

CIMCIM *Comité International des Musées et Collections d' Instruments de Musique* *International Committee of Musical Instrument Museums and Collections*

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ICOM 1992: Fri. 18 Sept - Sat. 26 Sept, 1992

Museums: Re-thinking the Boundaries
Les Musées: y a-t-il des limites?
Museos: ¿Posibilidades sin fronteras?

Call for Papers

CIMCIM's plans for the ICOM Conference in Quebec City are progressing well. There is space in the schedule on Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd for 12 papers or other presentations. So far eight papers have been submitted so, although the deadline has passed, if you wish to make a presentation there is still room to do so. Please submit a brief abstract and any audio-visual or other requirements.

Registration and Accommodation

Registration forms for the Conference have been sent to all ICOM members together with the preliminary Programme. All those interested should fill them out and return them as soon as possible to the official agent for the conference:

Gerry Lou & Associés,
450, rue de la Gare du Palais,
Québec City, Québec, Canada G1X 3X2.

Non-ICOM members who are interested in attending should also write to the ICOM 1992 Head Office for information:

60, rue Marché Champlain,
Québec City, Québec, Canada G1K 8R1.

The designated airline for ICOM 1992 is Air Canada together with its regional connectors and partners,

who will be giving special rates for ICOM members for travel to Québec, travel within Canada and the United States, and for car rental. These special prices are available by contacting any Air Canada office or travel agent, in Canada and abroad, and giving the Conference reference number.

Programme

A preliminary programme is printed on page 3: Once all abstracts of papers have been received the full programme of the CIMCIM meetings will be distributed to all members and subscribers.

Other Activities

Information on Post-conference tours was given in *Bulletin #9*. If you intend to visit Ottawa after the ICOM Conference on the 28th and 29th of September, please make your booking through *ICOM* for this portion. Use Section D of the ICOM booking form, entitled *Ottawa-Hull Days*. If you wish to travel with CIMCIM on the 30th of September to Sharon and Toronto, make sure to indicate this on the CIMCIM form entitled "Intention to Attend" which is included with this mailing and appeared with *Bulletin #8*. *Do not pay for this section yet; payment will be made to CIMCIM during the conference.*

Note:

- All ICOM activities, including Ottawa-Hull Days, must be booked through ICOM.
- The CIMCIM portion includes one extra night in Ottawa, the bus trip to Sharon and Toronto, and one night in Toronto. This portion will be payable to CIMCIM during the conference.

We are looking forward to seeing as many members as possible at the ICOM conference. Please send proposals for papers, forms and abstracts as soon as possible so that planning for accomodation and transport can be arranged.

Notes from the Secretary/Treasurer

There has been a very prompt response to requests for CIMCIM subscription renewal. As of May 1st 45 people had sent their \$10.00 subscription fee. This is an excellent reponse compared with previous years (even though the membership list from last year *does* have 161 names on it). Keep subscription payments coming in please.

Some subscribers are still sending personal cheques in currencies other than Canadian or US dollars. This will not do - as I have written several times before, CIMCIM has to pay *at least* 40% of the value of such cheques in transaction fees, so any cheque or money order which needs such negotiation will be sent back. Please send international money orders such as Post-Giro or cheques drawn on US or Canadian banks. Or simply send cash, as many subscribers have already done. For those of you who live in countries where free exchange of currency is difficult or impossible, please remember to contact us anyway; we can find ways of helping you to subscribe.

Regarding membership, we are currently checking the lists of members sent to us by ICOM to make sure that bona fide paid-up ICOM members actually appear on the official print-outs. Please check that your ICOM dues have been paid for this year so that you can have full access to all ICOM privileges. ICOM membership figures also dictate the amount of the subvention granted to Committees from ICOM Head Office, at the present set at \$6.00 US per head. It is therefore very important to us financially to have accurate and up-to-date figures.

Non-ICOM members should please consider swelling our membership by joining ICOM. Contact your ICOM National Committee for details of membership from your country. As it stands, CIMCIM has too few members compared with the size of its mailing list.

Bob Barclay

Donald Nkonyane sends news from Swaziland

Due to the lack of trained museum staff in Swaziland I find myself involved in many other activities. I

joined the staff of the Swaziland Museum in 1983 as assistant to the curator. We did almost everything including collecting museum artifacts, documenting them and taking care of the objects both in store and on exhibition.

In 1986-87 I was lucky to be sponsored by UNDP to do a training course on museum activities in Jos, Nigeria (The Centre for Museum Studies). After the one-year training course I was able to work in every field of the museum professionally. I was able to document all museum specimens; do research and go on field collection trips; make recordings of traditional dances, songs, poems and life histories; and to prepare an exhibition both temporarily and permanently.

