

# Circom Report

CIRCOM Regional Newsmothly CR is the European Association of 380 Public Regional TV Stations June 2000 / Issue 9

## Potsdam conference: a resounding success

All in all, the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of CIRCOM regional, which took place from 30 May to 2 June 2000 in Potsdam, Germany, can be seen as a resounding success. The figures speak for themselves.

Lasting four days, it was the longest annual meeting in the association's history; 316 participants attended from 32 countries, more than ever before. We saw the longest ever training seminar at two weeks, with 56 participants, trainees and tutors, more than ever before. A total of 126 entries were submitted for the PRIX CIRCOM for the best production by a regional television station: another record.

Much was new at the first CIRCOM conference in the new millennium: artists from three European countries exhibited their work in the foyer of the conference centre Bulgarian sculptor Alexander Proinov, who has created the beautiful PRIX CIRCOM trophy; Italian painter Antonio Masini from Potenza / Basilicata; and a group of Slovenian artists from the School of the Arts in Ljubljana. Through their work they managed to convey a homely, soothing atmosphere in an otherwise modern, technically austere conference building of glass, steel and concrete.

The presentation of works of art alongside the Annual Conference was an experiment which will be continued in the future, possibly as soon as the conference in Porto in 2001, where it is intended to present the work of artists from five European regions from all points of the European compass, Northern, Southern, Eastern, Western and Central Europe under the slogan "art compass of regions". Such a project requires early planning, competent organisation and suitable exhibition rooms, for which Potsdam will hopefully serve as a forerunner.

### **CR History**

Equally deserving of future continuance was the impressive presentation of CIRCOM's history made in Potsdam for the first time by Marie-Paule Urban with such painstaking attention to detail, which awoke the interest and appreciation of all delegates. Marie-Paule Urban, CIRCOM's deputy secretary general placed at France 3 in Strassbourg put together a hitherto neglected documentation.

To return to the conference itself. The concept of thinking the second thought, developed as far back as the summer of last year, was followed through consistently: the conference presented itself to the public, to external experts who made an immense contribution to our daily work and who offered a glimpse into the future development of regional television.

Each of the four conference days had its own slogan another first, albeit not unproblematic, at least from the organisational point of view.

Andreas Weiss, co-ordinator of ARD's foreign programmes, prepared and chaired a discussion on the future of regional television in the age of digital technology, a debate whose participants included, amongst others, Professor Jeffrey Cole from the Center for Communication Policy, Los Angeles; Professor Joe Groebel from European Institute of Media, Düsseldorf; and Allen Bird, from the management consultancy Booz, Allen & Hamilton, New York / Munich.

### **The future of public service broadcasting**

The future of public service broadcasting was debated by, amongst others, former German Federal Constitutional Court judge Professor Dieter Grimm, EBU legal expert Dr. Horst Rumphorst, Polish television director Carel Jakubowicz and Boris Bergant, CIRCOM's Secretary General.

Silvia Halm, from Catalonian Television in Barcelona, put together a workshop to discuss the interplay between regional identity and regional television reporting. This hearing chaired by Ellen Hazekorn of the Institute of Technologies, Dublin, got high attention by the conference participants who asked for continuing the discussion at one of the next Annual Conferences.

Methods and goals of future journalistic training provided the topic for day two, presented by representatives of European television academies, schools for journalism and corporate universities of international companies such as Bertelsmann, represented by Ulrike Bentlage. The outlook for TV-journalism in general: there will be a multi-skilled person, a researcher, a reporter, a technician, a cutter, a broadcaster, a programme-manager altogether in one person who has to qualify himself the whole time of his professional life.

### **South-eastern Europe**

Day three was dedicated to the development of democratic media in the regions of Southeastern Europe, independent of state intervention. The current media landscape in all Southeastern European region was presented in detail, a subject what has been prepared and moderated by Dusan Rfeljic from the European Institute of Media in Düsseldorf/Germany. Nearly every report demonstrated that it will be a long, long way to societies with an independent free press and even opposite to it that there are dangerous, undemocratic developments in some countries of Southeastern Europe. Free journalism will have to fight a long lasting struggle. The discussions then focused on a much-welcomed, "Partnership Project for South-eastern

# Potsdam conference: a resounding success

→ From page 1

European Television", presented by Reimar H. Allerdt, CIRCOCOM's president who is with BR-Munich /Germany. The Co-ordinator of the Stability Pact has already accepted this project into its Quick Hits List, which will bring together journalists of the Balkan countries in long-term, daily programme cooperation with journalists from other regions of Europe. The project shows an ambitious goal, which will serve as a model for public service broadcasting television stations in all countries of Southeastern Europe. The project will start with a feasibility study which has to be implemented before the end of this year.

