

National Committee Report: Austria 2003

The former “Society of Austrian ICTM members” was recognized as the “Austrian National Committee of the ICTM” by the Executive Board in 2003. The Austrian National Committee offered to host the ICTM World Conference in 2007 and the offer was accepted by the board. The National Committee has started with preparations.

Several members of the National Committee attended the World Conference in China. Ardian Ahmedaja represented the committee at the 7th Meeting of the ICTM Liaison Officers & National Committee Representatives.

Institute for Folk Music Research and Ethnomusicology at the University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna:

The institute is part of the CEEPUS-network and there was an exchange of teachers and students with Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia. In the ERASMUS-Teachers’ Mobility Program Ursula Hemetek visited Ljubljana and Svanibor Pettan came to Vienna for teaching purposes.

Research projects: “Multipart singing on the Balkans and in the Mediterranean Areas” (Ardian Ahmedaja); “Influences of the Music of the Ottoman Empire on Folk Music and wind bands in Austria” (Guines Sahiner).

Symposium: Women as the Center in Traditional Cultures (4/2003)

Publications: Ardian Ahmedaja/Ursula Reinhard. *May Your Heart Sing Out! Aspects of the Folk Music Tradition in Albania.* (= klanglese 2). Wien 2003.

Phonogrammarchiv, Austrian Academy of Sciences:

In autumn 2003 the Phonogrammarchiv, Austrian Academy of Sciences, started with routine archiving on its digital video-workstation. Decreasing costs for high-performance computer tapes (used as the final storage media for video) allow uncompressed linear archiving of analogue source material – normally uncommon in archives for various reasons – thus preserving the content in the technically best possible way. The archive’s monthly lectures entitled “Field research – theory and practice“ have by now become well established, with ethnomusicologists and other scholars in cooperation with the archive reporting on their recent field trips. The project “Vienna’s international music spectrum”, concentrating on musical activities of immigrants who have lived in Vienna for one to three generations, was completed by the end of 2003. Field work was carried out amongst different communities originating from South-East Europe (Roma, Turks), West Africa and Asia, with a special focus on communities hailing from Senegal, Nigeria and Indonesia, amongst whom almost no respective research had been done so far. Several live events including music performances (amounting to a total of about 45 hours) were recorded on both audio and video tape. Field work of the project “Oral Traditions in Spiti and Upper Kinnaur” (audio and video documentation of narratives, music and ritual festivities in the Western Himalayas) finished in 2003,

the evaluation of the data is in progress. Series 5 of the CD edition *The Complete Historical Recordings 1899-1950*, "The collections of Rudolf Trebitsch" (1906-1913: Greenland, Celtic and Basque recordings; OEAW PHA CD 13-15), as well as Series 7 "Rudolf Pösch's Kalahari Recordings 1908" (OEAW PHA CD 19) have just been released. Other recent publications by staff members include a Triple-CD and a bilingual book (Romani & German), both featuring traditional songs and folk tales of different Roma groups from Central and South-East Europe; these editions, published in cooperation with the "Romani Projekt" of Graz University, present sound recordings from the Phonogrammarchiv's Roma culture collections. (<http://www.pha.oeaw.ac.at>)

Gerlinde Haid

National Committee Report: Bangladesh (2003)

There is a popular saying in Bangladesh that we have thirteen festivals corresponding to twelve months in the year. And songs and music are an inseparable and integral part of these festivals. As in the past, in the year 2003, we welcomed the Bengali New Year by holding colourful cultural functions including fairs, dance and music. Nobel-Laureate poet Rabindranath Tagore, the composer of our national anthem and our National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, known for his fierce nationalism, liberty, freedom and love of humanity are the two mainsprings of Bangla songs and music. As in previous years men, women and children in tens of thousands gathered in Ramna garden in Dhaka city from early dawn to listen to romantic, patriotic and devotional songs of Tagore and Nazrul to celebrate the Bangla New year, the 1st of Baishakh, by different cultural organizations including ours. On the birth and death anniversaries of Tagore and Nazrul special and elaborate arrangements were made to hold cultural programmes with Tagore and Nazrul songs. To welcome the spring, rainy and autumn seasons various cultural organizations performed songs of romance and love of nature.

We observed the Independence Day (26th March), Victory Day (16th December) and Martyrs Day (21st February) and International Mother Language Day 21st February to sing the glories of patriotism, freedom and national history and tradition.

Other than Tagore and Nazrul songs the devotional and mystic songs of Lalon Shah and Hasan Raja, two mystic poets, are very popular in Bangladesh. As in the past, in the year 2003, Lalon and Hasan Raja's songs were performed with great fanfare and festivity on the occasion of their birth and death anniversaries. Their songs are full of love of humanity and quest of divine love and beauty. Besides, folk songs like Bhatiali, Bhawaiya, Jari, Sari, Murshedi, Marfati were organised by the National Academy of Fine and Performing Arts, where we also actively participated. Classical songs and instrumental music which is a long-held tradition of Bangladesh was also performed on special occasions. To celebrate the death anniversaries of internationally famed Great Maestros of classical music Ustad Alauddin Khan and Ustad Ayet Ali Khan, classical musical soirees were held in the month of September. The reputed participating artistes in the programme