

Concerning cooperation with UNESCO, you may remember that AICA recommend that the 1999 UNESCO Prize be awarded at the 6th Istanbul Biennial. While the recommendation was not taken that year, it is gratifying to note that the 2001 UNESCO Prize was awarded at the 7th Istanbul Biennial. The jury, chaired by Pierre Restany, consisted of Fulya Erdemci, Adriano Perdroso, Hans-Ulrich Obrist, and Manray Hsu, all excellent choice. However, once again AICA's Bureau and Board were neither consulted nor informed by UNESCO, there was no communication from Pierre Restany, and the status of AICA cooperation with UNESCO for this project remains vague and unclear. We are in the process of clarifying this matter with UNESCO.

Concerning the proposed revisions to AICA's international Statutes and Regulations, a meeting of members of the Steering and Statutes Committees took place in Venice on June 11th to discuss the many thoughtful comments on the proposed revisions that were submitted by many national sections. Two further committee meetings took place in Zagreb during the Congress, with careful attention being given to specific proposals and suggestions from sections, particularly two substantive issues: categories of membership and payment of dues. The AICA Statutes and Regulations require the Administrative Council to make a recommendation on any revisions at least two months prior to a General Assembly, and revisions were still being fine-tuned in Zagreb. Therefore, the discussion and vote, originally scheduled for the 2001 General Assembly, had to be postponed until the 2002 General Assembly, in Abidjan.

Regarding AICA cooperation with external projects, the Ars Aevi project in Sarajevo continues to progress, against all odds, with plans for a museum of contemporary art (with the help of UNESCO, architect Renzo Piano, and many artists and museum curators). Ars Aevi's director and organizers are greatly appreciative of AICA's ongoing moral support and presence at symposium events in Sarajevo.

The future role of AICA in the 21st century was the subject of a lively and extremely useful panel discussion which took place at the Art Gallery Dubrovnik during the post-Congress trip, following a talk by Catherine David. Many excellent suggestions were made by participants on the panel and from the floor. At the next Bureau meeting, I will present these suggestions to the Secretary General and the Treasurer for discussion, and hopefully we will be able to act on them. Also regarding the future of AICA, the next President will be elected at the 2002 Congress in Ivory Coast. Please remember that candidates must announce their candidacy to the Paris Bureau by 23 February 2002.

With warmest holiday wishes and hopes for happiness, health, and peace in the new year.

Kim Levin

UPCOMING CONGRESS : 2002 - IVORY COAST

OCTOBER 20/28 2002 -
ABIDJAN /
YAMOOUSSOUKRO

ART, MINORITIES AND MAJORITIES

The following schedule is proposed
for the 36th Congress which will
take place in Ivory Coast:

Sunday 20th: Registration of the
participants, Administrative Council
From October 21st to 23rd:
Lectures and openings of some special
exhibitions
October 23rd: Lunch and afternoon
at Grand-Bassam
October 24th: Departure to
Yamoussoukro, visit of the city
October 26th: Return to Abidjan,
night at Assinie
October 27th: Return to Abidjan in
the afternoon
October 28th: End of the Congress;
Departure of the participants from
Abidjan

The proposed sub-themes will be
orientated towards the problems
created by globalisation in relation
to both professional and theoretical
issues, and to related aspects,
such as the impact of art criticism,
exhibitions, collections... A propos
of this, a specially devised exhibition
of contemporary African art
will be set up, in full cooperation
with the congress organizers.

Requests and applications for partnership
have been addressed to the
Ford Foundation, the Prince Klaus
Foundation and to National
Cultural Agencies in many countries
(AFAA, British Council, Goethe
Institute, Pro-Helvetia, etc...).

