

Dear colleagues, dear friends, Best wishes for 2019!

The year 2018 was full on interesting and exciting museum and cultural events, and as usual the highlight of the year was our Annual Conference. This year we had a very successful ICLCM Annual conference in Riga (Republic of Latvia) – “Personality and Time in the Museum Exhibition” thanks to the efforts of our Latvian colleagues, of ICOM Latvia, and personally – of Maira Valtera, our Board member, Antra Medne, and Ārija Vanaga. We had a very important for us round table discussion “Promoting cultural heritage of literary and composers’ museums. Institutional cooperation” moderated by our secretary Gabi Gulyas. I do hope that our Latvian and other countries’ participants will join our committee, I mean those who are not yet ICLCM members.

I am very thankful to our current Board members for their help and support, I am very thankful to our former board members and chairs, they are always very helpful.

Our committee is one of the oldest ICOM international committees, and last year we celebrated our 40th anniversary. We are really blessed to have in our ranks our experienced and wise members like Göran Söderström, Csilla E. Csorba, Maria Gregorio, Lothar Jordan, Fredrikke von Ubish, Sarolta Schredl and others, some of them have been ICLM members since day one. At the same time we are looking forward to having more and more younger members in our committee, being board members, being chairs etc. Our committee advocates significance of literary and composers’ museums as basic cultural and educational institutions contributing to social, economic and cultural development. We try to embrace new forms of work, new ways of communication with audience, and new technologies of literary heritage protection and presentation. We have our annual conferences, we publish our Newsletters and the Book of Proceedings. We participate in different conferences and seminars connected with the profile of our committee.

We cover our committee’s events on our committee’s website professionally run by our Board member Maria Gregorio (ICOM, Italy). Please check it from time to time, there is a publication about the 84th Advisory Council meeting in Paris and the 33rd ordinary General Assembly, in which I participated as a Chair, and Gabriella Gulyas and Maira Valtere as Board members. On November 15–17th I was honoured to be a keynote speaker at the French Federation of Writers House-museums’ Conference in Bourges. Csilla E. Csorba, Maria Gregorio, Dmitry Bak participated in the round table discussion.

Through our activities we have established professional ties with UNESCO’s Memory of the World (MOW) programme, saving the documentary heritage of our participating museums. Thus our committee is very instrumental in

preserving UNESCO’s programme of tangible and intangible heritage.

I may also say that we have established professional ties with the Association of Russian literary museums, chaired by ICLCM member, professor Dmitry Bak, director of the State Literary Museum in Moscow. We are very glad that ICLCM members Fredrikke Hegner von Ubisch, Bernhard Lauer, Yevgeny Bogatyrev, Aleksandr Ryazanov, Yury Komlev and other colleagues were the participants and speakers at the Annual Conference of this Association on November 29th-December 3rd, 2018 in Oryol.



The exhibition exchange programme is a new and growing segment of our activities. Thanks to our Committee and a very dedicated Museum Director and a former Secretary of our Committee, Dr. Bernhard Lauer, an Exhibition of the Brothers Grimm Museum has traveled to some museums in Russia and abroad. Director of Art and Literary Museum of Orenbourg Yurii Komlev presented his museum exhibition in our committee’s members’ museums in Russia, Norway, Italy and others. Our Italian member Adriano Rigoli founded National association of the house museums in Tuscany, and he presented a travel version of his permanent exhibition at the General ICOM Conference in Milan. He also regularly receives the traveling exhibitions from our committee’s members’ museums. I know that some of our members have various mutual projects with this Association.

We look forward to new accomplishments and to the expansion of our committee as one of the most interesting and exciting ICOM international committees.

Next year in the early September, we will have ICOM General Conference in Kyoto, Japan, the theme is “Museums as Cultural Hubs”. At our Board meeting we decided to have the same theme for our committee’s Annual Conference in Kyoto. **The dead-line for applications is March 1st.**

With my best wishes for the Holidays and the New Year,

Yours sincerely,

*Galina Alekseeva, PhD
President of ICLCM*



INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY 2019



MD (International Museum Day) is a global day celebration that takes place annually around or on 18 May. ICOM (International Council of Museums) coordinates this event. The event always highlights a theme that keeps changing each year that's at the heart of the preoccupations of the international museum community. The International Museum Day gives the chance for professionals of museums to meet people and inform them about the challenges museums face.

Following museums' definition that ICOM provides, a museum is a permanent, non-profit institution that is in the service of society as well as its development. It's open

to the public to acquire, conserve, research, communicate and exhibit the humanity tangible and intangible heritage plus its environment for enjoyment, study and education purposes. Therefore, IMD serves as a platform for raising public awareness on the part museums play today in the improvement of society, on an international level.

Every year, museums from all over the world are invited to take part in the International Museum Day to promote museums' role worldwide, creating unique, free and fun activities around a theme that is discussed within the community of the International Council of Museums specifically for this special day.

ICLCM ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN LATVIA

The ICLCM Conference in Latvia from Saturday August 4th through Tuesday August 7th was a resounding success. It took place in the beautiful modern National Library in Riga and in various museums in Riga as well as in Yurmala on the coast of the Baltic Sea. It was incredibly well organized. Everyone of the participants congratulated and thanked the organizers of ICOM Latvia. Many foreign participants took advantage of the sights and amenities of Riga by arriving early on Friday August 3rd and departing late on Wednesday August 8th.

