

Projects selected under Celebration of Enlargement Call

In September 2003 the European Commission issued a special call for proposals to the countries taking part in the Culture 2000 Framework Programme. This call, under Action III of the Programme, was on the theme of a cultural celebration of the next enlargement of the European Union to take place in 2004. Four co-operation projects aiming to highlight the cultural dimension of the European Union enlargement have been selected under this call, and their details are below.

1. Large

Main organiser: THE BRITISH COUNCIL – CICEB (United Kingdom)

Coorganisers: Czech Centre Brussels (CZ) - Alliance Francaise, Brussels, (BE) - Det Danske Kulturinstitut, Brussels, (DK)

Description of the project: A trans-European exploration and celebration of the cultural diversity of the new enlarging Europe.

The project will ask young artists from across Europe to work together to produce a collection of short films, examining the new Europe. They will work in partnership on each film in groups of 3 people from the current and new EU member states (including a scriptwriter and a director). Writers will be asked to write about their country's relationship with its neighbouring countries in relation to the changing face of Europe. 8 films, of roughly 10 minutes length each, will be produced and will then be edited together into a package of one feature-length film.

The finished product will be screened simultaneously, on television and cinema, throughout Europe as part of the Enlargement celebrations in May 2004. After this, the film will be programmed into various film festivals throughout Europe and will feature in events and projects organised by the CICEB members in their European networks.

Objectives: To capture the moment when Europe expands, highlighting the unique cultures of its old and new member states in 2004. To celebrate the diversity of cultures contained in the nations forming the new, enlarged Europe.

Community grant: 62.070 euros

2. Theatre without Borders - International Festival

Main organiser: DRAMA THEATRE NOVA GORICA (Slovenia)

Coorganisers: Stadtteater, Klagenfurt, AT - estske Divadlo Brno, CZ - Teatre Stabilo Sloveno, IT

Description of the project: The project consists of 3 main parts.

- 26th April-6th May 2004: International theatre festival hosting 9 theatres from 6 countries will be held in the two neighbouring towns of Nova Gorica (SL) and Gorizia (IT).

- Co-produced play "I am healthy and doing well" in 5 languages about the Isonzo Front and the destiny of young soldiers on both sides of the front in WWI.

- Four International theatre workshops in two days, 29th and 30th April 2004 with the theme of increased co-operation of European theatre artists and institutions, possibilities of interchange of actors and theatre staff between European theatres and other links in the light of searching new synergies. Students, members of the European Theatre Convention General Assembly and involved coorganisers will be participating in the workshops.

Objectives: Strengthening the nations' co-operation in the cultural field. Improving the quality of life and cohabitation of their citizens; aims to become in future an annual meeting point for European theatres, artists and citizens; education of young artists and students in the field of culture; improve the possibilities of greater integration of Europeans' theatre creativity.

Community grant: 143.723 euros

3. Art + Communication: Trans-European Cultural Mapping

Main organiser: RIXC - CENTRE FOR NEW MEDIA CULTURE (Latvia)

Coorganisers: Projekt Atol, SI - Olento Productions "Piknik Frequency", FI - TEKS, NO - Ellipse, FR - LORNA, IS - K@2, Culture and Information Center, LV

Description of the project: Organisation of a series of "events-in-process" throughout Europe.

There will be a final presentation of the outcome during the festival "Art + Communication: celebrating EU enlargement" which will take place in Latvia in November 2004. Organisation of workshops in all participating countries, establishment of an online database for publication of texts, research results.

Objectives: The objectives are to connect cultures and to raise awareness about cultural diversity in Europe, build "mapping tools" for European communities so that they can identify and archive their particular identities and memories, develop trans-European co-operation, integrate local communities into a wider European context

Community grant: 150.000 euros

4. Europa Festiva

Main organiser: PARNU DAVID OISTRAXH FESTIVAL (Estonia)

Coorganisers: State Choir, LV - The East Helsinki Music Institute, FI-Kaunas National Philharmonic Society, LT

Description of the project: Europa Festiva aims to create a new type of European festival, where the national festivals and concert organisations in EU and acceding countries constitute a new artistic entirety, originating altered cultural dimensions - the European Festival. It is the goal of this project to lay the groundwork for new developing form of co-operation between European musicians. On the artistic side this project emphasises introduction of music form the EU candidate countries. The project comprises of 21 concerts of symphonic and vocal music in series

Harmonics of Europe and Young European Talents; and chamber music in series Chamber Europe taking place in 9 countries.

Objectives:

- To introduce both forgotten as well as new values of national music cultures; to introduce music from the new states of European Union;
- To create original artistic values intrinsic to united Europe;
- To stimulate and develop European music life;
- To spotlight young European musicians;
- To create new opportunities for co-operation between skilful European musicians;
- In the long term, continuing co-operation between coorganisers and partners involved in these projects;
- Finding, reaching and establishing new audiences;
- Stimulating culture and music development in European countries;
- Creating interest towards and acceptance of new European Union Member States.

Community grant: 149.714 euros