Further information about the
conference programme, calls for
paper and information about travel
and accommodation will be sent to
all the AICA members in April 2002.

aica NEWSLETTER

international
association
of art critics

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December 2001

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c/o Accès Local - 15, rue Martel 75010 Paris France
Tél. 33 (0)1 47 70 17 42 . Fax 33 (0)1 47 70 17 81
e-mail : paris.office@aica-int.org
http://www.aica-int.org
with help from UNESCO

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NEWSLETTER ON LINE (#18)

Dear friends and colleagues,

I am happy to report that at the General Assembly of the 2001 AICA Congress in Croatia, Ramon Tio Bellido was elected nearly unanimously to a second four-year term as Secretary General. It has been a great pleasure to work together with Ramon for a good of AICA during the past four years, and I look forward to continuing our cordial cooperation, together with General Treasurer Angelica Bäumer, for the remainder of my term. We warmly welcome AICA's two newly elected Vice Presidents, Yakouba Konaté and Marianne de Tolentino, and the ten newly elected Board members: Nada Beros, Denis Bowen, Leonida Kovac, Viktor Misiano, Ludovico Pratesi, Kimmo Sarje, Simon Sheikh, Jadranka Vinterhalter, Antje Von Graevenitz, Nick Whittle; and look forward to their participation at the February meeting of the Administrative Council in Paris.

The 2001 Congress was very well organized by AICA-Croatia, and was a great success, thanks to careful planning by Congress organizers Berislav Valucek, Leonida Kovac, and Jadrenka Vinterhalter. Thanks also to Nada Beros, who arranged a special lecture by Okwui Enwezor at the Goethe Institute in Zagreb. A formidable amount of effort – by the host section and the cooperating organizations and institutions – always precedes a Congress. Everyone involved did a wonderful job. The symposium was excellent, the program enjoyable, the hospitality remarkable, and the post-Congress trip to Dubrovnik and environs was perfect.

We were honored by the presence of Marcel Van Jole of AICA-Belgium, who has been active in AICA for a span of about fifty years. And we were rejuvenated by the presence of Nina Guetashvili's daughter, who took a keen interest in the events. Though our profession sometimes leads to supercriticality in life as in art, there was hardly a complaint to be heard. The symposium theme, "Strategie of Power" and subthemes (The Legacy of Modernism, Institutional Frameworks, Sexuality and Power) provoked many excellent papers that offered new paths of thought. And in the immediate aftermath of the events of September 11th, the theme acquired added relevance.

Three months later, the fire in lower Manhattan continues to burn. Conditions for colleagues who live or work in that area of the city are still far from normal. It pains me to say that New York has now joined Sarajevo, Zagreb, Dubrovnik, Belgrade, Belfast, Beirut, Jerusalem, and too many other

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Contributing Editors: Anne-Claude MORICE
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REPORT ON THE 54TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ZAGREB,
OCTOBER 4TH, 2001

All the decisions submitted to a
vote during the General Assembly
as well as the main points discussed
had been broached and agreed
during the Administrative Council
which took place on September 30,
2001, in Zagreb.

1. Vote by show of hands on Reports from the International Bureau

Vote by show of hands on the
President's report: accepted by a
majority, with 9 abstentions.

Vote by show of hands on the
General Secretary's report: accepted
by a majority, with 1 against and 1 ab-
stention.

Vote by show of hands on the
General Treasurer's report:
accepted unanimously.

2. Report from the Financial Commission

Vote by show of hands to approve
the report: accepted unanimously.

3. Report from the
Membership Commission
150 out of 195 candidates, submitted
by 30 countries, were accepted as new
international members of AICA.

Vote by show of hands to approve
the report: accepted by the majority

4. Elections

General Secretary: Ramon Tio Bellido
was the only candidate to apply for this
new mandate. From 33 voting by
secret ballot, Ramon Tio Bellido was
elected for a mandate of 4 years
by a majority, with 1 abstention and
2 against.

