulletin be paid and distributed by each section and also wished that a quarterly report be sent by the president and the General secretary to all members of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors decided to submit this last proposition to a vote.

Jacques Meuris, while underlining the heavy cost of mailing expenses, insisted on the necessity of informing all of the sections about the totality of the meetings into which partook duly elected AICA members.

Vote of the propositions

At René Berger and Guy Weelen's request, the Board of Directors unanimously declared that the following propositions would be submitted to an immediate vote :

1. Edition of the yearly list, before the end of the year (voted without one dissentient voice)
2. Jacques Meuris' three propositions concerning the supervision of the accounts (voted without one dissentient voice)
3. A quarterly report (voted without one dissentient voice)

RENEWAL OF THE MANDATE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY, OF THE GENERAL TREASURER AND OF THE ASSISTANT GENERAL TREASURER.

A commission for elections has been named, constituted of Andrée Paradis and Belgica Rodriguez.

Has been renewed : the mandate of the general treasurer Jacques Meuris : out of 32 votes : 29 for, 1 spoilt voting paper and 2 abstentions.

Has been renewed : the mandate of the assistant general treasurer Fernande Duchateau-Meuris : out of 32 votes : 27 for, 1 spoilt voting paper and 4 abstentions.

CANDIDANCY TO THE PRESIDENCE (following)

President Haulica informed the Board of Directors that he intended to represent himself, in a statutory way, for a new mandate, so to continue the development of a program on the way of being concretized and to which he dedicated his efforts and initiatives ; this program specially focuses on :

- . a close collaboration with the UNESCO through the formation of new sections as well as through an expansion of the AICA's activities.
- . a collaboration with the Cahiers de l'Herne.
- . a collaboration with other institutions concerned with contemporary art.
- . a rapprochement of the AICA with English-speaking countries, particularly with the USA and Canada.

Jacques Leenhardt, President of the French section, presented the candidacy of José-Augusto França (Portugal) who exposed his program :

- . the continuation of the projects in progress and of the previous bureau' activities.
- . the publication of an international yearly list.
- . the publication of an AICA WHO'S WHO.
- . close and frequent contacts with all sections ; assistance and projects in common.
- . convince every section to regularly collect the subscription fees.
- . a rapprochement with the American section.

Silvia Chico, President of the Portuguese section , supports in the name of her section, the candidacy of José-Augusto França.

René Berger asked that the presidency of the General Assembly during which were to take place the elections of the President, be attributed to Andrée Paradis. A new elections'commission has therefore been named formed of Gertrud Sutton (Danmark), Belgica Rodriguez (Venezuela) and Guy Weelen (France). Then, René Berger recalled the voting conditions (article XVI in the statutes) :

1. Vote in secret after a call by name, exclusively reserved to full members having paid their subscription fee.
2. Relative majority is admitted as of the third round, the two first ones requiring an absolute majority.

René Berger insisted on notifying (4th paragraph Art. XVI in the statutes) that the elections commission was entitled to :

- count the votes personally handed over by the full members present at the General Assembly.
- count the votes, by correspondence, handed over to the General Secretary by the national sections' presidents.
- checks the votes-by-correspondence's validity.
- check the authority attributed to a member by a national section.

After a debate and a vote carried by a majority, the Boar of Directors decided that the voting papers by correspondence would be taken into account only as of the first round.

Art of the Image/Image of Art

Dan Haulica explained his own action in June 1984 and titled it Arts of the image/Images of art, (film projection at the French film-library) and he urged the commission to continue at the same time its own research.

Jacques Leenhardt, the commission's responsible, recalled the meeting organised in London, in June 1983, and already mentionned during the last congress. In another connection, a collaboration project between art critics, art professors and video-artists is shaping up after a meeting between Alin Alvila, member of the AICA, professor at the Fine Arts School of Reims and members of the French section. This project would try to use the new media to establish a new form of art criticism ; the analysis of the image by the image thanks to the numerous and high quality electro-nical means that belong to the school. Jacques Leenhardt underlined that the subject at the nex congress in Belgium resumed and developed the theme sketched during the Sophia-Antipolis congress. He regretted that, because of a lack of financial means, the commissions' works be generally limited to the activities of the national sections and of their representatives. He personally wished as well as for his commission that he had found the necessary funds and launched projects in common. The AICA should conceive an international project that would fit in the UNESCO program, would raise some funds and gather a few sections.