The opening ceremony of the Conference was a highlight in itself, with a much-heeded, forward-looking speech by Professor Albert Scharf, the president of the European Broadcasting Union. The speech can be read on CIRCOCOM regional's Internet homepage from now on. Professor Scharf was not the only representative of the European Broadcasting Union present in Potsdam: also present was Dr. Horst Rumphorst, David Wood and Michel Poncet, whose presence underlined the great interest shown by the world's largest and most important broadcasting corporation in the work of CIRCOCOM regional, and which resulted in an agreement to improve cooperation and exchange of information between the two organisations.

The European Parliament was represented by Doris Pack, who called for intensive solidarity between conference delegates and democratically-minded media journalists working in the Southeastern European region, and who promised the full support of the European Parliament. The German government was represented by media expert Hans Möves, a high-ranking official from Germany's Chancellor's office.

## Journalistic responsibility

A discussion on the topic of journalistic responsibility ("Moral? Conscience? Responsibility"), led by Marija Nemicic from HRT-Zagreb/Croatia and supported by Nicholas Jones (London), Nennad Szebak (Moscow), Albrecht Müller (Pleisweiler, Germany), Azra Nuhefendic (Trieste), Mirjana Tomcic (Vienna) and Boris Bergant (Slovenia) has been particularly controversial and lively as well.

A group of colleagues came together by initiative of Gerry Reynolds from RTE-Cork to look for an answer to TV-journalists most important and actual question: How to win viewers and how to hold them? (Trieste), Mirjana Tomcic (Vienna) and Boris Bergant (Slovenia) has been particularly controversial and lively as well. A group of colleagues came together by initiative of Gerry Reynolds from RTE-Cork to look for an answer to TV-journalists most important and actual question: How to win viewers and how to hold them? The perceptive, strict and factually competent workshop on programme cooperations led by Susanne Sterzenbach (SWR, Baden-Baden, Germany) met with remarkable acclaim. A full report on these workshops will follow.

## The CR publications

Circocom regionals publications and its internet presentations have been in the center of the delegates interest with remarkable reports given by Lefty Kongalides from ERT 3 Thessaloniki / Greece and by Marko Prpic from RTV-Ljubljana / Slovenija. Lefty Kongalides produces a total new publication, the CIRCOCOM REPORT with eight pages monthly. This report is distributed via E-mail so that the informations can meet colleagues and the interested public in an extremely short time. Contents and presentation of the CIRCOCOM REPORT have been called exemplary with true information. Surprise came up when Marko Prpic, who created and designed CIRCOCOM's homepage, informed the conference about the huge attention of internet surfers which can be noticed. CIRCOCOM's homepage developed in 1996 has got a permanent increasing fan community in the last two years: 25.000 customers are registered one more reason for Marko Prpic to extend the offer of information in the nearest future.

## The training seminar

The participants in this years training seminar for young TV-journalists, under the excellent direction of Rick Thompson and his colleagues, formed a focal point in this conference, more so than in previous years. This was mainly due to the news show "Today and Tomorrow", produced by the trainees every day. Through this work, the trainees were fully integrated into conference events, and

produced programmes under realistic conditions; the professional way in which they approached their work was met with enthusiastic approval by all conference delegates. A full report on the special training seminar at the Potsdam Conference 2000 will be made at a future date. The Trainees programmes were shown at the beginning of the daily Happy Hour, which was also a first for an annual conference, and a very successful one. It formed a kind of "heure fixe" for all conference delegates, providing an opportunity for informal discussion and new contacts to be made, coming as it did between the end of daily meetings and the beginning of the more formal, traditional events.

