

# NEWSLETTER 2014

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE  
FOR LITERARY and COMPOSERS' MUSEUMS  
ICLM

Dear colleagues and friends,

Best wishes for 2015!

We had a very exciting year. The museum events in different countries were very interesting, we tried to cover some of them on our web site. The highlight of our ICLM year was the ICLM Annual Conference in Irkutsk and on Lake Baikal (Siberia, Russia) on July 26–31, 2014. It was a great success. I thank everyone for coming and participating. I would like to remind you to send me your papers for our Book of Proceedings of the Irkutsk Conference. Many thanks to those authors who have already done so.

I am happy to confirm that our next annual Conference will take place on September 25–29<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the National Literary Museum of Georgia in Tbilisi (Republic of Georgia). We have scheduled the Conference for late September to coincide with the Georgian grape harvest festivities.

The Ministry of Culture of Georgia together with ICOM Georgia will cover all hotel, meals, transportation within Georgia and post conference cultural programme expenses.

The registration fee will be 270 euro for ICLM members and 300 euro for non-members. In February we will inform you of the bank account number to which to transfer our registration fees.

Please let me know as soon as possible whether you will participate in the 2015 ICLM Conference. Some members have already done so but not all. We really need this preliminary information for our Georgian hosts to develop the Conference budget and for booking the hotels and buses.

The conference will include an hour and a half round table discussion of our definition of what constitutes a “**Literary Museum**” open to all participants. This was prompted by a recent inquiry from a graduate student working on the thesis. To be up to date this subject should be revisited from time to time.

Our Conference theme will be “**Literature, Music, and Cultural Heritage**”. It gives the opportunity to touch on different aspects of our museums activities. Please send your applications to participate with a paper to Dr. Galina Alekseeva (gala@tgk.tolstoy.ru) and to Dr. Bernhard Lauer (grimmnet@t-online.de) The dead line for your applications to present a paper is July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely,  
Dr. Galina Alekseeva,  
ICLM President



Photo taken by Sergey Murzin

# GLIMPSES OF IRKUTSK JULY 26-31<sup>ST</sup>, 2014









Photos taken by Sergey Murzin and Meirambul' Kayrambaeva

# THE 2014 ICLM CONFERENCE IN IRKUTSK AND LAKE BAIKAL IN SIBERIA

I was very much looking forward to this Conference especially as it meant a second visit of the Decembrist Museum in Irkutsk, this time with my daughter Elena Kotchoubey. I had visited there for the first time in 2013 with my son Alexander Kotchoubey.

Having been asked to give the keynote address I was a bit apprehensive of how my speech about my great grandfather Prince Sergei G. Volkonsky would be received by such a distinguished academic audience made up of learned representatives of the literary and composers museums represented. I had prepared too much material and had to mercilessly slash this material in order to be just ten minutes over the allotted time. In addition I expected that the majority of the audience would not be familiar with the subject matter. It turned out that almost everyone knew something about the Decembrists. Unfortunately due to technical problems I was not able to display any of the photos of beautiful early 19<sup>th</sup> Century portraits of my ancestors and their contemporaries.

The Conference sessions in the Irkutsk and Baikal View Hotels were very highly professional and academic. The highlights in Irkutsk were a tour of the city and a visit to and a concert in the Prince Volkonsky House of the Decembrist Museum, the last residence of my great great grandparents during their 30 year exile in Siberia. We even got a chance to briefly visit the Prince Troubetzkoy House of the Museum. Our stay in Irkutsk was followed by our stay on the spectacular Olkhon Island in Lake Baikal and our visit to the Buryat Museum in Ust Orda on our return to Irkutsk. We enjoyed beautiful weather throughout.

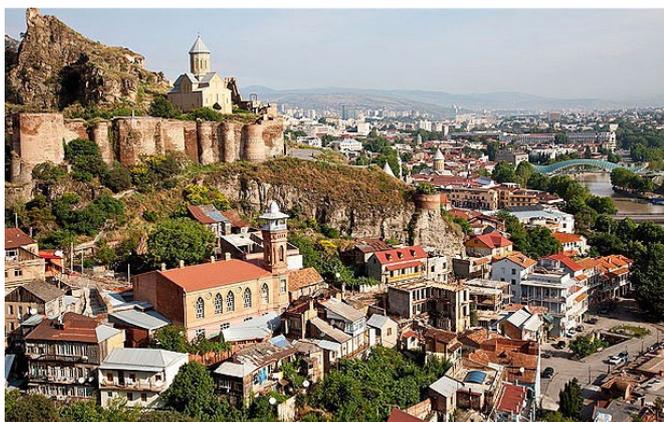
The boat trip to the Island was memorable as we all developed great comradery as we comfortably took in the great beauty of the nature surrounding us. These forty intrepid sailors landed on the island in good spirits and in a jovial mood which culminated in the last evening's open air picnic/barbecue with delicious food, plenty of liquid refreshments, stimulating conversation, choral and solo singing as well as dancing. Perhaps the beauti-