Admission to full membership

Have been named to the commission in charge of investigating the candidacies to a full membership :

Harry-Paul Aletrino (Netherlands)
Jaakko Lintinen (Finland)
Maurice Pianzola (Switzerland)

Financial supervision

Have been named to the financial supervision commission :

Valérie Brière (France)
Maria Torrente (Italy)

MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS

Free section

A former member of the Argentine section referred a demand of affiliation to the free section to the international Bureau. The Board of Directors authorized the commission of Admissions to full membership to investigate this candidacy to the free section.

New formulary for a candidacy to a full membership

The admission'commission named during the General Assembly in Helsinki in May 1983, created during the year, a candidacy formulary more complete and precise. This new formulary was accepted unanimously less 4 abstentions.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ' AGENDA WAS VOTED WITHOUT ONE DISSENTIENT VOICE.

Financial supervising Commission's report

Auditors Valérie Brière and Maria Torrente gave their final discharge to the Treasurer.

Renewal of the General Treasurer and of the Assistant Treasurer's mandates
Their mandates were unanimously renewed, minus 1 abstentions.

Renewal of the General Secretary's mandate

The General Assembly was informed of Hélène Lassalle's election by the Board of Directors to the appointment of General Secretary and approved it by 44 votes for, 1 vote against and 15 abstentions.

Hélène Lassalle thanked the General Assembly for putting trust in her.

Silvia Chico, President of the Portuguese section asked that the administrative secretary Palmina d'Ascoli stay and serves as a liaison agent between the international bureau and the national sections.

Presentation of the candidates for the Presidency

Meeting's President : Andrée Paradis

The programs of both candidates, Dan Haulica and José Augusto França, were presented during the General Assembly.

European cultural center in Delphi, Thursday September 20, 1984
Third meeting

a) Presidential election

Candidates : Dan Haulica (who wants to renew his mandate)
José-Augusto França (presented by the French section bureau
and by the Dutch section.

250 votes (79 present, 170 by correspondence, 1 spoiled paper)

José-Augusto França was elected with 192 votes against 52

Dan Haulica was elected Chairman of Honor and greeted with cheers by the General Assembly.

List of the members voters

Harry-Paul Aletrino
 Effi Andreadi
 Noori Al-Rawi
 Nora Aradi
 Robert Aribaut
 Brezianou Barbu
 Mario Barata
 René Berger
 Antonio Bo-net-Correa
 Rennée Boullier
 Valérie Brière
 Jacques Brutaru
 Palma Bucarelli
 Ester Carlos
 Barbara Cavalière
 Christian Chambert
 Alkis Charalampidis
 Georges Charbonnier
 Samuel Cherson
 Silvia Chico
 Maria-Jose Corominas
 Freddy de Vree
 Fernande Duchateau-Mauris
 Peter Feist
 Elda Feizzi
 Jose Augusto Franca
 Giuseppe Gatt
 Rui Mario Gonçalves
 Paul Grotvedt
 Elisabeth Haglund
 Dan Haulica
 Ruth Henry
 Hans Jorg Heusser
 Jabra I. Jabra
 Wladislawa Jaworska
 Ionel Jianou
 Leftherios Ikononou
 Vassia Karcayanni -Karambelia
 Sophia Kazazi

Liam Kelly
 Maria Kotzamani
 Erik Kruskopf
 Marina Lambraki-Plaka
 Hélène Lassalle
 Marielle Latour
 Jacques Leenhardt
 Caterina Lelj
 Lilli Lewy
 Jaakko Lintinen
 Niki Loizidi
 Emmanouil Mavromatis
 Jacques Meuris
 Nelly Missirli
 Suzanne Muchnic
 Andrée Paradis
 Boris Petkovski
 Maurice Piazola
 Vadim Polevoi
 Maria Fortunata Prieto Barral
 Arnau Puig
 Belgica Rodriguez
 Olga Schmedling
 Hellena Sassone
 Lionel Scanteie
 Peter Spielmann
 Vestriki Spilliadi
 Bodil Stenseth
 Atanas Stoikov
 Gertrud Sutton
 Slavka Sveratova
 Giorgio Tempesti
 Maria Torrente
 Lilliane Touraine
 Lorenza Trucchi
 Mme Van Ende De Boas
 Marcel Van Jole
 Liesbeth Van Weezel
 Jeanine Warnod

