

**Newsletter No 6, Autumn 2007****Editorial**

Dear reader,

For most listeners, to satisfy one's love of music is a relatively simple thing. With increasing ease, you can find the music that you like and you listen to as much as you want. The rewards are immediate and direct. For those of us who are involved in producing the music and getting it through to the listeners, the picture is more complicated. Some things are getting easier, but overall the world of music is becoming more and more varied and complicated and changes are endlessly accelerating. The **World Forum on Music** looks over some of the very important issues with which we must contend. Some of the music world's best minds are here to lend us their perceptions of the current state of affairs through Forum presentations and, in the subsequent IMC General Assembly, with workshops to enhance the capacities of IMC members and the IMC itself. Our hosts, our colleagues at the Chinese Music Association, have prepared a cultural program of rare interest and we will enjoy the treasures of Chinese music-making, probably even beyond the experience of most Chinese people. On behalf of the IMC Executive Board, I extend the warmest welcome to all delegates and hope that these few days inspire in all of us some new visions of what is possible.

Dr Richard Letts AM  
President, IMC

**EMC Activities****EMC Annual Conference 2007, 19-21 April 2007, Barcelona  
Changes, Chances and Challenges – Music and the Future**

Intellectual property, music education, digitalisation, musical diversity: these were some of the issues raised during the Annual Conference of the European Music Council, regional group of the International Music Council.

From 19 to 21 April 2007 over 100 representatives of diverse international music organisations from more than 30 European countries, Australia and Brazil came to Barcelona to exchange their visions on the music life of the XXI century. Workshops held by experts provided practical tools, dealing with online distribution, lobbying work for culture and authors' rights issues and press work.

The Museum of the History of Catalonia provided an appealing venue for this event, organised by the European Music Council in collaboration with Europa Cantat – European Federation of Young Choirs, its regional group the Moviment Coral Català and the Catalan Music Council.

If you wish to receive the documentation of the conference, please contact the [Secretariat](#) of the European Music Council.

**Round Table on cultural policy, Bonn, 10 May 2007**

The European Music Council invited European stakeholders in music policy in order to foster advocacy activities, to join forces and to increase the efficiency of advocacy work in the music sector. The aims of the round table were:

- To strengthen the cultural sector by sharing experiences and developing measures for cooperation;
- To strengthen the music sector by advocating with one voice as well as by integrating common interest between the creative industries and the not-for-profit sector.

The meeting took place in the premises of the broadcasting station "Deutsche Welle" on 10 May 2007. The discussions were fruitful and future-oriented, and two workshops have been set up:

- One working group will investigate concrete actions to implement the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions;
- The other working group will prepare a meeting between directors of national cultural ministries and cultural operators to draw attention on musical rights at the basis of the EMC and IMC mission. Please find more information [here](#).

## Intercultural Dialogue – Civil Society Platform

The Civil Society Platform for Intercultural Dialogue is an initiative that brings together organisations from many policy sectors in order to share effective intercultural dialogue practices and to engage with the political process under the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008 and beyond. It is a unique channel for communicating the great variety of ideas and existing activities for intercultural dialogue to policy-makers. The issues raised by the Platform may be summarised as three key questions: how can Europe's increasing heterogeneity and diversity become recognised and fostered as a capital asset? How can we make the most of the richness of cultural diversity? How can we compare and share our contrasting intercultural experiences most constructively?

The Civil Society Platform has just ended a European-wide consultation (conducted in four languages) which has asked eight questions on how to improve and encourage intercultural dialogue. Many contributions from the music sector have been received, and an analysis of the consultation is currently taking place and will be fed into a Rainbow Paper, to be presented at the opening of the 2008 European Year of Intercultural Dialogue (EYID), under Slovenia's Presidency of the EU.

## UNESCO 2005 Convention ratified, what comes next?

The *UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions* entered into force in March 2007. What are the next steps to be undertaken? How can the music sector contribute to the implementation of the Convention?

First ideas have been collected during the EMC Annual Conference in Barcelona, during the EMC Round Table for Cultural Policy and other occasions. Harald Huber, EMC Board member and President of the Austrian Music Council, was in charge of collecting them:

### Cultural Diversity Awards

In addition to the World Heritage Lists of UNESCO, the diversity of cultural expressions could be protected and promoted by granting awards to initiatives, projects and organisations for their best practices on the national and international levels. These 'cultural diversity awards' should be organised together with national UNESCO commissions.

### Music Education System

The artistic and pedagogic collaboration of artists, scholars and teachers at all levels and across age groups is crucial. For this purpose, synergies between the UNESCO Road Map on Arts Education and the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions can be used. The conditions of musical education in public schools and music schools should be improved. Content in relation to cultural diversity should become an integral part of all curricula. This would need to have consequences for teacher training programmes.

### Research activities

The collection of knowledge, data and statistics has to be done in an interdisciplinary way (cultural, social and artistic sciences). Cultural policy should recognise, communicate and encourage appropriate research activities to describe the facts and changes concerning musical diversity in current societies.

