

CIRCOM Regional Newsmonthly CR is the European Association of 380 Public Regional TV Stations September 2000 / Issue 10

# Opatija hosts Euromusica and three CR meetings

Euromusica, the main CR folkmusic festival, will be held this year, following the kind invitation of Croatia s HRT, in the sea resort of Opatija, September 14-17.

During Euromusica the CR Executive Committee will have a meeting in Opatija, September 15. On September 16, at the same site, is the first meeting of the organizing committee of the 2001 Porto conference. The committee consists of Zoran Medved (Slovenia), David Lowen (UK), Tim Johnson (Denmark), Lefty Kongalides (Greece) and Olivier Brumelot or Herve-Marie Plessart (France).

In Opatija, September 16, the special statutory committee will also have a meeting, presided by Barbara Lewandowska. Members are: Juergen Hassel, Jean-Louis English, David Lowen and - with no voting power - Boris Bergant and Marie-Paul Urban. The committee will study all proposed statutory changes and prepare the final proposal of changes

## Balcanet project is on - funded by the European Union

A project entitled Balcanet, within the framework of the European Union Initiative INTERREG II, will soon materialize, after being approved by the European Union.

The project, funded by the European Union, the Ministry of National Economy of Greece and ERT 3, partners Albanian, Bulgarian and FYRO Macedonian public Radio & TV networks.

Four managers from each partner and a delegation of observers from the Turkish public TV will meet in Thessaloniki, during September to discuss preparation of a study, training of twenty technicians and producers, adaptation and use of Telematics, development of joint TV programs and a Balkan conference to be held in Thessaloniki, next February.



and amendments.

The next CR European Board meeting will be held in Porto, Portugal, November 25, where the decision on the new holder of the CR General Secretariat will be taken and furthermore the CR s President and up to three new EC members will be elected. Written proposals seconded by two written support statements have to be submitted to the General Secretariat by October 15.

### Newsroom management seminar in Strasbourg

Circom Training s next main event will be a week-long senior seminar for newsroom editors and editors-in-chief, aimed mainly at those working in the new democracies of Central and Eastern Europe, that will take place in Strasbourg, Nov. 13-18.

Improving the quality of regional news and current affairs programmes required clear direction from the top, with strong principles of balance and independence, combined with efficient organisation. Running a modern newsroom is not easy. There are political and other editorial pressures, financial problems, confusing new technology, and the need to manage people well. What can we learn from each other? Do the senior editors really understand the potential of digital operations and understand the details of news production?

Fifteen senior editors will be selected for this seminar, which will be hosted and run by France 3 Alsace in Strasbourg. It will happen during the plenary session of the European Parliament, and one day will be devoted to a special visit to the parliament. All costs in Strasbourg will be paid by CR. Delegates must pay only their travel costs.

National Coordinators are asked to nominate participants now. The deadline for applications is September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The application form will be on the Circom Website. Or contact Marie-Paule Urban or Rick Thompson to have a form sent to you by fax or e-mail. Marie-Paule: Tel: +33 388 566764 Fax: +33 388 566844 <u>circom@france3.</u> fr

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## THE DEAF AND BLIND CITY

#### **BELGRADE** -

The morning of May 17th in Belgrade brought a devastating experience: no free voices in the air. During the night, strong police forces entered Beogradjanka building and took over Serbia s largest and most important broadcaster not controlled by government RTV Studio B. Studio B was taken over by Serbian Government because frequent calls for the violent overthrow of the constitutional order had been made on the station s programs .

Serbian Government s resolution is unconstitutional and illegal and its only goal is to prevent the operation of the most influential broadcaster formerly controlled by the opposition Belgrade Municipality.

Conveniently enough, the same building in the center of the city hosted also Radio B2-92, mind constant trials against journalists and mewhich after three bans and a regime takeover, dia in accordance with the Public Information had leased a radio frequency from Studio B and premises in the same building, student Radio Index and independent daily paper Blic. They were all closed in the same night. The capital of the country, with two million inhabitants, woke up in almost complete media dark- print them, etc. And in spite of their enormous for ness, without single electronic media not controlled by government. Those who wanted to every day. know what was really happening found temporary relief to hear foreign programs in Serbian rallies occurred, both in Belgrade and in nuon short and medium waves (BBC, Radio Free Europe, Deutche Welle ). On the other hand, it was sad and defeating to be informed by BBC about what is going on next door.