Hector Watersc
 Guy Weelen
 Alexandros Xyc

GREECE

Alkis Charalampidis
Eleftherios Ikononou
Sophia Kazazi
Dimitra Pissia-Tsouchlos

IRELAND

Mike Catto

ISLAND

Bjorn Th. Bjornsson
Aosalsteinn Ingolsson
Selma Jonsdottir
Gunnar Kvaran
Gudbjörg Kristjansdottir
Halldor Bjorn Runolfsson
Olafur Kvaran
Bera Nordal
Halldor Runolfsson
Hrafnhildur Schram

ITALY

Paolo Balmas
Laura Cherubini
Giovanna Dalla Chiesa
Barbara Tosi

JAPAN

Shigeo Chiba
Terukata Teruo Fujieda
Koichiro Ishizaki
Keinosuke Murata
Tadayasu Sakai
Arata Tani

NORWAY

Olav Egil Aune
Olga Smedling
Bodil Stenseth

NETHERLAND

Saskia Bos
Lily van Ginneken
Antje von Glaevenitz

SWEDEN

Madeleine von Heland
Thomas Hellquist
Jessica Kempe
Thomas Paulsson

SWITZERLAND

Roger Mayou
Volker Schunk

Carlos Osuna Garcil
Mediterraneanism

Antonis Kotidis Antonis
The artistic influences of the Greek world in Konstantin Parthenis' paintings

Dora Iliopoulou-Rogan
Hellenization in the artistic expression. Myth or reality ?

Gertrud Sutton
The Danish approach

Georges Charbonnier
Contemporary artistic creation and the esthetics of the Greek world

Malvina Bompert
Apelles et Konstatin Theotokis and the notion of mimesis in today's art

Belgica Rodriguez
Latin America in the western culture

III. HELLENIC FORMS AND STYLES. CALL AND CHALLENGE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART.

Ionel Jianou
The metamorphosis of the antique into the modern in the works of contemporary Greek sculptors who worked in France.

Barbu Brezianou
Brancusi, an absolute classicist.

Pepi Rigopoulou
Klee and the Greeks

Guy Weelen
Marble and Greek wood

Vassia Karkayanni-Karambelia
Contemporary Greek art between " tradition " and modernity

Esther Carlos
The influence of Greek art in contemporary sculpture

Elisabeth Haglund
The narcissism in the neo-expressionism

CULTURAL EVENTS
VISITS AND RECEPTIONS

ATHENES

Official opening of the congress at the national Center for Research

Addresses delivered by :

The Secretary of Culture and Sciences
Mrs. Melina Mercouri
 The representative of the UNESCO
Miss Madeleine Gobeil
Head of the artistic creation and creativity
section
 The President of the AICA
Dan Haulica

Benaki Museum
Athens Galleries
The Acropolis and its museums
The National Museum of Athens
The Ion Vorres Museum
The Greek sculptors 'association's exhibition at the Odion
An open-air sculpture exhibition at the Zappion
Mr. Pieridis' private collection
The National Picture Gallery : Exhibition of Greek artists'works, organized by
AICA's Greek section

Roman Agora : Performance of Aristophanes'comedy " Ippis "

OSSIOS LOUKAS
Monastery

DELPHI

Museum and archeological spot
Exhibitions of students' works from the School of the Fine Arts
European Cultural center : film projections : " Electra by Kakoyannis and
"Acharnis ", a play by Aristophanes, directed by Karolos Koun.
European Cultural Center : evening in the honor of the poet Angelos Sikelianos wit
Anna Sikelianou. Reciting of fragments from Sikelianos'tragedy " Sibylla " by acto
Maja liberopoulou and Kostas Kastanas
Performance of Sophocles' tragedy " Electra " by the spring theater at the
Delphi Stadium

MEETINGS AT THE UNESCO

Round table conference : President França partook, on november 23rd and 24th, 1984, into a meeting to discuss the principles of the world decade of cultural development, under the authority of Raymond Weber, director of the cultural development and the artistic creation division.

NGO's Colloquium : December 29th, 1984

The AICA was represented by President José-Augusto França and General secretary Hélène Lassalle. President França spoke to present the history, the aims, the projects and the difficulties of our association. The representatives of the literary critics' international association or of the Pen Federation mentioned the same preoccupations as ours concerning countries that don't have an associative tradition and where the specificity of criticism does not exist ; which represents an important impediment to the geographical extension wished by the UNESCO.

The NGO's General Assembly allowed positive encounters in view of future collaboration with M. Kurt Blaukopf, General Secretary of Mediacult (International Institute for audio-visual communications and the cultural development) and with Luis Monreal, general secretary of the ICOM (International Council of Museums).