### Mass Media

Big differences in media access of domestic musical diversity in the European countries can be observed. European cultural policy should promote new types of broadcasting cultural content to national and international audiences.

### Cultural Industries

The European music markets should face the northwest – southeast differences within Europe as well as worldwide and propose solutions. To identify new arrangements for international cooperation is the keystone of the Convention. Fair trade initiatives should strengthen the position of artists around the world.

## Development Policy

The Convention proposes to establish an International Fund for Cultural Diversity. The IMC and EMC will follow its development and contribute to its implementation. A first step could be bilateral partnership agreements among cultural organisations, as they already exist between some countries. The European Music Council has set up a working group to investigate the feasibility of these implementation measures and to launch activities where possible and appropriate (see above).

## ExTra! Exchange Traditions – EU funded cooperation project 2006 - 2009

'Cultural diversity', 'European cultural identity' and 'inclusion of minority cultures' are nowadays top priorities for many music organisations in Europe. Cultural operators and political decision makers are conducting a significant discussion on European cultural identity and diversity – including influences from outside Europe.

The [ExTra! Exchange Traditions](#) project aims to enhance the understanding of the culture of each other's neighbours. ExTra! will stimulate exchange between different music traditions present in today's multicultural Europe. The project focuses on musical traditions of migrants in Europe and their interaction with cultures that already exist in European countries. The ExTra! cooperation partners from different European countries contribute with a variety of project activities.

The first issue of the ExTra! Newsletter has been published and is available in [French](#) and [English](#).

The EMC is responsible for the ExTra! Research Study. The comparative research study on music traditions present in today's multicultural Europe will provide musicological data and will be prefaced by a description of the "ExTra! Exchange Traditions" project. Special interest and attention will be paid to the social aspects of music traditions present in European daily life. The research will be a publication collecting articles focusing on migrant and minority music cultures in the European countries. The articles will concentrate on different subjects such as education, media, gender, urban area, policy and ethnic groups – always having music as the focal point of discussion. Influences from other parts of the world are part of the study. To guarantee the quality of the research study the ExTra! project has gathered experts to form the scientific committee and to provide advice on the structure and authors for the research study.

## EU Communication

The Directorate General for Education and Culture (DG EAC) has launched a Communication on Culture which seeks to address the role of culture in the EU. There is a growing acknowledgement within the EU that culture lies at the heart of the European project and has a unique and indispensable role to play.

The Communication will analyse the various dimensions of the role of culture in the European project, take stock of existing efforts but also identify new challenges and possible new avenues to tackle them, in terms of substance and methods. The aim is both to identify common priorities (a European 'agenda' for culture) and to develop new frameworks and methods for dialogue and cooperation.

The European Music Council welcomes this Communication. Together with other cultural networks on European level, notably the [European Forum for the Arts and Heritage](#) (EFAH), it has undertaken several activities to support the further development of the process launched – please find further information [here](#).

EMC Secretary General Ruth Jakobi has attended the first Cultural Forum launched by the European Commission. The Forum took place in Lisbon from 26-27 September 2007 and is one tool to improve the "structured dialogue" between political institutions and the cultural sector. During the workshops and discussions, chances and challenges concerning the Communication as well as possible implementation measures have been discussed. The EMC will closely follow the process, and report on developments on its website.

## 2nd World Forum on Music, 11-14 October 2007, Beijing, China

The [International Music Council](#) (IMC), an international non-governmental organisation in formal associate relations with UNESCO, is pleased to announce the 2nd World Forum on Music to take place in Beijing, October 11-14, 2007, organised jointly with the Chinese Musicians' Association. With the collaboration from other players in the musical field, the IMC presents its World Forum on Music (WFM) as a global knowledge-building platform on music and society in the 21st century, exploring a variety of topics from diverse perspectives: cultural, political and economical. IMC considers its World Forum on Music as a most important contribution to setting the stage for the free celebration of music in the world.

The 2007 World Forum on Music will focus on four areas which IMC considers being of crucial importance to the world of music:

- Music in Development and Development in Music: the great range of issues confronting IMC and its members in the Music Sector Development Program;
- ManyMusics – Fostering Musical Diversity: in two parts:
  - 1) supporting traditional musics;
  - 2) the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions;
- Intellectual Property Rights: a clarification of the new issues in this most complex and evolving area;
- Music Delivery in the Future: again in two parts:
  - 1) futures of musical creation, performance and delivery;
  - 2) futures of music education.

By seeking synergies across different sectors, this high-level forum provides unprecedented opportunities for scholars, government officials, private sector executives, professionals from the civil society, artists and students to engage in serious debates on current key issues.

In addition, our host, the Chinese Musicians' Association, is organising a fascinating array of performances of Chinese music even beyond those normally accessible to most Chinese citizens. Please find more information [here](#).

**Please mark the date:  
From 17 to 20 April 2008, the EMC Annual Conference will take place in Brno,  
Czech Republic.**

The European Music Council is supported by