Two days later Radio Index and Blic were allowed to go back to their premises and continue working. In the atmosphere that could hardly be called stimulating ( it was said that there were more policemen in Beogradjanka building than journalists), they are trying to work normally. Their signal has constantly been disrupted during news programs. Studio B got new management and new editorial policy, and B2-92 continues broadcasting via satellite and Internet. The victims of this attack were also TV Mladenovac (local TV station, part of Studio B system), which was immediately closed, and RTV Pancevo, whose transmitter has been replaced with a weaker one. RTV Pancevo is a city RTV station of a small town near Belgrade. It used to cover parts of Belgrade territory, before their transmitter was replaced. RTV Pancevo became famous during the NATO bombing campaign in Yugoslavia, bravely reporting about NATO attacks and casualties several hours before selected reports of state TV RTS and in spite of meticulous censorship. The Government didn t forget. Also, their license has expired several days ago, and they have not want to give them ideas, don t we? never received an answer to their requests from the Ministry of Telecommunications

To complete the picture, one must have in Law, with fines totaling only in May more than 2 million dinars. Surviving independent daily and weekly papers have, beside financial, all kinds of serious problems in acquiring paper, finding printing shops brave enough to effort, they are getting thinner and thinner

As a reaction to the Studio B seizure, street merous Serbian towns. In Belgrade police used great brutality both on demonstrators and innocent by-standers. In other towns, people sent clear message to the government that they will not allow seizure of their local media, like it happened in Belgrade. Unique in too many ways, situation in Serbia got another specialty: every little town in Serbia is better informed than the capital of the country. Weak and disorganized reaction of the opposition parties on Studio B s seizure managed to dissolve, like many times before, growing need and energy of Serbian people for change. Meanwhile, the

regime is active: there were series and series of arrests of journalists, opposition parties members and members of student movement Resistance . The Serbian Government is pr eparing, very quickly, new law on terrorism. This law will establish legal grounds for s evere punishment of all kinds of spies, traitors, mercenaries and other enemies of the people. Radio Index has a new motto: The only radio in town. The sad part is that its signal cannot

be heard in the bigger part of Belgrade, because of disruption. In Serbia, it is forbidden to rebroadcast foreign programs in Serbian language. It is not forbidden to listen to them (yet). And it hasn t still crossed their minds to confiscate all our radio and TV sets. But we do

Ljiljana Breberina

## Norwegian news reports sweep the prizes

At the public screening and prize-giving ceremony of the Sustainable Development in the News competition 2000 on the theme of Health and Environment the first prize in both categories went to representatives of Norwegian schools of journalism from among the 20 news reports and 14 different countries represented

In the 5 to 8 category the prize went to Sami Ayriwa Pilco from the University of Bergen for her news report Allpamanta (For the Land) which tells the story of a group of homeless families in Quito the capital of Ecuador who took over a rubbish dump and by determined community activism recycled the rubbish and used ecological methods of waste treatment and energy production to transform it into an ecological neighbourhood. And all this despite three attempts by the military to evict them from the site. The first prize in the category of 2 30 went to the team from the University of Trondheim for Trampe a Norwegian bicycle lift which describes this initiative that has tripled the use of bicycles in this town by the world's only bicycle lifts to help cyclists in the town climb its many steep hills. Second prize in the 5 to 8 category was

MetalEurop-Lead in the Heritage produced by Sarah Tisseyre and Jo°l Lefevre from CSJ de Lille and the third prize went to Raluca Constantin from the University of Timisoara for Nothing New on the Eastern Front . The second prize for the 230 category went to Diana Ticleanu, another student from the University of Timisoara for

The Miners of Motru and the third prize was for Nicolaos Zafeiris from the University of Athens for his Recycling Water report. Finally, a special prize for originality was given to Anna Hopko of Lviv National University for her report Grybovichi Village

The jury was composed of news directors and TV presentors from Western and Eastern European TV channels and James Lovelock the renowned scientist and author of the Gaia Hypothesis. Their choices reflected a balance between the standard criteria for TV news reporting and the attempt to integrate a perspective of sustainable development and also a balance between the different approaches to TV news reporting in different parts of Europe. They praised the diversity and originality of many of the reports and encouraged the participants to actively pursue their efforts in this direction.

