



association internationale des critiques d'art
international association of art critics
asociacion internacional de criticos de arte
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lettre d'information

DECEMBER 1991

Administrative Council
October 9, 1991
Los Angeles

Were present :

Bowen Denis (UK)
Calin Dan (Rumania)
Chambert Christian (Sweden)
Doctor Marcio (Brazil)
Kamal Hassan (Syria)
Kelly Liam (Ireland)
Keseru Katalin (Hungaria)
Kortun Vasif (Turkey)
Koscevic Zelimir (Yugoslavia)
Kuusamo Altti (Finland)
de la Grandville Léone (France)
Leenhardt Jacques (France)
Levin Kim (USA)
Michailidou Mary (Greece)
Pallasmaa Ullamaria (Finland)
van Jole Marcel (Belgium)
Zidarov Philippe (Bulgaria)

Le Corvec Fabienne (Administrative secretary)

Report of the Administrative Council
October 9, 1991
Los Angeles

Jacques Leenhardt thanks the American section and especially Mrs. Kim Levin, president of the section and Mrs. Merle Schipper, congress organizer, for their tenacity despite the various difficulties confronted.

Kim Levin welcomes everybody and thanks all the volunteers who gave her their help.

1 Reading of the Bureau's reports

J. Leenhardt reads the agenda of the meeting, which is carried by the Administrative Council. Before proceeding with the reading of his report, he calls attention to the importance of the international political events of 1991. He underlines the judicious choice made two years ago of the theme of this congress, which will be, he says, a "political" one in the most "noble" sense of the word.

J. Leenhardt announces that Adelaida de Juan, president of the Cuban section, has been prohibited from entering United States, despite the interventions made on her behalf. He hopes that these interventions will succeed and that our colleague will be with us very soon.

1 - Report of the President

J. Leenhardt reads and comments his report. Our congress, he says, will look at the place of art and art criticism in a world which is working the limits of its space, its geography and its cultures. This is, at the same time, a source of hope and a source of anguish but above all a source of reflection.

Fortieth anniversary

J. Leenhardt thinks that the time has finally come to talk of the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of AICA, which has been postponed until now because of insufficient financial means. He proposes to articulate this celebration in two parts :

- in Paris, an official reception during February 1992 (at the occasion of the Administrative Council), with members of Unesco, people in charge of cultural institutions and personalities of the artistic world. The attendance of a speaker is necessary and its choice has to be done.

This date will be confirmed when the General Director of Unesco, who promised to attend this event, will have inform us of his own available dates.

- in Oslo, during the Symposium organized by Olga Schmedling (postponed to spring 1992), a large intellectual participation of AICA could confirm the outstanding importance of this celebration.

These two events, one in Paris at Unesco headquarters, the other in Norway during an international meeting, could give to this jubilee the proper brilliance.

This suggestion is approved by the Administrative Council.

2 - Report of the General Secretariat

Christian Chambert, president of the Swedish section, asks what can be done to give a response to the letter of Mr. Jabra I Jabra. After discussion, it is decided to address a letter, in the name of AICA, to Mr. Jabra I Jabra, in order to show him our sympathy and to address a protest letter to the Irakien mission to Unesco.

J. Leenhardt, before inviting Liam Kelly to speak, reminds briefly the changes that have took place at the Bureau : the anticipated appointment of Liam Kelly, last February, to the function of General Treasurer, followed Jacques Meuris' resignation (due to a new demand of Unesco's concerning the remittance of the subsidy in Paris). He recalls that the nomination of Liam Kelly must be officially confirmed during the General Assembly.

3 - Report of the General Treasury

J. Leenhardt, in accordance with the wishes of Unesco, presents the new accounting plan which will be adopted next year.

II Activities of the sections

J. Leenhardt underlines the fact that it is abnormal that the national sections haven't many intellectual projects to offer to Unesco. One must stop believing that the international Bureau can assume all the work itself. Its mission is to help, to inform, to be an intermediary but it is the role of the national sections to conceive projects that can be supported by Unesco and also other cultural institutions.

J. Leenhardt accounts for the excellent work of Anda Rottenberg, president of the Polish section, during the exhibition intitled "Unknown Europe" which was held in Cracow and during the informal meeting that followed. He sees, in this, an example of the kind of initiatives that can be taken by the national sections in order to make the AICA more visible at an international level. He insists on the support, not financial but strategic, that the "moral" support of AICA can provide towards the realization of such projects and he underlines the determining effect of the support of Unesco on the search for supplementary funding.