The Conference was opened on Saturday August 4th by Jānis Garjans, Head of the Museums Division of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia, ICOM's Galina Alekseeva, President of ICLCM, by Juris Ciganovs, Chair of ICOM Latvia and by Andris Vilks, Director of the National Library. This was followed by a plenary session moderated by ICLCM's President Dr. Galina Alekseeva with a presentation by Dr. Lothar Jordan of Germany on "What can literary museums do to improve the memory of translators and translations" and a presentation by Gustavs Strenga of the National Library on "Challenges of a bookmuseum: The permanent Exhibition of the NLL "Book in Latvia as a case study".

The opening was followed by a delicious lunch and the tour of the "Book in Latvia" Exhibition in the beautiful, modern, architecturally unique National Library. After which, Maira Valtere of Latvia, ICLCM Board member, moderated the first session "Representation and Reinterpretation of Museum Space". After the afternoon's presentations the participants visited the Zanis Lipke Memorial, Ojārs Vācietis Museum, and Janis Akuraters Museums.

On the second day, Sunday August 5th, the participants traveled by bus to Yurmala to visit the Rainis and Aspazija Museum. Ārija Vanaga, our ICLCM member, a great specialist in Rainis and Aspazija's life and work, showed us the exhibitions. The first working session of this second day was hosted by Rita Meinerte, of the Memorial Museum Association; the session "Representation and Reinterpretation of the Museum Space" was moderated by Dr. Bernhard Lauer of Germany, a former ICLCM Board member and secretary. After lunch, a new session "Design of the Exhibition Space. The Role of Multimedia and Installation to Enhance the Visitors' Perception" was moderated by Dr. Alla Bayramova of Azerbaijan. In addition to other interesting presentations, it included informative talks about the yet to be visited the Rainis and Aspazija summer house in Yurmala and their Museum in Riga. After dinner and the visit of the Rainis and Aspazija summer house, we returned by bus to Riga and our respective hotels.

On the third day, August 6th, the conference took place in the Conference Hall in the Riga City Council. The first session "Dynamics of Memory in Writers' House Museums" was moderated by Jānis Garjans. After lunch, we attended the next session "Promoting the Cultural Heritage of Literary and Compos-

ers' Museums, Institutional Cooperation" with a roundtable discussion moderated by Gabriela Gulyas, ICLCM secretary. After the General Meeting which followed, we traveled by bus to visit the Aleksandrs Caks Memorial Museum Apartment, the Rainis and Aspazija Museum, the Janis Rozentals and Rudolfs Blaumanis Museum and the Riga Art Nouveau Museum. The latter was indeed the highlight of the day as it required the visitors' participation and provided the visitors with suitable mementos. To conclude this busy day the participants attended the "Latvia's Century" Exhibition at the Latvian Museum of Natural History.

On August 7th, the fourth and last full day of the ICLCM Conference in Riga, the participants traveled by bus to visit the Composers' and Writers' Museums in Vidzeme and Selija Regions: the Emils Darzins Museum "Jāņskola", the Rudolfs Blaumanis Museum, and Rainis' Museum "Tadenava". That was an unforgettable experience!

During the Conference we also had a delicious open-air luncheon on the Yurmala beach on the Baltic Sea, which prompted a frenzy of successful picture taking, some of which are published in the Newsletter.

Unless one chose to stay in large hotels on the periphery of Riga, most of the participants of the ICLCM Conference chose to stay in small boutique hotels in the old City of Riga not far from Riga's old Cathedral and experienced the charming narrow streets, squares, the colorful buildings, restaurants, cafes and the interesting shops.

Some hotels are located in popular areas with a noisy street night life. The warm August weather and the lack of air conditioners in some hotel rooms force one to go to sleep with open windows and be exposed to the street noise which can keep one awake well into the night and prevent one from getting a good night's sleep. Remembering where to find the Conference buses in the morning and how to get there is another challenge. Not far from the old City the participants can also visit a modern multi story Shopping Center with many attractions and temptations. The full schedules of the Conference kept the participants from exploring in depth what the City of Riga could offer.

To crown this successful ICLCM Conference in Riga, so well organized and so well run by Maira Valtere, ICLCM Board member, and also by the National Museum of Latvia, by ICOM Latvia and by the Riga and Yurmala authorities and of course by our ICLCM Board and ICLCM members who attended and presented excellent papers. THANK YOU ALL FOR MAKING THIS 2018 ICLCM CONFERENCE IN RIGA SUCH A GREAT SUCCESS!

*Dr. Andrew Kotchoubey,
New York, USA*

GLIMPSES OF 2018





















ICLCM PUBLICATIONS

Our new issue of the Book of Proceedings was published at the end of July and presented in Riga on August 6th:

Exhibitions: New Insights: Proceedings of the ICLCM Annual Conference 2017 at the Kazantzakis Museum, Crete, Greece.

ICOM, Paris. Yasnaya Polyana Publishing House, 2018. 170 p.: phot., ill.



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