

Circom Report

CIRCOM Regional Newsmothly · CR is the European Association of 380 Public Regional TV Stations · January 2001 / Issue 14

New award adds new dimension to the 2001 Prix Circom Regional

A new award category for current affairs programmes is announced as part of the Prix Circom Regional awards for 2001. The award will be sponsored by the European Parliament and replaces the “Europe Matters” award.

The **Grand Prix** Circom Regional for News and for Documentaries continues, as does the France 3 award for the Most Original programme from among the entries. It is also hoped that there will be a further continuation of the Cross-Border award supported by the EC’s Regional Directorate but no confirmation has yet been received from the EC. The New Technology award will no longer be awarded.

The **criteria** for the new Current Affairs award recognises programmes which may be magazine programmes or special report programmes but which do not qualify as news or documentaries. The programmes will deal with social, political or current issues. Topics need not be only regional and the judges will be asked to give preference to those programmes which explore issues which are common across Europe and which stimulate the democratic processes of Europe.

The **Grand Prix** awards will again be 10,000 euros each plus a trophy and the new Current Affairs award will be 6,500 euros and a trophy. The France 3 award is 3,000 euros. A decision will be taken later on the Cross-Border award, which last year was 8,500 euros.

The **entries** for the awards are encouraged from all member regional television stations in Europe and the judging will be hosted by SVT at its Orebro regional centre in Sweden.

The **deadline** for entries is the end of March and judging will be completed by the end of April. The awards will be presented at the Circom Regional



conference in Porto, Portugal, in June.

David Lowen, chairman of the awards, said: “These are without doubt the most important awards open to regional television companies. It gives a great opportunity to show that programmes of high quality and on key national and international issues can be made outside the capital cities and network production centres.

“**I am** especially delighted that the European Parliament has recognised the need to honour programmes which deal in depth with a range of important social and political issues but not in the news or documentary form. This is a key element of democratic journalism and the judges at last year’s Prix were very keen that the new category should be created.”

Lowen will now begin the task of putting together a judging panel to meet in Orebro.

Per-Åke Krook, national co-ordinator for Sweden, said: “Per-Eric Nordquist, from Orebro, and I are delighted that Sweden will host the judging. Orebro is a delightful centre and we are looking forward to meeting all the judges. Per-Eric was a judge at Klagenfurt last year and he knows just what needs to be done to ensure successful organisation”

This year, entries will be sent direct to SVT Orebro where they will be listed and checked ready for judges’ arrival. This will make organisation much easier and cheaper – and also more reliable.

Boris Bergant, general secretary of Circom Regional, said: “The Prix is important to regional television. It is a great showcase and the awards are much prized and valuable. I hope many stations will enter in all categories.”

**The award Criteria, the different categories the rules of entry and the entry form are on pages 2 and 3.*

2001 PRIX Circom Regional

AWARD CATEGORIES

The following award categories will be contested in 2001

1. Regional News, Grand Prix Circom Regional trophy

10000 euros to winner, free visit to Porto conference

2. Documentary, Grand Prix Circom Regional trophy

10000 euros to winner, free visit to Porto conference

3. Current Affairs, European Parliament award

6500 euros to winner, trophy, free visit to Porto conference

4. Cross-Border, EC Regional Directorate trophy

8000 euros to winners, free visit to Porto conference

This award is provisional and awaits EC confirmation

5. Most Original, France 3 award

3000 euros to winner, free visit to Porto conference

AWARD CRITERIA

It is important that all entrants should check the criteria for each award before entering. Please make sure your programme does qualify for the award category you are choosing. If you enter in the wrong category, you may be disqualified. Entrants should also read the Rules of the competition to make sure of all entry details.

1. REGIONAL NEWS PROGRAMME

Entries should be complete news programmes made and transmitted in the region.

Judges will look for a blend of strong journalistic

content, a clear understanding of the needs of its regional viewers, an element of originality, with a clean and stylish presentation.

Please note some "news programmes" may be better suited to the Current Affairs category. This category is for general news programmes, not "special topic" programmes.

2. DOCUMENTARY PROGRAMME

Entries should be documentary programmes on a single subject with a maximum running time of 60 minutes. Neither the topic nor transmission need be regional but judges would welcome the examination of issues which have particular regional relevance even if they are set in an international or national context. Judges will seek evidence of a strong storyline, high quality journalism, and outstanding professionalism in direction and technique. Please note that this category is for complete programmes with only one subject. Magazine programmes must be entered under other categories.