From this point of view, J. Leenhardt details the mechanisms of the different forms of help proposed by Unesco : participating programmes, intervention of its national commissions, sponsorship... As he had promised, the General Secretariat will send the necessary information concerning the objectives of Unesco and perhaps other cultural institutions (see annex). It is not only, he says, a question of organization of congresses and meetings, but also sustaining our role as experts and remaining ready to intervene as institutions around the world may desire our assistance.

" I address then to all of you a pressing call so you can summon up your strength to work in this way and I repeat once again that we must work together ! "

Zelimir Koscevic, president of the Yugoslav section, insists on the necessity to realize intercultural regional projects.

Philippe Zidarov, member of the Bulgarian section, proposes the creation of a bulletin which would offer knowledge about the activities of one and all.

J. Leenhardt admits that it is one of the objectives of the Bureau but that it is necessary, first of all, to resolve the problems of funds, mailing and so on.

Marcel van Jole deplores that the proposal of Samuel Cherson and the Puertorican section to centralize the information didn't give good results.

J. Leenhardt underlines this lack of communication. The Bureau, he says, is often informed very late of the National sections' activities, even when it is really a satisfactory task and that it could be credited to us. He renews insistently his demand to be informed, rapidly and shortly, of all the activities that have, upon any grounds, an international nature and to be also informed of the cost of these realizations.

Some projects are now held over (workshops in Latina America, publishing of a book which contains critical texts published all over the Latina American continent). Other projects are in progress :

- the Symposium of Dublin at the end of 1991
- the Internordic meeting in March or April 1992
- an International meeting in Palerme on Europe/Africa relations, planned for 1992-1993

Marcel van Jole recalls that after the Canadian congress, the Belgian section, with the help of three international representatives, has organized an information meeting for the ones who could not attend the congress, in order to report on the intellectual tenor of the debates. He suggests to the present responsible persons to do the same.

J.Leenhardt approves this practice, saying that this can be useful for the young art critics who can not attend the congresses because they can't afford the costs.

K.Levin explains how she could get financial support to help the art critics coming from the economically disavantaged countries to assist at the congress. For example, the Getty Fondation has supported a part of the costs for 23 of our colleagues which are with us today.

J.Leenhardt congratulates K.Levin and thanks her for this hearty initiative.

III New sections

Lithuania : the creation of an independant section is in progress.

Estonia : the same demand has been addressed to the President by our Estonians colleagues. J.Leenhardt recalls that the representatives of the Soviet section had agreed to this creation during the Administrative Council of February 1991.

Note from the General Secretariat :

The Philippines : after the Congress, we received a long letter from one of the representatives of the section that we had met in Paris in November 1989. He announces that the section is on reactivity and he sends 13 dossiers of candidature for full membership, which will be transmitted to the Commission in charge of the admittance.

Bulgaria : we have just been informed with pleasure that the Bulgarian section is getting restructurated.

IV Appointments at the Commissions

Audit Commission

Marcel van Jole, Christian Chambert, Philippe Zidarov

Elections at the Administrative Council's Commission

Denis Bowen, Freddy de Vree, Anda Rottenberg

Elections at the vice-presidency's Commission

Dan Calin, Katalin Keseru, Marcel van Jole

V Agenda of the General Assembly

Facing the busy working time-table and the numerous participants at this congress, J. Leenhardt is thinking of an unusual procedure for the General Assembly. He proposes to hold it in two separate sessions, the first one being devoted to the elections.

The proposal is unanimously voted.

VI Miscellaneous

Zelimir Koscevic asks to speak in order to expose the tragic situation of Yugoslavia and the extent of damages made to the cultural heritage. He asks the AICA to make an official intervention towards Unesco.

J. Leenhardt answers that this protest seems to him completely well-founded but that it must be voted in General Assembly.

On the other hand, it is unanimously decided that, in the name of all the members of AICA, the President will address a letter to Jacques and Fernande Meuris in order to thank them for the seventeen years they have given to the association.

Finally, **Liam Kelly** mentions two mistakes about which we are apologizing : he is the president of the Irish section and Bruce Campbell is the vice-president; the Dublin's Symposium will be held in December, not in November.

