

Progress Report No. 6

March 2004

Greetings for 2004. Following the highly successful Second World Summit on the Arts and Culture, our inaugural General Assembly and endorsement of the constitution, IFACCA is entering a new phase of development. The new board of IFACCA will meet in Washington in April to review our strategic plan and program priorities. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the interim board, chaired by Dr Shirley Thomson, for their guidance and wisdom in the crucial three-year establishment phase of the Federation. Equally, I would like to thank the Founding Members and the Rockefeller Foundation who provided the financial support needed to create the secretariat and provide assistance to arts funding agencies the world over. Finally, I thank the many policy-makers, researchers and arts administrators who helped fulfil IFACCA's aim of creating a dynamic network that shares knowledge and creates understanding in order to enrich a world of artistic and cultural diversity.

Sarah Gardner, Executive Director

Second World Summit on the Arts and Culture

The much anticipated Summit held on 23-26 November 2003, was a huge success for co-hosts IFACCA and the National Arts Council of Singapore. Over 150 delegates and speakers attended from 45 countries and every continent. Our one regret was that IFACCA's founding Chair, Dr Shirley Thomson, was unable to attend due to a medical emergency.

Over three days more than 30 speakers and panel members shared their ideas and experiences and the ensuing discussions were honest and open. Keynote addresses were given by Ho Kwon Ping, Marion Pastor Roces and Margaret Wyszomirski. The networking and discussions that took place at meal breaks were often as fruitful as the scheduled sessions!

The website www.artsummit.org contains the papers and presentations and a full report will be published later in the year.

We would like to thank the Rockefeller Foundation, Commonwealth Foundation, Asia-Europe Foundation, Department of Canadian Heritage and the British Council for their financial assistance, which enabled the participation of speakers and delegates from developing countries. Most importantly

we thank the National Arts Council of Singapore and the Singapore Tourism Board for their enormous support and hospitality.

Summit publications

The IFACCA secretariat produced two key publications for the Summit: The *IFACCA Directory 2003: National Arts Councils and Culture Agencies* which provides contact details and profile information on 162 national arts funding agencies; and *IFACCA Research Reports 2002 and 2003* containing seven full D'art reports and two quick-response D'art reports. We also produced an IFACCA mouse mat. Members unable to attend the Summit will be sent the reports and mouse mats. Spare copies can be obtained by contacting info@ifacca.org.

Summit survey

A survey of delegates showed very positive results with over half (55%) of respondents rating the Summit as excellent. Almost all (93%) of respondents rated the Summit as either good or excellent.

More than 80% of respondents considered the quality of the panel sessions to be good or excellent, while approximately 94% rated the keynotes and the workshops as good or excellent. Respondents were similarly pleased with the choice of topics for the

Summit, with over 80% rating the topics as good or excellent.

Organisational aspects of the Summit also received praise. The duration and cost of the Summit were considered 'just right' by the majority of respondents (98% and 68% respectively). The venue was considered excellent by two-thirds of respondents. Summit scheduling and activities were considered to be good or excellent by the majority of respondents.

We received many suggestions for future Summits, including themes and topics. The IFACCA board will review all suggestions as it prepares for the next Summit.

General Assembly – 23 November

Following a wonderful Chinese banquet, representatives of 25 of IFACCA's 42 Founding Members gathered for the inaugural General Assembly. Draft Minutes are available on request. The main outcomes of the assembly were:

Reports

On behalf of Shirley Thomson, Risto Ruohonen chaired the meeting and Patricia Quinn presented the Chair's report. Ms Gardner reported on the secretariat's progress. A 54-page *Three Year Report to Members* was distributed and copies will be sent to Members unable to attend.

Constitution and Founding Charter

The Federation's founding constitution was ratified unanimously by members. At a ceremony following the assembly a founding charter was signed by all present. We are still awaiting some signatures before creating facsimile versions to send to members.

Inaugural Board

Members unanimously elected the new board as follows:

- Patricia Quinn, Director, *Arts Council of Ireland*
- Risto Ruohonen, Director of Arts and Cultural Heritage Division, *Ministry of Education*, Finland
- Doreen Nteta, CEO, *National Arts Council of South Africa* (pending resolution of her position)

- Lee Suan Hiang, CEO *National Arts Council of Singapore*
- Octavio Arbeláez Tóbon, President, *La Red Network of Cultural Promoters of Latin America and the Caribbean*, Colombia
- Kim Evans, Executive Director of Arts, *Arts Council England*
- John Hobday, Director *Canada Council*
- Nguyen Van Tinh, *Ministry of Culture and Information*, Viet Nam

Meetings of the Board

The final meeting of the interim board was held on Sunday 23 November while the new board met on 26 November. Appointment of office holders was the first task - Risto Ruohonen and Patricia Quinn were elected as co-Chairs and Lee Suan Hiang as Treasurer.

