

# Circom Report

CIRCOM Regional Newsmonthly • CR is the European Association of 380 Public Regional TV Stations in 38 countries • Oct.. 2001/No 24

## Candidates for the CR Executive Committee open

Proposals for candidates for the Circom Regional Executive Committee are open until Oct. 20. Candidates may be proposed by the National Co-ordinators and have to be seconded by two other National Co-ordinators. Each National Co-ordinator may propose or second only one candidate.

The mandate of National Co-ordinators and Individual Members lasts three years. Taking the legal viewpoint, the Statutes hold valid from their passing in 2000. So their mandates will expire in 2003 and therefore there is no need for elections in this regard except for those based on individual wishes of changes introduced by the delegation organisations.

The Executive Committee is the body

proposing Individual Members and is of the opinion that the current structure suits the organisation and has therefore proposed no changes.

Elections will be held in Kosice, Slovakia, next month. The Executive Committee meeting is foreseen for Nov. 23 and the European Board will be held on

Nov. 24

Presented to the CR delegation in Brussels

## New information strategy of the EC Media Direction

After having attended the Executive Committee and BoG (Board of Governors) meetings in Groningen, The Netherlands at the invitation of Roel Dijkhuis, RTV Noord Director, President of the BoG and CR National Coordinator, Lefty Kongalides, CR President, Marija Nemcic, future Secretary General, Marie-Paule Urban, Deputy Secretary General and Marian Kleis CR Vice-President, Director of the Slovak TV and in charge of the next CR Congress in Kosice (May 30th - June 1st, 2002) went to the European Commission headquarters in Brussels

Niels Thogersen, Communication Director, General Directorate Press and Communication, and Nicole Cauchie, Head of the Audiovisual Production Unit, CIRCOM Regional Coordinator presented to them the new Information strategy of the Media Direction which should allow for closer collaboration with the European Parliament, the European Council and between the Commission members themselves. While stressing the fact that no financial contribution can be envisaged, both of them wish to pursue the cooperation with CR members, namely on the following points :

1. CR programmes on EbS - Europe by Satellite,
2. audiovisual thematic subjects and technical support for news coverage within the European Commission (possibility to dispose of studio, editing room, control room. etc.) offered at no charge to CR members,
3. change to the Euro currency (special night on Dec. 31st, 2001),
4. information concerning the integration of new member states in the European Union.

The European Commission will send out a Call for Proposals for Training (for all types of media) at the end of December 2001 for a five-year contract.

CIRCOM Regional, for its part, insisted on the efficiency of its partnership with the European Commission and particularly with Niels Thogersen and Nicole Cauchie, Diederik Bangert for the EbS programme launched in 1994 with the Deputy Secretary General in Strasbourg and taken over since 1995 by the BR Munich Coproduction Office, Charles White for the Direction of the Regions (formerly GD XVI) and the CR Prix : its crossborder category being imagined and launched in 1996 with Jean-Pierre Berg from GD XVI and Marie-Paule Urban.

During this meeting, were also presented the programme of CR's vocational training, the projects about cooperation and coproductions between CR's members, -namely the 2001 coproduction for the EYL -European Year of Languages- and about dedicating the year 2005 to the "Europe of the Regions".

**MARIE-PAULE URBAN**

## Personalities to present Europe of the Regions through eight docs

"Europe of the Regions" is the working title of an ambitious project of eight documentaries presented by well-known personalities. This Circom Regional co-production, co-ordinated by Robert Stephane, will be shot during spring - summer of 2002.

The regions and personalities proposed for this project, up to this moment, are the following: France (Corsice) with Marie-Claude Pietragalla, Belgium (Hainaut) with France Dragone, Greece (Macedonia) with Vassilis Vassilikos, United Kingdom (Wales) with Bryn Terfel, Ken Follet, Tom Jones, Ireland (Mayo-Connemane) with Mary Robinson, Germany (Brandenburg) with V. Schlondorff Joop, Spain (Valencia) with S. Calatrava or I. Rey, Italy (Sicily) with A. Camillen or L. Orlando or M. Scorsese, Portugal (Porto-Alentejo) with Manoel de Oliveira & Maria de Medeiros. Some of the personalities have already accepted the offer.

## Cicrom programs on Europe by Satellite

For viewers of Europe by Satellite (EbS) here are the Circom Regional programs till the end of October:

- Balkan TV Magazine (Traditional professions & video Clips): Oct 17 at 22.00 CET, Oct 18 at 05.00 CET and Oct.20 at 10.00 CET (No 1 and No 2 in order of broadcast).
- European Year of Languages. The same dates - hours as above (no 3 in order of broadcast)
- European Year of Languages. Oct 24 at 22.00 CET, Oct 25 at 5.00 CET and Oct 27 at 10.00 CET
- Europeos - Babel - Languages Regionales: same dates - hours as above (No 2 in order)
- Rund um - Des langues de chez nous: same dates - hours as above (No 3 in order).