LIFE OF THE SECTIONS

This will be the title of the supplement to the quaterly Information Letter.

Certain sections have already kindly let us know of their activities and projects. We wish to see you numerous to do the same ; so that regularly published " brief news " inform all of the association about the different sections activities.

Write us !

PROJECTS FOR TOMORROW AND THE DAYS AFTER

A Cuban section

When he was President, Dan Haulica had initiated contacts with colleagues from Latin American countries, to push them to create an AICA section in their country.

Dan Haulica Chairman of Honor, is going to go to Cuba invited by the AIAP. During a meeting, President França entrusted Dan Haulica with a continuation of the steps he took to create an AICA Cuban section.

Let us re-form the statutes

The last elections in Delphi as well as the difficulties encountered with the banking organisms, revealed certain incoherences or flaws within the formulation of the statutes. The Bureau is proceeding the formation of a commission of statutes. Will be welcome all criticism, thinking over or suggestion from all national sections. Would every member of the Board of Directors investigate the problem ?

A Première in Europe

In March 1985 the first Exhibition-Encounters will be inaugurated at the Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon ; this exhibition will be dedicated to modern art in Europe. Initiated by the Council of Europe, with the cooperation of René Berger, Chairman of Honor of the AICA, of the Gulbenkian Foundation and of the 8 following museums :

Museum des 20. Jarhunderts, Wien
Museum van Hedenaagse Kunst, Gent
Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea
Sonja Henie-Niels Onstad Foundations, Høvikodden
Boymans-van Beuningen, Rotterdam
Centro de arte moderna da Fundação Gulbenkian, Lisboa
Nationalgalerie, Berlin
Moderna Museet, Stockholm

The general theme of this exhibition-encounters will be the part played by museums in the making of the physiognomy of contemporary art proposed to the public.

Within the bounds of this event, 3 colloquiums will take place :
- One with the CIMAM (International Committee of Modern Art Museums)
- Another with AICA specialists ;
- The third with artists, on the topic of artists and the public.

Hélène LASSALLE
General secretary

AICA

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37th GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ATHENS, DELPHI, SEPTEMBER 1984
THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT'S PROGRESS REPORT

1983 has been particularly benefic for AICA, since it gave us the possibility to meet twice in congress in Helsinki and Caracas. But today, an old dream is becoming real ; to meet in Greece thanks to the tenacious and combined efforts of our Greek colleagues and on the part of their president Georges Simos-Petris who were able to find among the powers and institutions of their country, the largest comprehension and all the necessary support, thanks mainly to Mrs. Melina Mercouri, minister of Cultural Affairs. In the name of AICA, we would like to adress to all of them, our warmest thanks.

Since our two last general assemblies, we have multiplied and diversified our links with UNESCO which never forgot to have us partake in their work and to give us many times evidence of the interest it shows regarding our activities and the specificity of AICA. During the months of October and November 1983, we participated in the 22nd Session of the UNESCO's General Conference in which the representatives of 157 registered countries discussed, amended and adopted the programme on " Culture and Future ", which concerns us since it fits in the conclusions of the Conference of Mexico on cultural policies and since it aims, as recalled Mr. Amadou Mahtar M'Bow, President of the UNESCO, at " establishing the place of culture within the international consideration and commitment to evolution, as well as in the renewal of the shapes and means of international cooperation, through the establishment of new relationships between nations, defined by the recognition of each cultures dignity and by the principle of their mutual enrichment. "

In other respects, in June 1984, President Haulica represented AICA at the 19th Conference of the NGO's that met in order to examine the different aspects of their cooperation with UNESCO. During this Conference, the President initiated a collective consultation of the NGO's as to gather their advice and suggestions concerning the UNESCO programme and budget project as well as their current activities. This represented an opportunity for President Haulica

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to present the aims and the problems of AICA as he just recalled them to you, while linked in a large exchange of ideas to Mr. M'Bow who declared that the NGO's constitute " a capital of the most useful competence, experience and information insofar as the task of the UNESCO is concerned " and that they " therefore constitute, in their totality, one of the most dynamic networks of international cooperation ".

On the other hand, we have been invited, as observers, to a few experts' consultations, organized by UNESCO. Valentina Anker was present at the meeting in October 1983, of the World Organization for Intellectual Property (OMPI) in Geneva, concerning the elaboration of defined statutes regulating organisations of management of copyrights in developing countries. In August 1984, Mario Barata attended a symposium about " The preservation and expansion of craftworks in contemporary society ".

