

SEMINARS, CONFERENCES AND ROUND TABLES

Co-productions, Technical Services and New Possibilities Belgrade, February 3 – 5, 2001

Seminar-Workshop as a part of Film Festival - FEST 2001 was organized by Film Institute and VANS and co-organized by BalkanKult and Goethe Institute, Belgrade as a follow up of Budva conference.

The Seminar was held due to the constant needs for finding recognition mechanisms, establishing contacts and co-operation among the subjects of European cinematography. The intention was to recover the old forms, as well as to establish new forms of cooperation in the film industry of the Region.

International Cultural Cooperation: European Cultural Networks, International Foundations and Programs, National Foundations – Who? What? Where? How? Belgrade, April 21, 2001

BalkanKult, together with the University of Arts and the Center for Contemporary Arts of Belgrade, organized a seminar in Belgrade on 21st April, 2001, entitled: International Cultural Cooperation: European Cultural Networks, International foundations and programs, National Foundations – Who? What? Where? How? Around 170 participants from Yugoslavia and other European countries attended the seminar held at the Hall of the City Council.

Cultural Management and the Cultural Industry in the Balkans: music/visual arts, Belgrade, June 14 – 17, 2001

BalkanKult, together with the Goethe-Institute Inter Nationes, Belgrade, organized a conference at the Rectorate of the University of the Arts in Belgrade on the 15th and 16th of June, 2001. Some 35 experts from all of the countries of the Southeast European (SEE) regions, as well as guests from Germany, attended.

Present and Future Role of Foundations in Cultural Funding and Policy-Making in the Balkans, Belgrade, October 29, 2001

The Regional expert round table: 'Present and Future Role of Foundations in Cultural Funding and Policy-making in the Balkans' organized by ERICArts, Bonn and BalkanKult, Belgrade was held on the 29th of October 2001, at the Rectorate of the University of Arts in Belgrade. The Round table took place as part of the one of the most important European projects - Creative Europe (Council of Europe).

PROJECTS

European Cultural Networks Directory

On the occasion of the seminar on European cultural networks, thanks to financial support of Council of Europe, a directory of European Cultural Networks was published. The aim of the directory is to support awareness and mobility for artists and producers and their ideas, works and expertise and to develop long-term mutual trust, partnership and solidarity in the presentation of their mutual interests in culture.

ARTCult BKK Database

The ARTCult- BKK database (on line) offers information on most important cultural institutions and functions (archives, associations, bookshops, cinematography, cultural centers, faculties, festivals, folk clubs, galleries, international organizations, libraries, museums, music, national institutions, news papers and magazines, periodicals, photo clubs, publishers, radio and TV, research institutions, state authorities and institutions, theatres etc.) from the SEE region (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Moldavia, Romania, Slovenia, Yugoslavia). European Cultural Foundation, Amsterdam, supported the Database.

Nordic – Balkan Cultural Cooperation

Willing to continue already initiated project *Cultural Bridging between the North and South-East Europe*, BalkanKult invited representatives from all Balkan countries to attend the foundation meeting of the Regional Coordination that will work further development of the interregional cultural projects. This project originated from the Copenhagen conference (December 2000), meetings in Belgrade with Mr. **Finn Andersen** and Mrs. **Kathrin Winkelhorn** from the Danish Cultural Institute (April 2001) and with Mrs. Pirkko Rainesalo from the Ministry of Education of Finland (May 2001).

The Board members are: **Corina Raceanu**, Tamisoara, **Dimitrije Vujadinovic**, Belgrade, **Goran Pekovic**, Belgrade, **Janko Ljumovic**, Podgorica, **Lejla Hodzic**, Sarajevo, **Marijana Cvetkovic**, Belgrade, **Sokol Shupo**, Tirana, **Yavor Koinakov**, Sofia, **Sanjin Dragojevic**, Zagreb, **Zoran Petrovski**, Skopje and **Enver Petrovci**, Pristina.