The programs are produced by ERT 3 and other CR member stations of the Balkans, by RTV Slovenia and France 3 Alsace.

Coordination achieved by the Circom Regional Coproduction Office in Munich.

# The 13<sup>th</sup> European TV and Film Forum in Dublin, Nov. 8-10

The European Television and Film Forum this year is going to be held in Dublin, November, 8-10.

The Irish public Broadcaster RTE will host the conference, which is organised every year by the European Institute for the Media and a network of 35 European media companies.

"Television and film production: Europe fights back" is the title of the forum. Economic and cultural challenges, new formats and legal issues are some of the topics that will be discussed by 300 media professionals from all over Europe in plenary sessions and working groups.

## The Forum

The European Television and Film Forum is a conference held at the invitation of the European institute for the Media and a network of 35 European media companies which brings together annually approximately 300 media professionals from all over Europe. It was held for the first time in Luxembourg in December 1989 and has been held since in Warsaw, Nice, Seville, Istanbul, Liege, Crete, Amsterdam, Lisbon, Helsinki, Prague and Bologna. The task of this Forum has been to encourage productive debate on the future role of television, film and information technology in Europe. The Forum has established itself, over the years, as a unique and important event where current themes that are of interest to those working in the media sector can be discussed. The working groups provide participants with the opportunity of discussing specialised issues in-depth. Some of the working groups were also starting points of important initiatives at European level, such as the working group on audiovisual regulation and policy, which led to the foundation of the European Platform for Regulatory Authorities (EPRA). The Forum is sustained by its corporate members, including public and private European television companies, regulatory bodies, production companies, telecommunications enterprises and government bodies.

## The Program

### Thursday, 8 November

9.00-10.00 Opening session  
and keynote address

10.30 - 11.30 Presentation

	Big Brother - A European format for the world?
11.30-13.00	Session 1 Is there a European market?
15.00-17.00	Session 2 A new production environment for news
21.00	Dinner at the invitation of RTE
<b>Friday, 9 November</b>	
9.30-13.00	Session 3 - Working group meetings
	A. Regulation and legal aspects of the audiovisual media
	B. Market developments and new communication technologies
	C. Consumer and viewer interests
	D. The film industry in Europe
	E. Content of television
	F. Current trends in journalism
15.00-16.00	Working group meetings (continuation)
16.30-18.30	Session 4 Film and Television formats: Europe fights back de la communication
<b>Saturday, 10 November</b>	
9.30-11.30	Session 5 European regulation of production Europe versus the USA A new European regulatory framework for film and television production?
12.00-13.00	Closing session General report of the Forum

## The Porto trainees write for the CR

**COIMBRA (RTP)** - We have a new Director. He comes from another TV station (private) and for the first time we will have a book with rules. A kind of style book for us journalists of public TV, like BBC. Our colleagues from image and edition, sign our packages every time. Another difference is that in the end of the package we have to say our name, live or not... and if we are on international mission, in another country we have to say in which place and country are we every time we have to sign off the package (one innovation is that). Another innovation concerns the interviews. The microphone should not be in the image, only in circumstances that justify its presence. We have to translate all the languages, even Spanish language. In conferences, in direct broadcasts, foreign of course, we have to present to everybody, say from what channel we came and who we are. These are the main ideas, the others we learned in Circom (the importance of the sound, images speak with the sound, etc.). **PAULA COSTA.**

**GLASGOW (Scottish TV)** - The latest talk here in the newsroom concerns the introduction of DV cameras for journalists. This is creating a lot of debate, as the station had no video journalists before. We already picture edit ourselves and many of my colleagues feel shooting our own material could be a step too far. The idea is still being discussed, but I think it will happen eventually. **RANALD LEASK**

**VALENCIA (Canal 9)** - The Federation of Organisations of Radio & Television Autonomus (FORTA) has asked various independent producers to film six TV movies in order to be telecast by the autonomus channels. **INMA VISUESCAS**

**OSTNYTT (SVT)** - A new season with new ambitions. It's time for a face-lift again. Ostnytt in Sweden is changing the studio from the color green to red. The idea is that all regional stations should have the same design, with small local variations. An old ex-punkrocker is writing the musical theme for the programs and an English company (English & Pocket) has designed the graphics. Every station has chosen something typical for its part of the country, a symbol, that is shown in the opening titles and the studio. Gothenburg, for example has a lighthouse, Malmo has the newbuilt bridge to Denmark and we have runes, old viking texts carved into rocks. Old news reused. **CARL BRUNO TERSMEDEN**

### BELGRADE -

Approaching of the first anniversary of dramatic political changes in Serbia inevitably brought numerous achievement analysis of the new government. Few weeks ago the Chairman of the Association of Independent Electronic Media (ANEM), Mr. Veran Matic, issued a brief analysis on media situation (Media in Serbia – Ten Months On). The integral text of the analysis is available on the web site address: [www.anem.org.yu](http://www.anem.org.yu). Here is a short summary.