3. CURRENT AFFAIRS

This new prize recognises programmes which may be magazine programmes or special report programmes but which do not qualify as "news" or "documentaries". The programmes will deal with social, political or current issues.

Judges will pay special attention to the journalistic approach, the quality of reporting, the impact of the programme and the clear explanation of complex issues. Topics need not be regional but judges

would welcome the examination of issues which have particular regional relevance.

Judges will give preference to those programmes which explore issues which are common across Europe and which stimulate the democratic processes of Europe.

4. CROSS-BORDER PROGRAMME

This prize recognises any programme which is produced by one station but covers an issue or issues on either side of a national border OR any programme which is produced as a co-operative venture by two or more regional stations in different states. The subject matter should highlight topics which have wider European interest or which explore cultural similarities or differences across borders.

Please note that prize money will be divided between the co-production partners.

This prize and award are provisional and await formal confirmation from the proposed sponsor. Circom Regional will confirm the category as soon as possible.

5. MOST ORIGINAL ENTRY

This award will be given at the discretion of the judges to an entry in ANY of the categories which shows a distinctive and original approach to programme making for regional viewers. Stations cannot enter programmes for this category only.

CR programmes on Europe by Satellite

CIRCOM Regional programs on Europe by Satellite in January and February have been scheduled by EbS with the assistance of the CR Co - production Office as follows:

January 10, 22.00 CET: "Torographie - Gorlitz" (BR Munich). Retransmissions: Jan. 11 at 05.00 CET and Jan. 13 at 12.00 CET.

January 17, 22.00 CET: "Slovenian Magazine no 189 & no 190, (RTVSRO). Retransmissions: Jan 18 at 05.00 CET and Jan 20 at 12.00 CET.

January 24, 22.00 CET: "Europeos - Les Routes du trottoir". (France3) and "Swiss World - no 12 and no 1, (RTSI Lugano). Retransmissions: Jan. 25 at 05.00 CET and Jan. 26 at 12:00 CET

January 31, 22.00 CET: "Balkan Magazine - Business Women" and "Balkan Magazine - Video Clips" (ERT 3 + CR). Retransmissions: Feb. 1 at 05.00 CET and Feb. 2 at 12.00 CET.

February 7, 22.00 CET "Chronik der Wende - Highlights" (ORB Potsdam). Retransmissions: Feb 8 at 05.00 CET and Feb 10 at 12.00 CET.

February 14, 22.00 CET "Slovenian Magazine nr 191 and 192", (RTVSLO). Retransmissions: Feb. 15 at 05.00 CET and Feb. 17 at 12.00 CET.

February 21, 22.00 CET "Balkan Magazine - Thermal Springs" and "Balkan Magazine - Video Clips" (ERT 3 + CR). Retransmissions: Feb. 22 at 05.00 CET and Feb. 24 at 12.00 CET.

RULES OF ENTRY

It is important that all entries conform fully to these rules. A breach of any of the rules may mean disqualification.

1. Entries can be accepted only from the member stations of Circom Regional.

4. Programmes must be submitted as actually broadcast, except for the additions required by Rule

5. Each entry must have sub-titles in English or a voice over in English.

6. The entry form, programme summary and a Beta SP cassette of the programme must be received by 31 March 2001. VHS cassettes are not acceptable.

7. Entrants agree in advance that, should theirs be a category winner (not runner-up or highly commended), they permit one regional transmission of that winning entry by any Circom Regional member station within its own region during 2001 free of any licence or rights payments.

8. Entrants agree in advance to one transmission of a winning programme by EbS (the

European Commission's satellite channel) during 2001 free of any licence or rights payment .

9. Entrants agree in advance to promotional non-broadcast showcase screenings organised on behalf of the Prix Circom Regional.

10. Entrants agree in advance to brief excerpts from winning programmes to be broadcast as part of regional news reports or promotional items concerned with the Prix Circom Regional.

11. The cost of despatch, customs, insurance will be borne by the entrant.

12. Programme cassettes will not be returned but will remain in the archives of Circom Regional.

13. In any dispute, the decision of the chairman of the judges, David Lowen, will be considered final and binding on all entrants.

2001 Prix Circom Regional

ENTRY FORM PRIX CIRCOM REGIONAL 2001

This entry form must be completed and returned, with Beta SP cassette tape, by 31 March 2001. Please make sure you despatch in good time. Please write clearly.