Vice Presidents: two posts to be filled.
The candidates proposed for the vice
presidencies were:

Chausin Chen (Taiwan);
Yacouba Konaté (Ivory Coast);
Marianne de Tolentino (Dominican
Republic); Andrei Tolstói (Russia).
From 33 voting by secret ballot, the
results are: Chausin Chen: 8 votes;
Yacouba Konaté: 30 votes;
Marianne de Tolentino: 16 votes;
Andrei Tolstói: 12 votes.

Yacouba Konaté (Ivory Coast) and

places around the globe as a wounded and traumatized city. Those of you
who come from cities that have endured years of conflict already know bet-
ter than New Yorkers what it means to be under attack. Many colleagues
around the world sent messages of sadness and concerns. My personnel
thanks for these letters, e-mails, faxes, phone calls, and telegrams, which
meant a great deal.

It is to AICA's credit that AICA-USA immediately set up a disaster website
so members of the art community could search and account for each other
after the attack, as well as offering shelter and hospitality to those unable to
return to their homes. The US section and its president, Amei Wallach, per-
formed a greatly needed service. A number of colleagues visiting from South
Africa, Poland, Cuba, and other countries had narrow escapes, as did many in
the New York art community. There was a single death: George Michaels,
who was artist-in-residence at the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's studio
on the World Trade Center's 91st floor.

To update you on recent AICA initiatives, I am pleased that the AICA state-
ment deploring politicized attacks on our colleagues, which was proposed
during the 2001 February Board meeting and sent out as a press release in
March, has proven useful. At that time, a vicious politicized campaign was
taking place against former AICA Vice President Anda Rottenberg, who was
director of Zacheta in Warsaw. Several colleagues elsewhere have also been
under politicized pressure recently for reasons extraneous to professional
expertise or achievement, including Aneta Szyrak, founder/director of Laznia
in Gdansk. Regrettably, in a charged political atmosphere, the AICA state-
ment, which was published in some Polish newspapers, could not prevent
either of our colleagues in Poland from being dismissed from their jobs.
Aneta Szyrak has submitted a memorandum to AICA calling for a code of
ethics, with suggestions regarding issues of professional behavior and rights,
which will be discussed. We also received a dossier from AICA-Macedonia ("
Terrorism against Culture ") about the plundering of art treasures there, with
a call for an AICA protest against attacks on the world's cultural heritage. A
statement is in the process of preparation.

The financial Oversight Committee (Haydee Venegas, Phyllis Braff, and
Brane Kovic) deserves commendation for its careful work and excellent ini-
tiatives, including recommendations regarding fees and expenses, and an
outline of the responsibilities of Treasurer. These should prove useful in
future, as should the invitation letter prepared by the Secretary General and
myself, to be sent to a limited number of selected potential Benefactors. It
remains obvious that we need a more active Development Committee to
assume the ongoing tasks of development and fundraising, as well as active
Professional Issues Committee.

As for Art Planet, the news is excellent. Tineke Reijnders of AICA-
Netherlands has made a special initiative on behalf of AICA, and has done a
great service by making contact with the Prince Klaus Fund in the
Netherlands, which offered to sponsor a special issue of Art Planet on the
theme of "Beauty in Context". Due to the fund's tight deadline and the
logistics of compiling a precise table of contents and contributors, the
Editorial Board did not feel it was possible to comply with the fund's require-
ments for the issue already in progress. We hope to cooperate with the
Prince Klaus Fund on the following issue. Another special initiative on behalf
of AICA has been made by Chausin Chen, president of one of AICA's newest
section, Free Section / Taiwan. He has obtained funding in Taiwan to cover
production costs for the Art Planet issue now in progress, thus enabling the

Marianne de Tolentino (Dominican
Republic) were elected for a manda-
te of 3 years.

