

I C O M

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FINE ARTS (PRE 1900) (ICFA)

PLENARY SESSION

18 - 19 June 1981

FIRST FLOOR, STUDIO 84, PORTE A, GRAND PALAIS, PARIS

A G E N D A

Thursday, 18 June

- 11.30 hours
1. Apologies for absence
 2. Approval of present membership (ICOM Statutes, Article 33(e))
 3. Constitution of the Committee - Proxy Voting (Please see accompanying letter)
 4. Voting for new Executive Board (Please see accompanying letter)

Lunch

- 14.30 hours
5. Discussion as to how the Triennial Programme should be split up into working groups and as to the constitution of these working groups. The co-option of others onto working groups.
 6. Discussion on form of publishing the findings of the working groups so that a common format is achieved.
 7. Discussion on finding the finance to publish the results of the working parties, including consideration of the possibility of having a subscription raised from among the members of ICFA to assist with such finance.
 8. Relationships with other international committees of ICOM regarding elements of the Triennial Programme.
 9. Discussion of ICFA's role at the XIII General Conference in London in 1983.
 10. Next Meeting of ICFA - its theme, its venue, and proposals for speakers to give papers.
 11. Any Other Business

Discussion on items 5 - 11 will continue on Friday 19 June, starting at 10.15 hours.

19 May 1981

George Breeze
Secretary, ICFA

Conseil Exécutif de ICFA

Président: M. Timothy Clifford (R-U)

Secrétaire: M. George Breeze (R-U)

Trésorier: M. Per Bjurström (Suède)

Mme Irina Antonova (URSS)

M. John Baratte (Etats-Unis)

Mlle Irène Bizot (France)

Mlle Görel Cavalli Björkman (Suède)

M. Juri Korolev (URSS)

Dr Vitali Souslov (URSS)

M. Christopher Till (Zimbabwe)

M. Dirk de Vos (Belgique)

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF MUSEUMS // CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES MUSEES

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FINE ARTS (ICFA)

Minutes of the Plenary Session held in the Grand Palais, Paris on
18 & 19 June 1981

Present: Mr Timothy Clifford (Chairman)
M. François Bergot
Mlle Irène Bizot
Mr George Breeze (Secretary)
Mme Görel Cavalli-Björkman
Mlle Françoise Debaisieux
M. Jean-René Gaborit
Mme Viviane Huchard
Mr John Last
Mr Christopher Till
M. Dirk de Vos

Observer: M. Luis Monreal (Secretary-General ICOM)

1. Apologies for absence received from

Mme Irina Antonova
Mr Alasdair Auld
Mr John Baratte
M. Per Bjurström
M. Robert Hoozee
M. Juri Korolev
Mme Charlotte Lejwa
M. Hervé Oursel
Dr Vitali Souslov

Also from M. Hubert Landais (President, ICOM)

The Chairman welcomed those present and in particular M. Luis Monreal who was attending as representative of the President of ICOM. M. Monreal stayed for the morning session of the 18th, but due to pressure of business and another meeting, was regretfully unable to stay longer. The Chairman warmly thanked Mlle Irène Bizot for the use of the room and apologised for the lack of simultaneous translation due to its high cost. He declared the meeting open and quorate at 11.45am on Thursday 18 June.

2. Approval of present membership.

In accordance with Article 33(e) of the ICOM Statutes, the Committee, in plenary session deliberated on the membership

of the Committee.

The following were approved as members of the Committee:

Belgium M. Robert Hoozee (Ghent)
M. Dirk de Vos (Brugge)

France Mlle Irène Bizot (Musées Nationaux, Paris)
Mlle Françoise Debaisieux (Caen)
M. Hervé Ourcel (Lille)
M. Jean-René Gaborit (Louvre, Paris)
Mme Viviane Huchard (Angers)
M. François Bergot (Rouen)

Nigeria Mr Otu Ekpa (at present working in India at University
of Baroda, Faculty of Fine Arts)

Portugal Ms Maria R A C Figueiredo (Gulbenkian, Lisbon)

Singapore Mr Christopher Hooi (National Museum)

Sweden M. Per Bjurström (National Gallery, Stockholm)
Mme Görel Cavalli-Björkman (National Gallery, Stockholm)

