

IFCM General Assembly 2009, Örebro
Musica International Report 2008-2009

presented by Jean Sturm, executive director.

Musica International continues to develop the international multilingual virtual library of the choral repertoire. The database has now overpassed 156,000 titles described and of 28,000 biographies of composers available. The Facebook page that we just opened shows the gratitude of the choral world to the project. A new update of the DVD-ROM is performed every 3-4 months. Between September 2008 and April 2009, 3 sessions for inputting new data and rereading the existing ones took place in Germany, Pomaz (Hungary) and Kinshasa (Democratic Republic of Congo). During the last one, the first choral publishing house ever in Central Africa was created (see our website www.musicanet.org).

The redesign of the website has been continued. In the previous report, we mentioned that “*we will soon allow both to delocalize worldwide the input directly into the database, to allow again a Mac version of the DVD-ROM, to offer the possibility to a choir to “own” one or 2 fields in order to “manage” its choral library, just by using the Musica database.*” These completion of these goals have unfortunately been delayed because of the difficulties of our sponsoring software company that got severe problems because of the financial crisis, and because of the availability of our team. We hope however that these goals will be reached in the next months.

In our report of last year, we were also very pessimistic on the future because of the drastic drop of the institutional subsidies. This year, this drop continued by the stop of the partnership with the “*Fonds Culturel de la SACEM*”, but we unexpectedly succeeded in reinducing the help of the French Ministry of Culture. Nevertheless, in order to equilibrate the accountings of the association, we had to freeze during 8 months the position of secretary, what had a devastating consequence on the availability of the volunteering director and of the appointed music librarian, who shared this job in addition to theirs. One must here also thank all the volunteers trusting in this project and giving their time for it.

We are convinced that becoming self-sufficient with additional memberships, professional subscriptions and donations is among the only ways to make Musica long-lasting. Despite our appeal about this to the IFCM delegates in Copenhagen, almost nothing moved in the right direction. Thus we renew this appeal here and urge again all the delegates of IFCM to think about contacts that they already have or can induce, in order to find new members (is your own organization a member?), new libraries to get a professional subscription to Musica, or find other ways to help Musica to become self-sufficient. We need to double the income on subscriptions and memberships to be able to continue the project with serenity.

Contact us urgently to discuss the possibilities in your country: office@musicanet.org; Phone: +33 388 36 17 54