New members of Administrative
Council for the year 2001/2002:
ten posts, each year, to be filled.
From 30 voting by secret ballot, the
results were: Nada Beros (Croatia):
12 votes; Denis Bowen (United
Kingdom): 10 votes; Leonida Kovac
(Croatia): 12 votes; Viktor Misiano
(Russia): 19 votes; Ludovico Pratesi
(Italy): 16 votes; Kimmo Sarje
(Finland): 17 votes; Simon Sheikh
(Denmark): 12 votes; Jadranka
Vinterhalter (Croatia): 8 votes; Antje
Von Graevenitz (The Netherlands):
16 votes; Nick Whittle (South
Caribbean): 23 votes.

The reports by the President, the
General Treasurer, and the Financial
Oversight Commission are available
in English; the reports from the
General Secretary, the General
Treasurer, and the Membership
Commission are available in French.
These reports as well as the
minutes of the General Assembly
are freely available for consultation
at the General Office of AICA, c/o
Accès Local - 15 rue Martel - 75010
Paris or on our web site.

texts and format to be prepared for printing. We appreciate this enormous-
ly, and commend both Chausin Chen and Tineke Reijnders for their excellent
work.

As for the issue now in progress, the Editorial Board met in Venice in June
to proceed with the selection of texts for the next issue, discussion of the
budget, and other matters. Afterwards, Katy Deepwell generously coordi-
nated the many texts submitted, selected, and still under consideration, and
proposed some essential points for future discussion. As most of you know,
publication was postponed until the beginning of 2002 at the request of the
foundation in Spain.

Regarding AICA's ongoing program to provide an intellectual forum at
international art events, the most recent project was a panel discussion titled
"Co-Dependence" which took place in Istanbul in September during the
opening days of the 7th International Istanbul Biennial, despite lack of fund-
ing. The organizers of the Biennial provided close cooperation and a great
amount of assistance in the organization of this event, and the panelists gra-
ciously donated their time and expertise. The event was officially listed along
with the other Biennial events, the auditorium was provided, and there was
close contact and consultation between Christian Chambert, AICA Vice
President in charge of special projects, and the Biennial organizers and staff,
including Emre Baykal, Yuko Hasasawa, and Veronica Wiman. It is apparent
that the level of cooperation increases with each panel we do, as AICA gains
a reputation for such events. Christian Chambert deserves credit for his pro-
fessionalism and perseverance in difficult circumstances caused by funding
uncertainties. While it befits AICA's mission to organize such events, the
Bureau has agreed that in future, AICA will only proceed if sufficient funding
is firmly secured at the outset.

Regarding the near future, the organizers of Manifesta have invited AICA
to organize a panel during the opening days of Manifesta 4 in Frankfurt in
May 2002, which is a welcome development. Previously AICA has initiated
the cooperation for these events. The Bureau is currently proceeding togeth-
er in cooperation with the Manifesta International Foundation in applying
jointly for funding.

(to follow page 4)

COMPOSITION OF THE AICA ORGANIZATION CHART FOR 2001/2002

The Executive Bureau

President: Kim LEVIN (United States)
General Secretary: Ramon TIO BELLIDO (France)
Treasurer: Angelica BÄUMER (Austria)

The Advisory Board

- The Executive Bureau,
- The International Vice Presidents: Aleksander BASSIN (Slovenia); Christian CHAMBERT (Sweden); Yakouba KONATE (Ivory Coast); John Peter NILSSON (Sweden); Piotr RYPSON (Poland); Allison THOMPSON (Southern Caribbean); Marianne DE TOLENTINO (Dominican Republic); Berislav VALUSEK (Croatia); Evelyn WEISS-OTT (Germany).
- Regional Secretary for Latina America and Southern Caribbean: Horacio SAFONS (Argentina)
- Honorary Presidents.

Administrative Council (The Board)

- The Advisory Board,
- The Elected Members for the year 2001/2002,
- The Presidents of the sections.

You can find the complete organization chart of AICA for the year 2001/2002, on our web site.