PUBLISHING ACTIVITY

BalkanKult Papers

BalkanKult Papers is a periodical that notifies critical opinions on current phenomena concerning cultural policy and cooperation in Yugoslavia, Balkan Region and Southeast Europe. The aim of this periodical is to get the experts outside of the Region acquainted to cultural situation in the Region.

European Cultural Networks Directory

The aim of the directory is to support awareness and mobility for artists and producers and their ideas, works and expertise and to develop long-term mutual trust, partnership and solidarity in the presentation of their mutual interests in culture.

Edition - Cultural Policy

Funding the Future

BalkanKult has published the Serbian / Croatian / Bosnian edition of the book 'Funding the Future – Manual for Fundraising in the Arts' by **Andrew McIlroy**. Publishing of this book was supported by MOSAIC Program (Council of Europe). The book was distributed free of charge in the Region.

Culture State – Individual Museum

BalkanKult has published the Serbian / Croatian / Bosnian edition of the book: 'Culture State - Individual Museum' by Prof. Dr. **Andreas Joh. Wiesand**. The book was distributed free of charge in the Region.

Present and Future Role of Foundations in Cultural Funding and Policymaking in the Balkans

Booklet from the regional expert round table – ‘Present and Future Role of Foundations in Cultural Funding and Policymaking in the Balkans’.

Reports

After all the international conferences, reports were published and distributed free of charge all over the Region.

BalkanKult Posters

BalkanKult has published a series of posters concerning cultural policy with the aim to promote the Edition Cultural Policy and Databases.

SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES IN EUROPE

Representative of BalkanKult in Sweden

In honor of the Swedish current presidency of the European Community, the city of Sundsvall, Sweden, and Les Rencontres, the Association of European Cities and Regions for Culture, held a conference on Youth and Culture in Sundsvall between the 8th and the 10th of June. Marijana Cvetkovic, a representative of BalkanKult, was invited to take part.

Representative of BalkanKult in Copenhagen

Marijana Cvetkovic, BalkanKult, met with Mr. **Finn Andersen** and Mrs. **Kathrin Winkelhorn** from the Danish Cultural Institute in Copenhagen. This visit was one of the first steps in the preparatory phase of the Conference: Cultural_Bridging between North and South-East Europe. The main goal is to encourage, establish and support contacts and partnership among various cultural institutions and practitioners from the Nordic and Balkan Regions in order to develop inter-regional and trans-border cooperation. Marijana Cvetkovic also met Mrs. **Marianne Möller**, Senior Adviser to the Nordic Council of Ministers, Nordic cultural projects abroad Committee.

Artistic Mobility in a Multicultural Europe

Summer University Artistic Mobility in a Multicultural Europe took place in Strasbourg from 2nd to 7th of July 2001. Apollonia European Art Exchanges and University Marc Bloch in Strasbourg organized the course. Marijana Cvetkovic from BalkanKult took part in this event devoted to artistic exchanges between France and the countries of Eastern Europe.

BalkanKult attends Regional NGO Fair

Ana Krstic, a representative of BalkanKult, played an active part at a Regional NGO Fair that took place, in Timisoara, Romania, from 20th to 23rd September 2001. The fair was co-financed by America's Development Foundation within the 'Regional Partnership for Democracy' program, through the support of USAID Romania.

BalkanKult at 2001 General Assembly in Brussels

Representative of BalkanKult, Dimitrije Vujadinovic, took an active part in The Forum's 2001 General Assembly that was held at the premises of the Ministry of Culture of the French Community of Belgium from the 4th to the 6th of October 2001 in Brussels.

Conference on the Moldavian Cultural Policy

A representative of BalkanKult, Marijana Cvetkovic, attended a National Debate on the Cultural Policy of the Republic of Moldavia organised by the Council of Europe in the Moldavian capital, Chisinau, from the 5th to the 7th of October, 2001. The conference was held under the aegis of the MOSAIC programme and aimed to present results of the evaluation of Moldavian cultural policy to the Moldavian cultural public.

BalkanKult and BAP at the Frankfurt Book Fair 2001

Dimitrije Vujadinovic, as a representative of BalkanKult, and Zoran Hamovic, as a representative of Balkan Association of Publishers (BAP 2000), participated and had their own stand at the Frankfurt Book Fair 2001 that took place from the 10th to the 15th of October 2001.

