



February 2, 1992

association internationale des critiques d'art
international association of art critics
asociacion internacional de criticos de arte
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Words present:

lettre d'information

- Alexander Basala (Yugoslavia)
- Angelica Böhmer (Austria)
- Valentina Anker (Switzerland)
- Maria Teresa Bogutskaya (Spain)
- Doris Bowen (U.K.)
- Christian Gumbert (Sweden)
- Samuel Gerson (Puerto-Rico)
- Anje van Graevenitz (Holland)
- Hans-Jörg Henner (Switzerland)
- Marcel von Jols (Belgium)
- Patrick Keith (U.K.)
- Liam Kelly (Ireland)
- Zelimir Kozovic (Yugoslavia)
- Ahti Kosunen (Finland)
- Alvaro Medina (Colombia)
- Hélène Lascaille (France)
- Léone de la Grandville (France)
- Jacques Lœnherdt (France)
- Kim Levin (USA)
- Luis Peter Ormazabal (Venezuela)
- Dirk Peters (Holland)
- Belgica Rodriguez (Venezuela)
- Ramon Tito Salido (France)
- Pierre Szalay (France)
- Anda Sollenberg (Poland)
- Gertur Suttou (Denmark)
- Freddy de Vree (Belgium)
- Alexandre Xydias (Greece)
- Alexandre Yankovitch (Bulgaria)

Patience La Courve : administrative secretary

Words absent:

- Rolf Berger (Switzerland)
- Moon Farooq (Pakistan)
- H. Karami (Syria)
- P. Robinson (USA)
- Klaus Gatzke (Poland)
- Peter Wittlich (Germany)

February 1992

ADIA

Administrative Council - February 2, 1992

Were present:

Alexander Bassin (Yougoslavia)
Angelica Bäumer (Austria)
Valentina Anker (Switzerland)
Maria Teresa Beguiristain (Spain)
Denis Bowen (U.K)
Christian Chambert (Sweden)
Samuel Cherson (Puerto-Rico)
Antje von Graevenitz (Holland)
Hans-Jorg Heusser (Switzerland)
Marcel von Jole (Belgium)
Patrik Keith (U.K)
Liam Kelly (Ireland)
Zelemir Kosevic (Yougoslavia)
Altti Kuusamo (Finland)
Alvaro Medina (Colombia)
Hélène Lassalle (France)
Léone de la Grandville (France)
Jacques Leenhardt (France)
Kim Levin (USA)
Lui Perez Oramas (Venezuela)
Din Pieters (Holland)
Belgica Rodriguez (Venezuela)
Ramon Tio Bellido (France)
Pierre Restany (France)
Anda Rottenberg (Poland)
Gertrud Sutton (Denmarck)
Freddy de Vree (Belgium)
Alexandre Xydis (Greece)
Alexandre Yakimovich (ISC)

Fabienne Le Corvec : administrative secretary

Were excused :

René Berger (Switzerland)
Moen Faruqi (Pakistan)
H. Kamal (Syria)
P.Tuchman (USA)
Kimmo Sarje (Finland)
Petr Wittlich (Czechoslovakia)

**Report of the Administrative Council
Paris, February 22nd 1992**

Jacques Leenhardt welcomes the members and thanks Ramon Tio Bellido, president of the French section, for his reception at the Hôtel des Arts. He also thanks the president of the American section, Kim Levin, as well as all the other American colleagues who have contributed to the success of the Santa Monica Congress. J. Leenhardt announces that the next congress will take place in Vienna from June 1st to 6. He underlines the importance of these two congresses held only few months apart and explains that for this reason, rather than presenting an intermediary report, he will only comment the agenda of the day.

I REPORTS FROM THE BUREAU

1) General Secretariat

L. de la Grandville : for the same reasons, she reports briefly on what has been done since the mailing of the last information letter in November 1991.

Vote on the report : unanimous approval

2) General Treasurer

L. Kelly : reading his report, he explains that the presentation of the accounts has been modified and clarified according to a request from Unesco. He says the advantage will be that the sections' contributions to international activities will be more apparent. The question is now to take in account these contributions.

This is why J. Leenhardt insists that the people in charge of the sections send to the international Bureau a description of their intellectual activities and especially, when an international aspect is involved, a financial statement of these operations so it could be taken into account in the general budget. (Nature of the event and number of participating countries should also be mentioned.)

L. Kelly : says that it would be good to take in account the events of 1991.

K. Patrick : asks if an international exhibition independently organised by a member of the AICA can be taken in account.