## Prix Circocom ceremony

The "Ostdeutscher Rundfunk Brandenburg" (ORB) proved to be a most solicitous patron of the Annual Conference, providing receptions for the European Board and the Executive Committee, organising the well-visited video library, providing technical support for the training seminar and organising the presentation of prizes in the PRIX CIRCOCOM in its own television studios. The programme, recorded by the ORB, was not only excellently organised by jury president David Lowen, but also charmingly presented, with prizes going to uniquely interesting productions. This was one of the conference's major successes, culminating in a wonderful barbecue evening in the open air and a big tent. To the evening events: following on from the excellent variety of foods offered at the ORB barbecue, came a reception by the government of the state of Brandenburg at the famous Babelsberg studios, steeped in tradition, in the romantically designed "Prinz Eisenherz" restaurant, a buffet of regional cuisine in a setting of historical film scenery and knights armoury. But all participants agreed that the real climax was the five-hour castle tour by boat, at which the rhythms of Albert C. Humphreys and his jazz band managed to tempt even the most weary "congressman" to his feet. Berlin was on the agenda for the last day, a whole day's visit to the capital city of Germany, a city undergoing reconstruction and radical change. The highlight: a two hours ship-tour through the center of the new government area which is under construction now, in detail described by Justus Bobke, a representative of the promotions agency Partner für Berlin.

The Potsdam Conference 2000 was a success, because of new quantities achieved, but also because of the contemporary topics on offer. Last but not least: it provided an opportunity to renew old acquaintances, and to make new friends. The intended intensive meetings between CIRCOCOM members and external conference delegates met its goal and proved to be extremely useful. A whole series of projects were presented, intensive cooperation was agreed, in particular with regard to intensive exchange of information, the organisation of joint training seminars, project-related cooperation with international organisations and scientific institutions; and also with regard to long-term sponsorship agreements. In this respect the Potsdam Conference will have a lasting, successful effect on the work of our association.

## Good and bad moments

Like all previous conferences, the meeting in Potsdam had its good and its bad moments, moments in which things did not go quite as they were expected to do and indeed could have done. But, upon reflection: the end result was positive, if the reactions and feedback received so far are anything to go by. For the first time in CIRCOCOM's history, the organisation of the Annual Conference remained the sole responsibility of our association. This was an extremely problematic situation which placed an unreasonable burden, and which should not happen again as President R. Allerdt said. The Potsdam Conference 2000, in the extensive "Ostdeutsche Sparkassen Akademie" was in many respects a new form of CIRCOCOM Annual Conference; it was an experiment, of whose success each conference delegate must decide for himself. What remains under the line that is the question to be answered. Potsdam Conference 2000 already is a part of the past. Now it is the time to look forward to 2001, to the next Annual Conference, when we will be the guests of Portuguese Television in Porto. Already we can begin to look forward to meeting friends and colleagues there.

But time is slipping away: even before the conference in Porto, we need to know by November 2000 which of our member stations is prepared to take over the honorary role of hosting a jubilee conference in 2002, the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of CIRCOCOM regional.

In Marseilles, June 22-23

# Int'l meeting of TV program managers, producers, directors

A possible dialogue? is the theme of an int'l meeting between TV channel programme managers and Mediterranean Producers and Directors to be held in Marseilles, June 22-23. The meeting organized by CMCA, Conseil General des BdR and Co.Pe.A.M. is a result of Coproduction Working Group at the 6<sup>th</sup> Co.Pe. A.M. Conference (Valencia-March 1999).

The organization of a specific meeting for Euro-Mediterranean channel programme managers and broadcasting professionals must meet an often-expressed need: bringing together and aligning the reciprocal interests of broadcasters and producers in terms of programmes.

The event takes place at the same time as two major broadcasting events (The Sunny Side of the Docs and The Int'l Documentary Festival).

The Marseilles meeting should provide a forum for aligning the often

divergent viewpoints of TV channel programming managers and programme producers and directors as a whole.

This encounter cannot be productive unless it truly creates a realistic context in which channel managers and their external contact can come together.

The event has a twofold objective. Firstly, as well as opposing different points of view, it aims to reach a consensus whereby each party is better able to perceive respective expectations, imperatives and requirements.

Secondly, to consider how better to



incorporate and identify Mediterranean-type programmes into TV schedules north and south of the Mediterranean.

The event will find useful working material in the results of the Euromed TV survey which identifies significant interest in Mediterranean programmes among households surveyed in twelve major Mediterranean cities.

## Premis Actual rewards investigative journalism

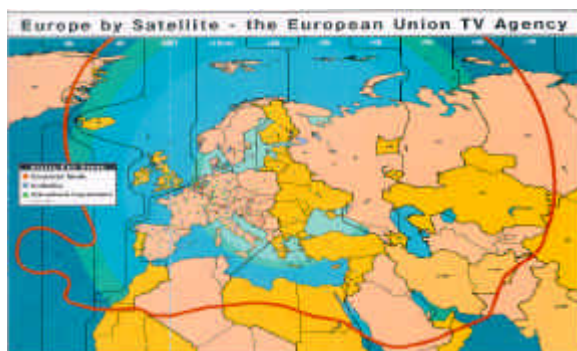
The 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the Premis Actual awards will take place next November, in Barcelona, when the names of the winners will be announced.