The competition was originally conceived to promote and encourage a new approach to news treatment in the European media which integrates the perspective of sustainable development, into a given news event. This is the first year that the region of Central and Eastern Europe has been included.

For more information about the competition and the news reports contact the European University on Environment at 0033 1 45264625

CFI, une présence audiovisuelle française dans le monde CFI, a French audiovisual presence throughout the world



## EbS transmissions via Canal France Int l

As from Monday 3 July, EbS offers one hour As from midnight on Monday 3 July, the new long extracts of its daily transmissions, via the EbS websiteaddress: satellite network of Canal France International http://europa.eu.int/comm/ebs/index.html (CFI)\*, to broadcasters in Asia, Africa, Latin Communications using the old address will auto-America and the southern USA. The daily digital matically be forwarded to the new address. feeds are available via the following channels:

- CFI Pro Asia: Intelsat NSS 704-66° E

- CFI Pro Africa: Intelsat NSS 803-338° E

- CFI Pro America: Intelsat NSS 806-319° E

concerning EU actions and policies having impact in other regions of the world:

other events in the original language, with litical issues and integration processes in the area simultaneous translations in the 11 official EU and to show their impact on every day life. languages.

raw footage on the day s news events and thematic library footage illustrating the subject of the events (natural sound only),

full programmes produced by European broadcasters about EU issues of interest to other continents.

Practical information is accessible on EbS s website (http://europa.eu.int/comm/dg10/ebs/ index fr.html.). This site offers among other services:

- the EbS transmission schedule,
- shotlists of the raw footage,

- scripts of the full programmes,

live audio and video streaming of all EbS transmissions.

- last week s EbS transmissions in all available languages (video on demand).

For further questionscontact directly:

editorial issues: Diederik Bangert : +32/2/296.88.68, fax +32/2/299.03.09, e-mail 05h30 Demain instead of 12h00 diederik.bangert@cec.eu.int

schedule questions: Lisse Caird : phone +32 2 296 07 61, fax +32 2 296 59 56, email elizabeth. caird@ec.eu.int

technical mattes: Martyn Jones : phone +32/2/299.91.62, fax +32/2/299.92.18 e-mail martyn-emrys.jones@cec.eu.int

PLEASE NOTE .. New EbS website address

#### EXCHANGES

- Exchanges Deutsche Welle

EbS began transmitting Deutsche Welle Euro The packages mainly contain raw material Zurnal exchanges on Mondays at 21h00 with retransmissions on Tuesdays at 06h30. The aim of this TV magazine, for Bosnia-Herzegovina, recorded coverage of press conferences and produced in the local language, is to analyse po-



- Exchanges CERCLE

As from 4 July, EbS began transmitting Chi lo sa?, a weekly exchange produced by CERLE, the European association of proximity stations. Transmission times are Tuesday at 21h00 with retransmissions on Wednesdays at 06h00 and Saturdays at 11h00

- Time change

Due to the addition of new exchanges, please note the following transmission time changes on phone Saturdays :

- MTV instead of 12h00 06h30
- 08h00 Internews instead of 15h00
- 09h30 SENSE tribunal instead of 10h30
- 10h30 EAC TV Quinze instead of
  - 09h30
- 11h00 CERCLE at 11h00
- 12h00 Circom instead of 14h00
- 13h00 Euronews instead of 11h00
- 14h00 CMCA instead of 14h30
- 14h30 CAMPUS instead of 16h00

## World Summit on Media for Children

The 3rd World Summit On Media for Children will be held in Thessaloniki, March 23-26, 2001. The event is organized by the European Children's Television Centre under the auspices of the President of the Hellenic Republic, UNESCO and UNICEF, supported by the Hellenic Ministries of Press & Mass Media and Culture and the program MEDIA under the supervision of the Hellenic Audiovisual Institute.