Send entry forms and tapes to:

PRIX CIRCOM REGIONAL

SVT Örebro

Almbyvägen 6

701 84 Örebro

SWEDEN

Email: per_eric.nordqvist@svt.se

Tel: +46.19.35.35.00

Fax: +46.19.33.28.33

Enquiries about criteria, categories, rules should not be directed to SVT to the chairman of the awards, David Lowen, at david_lowen@hotmail.com, tel and fax +44.113.224.9970.

ENTRY FOR CATEGORY:

Please tick one box

NEWS
DOCUMENTARY
CURRENT AFFAIRS
CROSS-BORDER

Original title

Title in English

DirectorProducer.....

Date of first transmission.....

TV channel.....

Entering TV station.....

Address.....

Contact for entry

Tel..... Fax

Email

Who collects trophy if you are a winner?.....

I HAVE READ THE CATEGORIES, THE CRITERIA AND RULES OF ENTRY CAREFULLY AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THEM.

Signed.....

TV World Show for national/private stations in Paris

TV World Show, an international trade show dedicated to national and private TV stations from around the world, will be held in Paris, June 5 - 8.

The evolution of New Information and Communication Technologies has brought about far reaching changes in all aspects of the radio and television sector

TV World show is inviting people and companies to take stock of these upheavals from a technical point of view and from all angles and also to access the stakes and daily repercussions of this technological revolution.

The objective of this trade fair is to be a showcase of tomorrow's broadcasting scene, to enable television managers to meet and exchange ideas, meet television networks from other countries to learn about work methods and the technological of each one, create alliances between channels (programs, technology, training, economy, partnerships, etc) and between countries and find a global market place focused entirely on television where they can exchange ideas and do business.

Among the events of the 2001 show is an inaugural evening (June5) reserved exclusively for exhibitors, their guests and journalists and an awards ceremony (June 7) in one of the most prestigious venues in Paris.

Watch this space and win bigger breasts

An Austrian television station is offering women a breast enlargement operation in a bid to boost viewing members for its tabloid program.

Interested viewers must send a photograph of themselves to the program, "Check it", together with a few sentences on why they want to enhance their bust.

Thomas Gaus, editor-in-chief of private ATV television, said the winner would be chosen by viewers. The program targets the 12-29 age group.

"There'll be only one winner, but of course two silicone implants," Mr. Gaus told Reuters. The prize is worth 70,000 shillings (Euro 5,000).

US networks struggle with broadcast bans

US TV networks were forced to make tough decisions about the use of often disturbing video footage from two scenes of Middle East violence. CNN, MSNBC and Fox News Channel aired footage of a Palestinian mob that attacked and killed three Israeli soldiers. While the scenes depicted a violent attack, what they were attacking was never actually made clear.

Meanwhile, CNN, MSNBC and Fox promised to comply with a Pentagon request not to air footage of sailors injured in the attack on a US warship in Yemen. Pictures relating to the apparent terrorist attack on the USS Cole were slow in coming. But Yemeni television began making available footage that showed a handful of Americans in hospital beds.

CNN and MSNBC both aired the video before Defence Secretary William Cohen pleaded with networks not to show injured sailors before **their** families could be notified. Both said they would comply.

However, Fox showed footage in which faces of US soldiers were visible. It was done inadvertently by a producer who was not aware of the ban, a spokesman said. CNN also mistakenly ran the tape later. A spokeswoman explained it was because the network was running a simulcast of CNN International, the overseas network that was not abiding by Mr Cohen's request.

SONY®

Developing Models For Emergency Interventions

International Conference in Copenhagen, Jan.26 - 28

The Danish Int'l Media Support initiative organizes an Int'l Media Emergency Assistance conference in Copenhagen, Jan. 26 - 28, with the assistance of the Danish School of Journalism, the Danish center for Human rights, the Danish Union of Journalists and the Baltic Media Centre.

Based on the experiences and observations of Danish and international journalists working in conflict and conflict threatened areas around the world it has been determined that there is a need for an emergency mechanism through which observed needs can be channelled into short-term operational media ventures.

The question of emergency assistance to media has been thoroughly discussed in a Preparatory Group within the framework of the Peace and Stability Secretariat (FRESTA) of the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Preparatory Group consists of prominent Danish journalists as well as representatives from the Danish School of Journalism, the Danish Union of Journalists, Baltic Media Centre and the Danish Centre for Human Rights.