In the introduction, Mr. Matic states:

“One of the first immediately noticeable results of the political changes of October 5, 2000, was opening up of the state and quasi-state broadcasters and print media in Serbia to the representatives of former opposition bloc and NGO sector. High hopes raised in the aftermath of the October changes - that the media field would be efficiently and swiftly reformed in a just manner, that political influence on the media would be largely eliminated - have nonetheless proved to be overly optimistic. Quite the contrary, ten months after the political changes it appears that more substantial system changes have bypassed the media sphere. Even more worrisome is the suspicion that utter absence of any changes in the media field is not the result stemming from the concurrence of adverse circumstances but conscious determination of the new people now wielding political power in the country to retain certain mechanisms formerly used as a convenient vehicle by the Milosevic regime to exert pressure on the media.”

The main reason for this grim state of affairs, Mr. Matic sees in the fact that legal framework for the work of media has not changed since political change took place. The infamous Milosevic's Public Information Act was repealed, moratorium on allocation of new broadcasting licenses was declared, Serbian Ministry of Information was abolished and the subscription fee of the state broadcaster RTS was canceled. Working group was formed around Belgrade Media Center consisting of media experts and professionals to draft two new media laws: Public Information Law and Law on Broadcasting. Their work was finished at the beginning of August: two drafts were prepared in compliance with modern European standards and submitted to Serbian Government. Few days ago it was announced that the draft Public Information Law would enter parliamentary procedure in November, but the fate of draft Law on Broadcasting remains uncertain. As Mr. Matic says:

“What is certain, though, is that there has been some political opposition to the adoption of the new regulations, particularly in the part envisaging that the powers pertaining to decision-making and regulation of the media field are to be transferred from the government to an independent regulatory body as well as that the Serbian Government is to be stripped of the right to exert direct influence on the state radio and TV

# Media in Serbia - ten months on

broadcaster which is supposed to be transformed into a public broadcasting service.”

The consequences of this state of affairs are extremely unfavorable, especially for independent electronic media, but for state media also. The main problem of the former, according to ANEM analysis was that: “...independent broadcasters have been brought to the verge of existence by the new authorities' measures (i.e. the absence of adequate measures in the media field). Due to the moratorium, the broadcasters which did not possess licenses in the Milosevic era because they were treated as the enemies of the state have remained 'pirates', while other stations do possess some broadcasting licenses, but valid only for extremely small areas of coverage. Consequently, their potential for substantial revenues from advertising is extremely restricted. On the other hand, media moguls who created their empires thanks to close ties with the Milosevic-Markovic family have retained their broadcasting licenses for national coverage; they have become closer to the new people now in power and thus maintained a lion's share of advertising market which is the main source of income for radio and TV broadcasters....

... Delay in adoption of the new Public Broadcasting Act and the announcing of the public competition for broadcasting licenses makes it impossible for independent broadcasters to work on development plans as no one knows what the conditions of the public competition for frequency allocation will be nor whether the independent media will be granted any licenses at all. Finally, the major defect of the existing media system is that the independent media are not allowed to expand to national area of coverage which has been, up to now, reserved for the state television and Milosevic media 'converts.'”

On the other hand, problems of state media are also enormous. The situation with the largest and most important state broadcaster RTS (Radio Television of Serbia) is, according to Mr. Matic, even worse now, than immediately after last October changes. Apart from problems inherited from the past (excessive number of employees, debts amounting to about US \$ 20 millions, the equipment outdated and destroyed during NATO bombing campaign and October 5<sup>th</sup> 2000 demonstrations), their biggest problem

remains in the growing political pressure to its editors. Besides, RTS is now solely financed from Serbian budget, which makes it totally dependent on the government. Mr. Matic concludes: “It may be inferred that the situation with the state media in Serbia is extremely bad. These media have been prevented from undergoing system transformation into public service broadcasters (Radio Television Serbia) or autonomous privatization (when it comes to local and regional stations). The opportunities for autonomous financing have been limited and the politics has an ever-increasing direct influence on the editorial policy. Their financial and personnel situation has not been improved, and it will take a lot of time and efforts to help them reach the level of the corresponding media in other countries undergoing transition. Of course, only if there is to be no direct interference of the centers of political power with their editorial policy because there can be no transition while such influences exist.”

The picture of this sad situation is completed in the chapter “New Threats to Journalists”. Unfortunately, another journalist was murdered in Serbia. Mr. Milan Pantic from Jagodina, correspondent of a Belgrade daily “Vecernje novosti” was killed in his native town in central Serbia on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001. He had been investigating crime and corruption in his town, and he had received death threats because of that, before his violent death. His murder is still unsolved. Mr. Matic says:

“Serbian journalists have remained the most consistent critics of corruption, war crimes and the ways in which Serbian nouveaux riches have amassed immense wealth during the past decade. Their fierce defense of acquired privileges leads to a conclusion that investigative journalism in Serbia is becoming an increasingly dangerous job.”