J. Leenhardt : says that only an event (symposium, meeting, exhibition) organised in the name of the national section can be counted. He encourages the sections' presidents to consult Unesco's national commissions in their own countries in order to know about their priorities for the next two years and consequently the possible orientations to give to their projects. He reminds everyone that an association like ours should not only live on its base subsidy but that it must develop its contributions on specific projects. International institutions, he says, are always waiting for projects, and they could be interested in our proposals, especially when they group together several regions or countries.

P. Restany : mentions a Spanish project concerning the making of a Spanish and Latin American art encyclopedia and asks if the AICA has been consulted, because many of its members are participating.

J. Leenhardt : deplores that this is not the case and wishes that, when one of us is contacted for a project of such importance, he remembers that he is a member of the AICA and that the association could be contacted.

B.Rodriguez : adds that she has also been contacted for a bilateral project between Spain and Latin America but that it was ARCO's initiative. She adds that concerning the summer's symposium in Baie Saint-Paul (Canada) on Latin American art, the president of the Canadian section, Normand Biron, has been invited to attend it president of the jury.

II REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONS

1) Art and environment

G.Sutton : presents the developments of the TICKON project, for which she has obtained some subsidies, such as that provided by ICOM. " Tranekaer Internationale Center for Kinst of Natur " is both a project and a place. Long Island is one of the two hundred Danish islands of the Baltic Sea. It is a land of woods and rolling hills, rich in archeologic sites, mediaeval churches, farms and country houses like Tranekaer, the most important one, which has been generously placed at the disposal of TICKON. TICKON means being a center for research and reflection, a center for artists (sculptors, painters, composers, poets) and also for environmental specialists and ecologists, a place where they will have the possibility to work *in situ*, close to nature, in interaction with ecology and estheticism.

The artists interested can already propose their projects, drawings or models to TICKON. An exhibition of the finished works in one of the principal Danish museums will be envisaged later. The center also proposes to create a series of written, audio, visual and audio-visual archives and to organise meetings with experts. The official opening of TICKON will take place during an international seminar, from August 3th to September 4.

J. Leenhardt : underlines the proximity between Gertrud Sutton's project in Denmark and his own project in Crestet (south of France) : to group together the people in charge of preserving and transforming our environment and the ones who have the sensitivity required to conceive and to approach these transformations. He's pleased with the work done by the commission after one year of activity ; a commission based in two places but also in touch with other networks in Great Britain, Germany, Italy, the United States and Latin America.

2) AICARC

H.J. Heusser : reminds the assembly that for the last issue of AICARC presented in Santa Monica in October 1991, "*Britain and Beyond, the dialogue of ideas*", he gave an advance to the British section, and that he's now showing a deficit. He reiterates his call to the section presidents so they take out a collective subscription to the review. Admitting that some sections are facing financial problems, he still notes that even the sections that have the means to afford it do not answer his request.

H.J. Heusser announces two projects in progress :

- a special issue for the anniversary of the AICA, realised with archives and with the documents of the First Congress. Considering the historic interest of this issue, he hopes it will be the object of an exceptional subscription.

- a bulletin that will follow the Vienna congress (details have to be determined)

J.H.Heusser announces that after nine years as editor of AICARC, he will tender his resignation during the 1993 congress. He hopes that the review will pursue its endeavors under its new management.

J. Leenhardt : thanks H.J.Heusser and congratulates him for all the work done. Reminding the assembly that AICARC, one of the main elements of the association, requires financial means, he invites the section presidents to give collective orders as soon as possible so the English edition's deficit can be made up.

H.J.Heusser : concerning the issue on the anniversary of the AICA, of which he underlines again the intellectual and historic importance, he makes it clear that financing will not be possible as it would entail another money advance.

F.de Vree : proposes to subscribe to 25 copies.

M. Van Jole and A. von Graevenitz : declare that they are prepared to do the same.

S.Cherson : suggests an individual subscription for each member.

J. Leenhardt : indicates that, given the fact that this publication is to be the only direct participation of the AICA with regard to this celebration several times postponed because of insufficient means, he is prepared to include this special issue in the budget of the AICA and not in that of the AICARC. He asks for a vote of principle on this question.

Vote : the proposal is unanimously adopted.

K. Levin : announces the approaching publication of the acts of the Santa Monica congress.

A. Rottenberg : presents the project of a review which has already received subsidies from the Polish Department of Culture for its first three issues. Written with the collaboration of AICA members, this review will at first only concern the Eastern countries and will be published in English and in the national languages.

F. de Vree : points out the fact that our view on these countries is sometimes different and that we don't know how the Eastern sections will be organised.