Furthermore UNESCO has asked us to collaborate to the programme and the realization of an international colloquium organized by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation in December 1983 in Lisbon. Dedicated to the " Situation of art in contemporary society ", according to the Gulbenkian Foundation's wish, the colloquium was based on three complementary themes : " Functions and fate of art today ", " The artwork in museums and outside ", " The circulation of the artworks, hegemony and marginalization ", which were respectively presented by Pierre Restany, René Berger and José Augusto França. The debates, presided by Dan Haulica gathered about twenty participants, revealed the wide confrontation between all the different tendencies expressed under the sign of the AICA through all of Europe, South and North America, the Far East and Africa.

Insofar as the UNESCO/AICA project related to the creation of a slides collection about Latin American art from 1960 to nowadays is concerned, the general assembly in Caracas approved of the orientation proposed by President Haulica. After having wished that the final slides selection be justified by a consciousness of high standers of professionalism to take into account the artistic resources of each country and geocultural region, within the dialectics between tradition and innovation, President Haulica proposed the creation of a board of specialists taking the responsibility for the coherence and quality of this task, and being in charge of selecting the slides and writing out the introduction and presentation texts. This proposal has been ratified by the general assembly. Composed of Mario Barata (Brazil), Damian Bayon (Argentina), Adela Ida de Juan (Cuba), Maurice Pianzola (Switzerland), Roberto Pontual (Brazil), and Belgica Rodriguez (Venezuela), this board of specialists met on the 15th and 16th of December 1983 at the registered office of AICA, under the authority of Dan Haulica, assisted by Raoul-Jean Moulin, General secretary, and in presence of Noriko Aikawa, representing UNESCO. A wide debate took place, concerning the methods to follow and the criteria of selection. It appeared that this collection of slides was, in fact, to be a mean of popularization to hasten the awareness that one can have of the deep identity of each part of the world. Consequently, it was important that the choices should correspond to the needs of the general public, while

underlining an artistic tendency that would in this way show the artistic development's variety within the context of its geocultural diversity. About a hundred slides coming from UNESCO's national commissions, from ICOM and the national sections of the AICA, were presented by Belgica Rodriguez. A few countries did not answer to the proposal: Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Grenada, Nicaragua, Peru and Panama. It was decided that would be taken into account artists who produced during these two decades or that played an innovative part in the expansion of art in their countries. The selection for all of Latin America and the Caribbean Islands has to be limited to 80 slides - the maximal countenance of a slide-projector. A booklet will come with the collection, counting not less than 6 texts of ten pages each about the most representative of the artistic movements as well as biographical documentation about each artist. The themes of the 6 texts would be:

- 1) Abstract art (Belgica Rodriguez); 2) Figurations (Adelaïda de Juan);
- 3) Identity and continuity (Mario Barata); 4) New trends (Roberto Pontual);
- 5) Latin-American art seen from Europe (Maurice Pianzola); 6) Conclusions: interferences within the contemporary artistic movement (Damian Bayon).

In order to give to the totality of these aims all its international dimension and to carry them into effect in the most efficient way, it is important, today more than yesterday that we widen our extension throughout the world in order to invite the AICA of more accurate geocultural representation corresponding to the Unesco's programme: Let us mention again that, in three years, we greeted three new sections: the Dominican Republic, Irak and Iceland which bring to 50, the number of our national sections. Finally, during our congress in Caracas, we have established, strong links with Cuba which is already associated to our work. On the other hand, we were vested through UNESCO with a demand of affiliation from the Republic of Congo.

In order to fulfill another wish of the UNESCO, the one that consists in improving the interrelationships between the NGOs, who have maintained with AIAP the contacts started in Finland. During a common meeting, we presented the AICA's board of directors' point of view which is opposed to the idea of a mutual affiliation but which is in favor of a possible attendance of observers from both associations within their respective assemblies. A type of collaboration was proposed to us by the AIAP on the basis of a project named: "Street arts, artists and urban spaces" according to the modalities of a survey entrusted to the AIAP by UNESCO. It seems that this proposal might be of a great interest for our "Art and environment" commission.