This thorough analysis ends up in recommendations, addressed both to Serbian authorities and international community.

The point of recommendations to Serbian authorities was that government should prepare a report on media situation and a vision of the future development in the media field in next five years. These should be followed by concrete plans and actions designed to eliminate chaos and confusion existing now. One of the first steps would be to adopt new system laws and to start their implementation as soon as possible.

**Ljiljana Breberina**



# 645 programs from 38 countries for Prix Europa

645 programs from 38 countries have been entered for Prix Europa 2001: they will be available for all visitors and the press in the program library for viewing and listening from 13 to 20 October. Almost 40% of the entered programs successfully passed the preselection process and will be presented in eight categories. They include the web sites that are competing for the Exploration Award in the new Internet category.

Prix Europa will again be staging a series of special events for its guests this year. The first will be Focus on Iris, a presentation on multi-cultural television on Monday evening (15 October). Tuesday evening belongs to the radio documentarists under the motto SOS Feature. Thursday evening has been reserved for the Radio Drama Workshop, and on Friday the presentations in the new Internet category will be concluded with an all-day Internet Conference. Also on Friday (19 October), but in the evening, the Council of Europe, in cooperation with Prix Europa, invites guests to the Current Affairs Workshop. And to round off the week, Eurovision will be organising an all-day Eurovision Day Symposium on

Saturday.

You can now have yourself accredited for the competition and reserve a hotel room by filling in the enclosed form – or by applying over the Internet. In order to make participation in Prix Europa as easy as possible for all European colleagues and to demonstrate solidarity throughout the continent, as always we do not charge any participation fees. All the competition documents, program presentations and special meetings are free. Even the hotel rooms are reasonably priced. On the other hand, Prix Europa expects committed participation from its visitors, for example in the 8 open adjudication groups in which all participants are welcome to take part in the discussions and assessments and can have a say in deciding on the prize – winners (see Regulations 7, 14 and 25). So do not hesitate to have yourself accredited as a voting delegate for an adjudication group and to register for the special events (at which the number of participants will be limited).

The international announcement of the winners will take place during the Prix Europa 2001 Prize – Giving Ceremony in Potsdam, Oct 20.

## European Video Perspective in Montpellier, Nov. 28 – Dec. 1

The 10<sup>th</sup> European Video Perspective will be held in Montpellier, France, Nov. 28 – Dec. 1. The program of the event includes topics regarding the update on VHS and DVD sales in Europe to date with a hard look at future prospects, making most of music videos, new audio formats (DVD – Audio and SACD): Will they do anything for the video industry?

The agenda also includes: Video on demand: coming soon to a screen near you? Replacing the VCR (which recordable DVD format will win out and how soon will it be a mass-market proposition? Or will PVR's become the next VCR? And what will be allowed to be recorded anyway?).

During the convention, a panel of the industry's most experienced executives discuss the lessons that have been learned and what does the future hold. Other topics to be discussed: Does video rental have a future? The replication game (What is the current capacity of Europe's DVD replication plants? How easy is it for the European publishers to secure their share of this capacity?)

Each participant has to pay a fee of 700 Euros. Deadline for registration is Friday 28 September. Tel. 00-3222-482400 fax. 00-3222-482330 e-mail: [p.e.ve@skynet.be](mailto:p.e.ve@skynet.be)

## CR programs on EbS in Nov.

The transmission dates for the Prix CR programs on EbS:

Week 46 Wednesday 14 Nov. 22.00 CET, Thursday 15 Nov. 5.00 CET, Saturday 17 Nov. 10.00 CET

\* "Railing Against It : Close Up North" from BBC LEEDS

\* "Golden Cornfield" from TVP Wroclaw. Both are special commendations PRIX CR 2001 in the category Documentary

The transmission of Euromusica 2001 is in the last week of November.

## News organisations clamour for videophones

Britain's closely held 7E Communications is reporting increased sales of its satellite videophones following their successful use following the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center.

ABC News declined to say how many of the devices it currently owns, but confirmed it is ordering more and News Corp. reported it owns four and is ordering two more.

CNN says it has videophones in most of its 30 overseas bureaux and is moving reporters equipped with the devices into countries around Central Asia.

Stacy Brady, VP of network field operations for NBC says her network owns fewer than 20 satellite videophones, but that she expects to see many more of them used in the coming weeks. "Everyone wants to be everywhere reporting live. It's a competitive situation."

## Covering terrorism attack together

News organizations - local and national, broadcast, cable and radio - around the country went into full-scale crisis coverage mode shortly after the first plane hit New York's World Trade Center at about 8:45 a.m. Tuesday. The major networks were in full-time coverage mode all day commercial-free.

In New York, much of the coverage of course was local with six English-language and two Spanish-language focused totally on the terrorist attack.