AICA PROJECTS FOR 2002

The IFM (International Foundation Manifesta), through its President Henry Meyric Hughes, has sent a proposal for a written agreement with AICA, and requiring our association to organize some round tables and conferences during the professional opening days of this European Biennial, starting with Manifesta 4, which opens in Frankfurt on 24 May 2002.

This written agreement, established for a 6 years term corresponding to the 3 next Manifesta events (2002 / 2004 / 2006), is part of a European Union Program Grant under the Culture 2000 Scheme and implies following certain procedures.

A Special Commission has thus been set up within AICA, comprising the Executive Bureau, 2 Vice Presidents, and the President of the IFM. The feasibility study and administration of this project are being handled by the AICA Bureau in Paris, which has already established a schedule for this operation and proposed an adequate budget to the IFM.

More concrete information about this written agreement and its practical consequences will be communicated at our next Administrative Council, in February 2002.

SUMMARY OF THE NEWSLETTER ON LINE (#18)

- Publications
- Obituary
- Organization charts (exhaustive list)
- Minutes of the General Assembly held in Zagreb, on 4th October 2001

ELECTION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENCY : OCTOBER 2002

The second mandate of Kim Levin as President of AICA will end in 2002 at the Congress in Ivory Coast. Therefore, new applications for the presidency should be submitted now.

Candidates must forward their applications to their National Section, which will, in turn, transmit them to the AICA International office, c/o Accès Local, 15 rue Martel F-75010 Paris. Candidates' dossiers must reach Paris by February 22, 2002.

This date corresponds to the last Administrative Council Meeting before the elections, so that names of all candidates can be listed in the minutes of the Meeting and published in *Newsletter # 19*. Therefore, all AICA members will be informed, and each section will be able to discuss candidacies democratically, at one of their pre-election meetings. The candidacies will be put to vote at the next General Assembly Meeting which will be held in Ivory Coast during the Abidjan Congress (October 20 - 28, 2002).

Candidates' dossiers shall include:

- a letter of candidacy addressed to Kim Levin, current President of AICA,
- a letter setting out the program which the candidate intends to develop during his/her three years of office,
- a curriculum vitae.

Please find below for your information, an excerpt from the AICA International Regulations regarding the election of the President (in particular the procedure for voting by correspondence) and an excerpt from AICA International Statutes. Please respect the stipulations made in these texts.

Excerpt from AICA International Regulations Article 5 - Elections of a President

- 1° The candidates for the Presidency of AICA must be submitted to the Steering Committee by the National Section not later than three months before the General Assembly. The Secretary-General shall communicate the names of the candidates to all the National Sections not later than a month after receiving the proposals.
- 2° Postal votes are admissible for the election of the President.
- 3° Each voter should send three ballots by mail, in separate envelopes, either through the President of the National Section or, for members of the Free Section, through the President in office. These sealed envelopes should be numbered 1, 2 and 3 to indicate the round in which they should be opened. Otherwise no sign of identification should be visible. The three envelopes, containing one voting slip each, should be inserted in another envelope, on which is indicated the name of the voter and the National Section. The recipients of these votes will deposit them with the Secretary-General, who will give them to the committee responsible for verifying the validity of the votes. After the outer envelope is destroyed to preclude identification of the voter, the envelopes containing the ballots will be opened in numbered order for each respective round of voting. In the second and third rounds those ballots marked with the names of eliminated candidates will be considered null and void. Outgoing presidents may be elected Honorary Presidents, on the initiative of the General Assembly, if approved by a two-thirds majority.

Excerpt from AICA International Statutes Article XII (The President)

- 1° The President
 - represents the Association,
- 2° – The President convenes and chairs the General Assembly and the meetings of the Administrative Council and the Steering Committee,
- 3° – The President may nominate one of the vice-presidents as a representative,
- 4° – The President oversees the expenses of AICA,
- 5° – The President may be assisted by a consultative committee of international members of his/her own choice,
- 6° – The President is elected by the General Assembly for a period of three years and may be re-elected only once.