These awards which were established in 1990 by the Catalan Broadcasting Corporation in memory of a reports team of Catalan Television's program Actual, are to reward investigative journalism and to contribute to this type of reporting by recognizing the talent and imagination of those involved in it.

From the beginning, the Int'l Actual award has placed considerable value on reports made by special envoys in particularly hot areas and research work comprising a certain amount of risk for the people involved.

Entries and application form must be submitted before noon October 2. Reports must be made between October 1, 1999 and October 1, 2000. Duration of the programs on Betacam Pal is 60 minutes maximum. Entries must be in Catalan, Spanish or English. Programs in another language have to be either dubbed or subtitled. Each station may enter three programs.

More info: tel. 0034 934 444800 Fax 0034 934 444824 or E-mail: [premisactual@ccrtv.es](mailto:premisactual@ccrtv.es)



## CR Workshop report on Europe by Satellite

The video report about the Circom Regional TV Journalism Workshop will be transmitted across Europe this week by EbS (Europe-by-Satellite, the EU's TV distribution network). EbS can be received by over 200 TV stations.

The Circom Regional video report is a programme lasting 43 minutes. It includes an introduction to Potsdam and the Circom 18th Annual Conference, then a report on the Training Workshop which includes one of the full programmes recorded by the trainees - "Brandenburg Tonight". The video report is presented by one of the young journalists, Gisela Machado, from Porto in Portugal, which will be the venue for next year's conference. EbS will transmit the programme three times in its "Campus" slot, which covers European training initiatives. The transmission times will be: Tuesday 13th June at 22.00 CET Wednesday 14th June at 06.00 CET Saturday 17th June at 16.00 CET.

If stations can receive EbS, they may like to set VTRs to record one of these transmissions. VHS copies will be sent by Rick Thompson to participating stations at the end of the month.

Amsterdam s show in September

# More than 700 companies present for the Int'l Broadcasting Convention



The International Broadcasting Convention to be held September 8-12, in Amsterdam, is the world's premier broadcast technology event. The show covers all the key areas of the electronic media business including audio, cable, film, grip, internet, lighting, multimedia, production, post production, radio, satellite and transmission.

The event consists of an exhibition, conference and programme festival.

Within the 40,000 square metres (430,400 square feet) of exhibition space visitors will find 700 companies including every major supplier of broadcast technology. The six stream conference tackles all the technical, management and creative issues affecting our industry and the Le Nombre d'Or IBC widescreen Festival screens and rewards the best in widescreen TV programmes.

IBC is held each September at the Amsterdam RAI Congress Centre and now attracts over 39 000 people from over 120 countries.

Situated between Schipol airport and Amsterdam city centre, the Amsterdam RAI is 10 minutes by train from the airport and easily accessible by public transport and taxis.

Run by the industry for the Industry, IBC is owned by six key industry bodies:

- The International Association of Broadcast Manufacturers: The IABM aims to coordinate the common interest of broadcast equipment manufacturers and suppliers worldwide. Membership is open to companies engaged in the manufacture of equipment or provision of services for the radio, TV and video industries.
- The Institution of Electrical Engineers: The IEE is the largest professional engineering society in Europe. It aims to promote the advancement of electrical, manufacturing and information engineering, and to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and ideas.

- Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers: The IEEE helps advance global prosperity by promoting the engineering process of creating, developing, integrating, sharing and applying knowledge about electrical and information technologies and sciences for the benefit of humanity and the profession.
- The Royal Television Society: The RTS is the only society exclusively devoted to television and, as the industry undergoes significant change, it stands as a unique central independent body where the art, science, business, craft and politics of television can be discussed by representatives from every branch of the industry.

- The Society of Cable Telecommunications Engineers: The SCTE is a technical body primarily concerned with enhancing the status of the cable telecommunications and related industries. The SCTE provides technical certification and standards to the broadband telecommunications industry.
- The Society of Motion Picture Television Engineers: SMPTE is a leading engineering society contributing to all areas of computer engineering, film, multimedia, TV and video disciplines. Known for its standards and breakthrough technical papers, SMPTE serves as an educational forum and network base, aiming its goals at advancing theory in digital and multimedia technology.