Late in 1990 I was lucky again to be sponsored by ICCROM in Rome to do a training course for a Diploma in Conservation through PREMA, the course for Prevention in Museums of sub-Saharan Africa. Among the aspects of the training were the methods of planning for the care of museum collections; the nature and composition of the materials which comprise museum collections; and how these materials decay and the principles and techniques available which will inhibit their deterioration.

My collections comprise mainly ethnographic objects made of leather, grass, textile, etc. My everyday work is taking care of every object both in the store rooms and the galleries. I am responsible for conserving and preserving all cultural objects, specimen documentation and storage, and also for making reports concerning this work.

Our stores suffer mostly from dust and changes in relative humidity. Within three to four days you find shelves covered in dust. To prevent this I have covered all shelves with plastic sheets and have closed all unnecessary vents which might bring dust into the building. Concerning changes in relative humidity, this has been very difficult since we do not have money to buy humidifiers and dehumidifiers. Washing the floors close to the displays prevents the atmosphere from becoming too dry, and I also use lots of buffering materials like wood, paper, linen and leather which contain water. In the storage I often wrap objects in cotton cloth because cotton is very good at controlling humidity.

Donald Nkonyane, Lobamba, Swaziland

(note: Donald has been fortunate to receive a grant from ICOM to attend the conference in Quebec City. We look forward to meeting him and hearing news of southern Africa.)

Preliminary Programme for CIMCIM Meetings, Québec City, 1992

Mon 21 Sept - Hilton Hotel, Salon Sillery or Beaumont

- 9.00 - 9.30 Introductions
- 9.30 - 10.00 1. "Museums: Temple of the Muses or Amusement Park?" (keynote paper)
J. Lambrechts-Douillez, Antwerpen
- 10.00 - 10.30 Coffee break
- 10.30 - 12.30 2. "Minimising the Boundaries"
F. Palmer, London
3. "Wide Range and Narrow Boundaries of a Museum of Musical Instruments in Berlin"
D. Droysen-Reber, Berlin
4. "Bring on the Clowns"
R. Barclay, Ottawa.
- 12.30 - 14.00 Lunch break
- 14.00 - 14.30 Adoption of Bylaws and Elections
- 14.30 - 15.30 5. Title to be announced
Elizabeth Wells, London
6. Spare
- 15.30 - 16.00 Coffee break
- 16.00 - 17.30 Working Groups

Tues 22 Sept Hilton Hotel, Salon Sillery

- 9.00 - 9.30 Announcements
- 9.30 - 10.30 7. "What's in a Name? Preparing Museum Collection Records for the Future"
T. Petersen, Williamstown
8. "Remarks on the Training and Professional Work of the Musical Instrument Conervator"
"F. Hellwig, Köln
- 10.30 - 11.00 Coffee break
- 11.00 - 12.30 9. "Los instrumentos musicales en los Museos del Uruguay"
M.T. Barbat Perez, Montevideo
10. "Accordions: the Forgotten Instrument"
D. Krickeberg, Nürnberg
11. Spare
- 12.30 - 14.00 Lunch break

contd...

Tues 22 Sept **Hilton Hotel, Salon Sillery**

14.00 - 15.00 12. Spare
13. Spare

15.00 - 15.30 Coffee break

15.30 - 17.30 Working Groups

Weds 23 Sept **École de Lutherie Artistique de Noroît (l'ÉLAN)**

9.00 - 10.30 Business Meeting

10.30 - 11.00 Coffee Break

11.00 - 12.30 Reports of Working Groups

12.30 - 14.00 Lunch Break

14.00 - 16.00 Musée du Seminaire, visit

14.00 - 17.30 ICOM Interdisciplinary Forum

École de Lutherie Artistique de Noroît (l'ÉLAN)

16.30 - 18.30 Concert by the Chamber Players of the Symphonie de Québec

18.30 - 19.30 Refreshments

Exhibition of string instruments made by students of l'ÉLAN

Fri 25 Sept **Hilton Hotel, Salon Bélair**

9.00 - 10.30 Working Group individual meetings
Other business (if required)

Reminder

Even if you are not sure whether you will attend the conference, please fill in and send off the enclosed form "Intention to Attend". It is far better to over-book for accomodation, transport, etc. There are still places available for presentations so please send abstracts as soon as possible. Those of you who *are* presenting a paper and who have not sent abstracts, please send them now.

Please do not hesitate to send us small articles for the *Bulletin* in either typescript or on computer disk. Articles in French and Spanish, the other official languages of ICOM, are always welcome.