Mosaic Evaluation Seminar

Dimitrije Vujadinovic, Director of BalkanKult, took part in the Mosaic Evaluation Seminar, which took place in Innsbruck, Austria, on the 14 November 2001.

BalkanKult at Strasbourg Conference

The Conference Cultural Industries and New Information Technology was held on November 19 and 20 in Strasbourg, and Marijana Cvetkovic from BalkanKult took part in it.

BalkanKult at Seminar in Poland

A representative of BalkanKult, Ana Krstic, took part in the Seminar on Polish Experiences in Developing Cross-Border Co-operation, organized under the Stability Pact for South – East Europe in Rzesow, Poland from 6 – 8 December 2001.

SOME OF THE VISITS OF EXPERTS TO BALKANKULT

Danielle Cliche

At the invitation of BalkanKult, Danielle Cliche from the *Institute ERICArts*, Bonn, Germany, was in Belgrade from the 19th to the 21st of April. Mrs. Cliche took an active part at the conference on international cultural cooperation being held.

Katherine Winkelhorn and Finn Andersen

At the invitation of BalkanKult, Finn Anderson and Katherine Winkelhorn of the *Danish Cultural Institute* visited Belgrade from the 19th to the 21st of April. The principal reason for their stay was to attend talks on the organization of a second conference on cultural cooperation between North and South-East Europe. They also took an active part in the conference on international foundations and European cultural networks.

Pirkko Rainesalo and Vera Boltho from Council of Europe

On the occasion of their three-day visit to Belgrade, the Culture Commute of Council of Europe representatives talked with BalkanKult associates about possible support for current BalkanKult projects, including translation and publishing of professional literature concerning cultural policies and a seminar “ Fundraising in Culture”. With Mrs. Pirkko Rainesalo it was discussed direct cooperation between the Nordic and SEE Region.

Prof. Dr. Andreas Wiesand

Dr. Andreas Wiesand came to Belgrade on the 15th June to take part in the regional conference Cultural Management and Cultural Industry in the Balkans: music / visual arts. During his stay, Prof. Wiesand met with Minister of Culture of Serbia **Branislav Lecic** as well as with the representative of Coordination Body of Stability Pact for South-East Europe (SEE), **Jovan Ratkovic**. The main theme of their talks was the possibility of opening a regional center of ERICArts in Belgrade.

Prof. dr. Wiesand took an active part in the round table 'Present and Future Role of Foundations in Cultural Funding and Policy-making in the Balkans', in November 2001.

Guests from Maribor's MAGDALENA FESTIVAL

BalkanKult hosted Mr. Marko Podjavorsek, president of the Magdalena Festival for Visual Communication, Maribor, Slovenia. Material from Magdalena was presented to both the Belgrade public and interested professionals.

The first presentation was held on Friday, 15th June, at the Akademija Club, Faculty of Fine Arts. This presentation was primarily dedicated to students who expressed great interest in the visual material from Magdalena. Included were a video and slide projection of works that had been exhibited at the last Festival held May 10 and 12, 2001, and also printed works that were displayed on the walls of the Club the following weekend.

Magdalena made another presentation at the Remont Gallery, Belgrade, on Saturday, 16th June, which was very well attended by those interested in advertising, including designers and artists.

Experts from the Region visiting BalkanKult

During the whole year experts and associates from the Region visited BalkanKult: **Sanjin Dragojevic** (Croatia), **Janko Ljumovic** (Montenegro), **Pavlina Velichkova** (Bulgaria), **Igor Brlek** (Slovenia), **Corina Raceanu** (Romania), **Lilia Dragneva** (Moldavia) etc.

OTHER ACTIVITIES OF BALKANKULT

Workshop for Young Curators

BalkanKult supported a workshop for young curators organized by the Belgrade Art Initiatives – BASE, held in Kotor from the 14th to the 16th of September 2001. The participants in the Kotor workshop were the curators from Zagreb and from Belgrade.