The Preparatory Group has observed that in areas of potential conflicts it is the restrictions on the editorial freedom of the press, which appears as a first sign of an emerging conflict. According to the Group the restrictions are often experienced as stringent and subtle control of the press, suppression of freedom of expression and the development of conflict-igniting media enterprises.

With this in mind the Preparatory Group prepared a document providing an outline of the possible objectives of a project for International Media Support (IMS). The objectives have been described as:

a) In areas of the World where certain media ventures are suppressed and others contribute to the repression of freedom of expression, IMS should, through existing international media monitoring organisations and institutions, continuously focus and identify needs for the press to obtain Danish and international assistance.

b) Subsequently it would be the task of IMS to respond quickly, in collaboration with other international players, with a view to ensure immediate provision of advice and support.

The assumption of the Preparatory Group is that violent conflict

development can be refuted or stifled if all groups in society have a chance to be heard through either private or public media. It is in addition the view that the media will be able to play a constructive role as a platform for political debate and a watchdog towards political and administrative decisions. Essentially the ability to comment freely is a basic element in freedom of expression.

Following a series of discussions in the Preparatory Group, which have presented views from different spectra of the journalism and media fraternity in Denmark, FRESTA agreed to fund an initial investigation into critical questions raised by members of the Group. A consultant was requested to take a look at issues related particularly to:

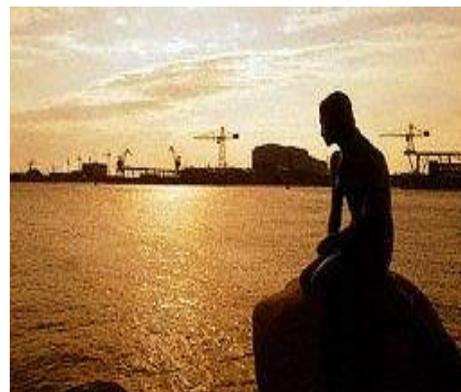
- a) International considerations
- b) Political considerations
- c) Professional considerations
- d) Organisational considerations

The report of the consultant recommended that the presence of an IMS mechanism would make it possible in a coherent way to develop models for emergency interventions. The significant feature of the IMS set-up would, however, be to link up with the international organisations currently existing in field of media assistance.

IMS should as such position itself at the 'centre' of a communicative network and thereby be in a position to establish a unique overview of the international resources in the field of emergency media assistance and simultaneously be in a position to respond with resources and joint action in cooperation with the international players.

Based on the recommendations of the report and an idea paper developed by the Preparatory Group a project proposal was prepared. The document provides an outline for a two-year pilot programme. Following the drafting of the document efforts have been made to clarify and formulate the most appropriate legal structure/entity for the set-up. This process is now being finalised by the Preparatory Group.

In the development of the legal



structure for the initiative it has been emphasised that the international dimension and presence in the set-up should be given precedence. The construction of an international advisory board and the presence in the IMS board of four international personalities within the area of free media advocacy, media assistance and freedom of expression is a sign of this priority.

The Conference in Copenhagen should be seen in this perspective where the Danish and international media stakeholders will be invited to comment and make suggestions to the IMS initiative, its concept and operational set-up.

The overall long-term vision of the IMS is to contribute to peace, stability and development of democracy in conflict and conflict threatened areas. This will be achieved through specific intervention to promote and strengthen press freedom and improve the working conditions of local journalists and media practitioners. Ultimately this will make it possible for the population in endangered areas to express themselves freely.

The interventions of IMS will typically focus on conflict or conflict threatened areas with weak democratic structures and where the editorial freedom of the press is restricted.

As a consequence of the involvement of IMS pluralism of the media will have a better chance to evolve, the media will more adequately reflect a variety of topics and viewpoints and be less controlled by purely state/political and commercial interests.

The ability of IMS to act quickly and focussed can possibly prevent threatened or endangered media from complete destruction. It can even be argued that the presence of IMS in a particular and potential conflict area will ease the pressure on the media. Similarly IMS will underpin a dialogue in which the media can find a new professional understanding of their role with regard to détente, conflict escalation and de-escalation, reconciliation and the reconstruction of civil society in general.

It is not the idea that IMS will engage itself in long-term developmental responsibilities. IMS will not become a new development agency since already a number of Danish and international organisations and institutions are engaged in long-term support to free press projects.