ful clean but ice cold waters of Lake Baikal which many of us dipped into must have kept the revelrie under control. It is said that a dip in Lake Baikal adds five years to your life. Special thanks go to Dr. Galina Alekseeva, ICLM President and to her Board members Bernhard Lauer, Maria Gregorio and Vesna Delic Gozze for organizing and running such a successful Conference, to the authorities of Irkutsk for making this possible, to Dr. Vitaly Baryshnikov, the Minister of Culture and Archives of the Irkutsk Region and his assistants as well as to Elena Dobrynina, the Director, to Ol'ga Akulich, the Assistant Director and to Sergey Murzin, the Head of the Museum's Public Relations, all of whom were always there with us to make sure our conference was successful. We will always remember and cherish their hospitality.

Dr. Andrew Kotchoubey,  
New York, USA



Elena and Andrei Kotchoubey at the statue of their ancestor Princess Maria Volkonsky in Irkutsk



**Dear colleagues,**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

May the upcoming New Year 2015 be a happy, successful and prosperous one for you and your families, and most of all the year of peace.

It is a very big pleasure to hold the International Committee for Literary and Composers' Museums (ICLM-ICOM) Annual Conference in Tbilisi, Georgia, on September 25–29, 2015.

I'm sure that the conference will be very interesting, successful and useful for all participants and attendees. From our side we will do our best for the corresponding organization of the conference and for your comfortable being in Georgia.

**This is the information about the museums you will visit in Tbilisi:** The Georgian National Museum; The Simon Janashia Museum of Georgia and National Gallery (permanent exhibition of Niko Pirosmani and other Georgian artists); The Giorgi Leonidze State Museum of Georgian Literature, The Georgian State Museum of Theatre, Music, Cinema and Choreograph, The State Museum of Georgian Folk Songs and Musical Instruments, The Georgian State Museum of Folk and Applied Art etc.

**The Post Conference Tour will take place in the Kakheti Region and will include several stops:**

***The Aleksandre Chavchavadze House Museum in Tsinandali*** – Tsinandali is one of the most remarkable country estates in Kakheti. Tsinandali refers to four different phenomena: the estate of Tsinandali, the village of Tsinandali, Chavchavadze's summer home and several vintages of white wine. Initially built during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the house, winery and gardens tell the story of the fascinating Chavchavadze family. The historical home of Alexandre Chavchavadze (1786–1846) and his family, is one of Georgia's most important cultural sites. [http://www.tsinandali.com/index\\_en.html](http://www.tsinandali.com/index_en.html)

***Qvevri and The Qvevri Wine Museum*** – is located in the village Napareuli. Museum guests can participate in activities like: Visiting old and new types of cellars, Participating in grape harvesting, Pressing grapes in 18<sup>th</sup> century Satsnakheli (ancient facility for pressing grapes), Shoti Bread baking, Making Churchkheles (candies originating from Georgia; its components are the grape must, nuts and flour), "Zavodi" – making vodka, Opening qvevri, Visiting Qvevri museum, Hotel accommodation (12 suits)

***Wine tasting, Kakhetian supra***, [http://cellar.ge/index.php?action=page&page\\_id=89&lang=eng](http://cellar.ge/index.php?action=page&page_id=89&lang=eng)

***The Signagi Museum*** – The museum features diverse ethnographic exhibits: musical instruments, weapons, vestments, items reflecting the lifestyle of this town and 16 paintings by Niko Pirosmani. [http://museum.ge/index.php?lang\\_id=ENG&sec\\_id=52](http://museum.ge/index.php?lang_id=ENG&sec_id=52)

Inga Karaia, PhD

ICOM National Committee in Georgia, Chair 4,  
Sanapiro st., 0105, Tbilisi, Georgia  
(+995 577) 725 450  
[ingakaraia@gmail.com](mailto:ingakaraia@gmail.com)  
[www.georgianmuseums.ge](http://www.georgianmuseums.ge)

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year 2015**

**ICOM GEORGIA**





### **Save the date in 2016!**

Milano, Italy, was chosen to welcome the 24th General Conference of ICOM, which is planned to take place from July 3<sup>rd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> 2016.

The theme of the Conference will be: Museums and Cultural Landscapes.