The Civis Europe int'l television contest

## Programs against racism & ostracism to be awarded

In Brussels, Nov. 8

The European television prize, *civiseurope*, is to be awarded for the first time this year in Brussels, November 8.

Programs will be honored which campaign against racism and ostracism on the basis of common European basic values, and which make an exemplary presentation of the Europe of cultural diversity. The *civiseurope* international television prize is intended to serve the democratic civil society in Europe. With the new television prize, the organizers wish to support and honor the contribution of the media to greater tolerance and communication between cultural minorities and the majority of the population in the European Union.

In order to support the process of European unity, the Civis Media Prize (*civismedienpreis*) for radio and television in Germany has been expanded to include a European category. The German Civis Media Prize was set up in 1987 by the Commissioner of the Federal Government for Foreigners Affairs (*Beauftragte der Bundesregierung für Ausländerfragen*), together with the ARD-First German Television Channel, under the direction of WDR, and the Freudenberg Stiftung (Foundation). The prize is awarded annually. The newly-created *civiseurope-Life* in cultural diversity is supported by the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) in Geneva and by the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC) in Vienna.

This year, all television programme organizers from the EU, as well as from the EU admission candidate countries of Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic, can participate in the European competition. The submitted television contributions should have reached our Civis Office in Cologne no later than 25<sup>th</sup> July 2000. E-mail: [civis@result.de](mailto:civis@result.de)

# Int 1 Workshop on documentaries in Torino, July 12-15

The 4<sup>th</sup> Int 1 Workshop on documentary making in Italy and Europe will be held in Bardonecchia, Torino (Italy), July 12-15. The event aims to foster the production and coproduction of creative documentaries by gathering together European producers and filmmakers, professionals and executives working in the audiovisual field.

Commissioning editors, distributors and different personalities playing key roles in European documentary production will discuss the main issue of the genre, screening and debating a selection of documentaries. Besides the Southern European and Italian production, this year will focus on Great Britain.

The workshop organized by Associazione F. E.R.T., filming with a European Regard in Turin-EDN and the European Documentary Network has a program schedule including: Italian documentaries, Southern European documentaries, Italian and British broadcasters: production strategies, The commissioning editors choice, Case studies: outstanding British productions, Round table on training in documentary making in Europe, Laboratory on new production projects, Forum on new production projects.

More info: Documentary in Europe, tel: 39 011 532463 fax: 39 011 531490

E-mail: documentary.fert@arpnet.it



## Intermag: int 1 association of European news and current affairs magazines

INTERMAG is an international association of mainly European news and current affairs magazines comprising 48 programmes and spanning 12 countries - all from public service broadcasters.

Intermag - members exchange items and programs - free of rights. The variety of topics ranges from domestic and foreign affairs, politics, culture, life style to social and environmental issues. Among the over 300 items you can find any type: comprehensive reports and in - depth background stories as well as lively on-the-spot reports. All TV-items are produced in high quality by public service broadcasters.

The total program value of Intermag is extraordinary - about 7.5 million Euro per year. To access it there is a yearly subscription fee of 3000 Euro. If one joins Intermag, shares in the advantages of its unique organisation. Being an Intermag member, programme editors can quickly decide whether to include an item from another producer in their programme, saving time and production costs and increasing programme quality.

How does Intermag work? Imagine a tool which allows TV journalists access to the reports and programmes of other broadcasters instantly. Imagine a product which makes this process simple and easy. Imagine a system which offers unprecedented benefits in terms of programme variety.

The Intermag Programme Exchange System (PES<sup>TM</sup>) offers all this. At the heart of the Internet-based PES<sup>TM</sup> lies a database containing programme items from all over Europe which can be accessed quickly and conveniently from a personal computer anywhere in the world. Powerful search tools within the

PES tm speed the process by guiding users to the items they want. Video streaming capabilities allow users to preview the reports with a single click and to view the transcript of the selected item.



To see and feel the benefits of Intermag there is an exclusive trial period for free. Members are provided with a password and can browse the Web-based PES<sup>TM</sup> for six weeks, preview the items, and check-out what is on offer. Even better: Choose a maximum of three reports you like, order them via Internet and you'll get them quickly in broadcast quality. You can air them without additional charges.

For additional information: [www.intermag.org](http://www.intermag.org) or contact [intermag@skypro.be](mailto:intermag@skypro.be)



## Educational Program Contest by Japan's NHK

The 27<sup>th</sup> Japan Prize Int 1 Educational Program Contest will be held in Tokyo, November 17-24. Organized by the Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK) under the auspices of the EBU the contest aims to assist in the advancement of educational broadcast programs in all countries and contribute to the promotion of understanding and cooperation among nations.