Bringing together professionals from all over the world, the summit aims at the creation of an audiovisual policy supporting the rights of children and demonstrates the emerging relationship of children s television and the new media. Email: summit@childrens-media.gr



#### Ethnic TV Festival in Krakow September 26 30

The 4<sup>th</sup> International Ethnic TV Festival at Home will be held in Krakow, September 26-30

During the festival, concerts, exhibitions and other events inspired by ethnic culture will be organized. Conference and workshops will be organized for the journalists who work with national and ethnic minority issues. The conference, focusing on multicultural journalism, is co-organized by the Jagiellonian University and will enjoy the participation of experts from all over the world. Due to the gravity of Gypsy - related issues, most of the conference will be devoted to this main issue.

The goal behind the festival is to present the role of the media, and especially the television, in finding the solutions to ethnic problems and in the widening of the viewers knowledge of the problems the minorities face, their cultures, and the beauty.

It is hoped that, thanks to the festival better programmes will be created and they will reach bigger audience. People will learn more about ethnic minorities. This is the best way to build tolerance and understanding each other.

For more information visit the web site: www.kra.tvp.com.pl/athome.htm

Potsdam 2000 in pictures



































## **Whispers**

Potsdam is the state capital of Brandenburg. A traditional Brandenburg meal was offered by Hansjurgen Rosenbauer, Director General of ORB, at the Drachenhaus, a restaurant built in the style of an Asian pagoda in the 18th century as a reflection of the enthusiasm for China that was fashionable at the time. ORB (Ostdeutscher Rundfunk Brandenburg) was founded in 1992 and is part of the ARD network has played a major role in establishing a new regional history. A dinner in the historical Cecilienhof Castle, where in 1945, the future of Europe was decided with the signing of the Potsdam Treaty, included: smoked sturgeon from the Caspian Sea, beluga caviar, saddle of lamb on roasted vegetables, chateau potatoes, variation of dark chocolate, vanilla ice cream and excellent wines. \* \* \*

TV France International s web site (www.tvfi.com) has 300 video trailers and 8.000 programmes in French, English, Spanish, Japanese and Chinese versions. "Cable and Satellite Yearbook 2000 is the essential industry information in a single volume with over 3.000 company profiles. Price is 500 Euro .. BBC World, the BBC s 24-hour news channel has launched a new look and programme schedule .

The International Environmental Film Festival (Riena) taking place in Paris, at springtime 2001, will celebrate its 20th anniversary. Regulations and entry forms will be sent in November . The 4th Int'l Workshop on documentary making in Italy and Europe will be held in Bardonecchia, Torino (Italy), July 12-15. More info: www.docineurope.org . The Center for Culture and Information in Bitole, FYRO Macedonia, is the organizer of the Heraclea Nights-Bitole 2000.

Updated financial information on each one of 300 world leading media corporations is included in the Worldwide Financial Database on Media Corporations . The European Database costs us \$1.350. More info: www.sppr.no . A meeting of the Co.Pe.A.M. Steering Committee will be held in Paris, June 16. New president of the union is Nour Eddine Sail. Co.Pe.A.M. has a web site: http://www. copeam.org \* \* \* \*

Starting in July, the European Council will be presided by France . "Local television channels offer unlimited possibilities for programming, unlike the national channels. They should make full use of this advantage. Circom is there to help them (by Roland Demarcke, Communications Adviser at the Bru ssels-Europe Liaison Office). "PAYE, the performing Arts Yearbook for Europe, contains details for over 15.000 arts organisations and their senior personnel in more than 50 European countries. It will be published in December at £46 per copy .