J. Leenhardt adjourns the meeting.

General Assembly
First session, October 12, 1991
Los Angeles

Were present :

Anker Valentina (Switzerland)
Aribault Robert (France)
Bassin Aleksander (Yugoslavia)
Beguiristain Teresa (Spain)
Bowen Denis (UK)
Braff Phyllis (USA)
Campbell Bruce (Ireland)
Calin Dan (Rumania)
Chambert Christian (Sweden)
Cherson Samuel (Puerto Rico)
Dagbert Anne (France)
Daza Gloria Ines (Columbia)
De Vree Freddy (Belgium)
Doctor Marcio (Brazil)
Gauthier Ninon (Canada)
Henry Ruth (France)
Heusser Hans Jorg (Switzerland)
Honnef Klaus (Germany)
Jackimovich Alexandre (USSR)
Kamal Hassan (Syria)
Kelly Liam (Ireland)
Keseru Katalin (Hungaria)
Knaepen J. (Belgium)
Kortun Vasif (Turkey)
Koscevic Zelimir (Yugoslavia)
Kuusamo Altti (Finland)
La Grandville Léone de (France)
Lamarova Bohumila Milena (Czechoslovakia)
Leenhardt Jacques (France)
Legrand Francine (Belgium)
Lely Catarina (Italy)
Levin Kim (USA)
Lora Silvano (Dominican republic)
Michailidou Mary (Greece)
Morozov Alexandre (USSR)

Needham Gerald (Canada)
 Pallasmaa Ullamaria (Finland)
 Perez Ruiz Jose Antonio (Puerto Rico)
 Rottenberg Anda (Poland)
 Sarcevic Grozdana (Yugoslavia)
 Sarje Kimmo (Finland)
 Scavenius Bente (Denmark)
 Schulz Bernhard (Germany)
 Stanley Jacqueline (Ireland)
 Stipancic Branka (Yugoslavia)
 Tio Bellido Ramon (France)
 van Jole Marcel (Belgium)
 Vitt Walter (Germany)
 Wittlich Peter (Czechoslovakia)
 Zidarov Philippe (Bulgaria)

Le Corvec Fabienne (Administrative secretary)

<p style="text-align: center;">Report of the General Assembly First session - October 12, 1991 Los Angeles</p>

After approval of the accounts by the three auditors (Messrs. Van Jole, Chambert and Zidarov), the president recalls the voting procedures.

1) Election of the General Treasurer

Jacques Leenhardt explains about the temporary role of General Treasurer that Liam Kelly assumed after Jacques Meuris' resignation and the necessity today to legalize this nomination. After he thanks him and being no other candidate, the President proposes to proceed to this confirmation by a freehand vote.

Vote : Liam Kelly is unanimously elected.

2) Election of the vice-presidents

J. Leenhardt specifies that there's only two retiring vice-presidents this year.

- Hans Jorg Heusser (Switzerland)
- Hélène Lassalle (France)

Consequently, two new vice-presidents must be elected. Four names are proposed :

- Christian Chambert (president of the Swedish section)
- Alexandre Jackimovitch (USSR)
- Kim Levin (president of the American section)
- Jose Antonio Perez Ruiz (president of the Puertorican section)

After counting of the votes, **Kim Levin and Christian Chambert are elected vice-presidents**

3) Election of the members of the Administrative Council

It is recalled that AICA must elect every year ten of its members at the Administrative Council. Fifteen names are proposed ; are elected :

- Valentina Anker (Switzerland)
- Alexandre Bassin (Yugoslavia)
- Teresa Beguiristain (Spain)
- Denis Bowen (UK)
- Sam Cherson (Puerto Rico)
- Peter Frank (USA)
- Klaus Honnef (Germany)
- Alexander Jackimovitch (USSR)
- Anda Rottenberg (Poland)
- Kimmo Sarje (Finland)

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General Assembly
Second session, October 14, 1991
Los Angeles

Were present :