J. Leenhardt : adds that a publication like that suggested must be objective and desires the creation of an editorial committee in order to group together a significant number of members of the AICA (coming from different countries) thus to engaging the AICA's collective international responsibility. Alternatively an international commission could be set up to evaluate whether or not the AICA should implicate itself directly and explicitly in this initiative.

S. Cherson : says that he is interested by this project which could be, according to him, imitated by other regions.

H. J. Heusser : thinks also that such a project could be realised in Switzerland, Austria and Germany.

A. Xydis : suggests a review for the Balkan countries.

J. Leenhardt : closing the discussion, he says that if this kind of project can receive moral support from the AICA, AICARC must remain distinct. He also believes the projects should be coordinated.

III NEXT CONGRESSES

1) Austrian congress

A. Baumer : presenting the programme of the Vienna congress that will take place from June 1st to 6 on the theme " Center and Periphery ", announces that members of the AICA (from Europe, North and South America, Africa and India) have accepted to attend. 150,000 \$ has already been found for the financial support but some other details have to be fixed particularly concerning the follow-up of the congress. The evening of June 1st will be devoted to the anniversary of the AICA. A reception will be offered by the Department of Culture and Education and the Department of Science and Research. The General Assembly will be held in a castle where an exhibition of books and art reviews will be also presented. The agenda of the day is almost set and other details concerning the programme will be sent soon.

J. Leenhardt : thanks and congratulates Angelica Baumer.

2) Puerto Rican congress

S. Cherson : mentions that financial difficulties have placed the Puerto Rico in jeopardy, but thinks that a solution will soon be found and that the congress will take place as planned in October 1993. An optional trip to Sao Paulo for the Biennial will probably follow the congress.

3) Swedish congress

C. Chambert : confirms that the Stockolm congress will take place during the last two weeks of September 1994. The theme remains to be decided but further details on this subject will be available at the next General Assembly. A trip to Malmoë is planned after the congress.

J. Leenhardt : indicates that during his recent visit to Japan, a warm reception to the idea of an Asian congress was received. The AICA has never met in Asia.

IV MISCELLANEOUS

1) Yugoslav section

Z. Koscevic : recalls the deep-running problems that divide the Yugoslav section, several of its members having called for its dissolution and the creation of national sections.

J. Leenhardt : declares that, while he recognized the seriousness of these problems, he cannot accept the creation of national sections as long as the AICA's partner Unesco has not gone forward with such an initiative. He underlines that in the event of the creation of new sections, each of these must be made up of at least a dozen members. While a modification of the association's statutes seems undesirable at this time, other sections should consider applying this numerical restriction to themselves.

He requires, before going ahead, a vote concerning this procedure for the creation of new sections.

Vote : accepted with two abstentions.

P. Restany : mentions the problems the political situation in Yugoslavia causes to some cultural projects. He asks if the AICA could intervene in this.

J. Leenhardt : following this vote, proposes to send a letter outlining the difficulties met at the cultural level.

2) Membership commission

Due to the exceptional circumstances encountered by this commission, four dossiers of candidatures from the Dutsch section could be examined neither in Los Angeles nor in Paris in last December. They have just been submitted to Mr. Freddy de Vree and Mr. Marcel van Jole, members of the commission and to Mr. Liam Kelly, replacing Mrs. Katalin Keseru, who is absent. The four candidatures are accepted but J. Leenhardt asks for a vote on this exceptional procedure.

Vote : approved unanimously

Jean Leering, Wouter Welling, Erik Slagter and Joost Neeuwissen are elected as full members.

A. von Graevenitz : expresses his thanks in the name of those elected and in the name of his section.

3) Nordic art review

J. Leenhardt : Olga Schmedling being absent, he presents the first issue of this review which presents a description of all the art reviews published in the five Nordic countries : Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. He says that this publication is an important element for the circulation of information and imitating this example in other regions might be desirable.

O. Schmedling : has informed us about the programme of the meeting called 'Art Critic and New Challenges in Europe' that will take place in Oslo on October 22 and 23. She will give more details during the Vienna congress.

4) Russian section

A. Jackimovitch : pressed by the time, he cannot present the situation of the Russian section in the ISC and the problems met because of the creation of new states but he assures us that his section is now reorganised even if further solutions and improvements can be found.

J. Leenhardt : recalls the request of the Bureau concerning the selection of artists for the Dakar Biennial and indicates that the answers must be sent as soon as possible.

The meeting is adjourned.

Note from the General Secretary : We are pleased to announce that our colleague Jabra Ibrahim Jabra is able to accept our proposal to enter the Free section. He wishes to express his thanks.