During the contest a workshop and a round-table talk will take place. The contest includes programs for children (a) up to about 12 years, (b) youths 12 to 17 years, (c) for viewers over age 18.

More information: <http://www.nhk.or.jp/jp-prize>

# CIRCOM Training and Development Coordinator

Due to the decision of The European Board of Circom Regional in Potsdam on May 29h 2000, the Board of Governors is pleased to receive written proposals for a new contract for coordinating the Circom training and development activities.

The proposal includes the following:

- A strategic view on training and development
  - The training goals for both, the conference related training and the autumns training in Strassbourg
  - Bi-lateral initiations
  - Cooperation with other institutes as Balkan Media Academy, the Baltic Media Center and the European Journalism Center
- Other plans and initiatives. The proposal includes a global budget for the next three years and has to be sent to the Board of Governors of Circom Training; Circom Regional General Secretariat Ljubljana. The proposal has to be delivered before September 2000. The European Board will make a decision in its November-meeting in Porto. President of the Board of Governors is Roel Dijkhuis

## More web visitors for CIRCOM Report

The CIRCOM Report is read by more and more web visitors. Marko Prpic, CR s Internet expert, has proof for that, by keeping statistics The new statistics-he writes-including May 2000 is even better. In May we had 11.492 transferred documents, which is the highest number up to today .

The main page of circom report had 10.191 visitors, first issue had 1.473 visitors, the December issue 1.088, January s 3.046, February s 1.001, March s 920, April s 1.445, May s 483.

In April 2.580 had visited the main page of the Potsdam Meeting and the new number of visitors in this particular page is 4.492.

## New management in Moldovan TV/Radio

The Parliament of Moldova dismissed the administration of Teleradio Moldova State Company on June 2. The new TRM management is as follows:

- Mr. Julian Magaleas, President. Born in 1948. Philologist. He is a former member of the Parliament.
- Mr. Anatol Barbel, Vice President/Director General of Television. Born in 1951. Journalist. Former Editor-in-chief of the Dialog weekly.
- Mr. Vasile Gribincha, Vice President/Director General of Radio. Born in 1965. Journalist. Former Deputy Director of the Radio News Department.

# SONY®



## Around Europe Festivals, Workshops and More

### June

28 June-2 July: Atlantic Television Festival-MAT 2000 (Sao Miguel, Azores).

29 June-1 July: Discop 99. TV Programming in Central & Eastern Europe (Budapest, Hungary)

### July

3-4: Television T-commerce world (Langham Hilton, London) E-mail: tomm@aic-uk.com

### August

25-28: The Guardian Edinburgh Int'l TV Festival. (Edinburgh, Scotland)

E-mail: EITF@festival.demon.co.uk

### September

4-8: Le Rendez-Vous 2000. French TV Screenings (Saint-Tropez, France) [www.tvfi.com](http://www.tvfi.com)

5-8: 2000 GAIT Festival. Sitcom-Children s-Animation-Drama-Reality-News/Documentary (Los Angeles) [www.GAIT.net](http://www.GAIT.net)

8-12: IBC 2000 Int'l Broadcasting Convention (Amsterdam) [www.abc.org.uk/abc/](http://www.abc.org.uk/abc/)

20-23: Cartoon Forum. Presentation of new animation projects to European investors. (Cordoba, Spain). E-mail: delphine.henrion@skynet.be

30 September-1 October: Mipcom Junior 2000 (Cannes, France) [www.miptv.com](http://www.miptv.com)

### October

2-6: Mipcom 2000. Int'l film & TV programme market (Cannes, France) [www.miptv.com](http://www.miptv.com)

3-7: 11th Rassegna Internazionale del Cinema Archeologico (Rovereto, Italy)

7-13: Wildscreen 2000. Int'l Festival of moving images from the natural world incorporating the Wildscreen Panda Awards (Bristol, UK) [www.wildscreen.org.uk](http://www.wildscreen.org.uk)

17-19: Broadband Communications Europe.

(National Hall Olympia, London)

[www.broadband\\_convention.com](http://www.broadband_convention.com)

## Circum Report

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

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• Editor is Lefty Kongalides, member of the CR Executive Committee (Thessaloniki).