Anker Valentina (Switzerland)
Aribault Robert (France)
Askey Ruth (USA)
Badiane Alioune (Senegal)
Bassin Aleksander (Yugoslavia)
Baumer Angelica (Austria)
Beguiristain Teresa (Spain)
Biron Normand (Canada)
Bogner Dieter (Austria)
Boyadjiev Luchezar (Bulgaria)
Bowen Denis (UK)
Braff Phyllis (USA)
Chambert Christian (Sweden)
Cherson Samuel (Puerto Rico)
Dagbert Anne (France)
De Vree Freddy (Belgium)
Dragone Piergiorgio (Italy)
Dumont Fabienne (Belgique)
Gauthier Ninon (Canada)
Goldman Shifra M. (USA)
Goodman Linda (USA)
Guttmann Beatriz (Spain)
Heusser Hans Jorg (Switzerland)
Honnef Klaus (Germany)
Jackimovich Alexandre (USSR)
Kamal Hassan (Syria)
Kelly Liam (Ireland)
Keseru Katalin (Hungaria)
Koscevic Zelimir (Yugoslavia)
Kuusamo Altti (Finland)
La Grandville Léone de (France)
Lamarova Bohumila Milena (Czechoslovakia)
Lasarow Bill (USA)
Leenhardt Jacques (France)
Lely Catarina (Italy)
Levels Marlies (USA)
Lora Silvano (Dominican republic)
Mac Donald Robert (USA)

- Molinari Anina (Argentina)
- Morozov Alexandre (USSR)
- Ngom Amadou G. (Senegal)
- Needham Gerald (Canada)
- Pallasmaa Ullamaria (Finland)
- Perez Ruiz Jose Antonio (Puerto Rico)
- Rennhofer Maria (Austria)
- Reynders Tincke (Netherlands)
- Rottenberg Anda (Poland)
- Sarcevic Grozdana (Yugoslavia)
- Sarje Kimmo (Finland)
- Scavenius Bente (Denmark)
- Schipper Merle (USA)
- Stanley Jacqueline (Ireland)
- Stipancic Branka (Yugoslavia)
- Taylor Brandon (UK)
- Tio Bellido Ramon (France)
- van Jole Marcel (Belgium)
- Vitt Walter (Germany)
- Wittlich Peter (Czechoslovakia)
- Zidarov Philippe (Bulgaria)

- Le Corvec Fabienne (Administrative secretary)

**Report of the General Assembly
Second session, October 14 1991
Los Angeles**

I Reports of the Bureau

1) President's report and comments

J. Leenhardt underlines the fact that 1991 is a year of changes for the AICA, partly because of the nomination of a new President and a new General Treasurer.

He adds : " If we took these responsibilities, it's with the intention to widen prospects that History itself prescribes to us, through all the events happening in Europe." He notes with satisfaction that the actions undertaken by Kim Levin and the American section to facilitate the coming of our Eastern colleagues, as the ones led by Anda Rottemberg last spring in Cracow, have given to this 25th congress a new configuration and that it is in front of a large and diversified assembly that we could debate the evolution of art, of art criticism and its position in a changing world.

After the opening of an East/West axis, he wishes to establish a North/South axis of which the future Dakar Biennial will be the first step. We have had, he says, two congresses in Latin America during recent years, in Caracas and in Buenos Aires, and the congress of 1993 is planned to be held in Puerto Rico. We must now turn our forces to the African and Asian continents. This is, he adds, an essential objective.

The report is carried unanimously.

2) Report of the General Secretary

The report is carried unanimously.

3) Report of the General Treasurer

J. Leenhardt recalls the explanations given during the Administrative Council about the accounting and Unesco's request.

Liam Kelly reports on a gain of 6000\$ compared to last year, which is, he says, a consequence of the realignment of all the contributions on a 15\$ basis.

J. Leenhardt insists on the necessity for the AICA of a new general policy and a growth of international cultural activities. He addressed a pressing call in this sense to all the presidents, the vice-presidents and the people in charge of the national sections.

The report is carried unanimously (one abstention)

Resolution : as announced in the agenda, Mrs. Shifra Goldman, member of the American section, is invited to speak in order to present a resolution which protests against the fact that Adelaida de Juan, president of the Cuban section, has been prohibited from entering United States without valid reason. Even if this problem is now solved, it is too late and it doesn't change, according to Mrs. Goldman, the gravity of the situation.

After discussion, it is proposed to advise in the future the national section and the international Bureau if such case should arise again.

Vote : 40 votes of agreement, 5 abstentions

II Commissions' reports

1) Fortieth anniversary of the AICA

J. Leenhardt recapitulates his proposals exposed during the Administrative Council.

- in Paris, a conference and a reception perhaps in February 1992, according to the available dates of the General Director of Unesco
- in Oslo, a participation of the AICA during the international meeting planned for spring 1992
- AICARC Bulletin : a history of the AICA, split into two special issues to be published over the next two years

2) AICARC's report

Hans Jorg Heusser, the review's editor, thanks Brandon Taylor, member of the British section, for his participation at the special issue's publication of "Britain and Beyond : the dialogue of Ideas". He also thanks all the members of the British section for their assistance.