ICOM Italia and all the Italian members of ICLM are happy and ready to welcome you proposing a large choice of visits to literary and composers museums in Milan and in the surrounding area. We will soon send you more specific updates. In the meantime you can already click [here](#) to read more about the general programme and the contacts:

[http://network.icom.museum/fileadmin/user\\_upload/minisites/Milan2016/Pdf/neu\\_final\\_First\\_Ann\\_2016-2.pdf](http://network.icom.museum/fileadmin/user_upload/minisites/Milan2016/Pdf/neu_final_First_Ann_2016-2.pdf)

My Italian colleagues and I heartily wish that a very large number of ICLM members will join us in Milano! Of course there will be a general secretariat for the registration and accommodations, but I will be your referee for ICLM and I'll do my best to meet all (or most) of your wishes!

Maria Gregorio  
[mariagreg@tiscali.it](mailto:mariagreg@tiscali.it)  
[mariagreg42@gmail.com](mailto:mariagreg42@gmail.com)



L'ICOM VOUS SOUHAITE  
UNE EXCELLENTE ANNÉE 2015

ICOM WISHES YOU A  
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2015

EL ICOM LES DESEA UN  
PRÓSPERO AÑO NUEVO



Dear Chairs and Secretaries of ICOM's National and International Committees, Regional Alliances and Affiliated Organisations,

We would like to express our gratitude for your valuable contribution to the ICOM network in 2014 and send you our warmest wishes in this holiday season.

We look forward to your continued support and fruitful collaboration in the new year.

Sincerely,  
Hans-Martin Hinz, ICOM President  
Anne-Catherine Robert-Hauglustaine,  
ICOM Director General

\*\*\* Chers Présidents et Secrétaires des Comités nationaux et internationaux de l'ICOM, des Alliances régionales et des Organisations affiliées,

Nous tenons à exprimer notre reconnaissance pour votre précieuse contribution au dynamisme et à la richesse du réseau ICOM en 2014, et vous présentons nos meilleurs vœux en ces fêtes de fin d'année.

Nous comptons sur votre soutien indéfectible, et nous réjouissons de cette collaboration fructueuse en 2015.

Cordialement,  
Hans-Martin Hinz, Président de l'ICOM  
Anne-Catherine Robert-Hauglustaine,  
Directrice générale de l'ICOM

\*\*\* Estimados Presidentes y Secretarios de los Comités Nacionales e Internacionales del ICOM, Alianzas Regionales y Organizaciones Afiliadas,

Nos gustaría expresarles nuestro agradecimiento por su valiosa contribución a la red ICOM durante el año 2014 y enviarles nuestros mejores deseos en estas fiestas navideñas.

Esperamos su apoyo continuo, así como su fructífera colaboración el próximo año 2015.

Cordialmente,  
Hans-Martin Hinz, Presidente del ICOM  
Anne-Catherine Robert-Hauglustaine,  
Directora general del ICOM

## Greetings of Erling Dahl, one of our former presidents

Dear friends!

Let me send you – through Galina – my best wishes for the Christmas and The New Year. We had a wonderful meeting in Irkutsk and Bajkal Sea, and I am looking forward to see you all – and many others at our meeting in Georgia 2015.

Yours sincerely,  
Erling Dahl



# INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY 2015



Dear ICOM colleagues,

The worldwide community of museums will celebrate the next International Museum Day on 18 May, 2015, around the theme Museums for a sustainable society.

Please visit the official website, where you will find all the information concerning IMD 2015: <http://imd.icom.museum>

For example, you can already share the communications kit with museums in your country and promote the #MuseumDay hashtag and the Facebook page dedicated to the event through your communications channels.

We kindly ask you to send us your translation of the official poster by filling in the following online form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1LC23kFpukgKkyGZ9kkKsT-1P7a-3BZ7Q815R2ihgLo04/viewform>

You will later find the poster, postcard and web banner of the event in your language(s). We hope that you will enjoy them.

Do not hesitate to write to: [imd@icom.museum](mailto:imd@icom.museum) for any questions you may have on IMD.

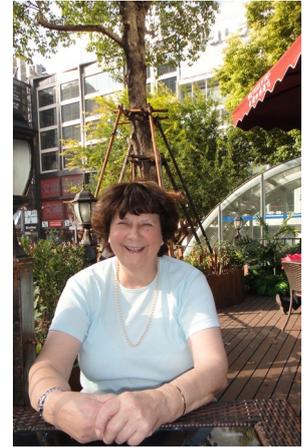
Best regards,

Ninon Sordi

Communication Officer  
ICOM – International Council of Museums  
Office address: 22 rue de Palestro – 75002 Paris – France  
Headquarters: Maison de l'UNESCO –  
1 rue Miollis – 75732 Paris Cedex 15 – France  
Tel. + 33 1 47 34 35 31  
[imd@icom.museum](mailto:imd@icom.museum) <http://icom.museum>

# In memoriam

## Gerd Aarsland Rosander (1934–2014)



### Dear friends and colleagues!

We have received the sad news – our beloved friend and colleague Gerd Aarsland Rosander passed away after a long period of increasing, incurable sickness.