The major networks - broadcast and cable - agreed to share all video footage and satellite feeds in the interests of getting as much information out to the public as possible in a timely manner.

## Iraqi opposition launching TV stations

One of the main Iraqi opposition groups is preparing to launch a satellite television station beaming news and entertainment programs into Iraq, with funding from the US Congress.

The group, the Iraqi National Congress, has been given a budget of E6.5m for the station, known as TV Liberty Tilifizyun al-Hurriyah.

The station will begin broadcasting an hour-long program, repeated periodically throughout the day, but it is expected eventually to broadcast round the clock and to have contributions from Iraqi entertainers banned from performing in their own country.

A spokesman for TV Liberty said that despite the American funding, it would be completely objective. Correspondents say anyone found putting up a satellite dish in Baghdad would soon be in trouble.

## “Journalism Training Differences in the Media” conference in Maastricht

A seminar on Portaying Differences in the media and expanding a market is organised by the European Journalism Centre, Maastricht supported by the Iris Association, Nov 16-17.

This two-day awareness-raising workshop is part of the project "Outlook II. Reflecting social and cultural diversity through the media" led by the IRIS Association.

This workshop is aimed at journalists/editors from key local and regional newspapers. Under the central theme of expanding your market and boosting circulation, it will look at how newspapers can better portray the different ethnic and other groups living in their area and better tackle issues such as prejudice, discrimination and living in a mutli-cultural society.

The trainers are Rebecca Franceskides, Media diversity trainer and journalist, IRIS asbl, Brussels Lionel Morrison, OBE, MIPR, Journalism and training consultant, National Union of Journalists, UK Tony Goldman, Journalism and training consultant, Diversity Online, UK.

## CNN and illegal settlements

Just as the BBC last month ordered its reporters to use the phrase "targeted killings" for Israel's assassination of Palestinians (see EJC Media News of 07 August 2001), CNN - under constant attack from right-wing Jewish pro-settler lobby groups - has instructed its journalists to stop referring to Gilo as a "Jewish settlement".

Instead, they must call the settlement, built illegally on occupied Arab land outside Jerusalem, "a Jewish neighbourhood". This extraordinary climbdown in favour of the Israelis follows months of internal debate in CNN, which has been constantly criticised by CNN Watch and other pro-Israeli pressure groups monitoring all its reports on the Middle East.

Many journalists at CNN headquarters are angered by the new instruction. "There's a feeling by some people here that what we are doing is searching for euphemisms for what is really happening," said one of them.

However, by censoring the word "settlement" for Gilo, CNN is perpetrating a lie. Gilo was illegally annexed by Israel after the 1967 war - not just "occupied" as CNN wishes its viewers to believe.

A CNN spokesman in Atlanta said last night: "We have no response to make to you. We don't want to get into a discussion on this ... In fact we'd rather not say anything about this at all."

## Al Jazeera says western media 'envy' Arab TV

The chief executive of Qatar's Al Jazeera satellite television slammed Western media as "envious" of the success of his channel, which he described as "objective and independent."

"(Some) Western media envy Al Jazeera's successful coverage of international news," Mohammad Jassem Al Ali told AFP without naming the media concerned.

"Al Jazeera gives the US viewpoint as much space as it gives the Afghan viewpoint," Ali said, noting that the channel has three correspondents in the United States and is the only one authorised to broadcast continuously from Taleban-ruled territory in Afghanistan.

At the same time, he stressed that Qatar was rapidly evolving into a parliamentary democracy that embraced the whole scope of human and civil rights. US officials said they had expressed concern to the Qatari ruler about Al Jazeera's allegedly biased coverage of the Sept. 11 attacks.

"There is no pressure on us by the emir who, since the launch of Al Jazeera, encouraged us to be independent and professional," Ali said.

Since its launch in November 1996, Al Jazeera has gained considerable popularity among viewers in the Arab world, while annoying many governments for tackling political, social and sometimes sexual issues previously regarded as taboo, as well as providing a platform for Arab dissidents.

## BBC rethinks political coverage

The BBC director general, Greg Dyke, has ordered a major review of the corporation's political coverage amid growing evidence that Westminster and Whitehall are a big turn-off for the under-35 audience.

The review, which will involve consultation with politicians, academics, viewers and journalists, was prompted by concerns that voter apathy in the general election may have been linked to media coverage of political issues.

Mr Dyke is known to have privately expressed concern that younger viewers find politics boring and that the corporation was not connecting with this audience in its coverage.

Senior figures said Mr Dyke was perturbed by research conducted by Labour after the election, which showed that viewers under 35 were no longer interested in politics and he wanted to find a way of reaching out to the grass roots.

Labour and Tory MPs will be invited to take part in a conference on media coverage of politics, with other possible guests including those who serve youth markets such as editors of magazines such as Dazed and Confused and ID.