Porto was chosen to be the European Capital of Culture 2001 – together with Rotterdam – on 28 May 1998. This ended an intense competitive process with other European cities, namely Valence and Genoa, which started with the official presentation of Porto's candidature by the Mayor of Porto (at that time, Fernando Gomes), in Maastricht, on 7 April 1997.

The partnership with Rotterdam starts a sharing cycle of European cultural cities, following the major programme of the year 2000, which involves Avignon (France), Bergen (Norway), Bologna (Italy), Brussels (Belgium), Krakow (Poland), Helsinki (Finland), Prague (Czech Republic), Reykjavik (Iceland) and Santiago de Compostela (Spain).

The happy coincidence of Santiago being the European Capital of Culture in 2000 and of Salamanca occupying an identical position in 2002 will let the three cities make the most of their geographical proximity and of the existence of a continuity in which culture occupies the centre stage, reinforcing the visibility of the peninsular Northeast.

Since the European Capital of Culture was announced, Porto had to work on a record time. An installing committee, presided by Artur Santos Silva, was founded in 1997. It included the theatre producer Ricardo Pais, the musician Pedro Burmester, and

Site of CIRCUM Regional's 2001 conference

Porto: the European Capital of Culture

the city councillors Manuela de Melo and Nuno Cardoso (present Mayor).

The Association Porto 2001 was formerly established on 31 December 1998. It is a limited company with exclusively public capital, which has as social object the conception, planning, promotion, execution and exploration of all the activities of the Porto, European Capital of Culture 2001 event, or of the related urban re-qualification activities. The first directorship took over on 30 January 1998.

The Board of Directors, composed of 19 members, is presently presided by Maria Teresa Lago, who is also responsible for the Executive Committee, which also comprises Manuela Melo, Paulo Sarmiento e Cunha, Pedro Burmester, and Lúcia Matos.

Porto 2001 is meant to be a new point of departure with future reflections. The main challenge of this European Capital of Culture is to generate a new dynamic in relation to the cultural life of the city, to create prolific signs that will spread beyond 2001.

The axles of the project

PORTO 2001 are the following:

- Cultural programming
- Renovation of cultural infrastructures
- Urban and environmental renovation
- Economical and housing revivification

Porto 2001 will not merely be a combination of concrete cultural events limited in time and space. The goal is to give new audiences to culture, to create new professionals connected with cultural production, and new conception and working methods. Therefore, the subject chosen will be Bridges "To The Future".

Culture is not only the combination of stage arts, plastic arts exhibitions, and conferences. The city's cultural re-qualification will have to combine the artistic forms of expression with a revivification and re-qualifying policy of the built heritage, as well as with the modernisation and creation of cultural facilities.

The official start of the European Capital of Culture is set for 13 January. It will be over on 22 December 2001.

Porto is also the site of this year's CIRCUM Regional's annual conference.

At the end of 2001 succeeds Boris Bergant

Marija Nemcic: the new CR Secretary General

Marija Nemcic, the Croatian journalist who successfully ran the International Relations Dept. of HRT and most recently was appointed the Editor-In-Chief of Cultural, Sports and Entertainment Dept., resumes the duties of CIRCUM Regional's General Secretary by the end of 2001, succeeding Boris Bergant, who runs the office for the rest of this year.

Here is Marija's CV as presented to the CR Executive Committee and European Board.

PLACE OF BIRTH : Born in Dubrovnik, Croatia on October 24/1962

MARITAL STATUS: Non married

EDUCATION: M. Nemcic graduated from the French Language and Literature School and also the Comparative Literature School at Zagreb University. Later she graduated from the Diplomatic Academy operating within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Zagreb.

WORK EXPERIENCE: M. Nemcic started working as a journalist at the Zagreb Television in 1986 and in these 14 years she has been through all levels of journalistic and editor's skills including new TV technologies.

News programme was the first journalistic experience soon to be followed by more responsible journalistic and editor's tasks in Entertaining Programme. This includes being the anchor-woman, assistant to the director and author of many programmes. M. Nemcic has participated in all big TV projects like European Basketball Championship, Eurosong 1990, World Festival of Animated Films, the University Sport Games-Universiade 1987 etc. Starting the third experimental Channel was certainly one of her major experiences.

By the end of the JRT (Yugoslav Radiotelevision) period, Marija Nemcic was the part of the team on

Second Channel which was nucleus of the future independent Croatian Television. Here again she was the author, editor and anchor-woman.

