

REPORTS

National Committee Report - Austria

Meetings

• Together with the Slovenian National Committee a joint meeting was held at Schloß Seggau, Southern Styria on May 29 – 30, 2009, organized by Gerd Grupe, Graz. The purpose of this joint meeting was to get to know our colleagues from a neighbouring country. This was a first step. Due to the fact that the participants of both national committees considered the first joint meeting as a success the general assembly agreed to continue the idea of joint meetings, and for the future to invite further neighbouring countries. We believe that – not least with regard to raising funds from the European Union programmes – it is crucial to personally know the colleagues from neighbouring countries, to know about their specific research interests, and to mutually be informed about the respective academic infrastructures concerning the research institutions as well as the universities in these countries.

The two national committees introduced themselves in the context of a seminar chaired by Svanibor Pettan and Regine Allgayer-Kaufmann which ended up in a brain storming on the possibility of joint research projects in the future. We discussed the topics we might be interested in. One of those was “Boundaries”. There might be others as well.

It was a great pleasure that Dr. Bruno Nettel had accepted our invitation to Seggau. He gave a wonderful lecture on “The value of improvisation in Persian musical culture” with many musical examples. For us, the participants of the meeting, it was most stimulating to discuss with Bruno Nettel about improvisation, a subject. Nettel life-long has been concerned with. He (together with Gabriel Solis) is the editor of a new book on *Musical Improvisation. Art, Education, and Society*, 2009. University of Illinois Press.

PROGRAMME

Friday, May 29, 2009

14:00 – 15:30 Presentation of Participants (talking circle) on the basis of the general theme improvisation

16:00 – 18:00 Lecture by Bruno Nettel “The Value of Improvisation in Persian Musical Culture” with discussion

18:30 – 19:15 Recital of classical Persian music: Sina Shaari, short-necked lute ‘*ud*, and Karen Sabaghi, long-necked lute *setar*

19:30 Visit to a local tavern (“Buschenschank”)

Saturday, May 30, 2009

9:00 – 10:30 Joint seminar of the ICTM National Committees of Austria and Slovenia

11:00 – 12:30 General Assembly of both National Committees (apart)

12:30 Lunch, departure

- In May 2009 Bruno Nettl upon invitation of the Institute of Folk Music Research and Ethnomusicology at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna gave a lecture on "Some Abiding Issues in the Study of Native American Music". Many colleagues but also students took the opportunity to meet one of the most influential scholars in ethnomusicology worldwide personally and to learn from him.

- From October 24 – 26, 2008 the second international conference on multipart singing was held at the University of Music and Performing Arts organized by Evelyn Fink-Mennel and Ardian Ahmedaja. Under the title "European Voices II. Cultural Listening and Local Discourse in Multipart Singing Traditions in Europe" scholars from Europe, USA, and Australia presented insights in their recent research done in the various areas on multipart singing referring to the importance of listening but also to the importance of the specific local discourses and communication in general. The conference was framed by a series of wonderful concerts. See the whole programme under http://www.mdw.ac.at/ive/emm/voices2_programm_en.htm.

- November 14 – 16, 2008 International symposium on the occasion of Franz Fördermayrs 75th birthday "Klangfarbe – Vergleichend-systematische und musikhistorische Perspektiven" (organizers Manfred Bartmann, Stefan Jena, Werner A. Deutsch, August Schmidhofer), held at the Institute of Musicology at the University of Vienna. See programme http://musikwissenschaft.univie.ac.at/fileadmin/user_upload/inst_musikwissenschaft/Klangfarbe.pdf

- April 27, 2009 International one-day symposium "110 Years Phonogrammarchiv - Reflections on fields of work, cooperation and perspectives", held at the Austrian Academy of Sciences.

Publications

- Sound Documents from the Phonogrammarchiv of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. The Complete Historical Collections 1899-1950. Series 11/1: Croatian Recordings 1901-1936, OEAW PHA CD 27. Wien: Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften.
- Series 12: Judeo-Spanish from the Balkans. The Recordings by Julius Subak (1908) and Max A. Luria (1927). Wien: Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften.
- Regine Allgayer-Kaufmann/Michael Weber (eds.), *African Perspectives: Pre-colonial History, Anthropology, and Ethnomusicology*. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 2008

Regine Allgayer-Kaufmann