The project will look at "how the BBC covers politics and to come up with fresh ideas to ensure the way we report politics remains relevant and engaging in the 21st century, devolved UK."

## UPC to start digital TV in Vienna

UPC Telekabel, the Austrian cable TV provider and subsidiary company of the Dutch cable operator United Pan-Europe Communications will begin broadcasting digital TV in Vienna this month.

The basic offer includes 50 TV channels, 40 digital audio channels, and near video-on-demand, an interactive TV application with web contents and e-mail via TV.

Each DTV subscriber will get an email address and can work directly on the TV screen with an infrared keyboard.

The UPC digital TV will cost E23.90 per month. About 19,000 Telekabel clients in Vienna will get the new set-top computer via a smooth roll-out campaign during the next months.

The 34<sup>th</sup> Western Show

# Int'l conference and exhibition for the broadband industry

In Anaheim, California, Nov. 27-30

The 34th Western Show takes place November 27-30, in Anaheim, California, USA. The premier international conference and exhibition for the broadband industry will bring together the world's major players, latest technology, exciting partnerships and the most innovative business models in sunny Southern California for four action-packed days.

As Europe gears up for broadband roll-out (already they saw announcements of new video-on-demand services from Europe Online, interactive TV initiatives from the BBC and Kirch interactive and the expansion of Italy's broadband network from FastWeb), there has never been a better time to stay one step ahead in this rapidly-changing industry.

The Western Show comprises an extensive programme of seminars and workshops featuring internationally respected industry figures such as Robert W Pittman - Co-Chief Operating Officer of AOL Time Warner, who'll give a real inside track on the latest developments. Sessions will cover operations and human resources, technology, public policy, marketing and advertising, programming, finance and digital workshops. The exclusive technology showcases of CableNET 2001, focusing on the newest technology, and the new exhibit CableNET Interactive, where content converges with

technology, give a glimpse of the interactive future for all of us.

Broadband is bringing the world together and The Western Show is no exception. International delegates are the fastest growing sector of attendees and this year's event hosts a special session on Digital Europe, examining why Europeans are more interactive than North Americans. In addition, the Global Summit addresses the opportunities and challenges facing broadband roll-out and adoption worldwide - a vital source of information for all international executives.

For further information, please visit The Western Show online at <http://www.vandusseldorp.com/calca/e/default.asp> You can register at <http://www.vandusseldorp.com/calca/ble/register.asp> or alternatively by fax or mail.

## Leo Kirch, German tycoon, accuses BBC and ITV for 2002 World Cup

The German millionaire television magnate who owns the rights to the 2002 World Cup finals has complained to the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) that the BBC and ITV are acting as a cartel in negotiations for screening the competition.

Leo Kirch, both terrestrial channels could be fined up to 10 per cent of their annual turnover. A bidding auction would also break out for the rights for the 64-match tournament in Japan and Korea next June, for which all four home countries might still qualify.

The letter has been sent by Prisma, the company which is 85 per cent owned by Mr Kirch, who bought the global rights for the month-long competition for £821 million from Fifa, the world governing body.

Under the Broadcasting Act

1996, all 64 matches can only be shown live on free-to-air television in Britain.

Prisma has asked the BBC and ITV for a total of £171 million for the 2002 competition. This is 30 times more than they jointly paid for the 1998 tournament, which was staged in France and screened at peak-viewing time during the evening in Britain.

Next year's matches will be shown during the morning and early afternoon in this country. The two channels are, therefore, unlikely to pay much more than £63 million between them.

From Oct. 30 to Nov. 3  
Int'l TV Festival  
in Bar, Montenegro

The 6<sup>th</sup> International TV Festival Bar 2001. will take place in Bar, Montenegro, Yugoslavia, from 30<sup>th</sup> of October - 3<sup>rd</sup> of November 2001.

The following competition categories are included in the Festival:

- \*TV dramas and TV films (up to 90 \*minutes);
- Documentary Programs (up to 60 minutes);
- \*programmes of ecology (up to 30 minutes);
- \*programmes of tourism (up to 30 minutes);
- \*current affairs programmes (from 5 to 15 minutes);

### JURY

The Festival is a competitive event.

The Festival has competitive and non-competitive categories.

Programmes in the competitive categories are evaluated by one jury for all categories.

The jury has five members.

The jury is headed by its president while the work is organized by its secretary.

### AWARDS

The International TV Festival Bar 2001 gives the following awards:

1. In each category for the best programme there is one award:
2. In each category there are author's awards:  
a) the best screenplay, b) the best directing, c) the best photography
3. In the category of the acting programmes there are the following awards for:  
a) the best male role, b) the best female role
4. The best programme in the Festival is awarded the Grand Prix of the Festival.
5. For the best selection in the Festival there is a producer award.

To the winner of the Grand Prix of the Festival, the organizer provides the accommodation on the following Festival. The awarded program will be broadcast on the opening of the Festival.

The special prize of the founders of the Festival (HTP "Korali") is planned for the Grand Prix winner of the Festival.