Agora 2000, the main preparatory event for the 3rd World Summit on Media for Children, was held June 23-26, in Chalkidiki, Greece, organized by the European Childrens Television Center. Toonz (the developing world of 2D and 3D Animation) is the name of a conference to be held October 10-11, at the Crowne Plaza, St. James Court, in London. Contact: www.access-conf.com

## **Television documentary** claims to shed new light on Holocaust

The Holocaust emerged in a step-by-step, material, including film footage and piecemeal way and not as the result of a single order from Nazi leaders, according to a new television documentary series.

The six-part series 'Holocaust'' claims to be the most comprehensive history of the Nazi genocide ever filmed. It was produced by Germany's ZDF television channel in collaboration with the US-based History Channel and other broadcasters.

US historian Christopher Browning who served as an adviser to the series, along with academics from Germany, Britain and Israel - said new evidence has shown that the emergence of the Holocaust was 'a very complex development, and often quite ambiguous along the way".

The programmes' researchers say they uncovered significant new historical

**SONY** 

documents from Eastern European archives. Newly uncovered film footage includes graphic images of life in the Jewish ghettos under Nazi control and scenes of Auschwitz prisoners being transported in open rail cars in midwinter.

Some of the series' most important new information centres on the summer and autumn of 1941, the period in which plans for the extermination of the Jews were taking shape. It includes minutes of Nazi propaganda chief Joseph Goebbels' daily briefings, found in a Moscow archive. The series tries to show the role played by senior Nazis, along with lower-level officials and ordinary people who allowed the genocide to unfold.

#### British viewers consulted about TV quality

Public service broadcasting in Britain could be redefined after a nationwide consultation launching on Wednesday. The Independent Television Commission (ITC), which regulates commercial channels, is to ask the public for its views on quality. It wants to know whether its requirements for 'high quality'in areas such as news, arts, religion and children's programmes should be altered, now that 30 per cent of homes have multi-channel television.

Public meetings, people's juries and Internet discussions will be used to gauge opinion on the role of public service broadcasting with the findings being forwarded to the government. It has long been accepted in Britain that broadcasting is too important to be left to market forces, says BBC media correspondent Torin Douglas.

Alongside the publicly-funded BBC, the major commercial channels - ITV, Channel 4 and Channel 5 - have to meet public service requirements, enforced by the ITC.

They must provide high quality programmes, some in peaktime, across a range of genres, including news and current affairs, arts, religion, regional and children's programmes. But that is proving hard to sustain with the fierce competition from commercial cable, satellite and digital channels, which have no such requirements.

### **Circom Report**

The "CIRCOM Report" is a monthly publication of CIRCOM Regional, the European Association of Public Regional TV Stations - available on the CR Internet site and coming to CR member stations and personnel either through E-mail or as an A-4 size printed newsletter, through the CR General Secretariat from Ljubljana. The French version of the CIRCOM Report is conceived and published by the Strasbourg Secretariat with support from the Region Alsace, the Conseil General du Bas-Rhin and the City of Strasbourg.

Director of publications is Marie-Paule Urban, CR Deputy Secretary General (Strasbourg). Editor is Lefty Kongalides, member of the CR Executive Committee (Thessaloniki). The "CIRCOM Report" is planned and edited in ERT 3, Thessaloniki, Greece. Phone (3031) 299611-610 fax (3031) 299 655. E-mail : ert3pl@compulink.gr

All member stations are considered as potential contributors for this publication, with stories about new and innovative ideas, co-productions, exchanges, modern technologies, etc. Especially welcome are short stories and one-liners

\*Sony and Eutelsat are the official CIRCOM **Regional sponsors** 



Potsdam 2000 in pictures























## Spirit of CIRCOM 'I'he

The future must be bright for Circom stations regional news programmes, considering the talent shown by the **1S** young journalists who attended the Potsdam Training Workshop. Nearly 50 reporters, producers, researchers and camera-operators from 21 countries worked with great enthusi- received to help make this big workshop such a success. asm for 10 days before the Potsdam Conference, sharing ideas, analysing programmes, discussing the principles of teers, expecting no fees for their two-weeks of hard work. serving the viewers, and doing practical exercises, in a Hans Jessen from ARD actually took holiday in order to be search for the perfect news programme. They were an i mpressive group.