At the beginning of the war in Croatia in 1991 Marija Nemcic became the editor of very important, yet sensible "Programme for Freedom" which succeeded in keeping up with extremely difficult everyday situation in partly occupied country under tremendous psychological pressure.... The follow-up was in becoming the editor of the mosaic Breakfast TV program "Good morning Croatia".

In 1992 M. Nemcic became the Editor-In-Chief of the Croatian Television which stands for the Programming Director. Although confronted with constant lack of money M. Nemcic still succeeded in prolonging of the broadcasting to 24 hours daily on First Channel, profiling the Second, restarting the Third (badly damaged in the war) and planning the satellite programme.

Although with limited finances the managing team that includes M. Nemcic successfully revives the drama and film production enabling thus for the first time the independent access to the international TV market. This is also the period of further development of the regional studios in the firm nationwide TV net. There are other big projects in the Entertaining Programme, but being in charge of covering the first Pope's visit to Croatia in 1995 was certainly one of the biggest challenges in her career.

1996 was a turning point in Ms.



Nemcic's career because she became the Head of the International Relations Department of HRT. Together with the team of experienced professionals within this department M. Nemcic enhances the participation of HRT's TV programme on international field including TV and Film Festivals, all to help selling HRT's own production worldwide. Furthermore, this department develops and improves very good relations with all foreign colleagues and partners.

All this activity resulted in further appreciation when M. Nemcic was elected the Vice-President of the Television Committee within EBU. Recently Marija Nemcic has been appointed the Editor-In-Chief of Cultural, Sports and Entertainment Department.

FURTHER EXPERIENCE: Marija Nemcic spent 4 years as the visiting lecturer for Journalism at The Faculty of Political Sciences in Zagreb.

FURTHER SKILLS: Marija Nemcic speaks fluently English, French and Italian.

Works excellently in stressing situations.

Excellent organiser of the team work, tactful and having an endless working energy.

M. Nemcic successfully organised the 17th CIRCUM Regional annual conference in Cavtat in 1999 and the annual meeting of the TV Committee of EBU in Dubrovnik, in 2000

Festivals, workshops and more around Europe and the world

JANUARY

Jan 12 - 14: IFFCON (San Francisco, U.S.), www.iffcon.com

Jan 18 - 28: Sundance Film Festival (Park City, U.S.), www.sundance.org/filmfest

Jan 20 - 27: Slamdance Film Festival (Park City, U.S.), www.slamdance.com

Jan 21 - 25: MIDEM (Cannes, France)

Jan 22 - 25: NATPE (Las Vegas, U.S.), www.natpe.com

Jan 24 - Feb 4: Rotterdam International Film Festival (Rotterdam, Netherlands), www.iffrotterdam.nl

Jan 29: Genie Awards (Toronto, Canada), www.academy.ca

FEBRUARY

Feb 7 - 18: Berlin International Film Festival (Berlin, Germany), www.berlinale.be

Feb 8 - 21: Monte Carlo Television Market (Monte Carlo, Monaco), vitomusa@earthlink.net

Feb 10 - 14: Milia (Cannes, France), www.milia.com

Feb 12 - 14: RealScreen Summit (Virginia, U.S.), www.realscreen.com

Feb 15 - 21: Monte Carlo Television Festival (Monte Carlo, Monaco), vitomusa@earthlink.net

Feb 19 - 22: Monte Carlo Television Market (Monte Carlo, Monaco), info@tvfestival.com

Feb 21 - 28: American Film Market (Santa Monica, U.S.), www.amfa.com

Feb 24 - 1 ĩāñōßiō: 2nd Green Film Festival (Tehran, Iran) igff2@ir-dow.org

Feb 25: BAFTA Film Awards (London, U.K.), www.bafta.org

MARCH

Mar 6 - 9: Australian International Documentary Conference (Perth, Australia), www.aidic.on.net

Mar 15 - 25: Environmental Film Festival (Washington D.C., U.K.), www.capaccess.org/eff

Mar 19 - 20: Sportel America (Miami Beach, U.S.), vitomusa@earthlink.net

Mar 23 - 24: 3rd World Summit on Media for Children. Under the auspices of the President of the Hellenic Republic, UNESCO & UNICEF, supported by the Ministry of Press & Mass Media, the Ministry of Culture and the program MEDIA.