He confirms his agreement for the publishing of a special double issue on AICA's history. He requests from all the presidents and the members of AICA their assistance for this search for the "past" of the AICA (unpublished records, testimonies, portraits, memories and so on).

On the other hand, the Austrian section envisages the possibility of publishing the Acts of the Vienna congress of June 1992. Other participation is also planned with the Czechoslovakian, Danish, Spanish and Irish sections.

Hans Jorg Heusser recalls the very low cost of the bulletin : 5 dollars for a normal issue, 6 dollars for a special issue. He wishes a paying distribution to all the sections in order to increase its circulation.

3) "Art/Nature" Commission

Bente Scavenius, member of the Danish section, resumes Gertrud Sutton's project specifications concerning the "Tranekaer Center for Kunst og Natur (Tickon). He recalls that the Danish section wishes to bring together painters, sculptors, musicians, poets and so on.

J. Leenhardt precises that this Commission was created in order to bring together different projects concerning similar approaches and that an association is doing the same in Austria, Germany and Italy in order to create a network of institutions and persons interested by these new relations between art, nature and environment.

A worldwide conference on environment will be held in Rio de Janeiro in June. It is true that the same kind of problems are met all around the world. J. Leenhardt asks everybody to look after any information that could be interesting for the "Art/Nature" Commission or the "Art in nature" association.

III Admission to Full membership

Katalin Keseru, Marcel van Jole and Freddy de Vree have examined all the candidatures sent directly to the congress and they announce the results :

Belgian section

Bart de Baere
Anita Nardon
Erno Vroonen
Madeleine Van Oucenhove
Josefa Knaepen

Brazilian section

Wolfgang Pfeiffer
Lisbeth Rebello Goncalves
Lelia Coelho Frota
Georges Racz

Spanish section

Conxita Oliver Caestany
Josep Bracons
Gloria Picazo
Antonio Urrutia Raspall
Marie-Claire Uerquoi
Rosalia Torrent

French section

Jean-Louis Andral
Martine Arnault
Jean-Louis Baudry
Christian Beranrd
Barry Bergdoll
Bernadette Bost
Alain Coulange
Jean-Pierre Criqui
Georges Didi-Huberman
Doris Van Dratein
Christian Gattinoni
Frederic Paul
Jacques Souillou

Norwegian section

Jon Ove Steihaug
Laima Petruseviciute
An Christine Eek

Swedish section

Anden Papadopoulos Kari
Castenfors Marten
Karlholm Dan
Lindahl Gudrun
Sylvan Bo
Weimarch Torsten
Vilks Lars
Aman Jan
Sandqvist

J. Leenhardt calls attention to the problem of the candidatures that could not be examined : one of the suitcases, containing all the documents, was sent mistakenly to Bangui by United Airlines and hasn't been repatriated yet. All the candidatures of the Lithuanian section are in this suitcase and J. Leenhardt says that it would be annoying to postpone the creation of this new section until the next General Assembly, as it would be for the other candidatures too. He asks therefore an agreement in principle on the sitting, this fall, of a special commission constituted of three members of different countries, in order to pursue the work on the question of admission.

Unanimous vote of agreement.

IV Next congresses

Angelica Baumer announces the programme of the Vienna congress which will be held from June 1st to June 6, on the theme : "Center and periphery".

Jose Antonio Perez Ruiz confirms that Puerto Rico's congress of 1993 will be on the theme : "Encounter of two worlds", at the occasion of the celebration of the 500th anniversary of America's discovery. He proposes to hold it from September 25th to October 5th, which will coincide with the dates of the Art Festival.

Christian Chambert reports on the work in progress for the Swedish congress of 1994, on which he will give further information.

V Projects and programmes

J. Leenhardt details again the future objectives of AICA:

- national projects with an international aim
- collaboration with other cultural institutions

1) African Biennial

Alioune Badiane, president of the Senegalese section, recalls the steps of the elaboration of the African Biennial since 1989 and he finally announces its creation. The African Biennial will take place in Dakar, from December 10th to December 20th, on the theme "African art between past and future".

A. Badiane requests the participation of the AICA

J. Leenhardt declares that this project is totally in agreement with our concerns and he asks the agreement of the Assembly, which is given.

2) International workshops in Europe

Maria-Teresa Beguiristain presents two international workshop projects.