She was one of the great profiles in our committee, ICLM. She joined the committee very early, and she both worked in the national ICOM committee and in several international committees within ICOM.

She joined ICLM while she was building up and being the director at the Henrik Ibsen Museum in Oslo. Before the work at the Ibsen Museum – where she ended her professional career – she worked for many years at The Norwegian Folk Museum in Oslo.

She was an extremely engaged person, and she went into all kind of challenges with great energy and efficiency. She contributed at all our conferences with papers and in our discussions. But most of all – thanks to her, we could make wonderful conferences several times in Norway and Sweden. She organized everything – themes, places to be, people to contribute, money for support etc.

### Dear colleagues,

I was very saddened to learn about our Gerd Rosander's passing. She was one of the brightest lights in my more than 10 years experience with ICOM. I cherished our friendship and always admired her as the most wonderful person and a professional at the highest level. She made a significant contribution to ICLM with her tremendous energy, creativity, and unwavering support! She will be sorely missed by me and the entire ICLM family.

Galina Alekseeva

For those of us working together with her, her energy made us try harder and to do better.

Everyone who met Gerd learned to know her as a colourful lady – both in the way she dressed – always modern and colourful – and in her way to be. Her clear and high voice was easily recognized either it was laughing – which she did a lot – and in discussions.

Many of us were embraced by her compassion, and we will miss that beautiful side of Gerd, too.

She could not join us to the conference in Irkutsk, even though she really wanted to. Last time I spoke with her, I gave her my many good impressions and experiences from the conference. She was happy to hear, and she said that the work in and for ICLM had been a great value and pleasure for her. The many wonderful people she met gave her life meaning after having lost her beloved husband some years ago. And the conferences also gave her the opportunity to explore and see new places and meet people where they lived.

We are all blessed having known Gerd, and we will keep her memory alive while she can Rest In Peace.

Erling Dahl



I first met Gerd Rosander in Prague in 1996. It was the last but one of Committee meetings I had attended and one of the first Gerd did. She had recently lost her husband and was deeply mourning and next to despair. She talked to me, a stranger to her then, about her husband, about their life together and about what he had meant to her, about their hopes and wishes. Never before had I ever listened to a most warm, most frank and genuinely human talk as this one was. We became friends.

The last Committee meeting I attended was the one done in Norway in 2000, hosted by her representing the Oslo Ibsen Museum and Erling Dahl of the Bergen Grieg Museum. The meeting was excellently organized and one of the great events that taught participants how near literary and music museums actually are and what

joint efforts on an international level could mean for them and for a new structure of the Committee then envisaged. Gerd proved to be a wonderful host, her approaches to the projects the meeting's agenda offered were professional, well-considered, amazing in each and every respect.

The way we first met was extraordinary and so was the official course I later learned she was inclined to follow in her Committee work to further its purposes.

The deeply human and the highly professional – thinking of her now that she is dead I can only think of both as an inseparable unit, the way it should be with us museum people. That is, at least, what she had taught me.

Wolfgang Barthel



The memories of Gerd take me back to the first times I joined the annual meetings of our Committee. As it happens, at first with some emotion and anxiety, which melted away as soon as I saw her beautiful deep blue eyes and the warm welcome of her vivacious smile. Upon seeing her, I immediately felt that I had arrived, that I was at home. With her, the days ahead would be full of wit, friendship, the shared pleasures of being together, and the joys of partaking knowledge – be it large or slight. She was, for me as well as others a friend and a colleague without rival. Thanks to her wisdom and generosity everyone found her or his proper place within our magnificent community, making it grow along the lines she has so much helped shaping.

Maria Gregorio

### **ICLM Board 2013–2016**

President/Chairperson: Galina Alekseeva (Russia)

Secretary: Bernhar D Lauer (Germany)

Treasurer: Vesna Delic Gozze (Croatia)

Web-site: Maria Gregorio (Italy)

Other Board Members: Jean-Claude Ragot (France),

Einar Stig Askgaard (Denmark),

Galina Belonovich (Russia).

If you would like to receive the ICLM Newsletter as e-mail or fax, please send an e-mail

to Galina Alekseeva: [gala@tgk.tolstoy.ru](mailto:gala@tgk.tolstoy.ru)  
tel. +7-48751 76141, +7-910 944 5899,  
+7-4872 393196

Editorial Address: [galalexeeva@mail.ru](mailto:galalexeeva@mail.ru),  
[gala@tgk.tolstoy.ru](mailto:gala@tgk.tolstoy.ru)

Design: Maria Belaya [mbelaya@yandex.ru](mailto:mbelaya@yandex.ru)  
(Yasnaya Polyana, Russia)

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