You shall soon hear the commissions chairmen who insisted on attending this general assembly, especially Hans-Jorg Heusser, responsible for the AICARC project concerning a documentation on contemporary art, and whose wonderful work is now much better supported by UNESCO. Insofar as our "Art and environment" commission is concerned and which is well-known and appreciated by all of us for the quality of its colloquiums and publications, it was deeply affected, as well as the totality of the AICA by the sudden death of two of its most distinguished and faithful members: Ullrich Kuhirt who was a tireless chairman and organizer; Hans Jaffe who was the soul of the commission and its generator of ideas. Two unforgettable friends, whom lives and achievements have been examples of perspicacity, courage and brotherhood. Just before his death Hans Jaffe had insisted on carrying into effect the publication of the Acts of a congress that counted for him, the one he had organized in 1971 in

Amsterdam.

The analysis of the national sections activities reports for 1982 and 1983, concerns 15 countries to which is added a number of informations that we gathered through other means. Since the last general assembly, these 15 sections convened their bureau and convoked once or more the totality of their members: FGR, one; Ireland and the Netherlands, 4 times; Japan, 5 times; Denmark, 6 times; Norway, 7 times; the United-States and France, every two months about; Irak and Sweden, every month. Within these 15 sections the boards were renewed in FGR, in Austria, in Irak, in Ireland and in Sweden. The Canadian section got known through a session dedicated to "Young Canadian artists". The Danish section was represented at the Danish and international art fair-exhibition held in Copenhagen. It partook in a workshop on problems in art and communication. It is aiming at the formation of an association which would group all the other critics categories. It is also what the Norwegian section wants to do; let it be known that the latter received a grant from its National delegation of UNESCO. The French section organized a few colloquiums, one concerning Charles Estienne, one on the "Symbolic and Mythical Dimensions in Contemporary Art"; a few interviews among which, with Michel Ragon; as well as three days in the Aquitaine region. The FGR section asks that the decisions and resolutions be sent right after the General assembly that decided them and that the information letters be sent faster. The Irish section wishes the conceiving of a new AICA card. The Netherlands section wishes to receive before every congress, a comparative study of the air taxes. Besides the Acts of the 1971 Amsterdam congress, which the Netherlands' section just sent us, Jaakko Lintinen grouped and published the Acts of the 1983 Helsinki congress. We also received from Barcelona, a Tribute from Catalonia to Alexandre Cirici, which gathers important texts about the life and achievements of the man who has been our President and our Chairman of Honor. The American section has been regularly sending us its information bulletin. Finally, during these last three years we have reestablished relations with the section of Israel with India, Uruguay and have maintained constant rapports with our Czechoslovak colleagues.

Let us mention the emplacements of our future congresses. In Helsinki, the Board of directors had proposed to tour national sections that they give some thought to the possibilities of holding a congress in their own country. Belgium answered favourably, since Florent Bex, its President offers that we meet in Brussels from sept 16 to september 22, 1985 and to radiate through the Flemish and Walloon countries. He will submit the theme of the congress and the project of the programme to the general assembly's approval. For 1986, we approved in Caracas, the principle of a congress in Portugal on the theme: "The Iberian contribution to the XXth century's art and civilization" we deeply wish that this project be maintained and that our Portuguese colleagues inform us about the necessary steps they undertook.

Before concluding, I have to tell you about the preparation of the presidential election which will work our 37th general assembly. On May 10th, 1984, in a letter to the Presidents of Honor, to the Presidents of the national sections, and to all members of the Board of directors, President Haulica informed AICA

that he would be candidate once more, in a statutory way, for a new mandate, in order to continue and develop a programme already well on its way towards achievement and to which he dedicated all his efforts and initiatives. In the same letter, President Maulica wished that the possible candidacies be handed into the general secretariat before July 1th, 1984, in the name of the national sections and with a written agreement by the candidates. A little before this date, Jacques Leenhardt transmitted to us the decision by the French section's board to present the candidacy of José Augusto França. In a letter dated on July 4th, 1984, the General secretariat sent this decision, with the photostat of the bibliographical note to the Presidents of Honor, the Presidents of the national sections and to all the members of the Board of directors. Then, in a letter dated on July 6th, 1984, Harry Paul Aletrino, in the name of the Netherlands' section, three other candidacies'proposals ; the ones of Alexandre Xydis, Belgica Rodriguez and José Augusto França. After being notified by Belgica Rodriguez of her refusal, we added to the two previous registered candidacies, the one of Alexandre Xydis. These three candidacies - Maulica, França, Xydis - have been statutarly submitted to the board of directors, which now submits them to your votes. Soon, these candidates to the Presidency of the AICA will present their respective programmes before the General assembly. It will then be in full knowledge of the facts that each one of us to express one's opinion in order to commit the AICA's future to active perspectives in all fields of artistic and cultural research.

Raoul-Jean Moulin
General secretary