## Circom 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.  
Production and Design: **Matina Petritsopoulou**.  
Phone (3031) 299611-610 fax (3031) 299 655. E-mail : [pr@ert3.gr](mailto: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**





# Festivals, workshops and more around Europe and the world



## OCTOBER

Oct. 16-18: BCE 2001 exhibition (Olympia, London), [www.broadband-convention.com](http://www.broadband-convention.com)

Oct. 18-24: New Zealand Mountain Film Festival (Queenstown, New Zealand) [www.queenstown.com/mtnfilm](http://www.queenstown.com/mtnfilm)

Oct 19 - 22: World Congress of History Producers (Boston, U.S.), [www.banffvfest.com](http://www.banffvfest.com)

Oct. 19 – 25: Netdays 2001 (throughout Europe), [netdays@cec.eu.int](mailto:netdays@cec.eu.int)

Oct.22 – 28: 7e Cinema tout ecran – International film and TV Festival (Geneva, Switzerland), [www.cinema-tout-ecran.ch](http://www.cinema-tout-ecran.ch)

Oct. 22 – 28: Sheffield International Documentary Festival (Sheffield, U.K.) [www.sidf.co.uk](http://www.sidf.co.uk)

Oct. 23 – 25: Columbus International Film & Video Festival (Columbus, U.S.) [www.chrisawards.com](http://www.chrisawards.com)

Oct. 24-27: Comenius (Europe), [barney.trench@cec.eu.int](mailto:barney.trench@cec.eu.int)

Oct 25 – 28: World Congress of Science Producers (Washington, USA) [www.banffvfest.com](http://www.banffvfest.com)

Oct 25 –28: United Nations Association Film Festival (Stanford, U.S. [www.unaff.org](http://www.unaff.org))

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

Oct. 28-30: Gemini Awards (Toronto, Canada) [www.academy.ca](http://www.academy.ca)

## NOVEMBER

Nov. 1 – 11: AFI Fest (Los Angeles, U.S.) [www.afifest.com](http://www.afifest.com)

Nov. 2-4: Banff Mountain Film Festival (Banff, Canada) [www.banffcentre.ab.ca/CMC/](http://www.banffcentre.ab.ca/CMC/)

Nov. 2 – 9: Alliance Atlantis Banff Television Executive Program (Banff, Canada) [www.executive2001.com](http://www.executive2001.com)

Nov. 2 – 10: Margaret mead Film & Video Festival (New York, U.S.)

[www.amnh.org/mead](http://www.amnh.org/mead)

Nov. 13 – 16: News World 2001 (Barcelona), [www.newsworld.com.uk](http://www.newsworld.com.uk)

Nov. 14-17: Sportel Monaco (Monte Carlo, Monaco) [www.sportel.org](http://www.sportel.org)

Nov. 19: International Emmys (New York, USA) [www.intlemmyawards.com](http://www.intlemmyawards.com)

Nov. 20: Digital Rights Management Seminar (Artis, Amsterdam), [www.europedrm.com](http://www.europedrm.com)

Nov. 21-29: International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (Amsterdam, Netherlands) [www.idfa.nl](http://www.idfa.nl)

Nov. 22 – 27: Festival Du Film Jules Verne (Paris, France)

Nov. 22 – Dec 2: IDFA (Amsterdam, Netherlands) [www.idfa.nl](http://www.idfa.nl)

Nov. 23 – 25 : Streaming Media Europe 2001 (ExCel, London), [www.europe.streamingmedia.com](http://www.europe.streamingmedia.com)

Nov. 27-30 Western Cable show (Anaheim, USA) [www.cable.com](http://www.cable.com)

Nov. 28: Digital Content Europe (Liverpool, UK), [www.digitalcontenteurope.com](http://www.digitalcontenteurope.com)

Nov.28: Interactive TV Business Models (London, UK) [www.ef-commerce.co.uk/itvbiz](http://www.ef-commerce.co.uk/itvbiz)

## JANUARY 2002

Jan.15 – 20: 37<sup>th</sup> Solothurn film Festival (Solothurn, Switzerland), [www.solothurnerfilmtage.ch](http://www.solothurnerfilmtage.ch)

Jan.25 – 27: Moondance International Film Festival (Boulder, U.S.) [www.moondancefilmfestival.com](http://www.moondancefilmfestival.com)

## MAY 2002

May 16-17: Fourth Annual TV Meets the Web Seminar (Amsterdam, Netherlands), <http://tvmeetstheweb.com>

## JUNE 2002

June 13-14: European Radio Forum (Vienna, Italy) by EBU

# SONY®



## Wide range of programs at Polish Festival

The 5<sup>th</sup> International Ethnic TV Festival "At Home" took place in Krakow, Poland, on Oct. 4-7. The Festival, which was organised by Telewizja Polska in collaboration with Circom Regional and the EEBA, viewed and discussed a wide range of TV programmes dealing with ethnic minority issues, and awarded prizes for the best entries. A conference session debated the difficulties encountered when broadcasting to multi-ethnic societies, and shared practical ideas on how to do this responsibly and fairly.