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

\*Sony and Eutelsat are the official CIRCOM Regional sponsors

# Poland wins the CR Grand Prix

The TVP Gdansk documentary *And with the storks will come spring* is the 2000 Grand Prix Circom Regional winner. Commendations in the same category went to: *The way I look at you -stories of a driving school* (TSR Switzerland), *Blood road* (SVT Lulea ), John Nilsson: filmmaker *Postman* (SVT Vaxjo), *The anatomy of pain* (ANEM/FreeB92)

- Grand Prix Circom Regional: News Winner: *Midlands Today* (BBC Midlands)
- Commendations: *Telescope* (TVP Posnan, Poland), *Election Special* (BBC Wales), *Weekly Independent News* (Vin, Serbia)
- Europe Matters Winner: *The Fall of the Wall* (ORB Potsdam)
- Commendation: *What Election?* (Westcountry TV, ITV England), *North of Westminster* (BBC North Leeds)
- Cross Border Winners: *The Lagan Story* (TG4 Ireland) *Euro 3* (France 3 Nord Pas de Calais)
- Commendation: *Back to Berlin* (ORB Potsdam), *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?* (BBC Northern Ireland), *Distress and Desires* (NRK Troms)
- New Technology Winner: *Sunday Magazine* IRCAD (France 3 Alsace)
- Commendation: *Magazine* ETA (Lithuanian TV)
- Special Award of France 3 (Originality) Winner: *Pictures from West Jutland* (TV Midt-Vest Denmark)
- Commendation: *The Way I Look at You* (TSR Switzerland)
- Five Stories of a Driving School

There are 126 entries for this year's contest as David Lowen, Chairman, Prix Circom Regional, states in his report. That is 14 more than last year. Sixty programs were in the documentary category, 27 News, nine Europe Matters, five New Technology, 25 Cross Border.

## Public broadcasting must remain accessible says EBU Prez A. Scharf

The role of Public Broadcasting in the digital era was the subject of the opening keynote address of EBU's President Albert Scharf at the CIRCOM Regional's conference in Potsdam, May 30.

One of the threats to Public Broadcasting's future - said Mr. Scharf - would be to cut it off from new technologies. And throughout the history of Public Broadcasting in Europe once and again until these very days there were attempts undertaken to limit Public Broadcasting to pre-existing means of distribution and to exclude them from new media tools. What would have happened if Public Broadcasters would have been prevented to use FM-frequencies in addition to medium waves, to change from black and white TV to colour or to use satellite and cable distribution?

But: all those attempts failed. A strong public opinion and wise political judgement always fought for this unique media concept, for massmedia, responsible to the general public rather than dependent on shareholders' private interests. The most recent example of this fundamental point of view is a resolution of the European Union's Council of Ministers of last year, where the supreme governing body of the EU noted and reaffirmed

- that the fulfilment of the Public Service Broadcasting's mission must continue to benefit from technological progress;
- that broad public access, without discrimination and on the basis of equal opportunities, to various channels and services is a necessary precondition for fulfilling the special obligation of Public Service Broadcasting;
- that Public Service Broadcasting has an important role in bringing to the public the benefits of the new audiovisual and information services and the new technologies;
- that the ability of Public Service Broadcasting to offer quality programming and services to the public must be maintained and enhanced, including the development and diversification of activities in the digital age;
- that Public Broadcasting must be able to continue to provide a wide range of programming in accordance with its

- remit as defined by the Member States in order to address society as a whole; in this context it is legitimate for Public Service Broadcasting to seek to reach wide audiences.

In these few sentences all the support we need to play our role: participation in new technologies as well as structural authorisation to new services and their appropriate financing and the recognition that we must strive for mass appeal too, not being limited to esoteric minority programming, to highbrow elitist programmes which commercially do not sell. Mr. Scharf underlined that Public Broadcasting must remain an offer to everybody and accessible by everybody. This is a consequence of the Public Broadcasting concept and of the mode of financing e.g. by general licence fees. This is why, e.g. I don't think Public Broadcasting should enhance their offers by on demand or other pay-offers thus undermining their mission to the general public and their financial basis.

And the President of EBU concluded saying Europe is a continent of regions under whatever uniting, but virtual umbrella of occidental civilisation but with distinct diversities and particularities which for the communication process are essentials and which therefore for Public Broadcasting are a must. CIRCOM gives the evidence how European Broadcasters are conscious of these fundamental realities. And all national broadcasters of 50 countries assembled in EBU by all their domestic experience know that going regional in addition to all necessary national programmes and efforts is of vital importance for society and for Public Broadcasting. Regions constitute the national identity all over Europe.

