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Letter from the President

Warm regards from warm Washington D.C. It's hard to believe that these days of 80-90°F weather can continue much longer. I look forward to a cool Autumn and Winter, but most of all I look forward to Spring in Japan.

Many of us have been keeping the fax system busy as we make plans for the CIMCIM meetings in Japan, May 7-20, 1991. Board Member Sumi Gunji, in addition to reading several book manuscripts, has sent impressive sets of details negotiated with the Japan Travel Bureau and several other groups. Those on the planning committee have offered suggestions for changes. This will be CIMCIM's first meeting in Asia and we look forward to meeting our colleagues from that area of the world. Any of you who have direct links with Asian colleagues, please encourage them to join us in Japan. And we strongly urge all of you to look for funding now to support your trip. Details about the meetings are printed below.

As you will note in the Preliminary Schedule (see page 4), the core of our meeting - the time for presentations and working groups - will be held at the Yamaha Resort Centre in Hamamatsu Tuesday May 14 to Thursday morning, May 16. Tours of important Japanese collections, makers and traditions have been scheduled before and after the formal sessions: Osaka, Nara, and Kyoto May 7-12 and Tachikawa and Tokyo, May 16-20. The planning committee will make certain that our core meetings are filled with presentations important to our work.

In *Bulletin No. 2* sent out in May, we

announced the theme of the conference: "Musical Instrument Collections in the Changing Museum World." We issued a call for members to submit proposals for papers, panel discussions, performances and other presentations (of about 15-20 minutes) on the following different aspects of museum work: 1) philosophy, methods and histories of collecting; 2) documentation of collections; 3) conservation; and 4) presentations (exhibitions, performances, audio-visual work, publications). We hope to have a wide-ranging perspective on these subjects with contributions from our Asian colleagues. We asked for typed abstracts in English or French (the official languages of ICOM), not to exceed 250 words, to be sent to me by October 15, 1990. As I write these words I have received NO abstracts.

We see this theme as a warm-up for the 1992 ICOM meetings in Québec City, Canada, details of which are provided by Bob Barclay elsewhere in this *Bulletin*. If many of you contribute thoughtful presentations, we might see this group of papers as a future CIMCIM publication, a statement of our work in the 1990s. Obviously, the deadline for submissions for presentations is extended. I hope I will be receiving abstracts from you to the above address AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, preferably no later than the end of November. Our experience in Japan will be a rich one, both from our exposure to Japanese culture and from the sharing of our museum work.

Notes from the Secretary/Treasurer

It is now mid-October and payments of CIMCIM dues for the year 1990 are still coming in. So far

we have 95 fully paid-up members, which is encouraging until one realises that our mailing list contains 225 names. I am now compiling a Membership List which will include *all* ICOM members and *all* CIMCIM members. Once this list is ready it will be distributed in a final mailing to our entire mailing list. Thereafter, if your name is on the list you will receive material from us; if it isn't, you won't. We can no longer afford to print and post 225 *Bulletins* and other material if we know that less than half that number are actually being read and appreciated. Obviously, we hope that the possibility of being removed from our list will encourage more people to become members, both of ICOM and CIMCIM. When the list arrives, read it and make sure your name is on it. Think of what you might be missing! To become a member, write to the Secretary/Treasurer at the address on the front page of this *Bulletin*. The fee is \$10.00 US.

On a related topic, the 71st Session of the ICOM Executive Council decided that a survey would be carried out to see which International Committees requested dues from their members, and to what purposes the money was put. We have responded by returning the questionnaire and will keep you posted on developments.

Plans are in train to print *CIMCIM Newsletter* No.14, 1989 - the last of the series. We may not have enough money to do the job now but, although the camera-ready copy is not of great quality, we will try to make a decision soon. Copies will be posted to all paid-up members of CIMCIM and ICOM for the year 1989.

ICOM 92 - Québec City, September 1992

I attended a meeting in Montreal in September of the Liason Committee for ICOM 92. The provisional theme of the conference is "Tomorrows Museums Today", which reflects very well the theme of our own gathering in Japan. My role as CIMCIM's representative on this committee is as follows:

1. keeping members of CIMCIM abreast of the committee's work and of preparations for the XVIth General Conference;
2. seeing that CIMCIM considers the conference theme with a view to discussions that will be held in 1992;
3. proposing to the committee visits and meetings which CIMCIM would be responsible for; and

4. submitting CIMCIM's proposals and suggestions to the committee.

I am looking into the possibility of visits to museums, galleries and institutions in Toronto, Ottawa and Québec City, and hope that we can have a few musical occasions which might also be shared by other ICOM delegates. Things are tentative at this stage.

The organizers emphasise their desire to give a new feeling to this conference - more dialogue between committees, more interaction in panels and discussions, integration of functions, and closer adherence to the conference theme.

I will keep CIMCIM members informed as things progress.

Bob Barclay

Publications from CIMCIM Member Institutions

A list of publications available from CIMCIM member institutions is being compiled. If you have listings you would like to send for inclusion, please contact:

Albert Rice,
Bridges Auditorium,
450 N. College Way,
Claremont,
California 91711-4491,
U.S.A.

If your lists are long, text on a standard format floppy disk would be welcome. Please give details of price, address and availability for all publications.