- the first one with the collaboration of the Cuenca's International Museum of Electrographia, has as objective the invitation of ten foreign artists to work "in situ". This project would be financed by the Museum and the University.

- the second one, similar, would be supported and welcomed by the Villafames' Popular Contemporary Art Museum but it would be reserved to painters and sculptors.

3) An AICA prize at the Montreal's Video film Festival

Normand Biron, at the occasion of the Video film on art Festival, wishes to create an AICA prize of criticism and he announces the agreement of principle from the Festival's president.

J. Leenhardt answers positively to this proposal.

4) International meeting in Sicilia

Sicilia keenly wishes the participation and the sponsorship of AICA in order to organize in 1993 an international meeting on Mediterranean art.

5) Inter-Nordic project

- Catalog of Inter-Nordic's review
- Inter-Nordic's seminary on art criticism on November 13th & 14th in Helsinki (Finland) : " Elitism / Populism : freedom of expression/ medium/ type"
- International meeting in Oslo (Norway) next spring

6) Irish project

An international symposium : "The concept of the city as art", December 1991 in Dublin (European city of Culture for 1991)

As planned on the agenda, **J. Leenhardt** invites **Zelimir Koscevic** to speak in order to expose the situation in Yugoslavia. **Anda Rottemberg** reads the declaration addressed to Mr. **Federico Mayor**, General Director of Unesco.

S Cherson asks which are the regions represented here by our colleagues.

Alexandre Bassin says that he's from Slovenia.

Grozdana Sarcevic, native of Serbia, asks that the declaration not only evoke the damages caused to the cultural heritage but that it should also mention the numerous victims, who are in greater number than official numbers imply

She suggests alerting other international institutions, as the European Council, and addressing this letter to the Presidents of Yugoslavia, Serbia and Croatia.

N.Biron supports her request.

J.Leenhardt asks for a formal vote of acceptance for this representation.

The Assembly gives its agreement.

VI New sections

J.Leenhardt presents the request of our Lithuanian colleagues to create an independant section. He thinks that it is desirable to undertake a favourable gesture immediately.

He recalls that the documents for the creation of the section will be sent soon and that the candidatures to full membership will be examined as planned before. He asks the Assembly for a vote of principle to be ratified later.

Unanimous vote of agreement.

J.Leenhardt mentions the similar request of Estonia and asks for another vote of principle.

Unanimous vote of agreement.

The President mentions the drastic and arbitrary dissolution of the Iraki section, discussed in the letter of our friend Jabra Ibrahim Jabra. He proposes to welcome him and all others who wish it to the free section. On the other hand, he suggests addressing an official protest letter to the Iraki mission to Unesco. After discussion, a vote on this question is requested.

Unanimous vote of agreement, **minus one voice**.

VII Necrology

French section : Ramon Tio Bellido, president of the French section, grieves over the death of Georges Boudaille, one of the great figures of French criticism. In charge of the cultural department of French Letters, former president of the French section of the AICA, president of the Paris Biennial from 1971 to 1985, he has been in charge of the setting up of "Germinations".

One of his essential preoccupations was finding new talents and he really marked art criticism in France over the last 40 years.

German section : Walter Vitt, president of the German section, announces the death of Mr. Joachim Buchner, curator of the Hanover Museum.

Hungarian section : Katalin Keseru announces the recent death of Professor Lajos Németh, director of the Art history department at Budapest University and member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. She recalls that the only congress he could attend was the Tbilissi congress.

After a minute of silence, J. Leenhardt adjourns the meeting.

**Activities' report of the national section
December 1991**

American section

President : Kim Levin

During the annual meeting held in Washington last February, lectures were given by various art critics on the theme : " Approaching the Millenium : critics view the Nineties ". The 25th congress of the AICA in Santa Monica (October 10th to 15th) was brilliantly organized by the American section, which obtained the attendance of 33 countries as well as financial help for the stay of 23 critics coming from Eastern Europe and Third World.

The theme of the congress: " Beyond walls and wars: art, politics and multiculturalism " was the occasion to reassemble many speakers.

The American section organized in December 1990 a symposium on contemporary art in Africa. The section also took part in different conferences in Eastern Europe during last spring.

Belgian section

President : Freddy de Vree

The Belgian section held a meeting, after the Canadian congress and with the participation of foreign representatives, in order to report on the events for the ones who could't attend the congress.