The Festival Awards Jury was chaired by Andrzej Fidyk, Head of Documentary Programmes TVP, with Juergen Hassel, Mirko Bogataj, Miron Tschernienko, and Edward Mikołajczyk as members. They viewed 26 programmes which had qualified for the competition after a pre-selection out of nearly 100 entries from all over the world.

The final verdict of the jury was as follows:

**Grand Prix** "Korzenie" (The Roots) for "The Price of Truth" (Cena Prawdy) by Marcin Mamon and Mariusz Pilis, produced by L&L Studio Filmowe and TVP S.A., Poland. This is an impressive documentary which takes the viewer to the Islamic guerilla camps somewhere in Europe, to the Chechen mountains controlled by the guerillas, and into Chechnya with the Russian troops, to give a picture of both sides of the front lines and the wider conflict. While the TV crew travels around Chechnya, searching for Petra Prohazkova, a Czech journalist and war correspondent who had decided to quit her



profession to run an orphanage in Grozny, a complex picture develops about the tragedy of war. Universal questions arise as to whether it is possible to learn the truth and how to go about it, whether there is any point in searching for the truth, and - last but not least - what the price of the truth is...

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize** Circom Regional for "The Unwanted" (Izlisnite) by Adele Peeva, produced by Adela Media Film&TV Productions, Bulgaria. This is a 52-minute documentary in which 'the unwanted' turn out to be the Turks living in Bulgaria. The film talks about a complicated past, an uncertain fate,

and split families. The drama began when the Bulgarian authorities forced the Turkish minority to change their names and nationality to Bulgarian in the 1980s. The minority used to live in a close community close to the Bulgarian-Turkish border. Political developments brought changes and individual tragedies to the families of this community.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize** TVP 3 for "Stasiek" by Eugeniusz Szpakowski, produced by TVP Białystok, Poland. This 22-minute programme is a delightful portrait of Stasiek Zywolewski, a painter from the small village of Hajnowka in eastern Poland. Since his childhood, he has been fascinated by Byzantine art and culture. He believes that his paintings, in which he often goes back to the Greek Orthodox tradition, make it possible for him to have a closer relationship with contemporary man.

**Special Circom Regional Prize.** CR's special award went to TVP Białystok, Poland, in recognition of their input in the Festival, the high quality of their entries, and their dedication to the minority issues in their overall programming.

**BARBARA LEWANDOWSKA**  
TVP Gdansk

## Whispers

Digital Rights Management Seminar will be held in Artis, Amsterdam, Nov. 20 in association with DMD secure. It's a seminar on developments in the digital rights management market, for right holders including publishers and broadcasters, as well as new media professionals.... Digital Content Europe – winning strategies for online entertainment-takes place at the Liverpool Town Hall, Nov 28, in association with Liverpool TV. It's a pan-European event on content syndication focusing on production, syndication, distribution and sales of entertainment related content....The Fourth Annual TV Meets the Web Seminar has been scheduled at the Royal Tropical Institute, Amsterdam, May 16 – 17.

xxx

TBI Yearbook 2002 the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the TBI Yearbook is out. Price of the publication is 595 euros. Ordered by country for easy reference, listings include: free to air broadcasters, pay – TV channels, pay TV platforms, comprehensive producer and distributor details, regulatory organisation....Europe's largest broadband convention BCE 2001 will be held at the London Olympia, Oct 16-18....Interactive TV Business Models is the int'l conference to be held at the Radisson Kenilworth Hotel, London, Nov. 26-28....

xxx

The European Commission organised the eContent Program's session "Information Day & Financing

Possibilities for Digital Content" at the Frankfurt Book Fair, Oct 10. Participants got practical and useful information about the eContent Program's forthcoming call for proposals on digital content on global networks, to be launched Nov. The call's total fund is in the order of 30 million euros.... The city of Toulouse (France) will be held March 2-9 at the Congress Palace. Participants will receive shortly the final list of selected films. It was in 1999 that the first meeting concerning television programs took place at Narbonne. A monthly free service for journalists: the T-Media Europe Diary, a long-term lookahead at some of the events happening in Europe....

xxx

Streaming Media Europe 2001, the int'l conference and exhibition, taking place in London, Oct. 23-25, is all about business trends & enterprise, entertainment & media, convergence, technology, product marketing & branding, wireless, etc.... A new worldwide market analysis & strategic outlook 2001 – 06, titled "Content & application for Broadband & Digital TV" is out by ARC Group and available also on a CD – ROM version....TRT producer Didem Yilmaz is joining the meetings of the Balkan TV Magazine consortium, representing Turkish television and replacing Ahmet Yalcin, who has been promoted as Deputy Head of TV....