Mar 24 - 31: DocAviv (Tel Aviv, Israel), docaviv@netvision.net.il

Mar 26 - 27: Promax & BDA Europe. Conference for Creatives in marketing, advertising and design europa@promax.org

Mar 28 - 30: COPEAM Conference, (Thessaloniki)

Mar 28 - 31: Whistler Int'l Film, Television & New Media Festival, info@whistlerfilmtvfestival.com

Mar 28 - Apr 1: Amnesty International Festival (Amsterdam, Netherlands), www.amnesty.nl/filmfestival

Mar 30 -31: Fairfax Documentary Film Festival(Fairfax,U.S.), weinsoff@ix.netcom.com

Mar 31 - Apr 1: MIPDOC (Cannes, France), www.miptv.com/mipdoc

Mar 31 - Apr 15: Singapore International Film Festival (Singapore), <http://www.filmfest.org.sg>

<http://www.filmfest.org.sg>

APRIL

Apr 2 - 6 MIPTV (Cannes, France), www.miptv.com

Apr 14 - 21: International Wildlife Film Festival(Missoula,U.S.), www.wildlifefilms.org

Apr 22 - 27: Academia Film Olomouc (Olomouc, Czech Republic) halkovam@rise.upol.cz

Apr 23 - 26: Sportel America (Miami), vitomusa@earthlink.net

Apr 27 - 1: Docfest (New York, U.S.), www.docfest.org

Apr 29 - 4: Input (PBS Annual Meeting) (Capetown, South Africa), www.input-tv.org

Apr 30 - Mai 6: HotDocs (Toronto, Ontario), www.hotdocs.ca

MAY

May 3 - 6 Double Take Documentary Film Festival (Durham,U.S.), www.doubletakemagazine.org

May 24: Seattle International Film Festival(Seattle,U.S.), www.seattlefilm.com

JUNE

June 2 - 6 Conference of the Presidents and General Managers of public radio and TV Balkan stations and Balkan TV Magazine (Ohrid, FYROM).

June 4 - 9: International Animated Film Festival (Annecy), www.annecy.org

June 8 - 17: Florida Film Festival (Orlando U.S.) www.floridafilmfest.com

June 10 - 15: Banff TV Festival (Banff, Canada), www.banfftvfest.com

June 28 - 29: RED Archives (Budapest, Hungary) www.discop.com

AUGUST

Aug 23 - Sep 3: Montreal World Film Festival (Montreal, Canada) www.ffm-montreal.org

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 6 - 15: Toronto International Film Festival (Toronto, Canada), www.bell.ca/filmfest

OCTOBER

Oct 3 - 9: Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival (Yamagata City,Japan), www.yamagata.yamagatajp/vidff

Oct 19 - 22: World Congress of History Producers (Boston, U.S.), www.banfftvfest.com

Oct 27 -29: DocSide Film Festival (San Antonio, U.S.), www.docfilmproject.org

Youth channel will be renamed BBC 3

Almost 40 years after it launched BBC2, the BBC is set to start broadcasting a BBC3 channel within the year. The project has the full backing of director general Greg dyke and the corporation's new director of television Mark Thompson.

BBC3 will be a youth and entertainment channel, and is expected to evolve from a major repositioning of the digital channel, BBC Choice.

Mr. Dyke is expected to make the final decision on a new BBC3 identity only when clearance has been granted for a bigger budget. BBC Choice operates on £35m (Euro 60m) a year - tiny by comparison with BBC2's £400m (Euro 681m).

Stuart Murphy, the controller of BBC Choice, has been charged with transforming the channel which , BBC executives say, "lacked identity" and was aimed at too wide an age range - from 16 - 45 year olds.

Mr. Murphy said that he is aiming for people in their late twenties and early thirties who "think the footballers look young, who believe that swearing is not an issue but manners are and think that a good night out is a night out".

Circum Report

The "CIRCUM Report" is a monthly publication of CIRCUM 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 CIRCUM 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.

The "CIRCUM Report" is planned and edited in ERT 3, Thessaloniki, Greece. Phone (3031) 299611-610 fax (3031) 299 655. E-mail : pr@ert3.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 CIRCUM Regional sponsors



The first retrospective CR exhibition from its origin in 1983 to date held last year in Potsdam, with the care of CR Deputy General Secretary Marie - Paule Urban, will be repeated next year in Porto. It includes documentation, illustrations, photos, texts in French and English.