Serving regional audiences and interesting distant audiences for regional concerns or beauties all around in Europe is part of the Public Service Remit in Broadcasting. And it is a promising challenge and a great chance for Public Broadcasting just now in this moment of communication history: to ensure people on their individual existence, future and human integrity, giving them the feeling that they count as members of the society they live in, not just as buying consumers, not just as objects of global marketing strategies. I'm sure that we widely agree upon such thoughts and principles.

In Brussels, September 20

# Gala by the European Union Youth Orchestra

Europe's finest young musicians representing the 15 countries of the European Union on September 20 will fill the air of the Paul Henri Spaak Building of the European Parliament in Brussels with the sounds of music, where normally the differing languages of the various political groups are heard.

The European Union Youth Orchestra dressed in the blue and yellow of Europe, will give a gala concert in celebration of the new President of the European Parliament at 8pm in the Salle Polyvalente of the Paul Henri Spaak Building. The renowned young Russian conductor Yakov Kreizberg will lead the orchestra in a performance of the most dazzling jewels of European classical music.

## Why is the concert taking place?

This musical tribute to Mme Nicole Fontaine will celebrate her Presidency of the European Parliament as well as of the Orchestra. It has been a tradition since 1982 that the President of the Parliament is also the President of the European Union Youth Orchestra. The concert will also bring the unrivalled work of the EUYO into the heart of the Parliament which, with the European Commission, sustains the Orchestra with a substantial annual grant.

Following its concert, the orchestra will travel to Hannover, to give a groundbreaking arena concert for the World Expo's Honour Day for the European Union.

## What is the European Union Youth Orchestra?

The European Union Youth Orchestra, a symbol of perfect harmony, is the European Union's cultural flagship and under its Founding Music Director Claudio Abbado and its present Music Director Vladimir Ashkenazy is considered to be one of the world's leading orchestras. World famous guest conductors have worked with the Orchestra including its Honorary Music Director, Bernard Haitink, Daniel Barenboim, Leonard Bernstein, Sir Colin Davis, Carlo Maria Giulini, Herbert von Karajan, Zubin Mehta, Mstislav Rostropovich and Sir Georg Solti KBE. Soloists have included Martha Argerich, Lord Menuhin and Jessye Norman.

The main purpose of establishing the orchestra was to demonstrate through music the co-operation and unity of European youth, thereby setting an example as a symbol of the European ideal. As Ambassadors of Goodwill from Europe, the orchestra has toured Mexico,

China, Hong Kong, Japan, North and South America, India, Eastern Europe, Russia and the Baltic States.

The orchestra's greatest success has been as a high quality training ground for young musicians entering the profession. Over 4,000 apply to play in the orchestra each year. A survey has shown that 96% of all the musicians who have passed through the orchestra are performing either as soloists or as members of orchestras throughout the world. Many young musicians have been able to graduate from the EUYO straight to orchestras such as the London Symphony Orchestra, the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra and the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra. Many successful ensembles and chamber orchestras have also been established by former members of the EUYO. The EUYO has won numerous prizes, notably the Olympia Prize of the Alexander S Onassis Public Benefit Foundation in recognition of its notable contribution to the preservation of our European cultural inheritance, the first ever "Prix d'Initiative Européenne" and the "European Media Prize". Both prizes were for the Orchestra's extraordinary contribution to the development of cultural cooperation and unity within the European Union. Further international recognition came with the awarding of the European Union medal to the Orchestra's Secretary-General and Co-Founder, Mrs Joy Bryer, by former President Gil-Robles.

The orchestra's Patrons are the Prime Ministers of each of the fifteen member countries of the European Union. The EUYO is financed annually by a generous grant of scholarships to the young musicians in member countries voted by the Parliament and administered by the Commission of the European



Union, by annual contributions from the fifteen member governments of the European Union and from private sector sponsorship.

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## World Festival of Underwater Picture

The 27<sup>th</sup> Festival Mondial De L Image Sous-Marine (World Festival of Underwater Picture) will be held in Antibes Juan-les-Pins, November 1-5.

Main award categories are:

- Large and Small Format film
  - Still Pictures
- An overall value of 100.000 FF will be awarded to the different categories. The official language is French, for works presented in any other language, the author must provide a typed script of the work in French or in English.

Deadline for registration is September 15<sup>th</sup> and deadline for sending the material October 1<sup>st</sup>.

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