A conference on the themes of the congress has then been organized in November, with the presence of Mrs. Gertrud Sutton (Denmark), Mr. René Berger (Switzerland) and Mr. Charles van der Geer (Netherlands).

December has been choosed for a next meeting.

A catalog's annual prize has been awarded by the Belgian section to the Fine Arts Museum for its catalog of the exhibition of the sculptures and drawings of Wilhem Lehmbruck, Georges Minne and Joseph Benys.

Spanish section

President : Vicente Aguilera Cerni

The General Assembly of last February elected its Board.

The national congress of art critics, on the theme "Spanish sculpture of Thirties" was organized from November 1st to 4th 1990 by the Andalusian section. The acts of the congress were published in January 1991.

In November 1990, a seminary on Russian art were organized with the assistance of the Andalusian section, the Universitary Institute of Creativity and the University of Valencia.

The second prize of the criticism were awarded in December 1991 (Valencia section).

On November 8 and 9 1991, a second seminary of the Criticism on the theme "Art of the Eighties" were held at the Modern Art Museum of Valencia. The publication of the acts is planned for the beginning of 1992. (section of Valencia)

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A conference on Canadian art with Mr. Virgil Hammock, at that time president of the Canadian section, were organized at the Architecture College of Valencia, with the collaboration of the Institute of Creativity and the section of Valencia.

Elaboration of the different projects :

- Directory of the Spanish section (planned for January/February 1992)
- National meeting of the art critics (planned for the first quarter of 1992)
- Opening of international workshops of Graphics art with the collaboration of the Cuenca's museum of Electrographia and the University of Castille-La Mancha.
- Creation of international art workshops (painting and sculpture), in collaboration with the Popular Museum of contemporary art of Villafamès (Castellon) and the section of Valencia.
- Seminary on "Soviet criticism and aesthetics" in collaboration with the Institute of Creativity, the University of Valencia and the section of Valencia.

Finnish section

President : Altti Kuusamo

From September 1990 to September 1991, the Finnish section held three ordinary meetings and one General Assembly.

A symposium on "Criterion of the Criticism" was held in April, during which three lectures were given by the members and the president of the section. A large debate followed concerning the role of the art critic.

In September, an open forum was held on the Artist/Criticism relations.

Dutch section

President : Antje von Graevenitz

The AICA took part in an international symposium, in collaboration with the Stedelijk van Abbemuseum, on November 30th and December 12th. The theme was "To write on art".

Norwegian section

President : Olga Schmedling

The section met five times. Two conferences were held, one on the East/West contemporary art, the other on the modernism and post-modernism.

The section has published a catalog of inter-nordic's review (June), it has also organized a seminary on art and criticism in Finland (November and December) and a seminary on the new Europe.

Soviet section

President : Alexandre Morozov

Three round-table conferences reassembled this year the members of the Soviet section. Their objectives were :

- definition of the activities'programme (March)
- to take stock on the activities of the art reviews (April)
- signature of a document prepared by the German and Soviet sections on the return of the artistic values. Publishing in the press (June)

The association took part in :

- a scientific conference in Ekaterinbourg on the theme of art through the political and economical events,
- a meeting paying homage to Kazimir Malevitch,
- a debate following the exhibition "An other art", alternative art of the Sixties and the Seventies in USSR.

Mr. Virgil Hammock, at that time president of the Canadian section, was invited by the Soviet section to give two lectures in Moscow. Mr. Normand Biron and Mrs. Tatiana Démidoff-Séguin, respectively president of the Canadian section and member of this section, were invited to visit Russia.

Four lectures were given in Moscow by art critics of the Spanish section and Mrs. Béatriz Guttmann presented two exhibitions in Moscow.

Several travels of studies were organized within the framework of the exchanges between the sections of the AICA.

Germany : A. Morozov, A. Jakimovitch, V. Philippov, M. Guerman.

United Kingdom : L. Ourazbekova, A. Khakimov

Spain (seminary in Valencia) : L. Ourazbekova, A. Khakimov, O. Kovalenko.

Swedish section

President : Christian Chambert

Eight meetings were organized this year. In March, a conference on the new museums of modern art and architecture was held in Stockholm.

In collaboration with the ABT and the Stockholm City art Fair, another conference took place also in March, in Sollentuna, on the theme : "Art, Criticism, Capital".

Finally, an inter-nordic conference on the theme "Elitism/Populism" was held on November 13th and 14th.