Whispers

Porto media students will be welcome at the forthcoming CR conference.... Several stations from Bosnia, Serbia, Albania and Russia have expressed their interest in joining CR..... **32 video** programs were screened during the "EKO 2000" festival in Ohrid, FYRO Macedonia, representing 22 public broadcasters from 18 countries. Main themes of the festival are ecology and culture....

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Radio Television of Serbia urgently needs TV programs of 10-30 minute duration, on BETA SP, with texts in English, French or Russian language. Programs could be from current policy to culture and European issues. Contributions should be sent to Jovan Nikolic, Radio Television of Serbia, Informativni Program, 10 Takovska Street, 11.000 Belgrade, FR Yugoslavia.... **In the year** 2002 TV Studio Kosice in Kosice, Slovakia, celebrates 40 years of operation. So the CR annual conference to be held there will coincide with the celebration.... **The CIRCUM** Regional video library contains 1005 programs or about 2200 videotapes (BETA, VHS and U-matic formats). All data are available on the CR web address: <http://www.circum-regio.si/home.html> in the section Video Library....

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Slovenian Magazine, Euromusica 2000, Swiss World, Europeos, Christmas Traditions are some of the programs broadcast during November and December by EbS through the CR co-production office in Munich. That is three hours of program each week.... **The Program** schedules for the CR transmissions on Europe by Satellite can be on the web page of the European Commission, (<http://europa.eu.int/comm/dg10/ebs>) and the CR.... **Information** for the reception of EbS: Eutelsat Hot Bird, 13 East, 12, 47550 GHz, Horizontal, Widebeam, 27.500 Mbands, FEC 3/4, no decoder card. EbS is broadcasting in digital format....

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The CR co-production "Christmas in Europe" is nine years old while "Easter in Europe" is six years old.... **Technical equipment** is needed by Serbian TV - having lost almost everything during the bombing of their headquarters.... **Business** women in the Balkans" is the topic of the "Balkan TV Magazine" to be broadcast by EbS, Jan. 31 (22.00 CET), Feb. 1 (05.00 CET), Feb 3 (12.00 CET). Also at the same time slot Balkan video clips are on the roster...

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CR is currently spending 80.000 Euros from its budget for training.... **ERT3** was the recipient of the Best Music Program Award of 2000 for the "History of the Rebetika". Singer Nana

Mouskouri presented the award to ERT3 General Director Michalis Alexandridis....

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For years there have been two primary analog TV standards worldwide. Now, with DTV, there are over 18 digital delivery standards.... **The Einstein** Channel was launched in Germany, last August. The 24 - hour channel is determined to establish a firm foothold in 16 European territories within a year...**BBC Research** & Development unveiled AST (assisted subtitling) at IBC. It's a software program that uses voice recognition to create dialogue subtitles. Productiontime savings of 30 - 50% are claimed, plus closer sync with on screen action....

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Did anyone notice that DVD has spawned DVD - Video, DVD - ROM, DVD - Audio and three recordable versions: DVD - R, DVD - RW, DVD - RAM?.... **A recent** survey conducted in the US revealed a telling trend in the news - viewing habits of Americans. Since 1998, the audience for broadcast news has dropped by around 10%.... **As it** marked its 50th birthday, ARD was also celebrating becoming the No 1 channel in Germany, in terms of overall viewership, last summer....

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CR's Marie-Paule Urban urgently needs photos (not by E - mail) from the Postdam conference to be used for the two new jackets to be exhibited during the Porto conference. Please mail: M. P. Urban, Deputy Secretary General, France3, Alsace, Place de Bordeaux, 670.005 Strasbourg....**Early** registration for flights to Porto, next June, for the CR conference, is necessary....**Almost** 12 km away from the airport is Porto. Taxis cost almost 3.000 escudos....

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Hosting the PRIX Circum Jury for a week is costing almost £ 5.000 to the station undertaking the meeting.... **"Millennium: Tribal wisdom and the modern world series"** is a ten episodes series by MLC World hosted by Harvard anthropologist David Maybury - Lewis.... **Thanks** to CR readers who sent their Christmas / New Year wishes by mail or E-mail....

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Soaps, previously the most popular genre in Germany are in deep trouble. Viewers are deserting them in their millions, their image is at an all - time low....**TVN** in Poland plans to be "first to market", with a Polish 24 - hour news channel.... **Love** it or loathe it, there's no denying that "Who wants to be a millionaire?" has breathed new life into the primetime game show. It is now on its way to the global hall of fame to join evergreens like "Jeopardy!", "The price is right" and "Wheel of fortune"....