



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL D'HISTOIRE DE L'ART

Board meeting

Summary of decisions

Report Florence June, 29th, 2011

In attendance : Jaynie Anderson (Aus), Gerhard Wolf (replacement of Wolf Tegethoff G), Shigetoshi Osano (J), Ulrich Grossmann (G), Lao Zhu (C), Thierry Dufrêne (F), Toshio Watanabe (G-B).

Congress convenor: Ulrich Grossmann

Invitée: Marzia Faietti.

Casa Zuccari, Florence

1) Welcome

JA would like to thank Gerhard Wolf (GW) and Merzia Faietti (MF) for welcoming the members of the Board in Florence and in particular the German Center of Art History (Kunsthistorisches of Florence) who has so graciously hosted the Board of the CIHA in this magnificent room of the painter Zuccari. JA welcomes Shigetoshi Osano (SO) who represents the Board of Japan (replacement of Hidemishi Tanaka) and GW. After having brought to light the current difficulties in Japan, JA thanks SO for pursuing his plans for a colloquium, which he had proposed for 2013. She is glad that GW could attend the Board meetings and would like to praise the excellent relations established thanks to MF with the Italian Committee.

Two motions were submitted: the first, submitted by the British Committee concerning the imprisonment of the Chinese artist Ai Wei Wei; the second, submitted by the Slovenian Committee regarding the protection of the medieval monuments of Slovenia. See attached document.

2) CIHA 2012

The next subject is the preparation of the Congress of Nuremberg. The pre-conference that was held in the spring of 2011 was very fruitful. Ulrich Grossmann (UG) presents a first selection of the chosen speakers and mentions that the session presidents are in the process of contacting additional speakers. The number of candidatures is 650, of which third are Germans. The final list will be announced at the end of July. The principle of a waiting list is kept. JA underscores the importance of fluidity in the relations between session presidents, the administration of the Congress and the Board of the CIHA.

3) New board

The process of electing a new president of the CIHA is in progress. The secretary of the CIHA (general secretary Thierry Dufrière (TD) and administrative secretary Peter Schneemann (PS)) will apply for a new and last term until Beijing 2016: The French Committee of Art History and the Swiss Committee of Art History will propose two new names by 2015.

After Beijing 2016 many proposals will be considered for the Congress of 2020: Switzerland with a federation of universities and museums, Spain, and Brazil. France and the United States are on the way to make a decision. The American Committee would pronounce its own next autumn. It was discussed and decided that the 2020 Congress be advertised on the homepage and by letters to the National Committees.

4) New committees

The Regional Committees of Art History are in the process of being formed: the Committee of North Africa (Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco) and the Sub Saharian Committee (Senegal, Cameroun, Nigeria, Zambia, Gold Coast, Namibia). TD has made the necessary contacts and a colloquium is planned for Marseille in 2013. The new Museum of European and Mediterranean Civilisations (MUCEM) <http://www.musee-europemediterranee.org> has already accepted to host the colloquium during which the Committee of North Africa at least would be approved by the Board. This Committee will be presented to the next General Assembly for approval. TD has met in Paris Federico Freschi (FF) to plan the first meetings for the Sub Saharian Committee.

5) Colloquium Naruto, January 15th-18th, 2013

SO presents next the plans for a colloquium in Naruto from January 15 to the 18, « Between East and West: Reproductions in Art » which will be held at the Otsuka Museum of Art, on the island of Shikoku. The call for papers will open in March 2012. The members of the Board recommend that the researchers from both East and West establish a dialogue rather than pursue different paths. It is even desirable, like at Akita, that the Japanese comment on Western points of view, and vice versa. TD mentions the question of “mitate” which does not really have a translation in the West. The reports will be published in English. Lao Zhu (LZ) thinks that the subject can be treated in many different fashions, and that we can compare an active imitation with a passive one. The Board would like to see a profound reflection on the vocabulary and artistic literature concerning imitation and copying, and that we can also discuss the question copyright and also that of attributions (school copies, connoisseurship), as well as of versions and series.

6) Beijing Congress 2016

LZ reminds us that it will be led by Fan Dian, Shao Dazhen, and himself. These three persons and twenty others will come as observers and as guests at the Congress of Nuremberg in order to familiarize themselves with the organization of a global Congress of Art History. The group could consist of young researchers and doctoral students, some of whom could present topics.

LZ and the Board discuss a question regarding the theme of the Congress : the various conceptions of art, their evolution and the position of art history. The idea of a group project is agreed upon. It is decided that a future meeting of the Board be held in spring 2012 in Paris to prepare for the Congress of Nuremberg. The Board decides that a summary of the decisions will be posted on the website after every one of its meetings, and that the summaries of the Assemblies be published as well.