

Activity Account and Annual Report 2007

sculpture network

In 2007 sculpture network intensely pursued the goals stated in its articles of association, namely the support, in particular, of the development and advancement of sculpture and, therewith, of related forms of art.

Excerpts from the catalog of articles:

- Organisation of scientific events and research projects,
- Execution of workshops/seminars, particularly for young artists,
- Exchange of information and experiences with academicians and museums,
- Collection of documents and written material
- Involvement in public relations
- Enhancement of transatlantic and worldwide cultural exchange

SUMMARY

Through greater international expansion of the organisation and its structure, sculpture network was able to improve the conditions under which the above goals could be achieved. By means of our well-attended international programme agenda, our website and our monthly Newsletter, we were in a position to further the idea of supporting sculpture within an ever growing group of art enthusiasts.

At the end of the year 2007, we had approximately 330 members from some 20 countries. This has had a positive effect on our financial situation; our reserve funds have now been doubled to the sum of 24,000 EUR, enabling us to finance important future engagements.

PROGRAMME

Our programme agenda was intensified in 2007. Regular reports appeared in our Newsletter (in English, German and Spanish) and on our website (in English and German).

Symposia 2007:

Our VI International Sculpture Symposium, “Escultura en la calle” was held in Barcelona on the 4th and 5th of May, in cooperation with the foundation “Fundación La Caixa”, with over 200 participants from 14 different countries.

Regional Members' Meetings

- Frankfurt (D) – 15 April
- Berlin(D) - 21 April
- Barcelona (E) 25 June
- Heidelberg (D) 22 September
- Barcelona (E) 23 October
- Neumünster (D) 22 November

These meetings were attended by a total of 400 international members and guests.

We were able to gain the cooperation of recognised museums and art collections in support of our purpose and, therewith, were able to expand our supranational network of people and organisations committed to our idea.

MEMBERS AND COMMUNICATION

With some 330 members at the end of the year, we recorded an increase of approximately 55% over the prior year.

The Association Meeting for 2007 was conducted on 5 May in Barcelona on the occasion of our “meeting and lectures” held there at that time. The annual financial report was unilaterally accepted, the Board and the treasurers were exonerated.

Our Newsletter has institutionalised itself as an important instrument of information, enhancing our network within a broad spectrum of readers. At present it is distributed to over 4,300 interested persons and serves as a vital means of practical cultural exchange.

We have continually improved upon our website (www.sculpture-network.org) . In order to establish the needs of our members, we sent out a questionnaire, which, with a return quota of 25%, supplied us with important information on the planned fundamental relaunch of the site. In the year 2007 we had approximately 30,000 visits to our website.

A significant task of sculpture network is the dissemination of our idea within interested circles. During the “meetings + lectures” some 600 members and guests met in direct conversation and in an exchange of ideas. Through the distribution of our invitations and flyers, approximately 10,000 art enthusiasts have come to recognise our efforts in the advancement of sculpture. In 2008 this number will increase. Expanding the number of these contacts, cultivating and maintaining them is a major part of our communication and our practical programming work.

FINANCES

The financial situation of sculpture network has been further stabilized due to the increase in membership. Our extensive programme in 2007 was financed by membership dues, and in the case of Barcelona, by participant fees and subsidies from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as by private companies. However, we did need substantial individual donations.

In order to financially cover our future investments, such as the website and marketing instruments, we have increased our reserves to around 24,000 EUR. For details, see our balance sheet as of 31 December 2007. With regard to an increasing demand for transparency, we have had our annual balance sheets for the years 2004, 2005 and 2006 reviewed by the internationally chartered accountant, Deloitte & Touche, naturally without any complaints.

The profit and loss statement for 2007 indicates how monies were spent on varied projects during the year. It is especially notable that, percentage-wise, our administrative costs have further decreased to less than 7%. This reduction and the accomplishment of our programme were made possible only through extensive voluntary work by our members and by the Board, who regularly coordinate their efforts.

OUTLOOK FOR 2008 AND 2009

In 2008 we have a series of “Regional Members’ Meetings” planned (some already conducted), and from 4 to 7 September our VII International Sculpture Symposium in Leeds on the topic “Approaches to Sculpture in the Landscape”.

This will take place in cooperation with the University of Leeds, the British Arts Council, the Henry-Moore-Foundation and the Yorkshire Sculpture Park. There sculptors and institutions will have the opportunity to present themselves, to show their catalogs, etc. and to introduce their projects in a room especially reserved for this purpose.

In addition, we intend to increase our contacts within the new European Union countries and extend our efforts in the direction of China.

Such projects as the relaunch of the website as well as of our marketing materials, be they flyers, posters, or Newsletter, etc., serve to improve our internal structure and to professionalise our marketing strategy by implementing IT programmes.

A data bank with information on competitions, prizes and tenders in all of Europe and beyond was set up especially for our sculptors. An overview with deadlines and other important news is distributed in the form of monthly mailings.

In 2009 we will conduct symposia in Liechtenstein, Austria and probably the Czech Lands, also expanding on our Regional Members’ Meetings. We also plan to initiate an exchange programme among sculptor members whereby an interchange of professional ideas and cultural experiences can take place and can be passed on during a limited period of time spent in the studios of colleagues.

Further projects are under consideration.

We are rapidly approaching our pronounced goal of being the competence center for sculpture within Europe. We need your active support – we look forward to your ideas, suggestions and contributions!

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