Oracle Seminar in Belgrade

Dimitrije Vujadinović presented activities and objectives of two associations, BalkanKult and ERICArts, at the seminar 'Europe as a Network of Cultural Cooperation' held in Belgrade from the 21st to the 23rd of September 2001.

BalkanKult's Two-Year Plan

BalkanKult announced its two-year working plan, which was presented at the Stability Pact Conference in Bucharest in October 2001.

MONITORING BOARD OF BALKANKULT

In order to preserve its regional character and influence, BalkanKult association established the Monitoring Board whose task is to monitor, evaluate and advise BalkanKult's

projects in the course of their implementation and development. The mandate of the Board members is one year.

Founders of BalkanKult suggested as members of the Board: **Igor Brlek** from Slovenia, **Corina Raceanu** from Romania, **Milena Dyankova** from Bulgaria, **Janko Ljumovic** from Yugoslavia and **Lilia Dragneva** from Moldavia.

The first meeting of the Monitoring Board was held in Belgrade on the 16th of June 2001. At the meeting it was decided that every member observes the work of BalkanKult and delivers his/her opinion every two months.

Some Comments of the Monitoring Board members

Milena Dyankova, Moldavia

I liked the presentation of your latest news on the first page. They describe how much work you do following your objectives. I really admire your constant strive (and success) to find sources of funding other than EU programmes (not open for Yugoslavia), which is most characteristic of the situation here in Bulgaria.

I would suggest that you put the above-mentioned Summary report on the site, too. Ant there's one thing - you have links for "full stories" after the summary of the event. But sometimes the information that comes with this link is not more detailed explanation of the brief information but something additional. For example the info about Pirkko Rainesalo and Vera Bolto from Council of Europe in Belgrade.

I find it really good that you included some recent press releases about your activities and that you keep archive of your past activities.

I would suggest that you put a counter of visits on the website. Although it is not pretty accurate criterion, one can judge the usefulness of the website by it to a certain extent. And there are sites with guest books where everyone can give their opinion and see what others have written.

Corina Raceanu, Romania

I had a look at BalkanKult website and I think it is well realised, with an interesting structure of information, easy to access, except for the Balkankult papers that you need to download and unzip to read.

I read the proposal that you intend to submit to the Stability Pact. I think that it is a very important initiative, as culture is not represented in the Stability Pact structure.

As a general conclusion after reading your document, I would say that it is focused exclusively on culture and I think it would be useful to include the general framework for cultural development. I consider particularly important to link culture with the administrative and political environment. Therefore, I propose to develop a new sub-program focusing on cultural policies, cultural strategy development and the relation of cultural actors with public administration.

Also, considering the reality of our region, I would like to propose a subject focusing on the promotion of intercultural perspective in the region and on the contribution of minority communities to the cultural heritage and to the cultural life of the SEE region.

REFERENCES / EVALUATION OF THE WORK OF BALKANKULT

Some comments about the Conference International Cultural Cooperation: European Cultural Networks, International Foundations and Programs, National Foundations - Who? What? Where? How?

Danielle Cliche, ERICarts, Bonn

The conference International Cultural Cooperation: European Cultural Networks, International Foundations and Programs, National Foundations - Who? What? Where? How? organized by BalkanKult together with University of Arts and Center for Contemporary Arts from

Belgrade was a first step in providing transparency in a rather complicated funding landscape for cultural producers from Serbia. Aside from the overwhelming positive response of over 150 participants, the conference provided cultural producers with the first possibility of making contact with potential funders and co-operation in the Region. Such face-to-face contact is necessary to help them overcome the enormous gap, which has existed between foreign cultural agencies and producers for the past ten years.

While the conference could, in some ways, be considered a showcase of international representatives in Belgrade, it also provided participants with the possibility of networking among themselves - to create links between the cultural producers within Serbia.