most international workshop Circom has organised since it for Circom Training by providing a record number of digital began its training operations in 1984. It was particularly encouraging to have a large number of participants from South-East Europe, including some from independent TV stations in Serbia. Firm friendships were soon established between young people from countries which have been bitter enemies in recent times friendships based on a strong desire for democracy and peace in the region, and a common professional interest in top-class television production. The close relationships flourished on the disco dance-floor, and also around the pool table, where the game was played to what everyone called Serbian Rules. These were inte rpreted differently depending on whether the players came from Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Bosnia, Montenegro or Alhanial

The serious work followed an ambitious schedule of shooting and editing over 40 sequences and longer reports. It ended with two full half-hour news programmes, recorded in the ORB studio, with trainees operating cameras and presenting for the first time. The trainees also produced 15minute programmes about the conference Potsdam Today and Tomorrow - shown at the end of each conference day. And the workshop produced a 50-minute programme about itself, which was transmitted on Europe-by-Satellite at the end of June.

The feedback from the trainees has been overwhelmingly positive. Incredibly usef ul to me (Serbian). The best two weeks I can remember (Albanian). I have learned so much; I want to thank Circom more than I can say (Romanian). A wonderful experience (Russian). And the appreciation was not confined to those from the new democracies of Central Europe.

One of the young journalists from Britain wrote afterwards to say, People here have noticed already that my reporting is much better. I keep telling everyone how great Circom is, and if they get the chance to go on a workshop, they should jump at it. It was fantastic!

Nevertheless, the tutors are aware that there is still room for improvement in future courses. With such a large group, the language-difficulties can exclude some participants from the discussions; and many were disappointed that their own programmes could not be shown and discussed. The Training Board of Governors will discuss these issues, and we ll try to continue to improve all aspects of our future workshops.

I would like to emphasise the enormous help we have

# alive and well

The editorial tutors and technical experts were all volun-

able to join us! France 3, the BBC, ARD, SVT, TVP and MTV all released key staff at no cost. BR Munich provided a With 21 different countries represented, this was the superb cameracrew. Sony continued their valuable support cameras and editing systems. ORB provided a full studio, transport, and hospitality for the course at no cost. And a grant from the Council of Europe allowed us to bring a significant number of participants from South-East Europe.

> The Spirit of Circom, based on generous mutual su pport, is alive and well in the Training Workshops. The young journalists have clearly captured that spirit, and as they progress to more senior positions, I hope they will continue to regard Circom as a valuable network of colleagues and friends.

> > **Rick Thompson**

### **Environmental films** available free to Circom members

Circom stations now have free access to environmental reports from two sources The Thomson Foundation (the UKbased broadcasting training organisation which works mainly in the developing world), and Mostra Communication, (the Brussels-based company producing TV material on projects supported by the European Commission). The features are available on Beta SP with international sound and script in English.

The Thomson Foundation films. The Earth Workers is a series of six films, about 20-minutes in length, comparing similar environmental issues between regions of India and Europe. They were made by directors who participated in the India-EU cross-cultural programme.

The subjects are ecotourism, alternative energy in island communities, air pollution, river pollution, toxins effects on male fertility, and wetlands. Sequences were filmed in the Canary Islands, northern Scotland, Luxembourg, central England, The Rhine Valley, Turku Finland, and Vienna.

Contact: Karen Wicks at the Thomson Foundation in Cardiff. Tel: +44 1222 874873 Fax: +44 1222 225194 thomfound@cardiff.ac.uk

. Mostra films: Four features, about 7-minutes in length, are available on nitrate pollution in water (Brittany France), global warming s effect on coasts (Isle of Wight UK), water recycling (Stockholm) and industrial air pollution (Bourgas Bulgaria). Contact: Charlotta Ericsson at Mostra in Brussels. Tel: +322 537 4400 Fax: +322 537 2167 charlotta. ericsson@mostra.com

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