Swiss Association of Musical Collections

The ASCM/AIBM (Association Suisse des Collections Musicales/Association Internationale des Bibliothèques Musicales, Groupe Nationale Suisse) was founded in Lausanne on the 27th of April 1990. The association assumes the information exchange of private and public collections dealing with any domain of music: written and printed music, books, records, films, instruments and iconographical documents. The ASCM will look after their interests, mainly through the international group of AIBM (library association), IASA (International Association of Sound Archives), and CIMCIM. All these associations are represented on the Board;

CIMCIM is represented by Veronika Gutmann of Basel. The President is Dr. Dorothea Baumann, Musikwissenschaftliches Seminar der Universität Zürich, Florschhofgasse 8, CH-8001, Zürich, Switzerland.

Weiss-Stauffacher Collection

Since the 1st of July 1990, the well-known private collection of automatic musical instruments of Dr. H. Weiss-Stauffacher at Seewen (Solothurn, Switzerland) will be a dependance of the Swiss National Museum. The collection will remain in its present accomodations.

Berlin Musikinstrumenten-Museum

The Museum will open a special exhibition of plucked keyboard instruments from March 24th to June 16th, 1991, showing the development of harpsichords and spinets from the 16th century to the 20th century. A profusely illustrated catalogue will be published with detailed descriptions of the instruments and several written articles. For more information write to:

Musikinstrumenten-Museum, SIMPK,
Tiergartenstrasse 1,
D-1000 Berlin 30,
Germany.
(Tel. +4930-25481-0)

Das Berliner Musikinstrumenten-Museum eröffnet am 24. März 1991 eine große Sonderausstellung zum Thema "Kielklaviere", bei der die Entwicklung der Cembali und Spinette von 16. Jahrhundert an bis in das 20. hinein anhand des reichen Eigenbestands instruktiv dokumentiert wird. Zur Ausstellung, die bis zum 16. Juni 1991 laufen wird, erscheint ein reich illustrierter Katalog mit Instrumentenbeschreibungen und übergreifenden Aufsätzen. Nähere Informationen:

Musikinstrumenten-Museum,
Staatlichen Instituts für Musikforschung
Preußischer Kulturbesitz,
Tiergartenstraße 1,
D-1000 Berlin 30.
(Tel. (030) 254 81-0.)

Im Herbst 1990 publiziert das Musikinstrumenten-Museum außerdem den Band "Die Alemannische Schule. Archaischer Geigenbau des 17. Jahrhunderts im südlichen Schwarzwald und in der Schweiz" von Olga Adelman.

IMZ Database of Music Productions

The International Music Centre is planning to publish a database of audio-visual music productions on CD-ROM (compact disc read-only memory) which is an optical data storage system based on the compact audio disc. The release date for the first edition of *Music on Screen* is 1991. For further information on participation in this exciting project, please write to:

Eric Marinitsch,
Lothringerstraße 20,
A-1030 Vienna,
Austria

Art Planete

As ICOM members we occasionally receive notes about other museum activities. Art Planete is one such project. Its aim is to create a system of communications operating through networks of cultural institutions, including museums, television stations, universities, and libraries. Its purpose is to disseminate information about culture. Networks will operate at continental and international levels. In order to set up the network, the organizers request that representatives of museums and other cultural institutions reply to a questionnaire. This will help the organizers in developing an understanding of the audiovisual resources available to those institutions, and assist in planning their strategies. Sample questionnaires and full information on this project are available from:

Art Planete
91, rue des Pyrenees,
75020 Paris,
France

The information provided by respondents in no way commits them to the project.

Simon Levin

As this issue was going to the printers, it was with deep regret that we learned of the death of Simon Levin, former curator of the collection in Leningrad and host of the 1977 CIMCIM/ICOM meeting. His great contribution to our field is well-known, and his sudden loss is a shock to us all. A fuller appreciation of his life and work will be published in a later issue.

Preliminary Schedule for CIMCIM Meeting, Japan May 7-20, 1991

After several months of planning, Sumi Gunji, Curator of the collection of musical instruments at the Kunitachi College of Music in Tachikawa, proposes the following preliminary schedule for the CIMCIM meetings:

May 6	Osaka	Check in at hotel
May 7	Osaka	Working Groups - morning Tour of Museum of Musical Instruments - Osaka College of Music
May 8	Osaka	All day visit to the National Museum of Ethnology
May 9	Nara	Travel to Nara - morning Visits to important sites - afternoon
May 10	Nara- Kyoto	Visit to Royal Collection? Travel to Kyoto through Uji
May 11	Kyoto	Visit to bell foundry or maker of musical instruments Visits to important sites - afternoon
May 12	Kyoto	Visits to sites Concert?
May 13	Hamamatsu	Travel to Yamaha Resort Centre Visit to Yamaha Factory - afternoon
May 14	Hamamatsu	CIMCIM Meetings at Tsumagoi (Yamaha Resort Centre)
May 15	Hamamatsu	CIMCIM Meetings
May 16	Hamamatsu	CIMCIM Meetings Travel to Tachikawa
May 17	Tachikawa- Tokyo	Tour of Kunitachi College of Music Travel to Tokyo Tour of Drum Museum and Drum Factory Kabuki or Bunraku
May 18	Tokyo	Sanja Festival in Asakusa Tour of factory of Japanese instruments Kabuki or Bunraku
May 19	Tokyo	Tour of Tokyo Closing banquet
May 20	Tokyo	Departure