Presentations made by Centre for Contemporary Arts, the University of Arts, BalkanKult and the Oracle network proved that "where there is a will, there is also a way". While not be overwhelmingly euphoric, the conference provided some practical guidance to the cultural producers about what they could and could not expect from funding bodies and some "tricks of the trade" when it comes to European co-operation funding possibilities. What is needed now is FOLLOW - UP. This conference represented a step forward, but needs to be continued by additional meetings or perhaps workshops which would help to re-train cultural producers in the art of networking, how to fill out application forms, how to find appropriate strategic partners, how they can practically become involved in longer term cultural [policy making etc in view of the reality that they have been out of this process for the past ten years. It was clear that such assistance is crucial if they are to succeed.

Katherin Winkelhorn, Danish Cultural Institute, Copenhagen

I have to say that the conference was very inspiring and convincing. But more than that. To me it seems as the right step forward to invite cultural "workers" from various levels and in this way different groups of persons in the processes that you'll have to initiate in Serbia the next years. There are 3 words in the back of my head characterizing this conference. That is of hope of energy and of expectations. I am left with the impression that there is a deep wish of designing future where culture will play a major role in the new society. I believe this is a pretty good point of departure for the process of rebuilding Serbia with new democratic institutions.

Miodrag Bogic, MAGMA Film, Belgrade

The general atmosphere at the conference was productive and friendly. Representatives of important international organizations competed to provide us with answers to the vital questions regarding cultural cooperation and finance: Who? What? Where? How? They did their best to supply us with information about possibilities for European networking and especially regarding varied approaches to applications for financial support. It was the general opinion of participants that this kind of conference involving eminent lecturers may be a new beginning for our artists and producers within the sphere of European cultural integration.

This conference was one of the first concrete contacts with European cultural "reality" after 10 years of isolation. Our guests kindly let us know that we are no more "closed off" from the European cultural main stream.

To sum up, if only a part of our hopes from this conference are realized, it will have a great impact on our participation in international cultural cooperation as well as on our cultural production.

Comments about the role of BalkanKult in future Nordic-Balkan cooperation

Pirkko Rainesalo, Ministry of Education, Finland, Department for Cultural, Sport and Youth Policy

Who could be the counterpart for the Nordic Council of Ministers (NCM) Standing Committee for Cultural Projects Abroad? BalkanKult is a non-governmental organisation. It was founded in the Sarajevo Conference "Reconstructing Cultural Productivity in the Balkans" 2. -

4.12.1999 organised during the Finnish Presidency in the EU by FinnEKVIT and ERICArts and financed by the Finnish, German and Austrian governments. Members of BalkanKult are institutions, cultural practitioners and artists from the 11 countries of the region. BalkanKult took active part in the Conference "Cultural Bridging between North and South East Europe" organised by the Danish Cultural Institute in Copenhagen 11. -12.9.2000 as a follow-up of the Sarajevo Conference.

Now BalkanKult is organizing the second conference "Cultural Bridging between North and South East Europe", together with Rectorate of University of Arts and Danish Cultural Institute, with support from the Nordic Council of Ministers

Some comments about the Project ARTCult BKK Database

Janko Ljumovic, Montenegro Mobil Art Foundation, Podgorica

Project ARTCult-BKK represents a well-conceived project enabling in its initial phase the site users to seek relevant information on cultural institutions in the Region. In addition to the Balkankult site users, communication should be maintained with all institutions in the site and they should be encouraged not only to be users but assistants who will make changes and update the database. Marketing and PR efforts should be further promoted.

Mirojub Marjanovic, Culture Editor of the Regional Office, BETA News Agency

In my opinion the cultural catalogue has a good conception, it is easily to be surveyed and it is very useful. That is something that we considered necessary and that was the aim of this project.

SOME PRESS CLIPPING

Politika, 24th April 2001

International Cultural Cooperation: Who? What? Where? How?

Vecer / Dnevnik / Naklada 15th June 2001

Magdalena in Belgrade (Slovenian)

Finance, 19th June 2001

Magdalena is going to Belgrade (Slovenian)

Politika, 26th June 2001

The Cultural Industry in the Balkans

Politika, 12th November 2001

Creative Europe

Politika, 30th December 2001

The State of Culture