The next meeting will be held in Washington on 5-6 April 2004, with the aid of the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Assembly for States Arts Agencies. As always, if you would like an issue discussed by the board, or are interested in the minutes of previous meetings, please let us know.

Asian Chapter

Following the Summit, the NAC Singapore organised a meeting of IFACCA members and observers from Asian countries to discuss possible collaborations.

ASEF Conference

The Asia Europe Foundation and the Arts Council of Ireland (in collaboration with IFACCA) held a post-Summit conference on 27 November. The meeting enabled arts policy makers in Asia and Europe to discuss artist mobility and the establishment of a network of Asia-Europe Arts Promotion Agencies called ASEARTS.

Membership

IFACCA's membership now numbers 44 national arts funding agencies and 24 affiliate and reciprocal members. Our newest members are:

- Bangladesh, Ministry of Cultural Affairs
- Belgium, Ministry of the Flemish Community
- Bulgaria, National Culture Fund
- Cambodia, Ministry of Culture & Fine Arts
- China Federation of Literary & Art Circles
- Fiji Arts Council

- Jamaica, Ministry of Education, Youth & Culture
- Papua New Guinea Arts Council
- Seychelles, Ministry of Local Government, Sports & Culture
- Viet Nam, Ministry of Culture

New affiliate members are

- China, Macao, Instituto Cultural do Governo da Região
- Arts Council of Mongolia
- Serbia & Montenegro, International Cultural Centre, Belgrade
- Mfuko Wa Utamaduni Tanzania (Tanzania Culture Trust Fund)

To join IFACCA see www.ifacca.org.

Membership Contributions

Invoices for 2004 membership have been despatched – prompt payment would be appreciated. Please note that membership fees are now quoted in Australian dollars.

Coming Events

World Summits

In early February we called for expressions of interest in hosting the 2005 and 2007 World Summits. Proposals will be considered at the next board meeting.

Mini-Summits

IFACCA is currently working with partners to create mini-Summits in 2004 and 2005. Details will be announced in ACORNS.

Arts and Culture conferences

A listing of forthcoming conferences and major arts policy events is announced in each ACORNS and is permanently available on the IFACCA website.

Ask IFACCA – expanded research service

Arts and cultural policy related information is not always easy to find. Often researchers work on an issue without knowing that others are facing the same challenges elsewhere in the world or have already tackled an issue successfully. To further help in overcoming the problems of cultural policy research, IFACCA has expanded its research services by creating 'Ask IFACCA'.

There are three 'Ask IFACCA' options:

- **Instant response:** The Secretariat may be able to provide you with an instant answer to your query. If so, we aim to reply within 48 hours.
- **D'Art:** For more substantial or common policy questions, we may put your query to the international IFACCA network.
- **Forums:** For ongoing discussion, we may be able to provide an online forum facility.

How to Ask IFACCA

Check the research section of the IFACCA website for current and past topics. If you can not find what you are looking for, then ask us the question. Just visit www.ifacca.org and look under What We Do/Research Assistance.

D'art topics in progress

The D'art topics for which we are currently seeking input are

- Remuneration Policies for the Arts
- Encouraging Arts Philanthropy
- Performing arts venues infrastructure policies
- National Arts and Culture Policies
- Arts and Disability Policies
- Status of the Artist legislation and policies
- Audience Development Initiatives
- Legal Services for the Creative Sector

You can provide input to these questions via the website or by emailing info@ifacca.org.

Remember that you can comment on any of the D'Art research topics on our website via the associated forum.

ACORNS

Our Arts and Culture Online Readers News Service, distributed every two weeks, now reaches over 1300 arts policy makers, researchers and administrators in 155 countries. All editions are archived so you can search for coverage of particular topics. Alternatively, you can find all past stories about a particular country, by opening the country profile and clicking on 'ACORNS stories for this country'.

**We hope you have found this report interesting
and thank you for your ongoing support.**



Representatives of Founding Members of IFACCA after signing the Founding Charter. Photo: NAC Singapore



Delegates from 45 countries attend the Summit's opening reception. Photo: NAC Singapore



Workshop Plenary Session, Day 1. (L to R) Jonathan Katz, Ernest Edmonds, Gunalan Nadarajan, Diane Dodd, Ben Strout Photo: NAC Singapore