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Mme Irina Antonova (Pushkin Museum, Moscow)
Dr Vitali Souslov (Hermitage, Leningrad)
M. Juri Korolev (Tretiakov, Moscow)
Mme Inge Teder (Tallin)
M. Nikolai Rabot Jagov (Kharkov)

United Kingdom Mr Alasdair Auld (Glasgow)
Mr George Breeze (Birmingham)
Mr Timothy Clifford (Manchester)
Mr Michael Keen (Victoria & Albert, London)
Mr John Last (Liverpool)
Mr Roy Ford (Manchester)

United States of America

Mr Michael S Bell (Midland, Michigan)
Mr Ildiko Heffernan (R H Fleming Museum, Burlington
Vermont)
Mr John Holverson (Portland, Maine)
Mr Donald Knaub (Huntsville, Alabama)
Dr Nina Parris (Columbia, S. Carolina)
Mrs Jane Rice (San Diego, California)
Mr Ian McKibbin White (San Francisco Fine Art)
Mr Mitchell Wolfson (Miami)

Zimbabwe Mr Christopher Till (National Galleries, Salisbury)

Subject to his approval, M. Simon Levie (Rijksmuseums, Amsterdam, Netherlands) was elected a member (see under item 4 below).

Ms Maritta Pitkänen (Finland) was deleted from the list of members when it became clear that she wished to be an observer of ICFA but remain a member of the MPR Committee.

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The membership of the following was queried. The Secretary was asked to seek further details as to their suitability for membership of ICFA both from the candidates themselves and from the Secretary of their national ICOM Committee:

Mr John Baratte, Mrs Lee Kimche, Mme Madeleine Lejwa, Mr Spencer A Samuels, and Ms Mary Weaver (all of the USA).

Concern was expressed that their interests may lie somewhat outside that of fine art museums. Article 14 of the ICOM Statutes (i.e. those who buy or sell cultural property for commercial profit are ineligible for ICOM membership) was seen as a problem in that it was thought that some of these candidates for membership may spend some of their time in selling works of art. It was hoped that the elucidations received from the candidates and their national committee secretary would clarify these points.

With regard to the membership of members in "Third World" countries, the Secretary-General of ICOM expressed the view that fine art and ethnography were seen differently according to one's viewpoint. Mr Christopher Till said that ethnography in Zimbabwe was seen as art. The Chairman suggested that ICFA should seek as broad a basis as possible as it was a young Committee, and the Secretary-General of ICOM thought that a big programme, such as ICFA has, demands a broad basis.

It was decided that candidates who applied for membership of the Committee between Plenary Sessions should have their application considered by the Chairman, Secretary and two other members of the Executive Board. Final decisions on membership would continue to be made only at Plenary Sessions, in accordance with the Statutes of ICOM.

3. Constitutional Changes

The following additions to the rules were approved and forwarded to the Executive Council of ICOM for its assent:

- 5(e) Proxy Voting is permitted at meetings, subject to the limitation that each member can carry a maximum of two proxy votes.
- 5(f) Voting by post should be permitted on urgent matters raised between meetings of the Committee. Thirty days' notice must be allowed for receipt of an answer. If no answer is received from a member of the Committee within thirty (30) days, then the member is deemed to have abstained from voting on the issue or issues raised.
- 5(g) Notice of meetings for the whole Committee must be postmarked a minimum of ninety (90) days prior to the date of the meeting and notice of meetings for the Executive Board must be postmarked a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to the date of the Board's meeting.

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4. Voting for new Executive Board

All the present Board members expressed their willingness to stand for election with the exception of M. Juri Korolev who indicated in a telegram from the Soviet members of the Committee that he no longer wished to be on the Board. M. Per Bjurström stated in a letter that he would be happy to remain on the Board, but no longer wished to remain as Treasurer. As noted above, as Mr John Baratte's membership of the Committee was subject to further enquiry, he was not eligible for re-election. Taking these factors into consideration, the previous members of the Board were all re-elected. The following additions to the Board were made and approved, subject to the individuals concerned giving their assent to their being on the Board:-

M. Hervé Oursel as Treasurer; M. Simon Levie; Mr Ian McKibbin White.

If the last three took up their posts on the Executive Board its composition until the XIII General Conference in London would be:

Chairman: Mr Timothy Clifford (UK)
Secretary: Mr George Breeze (UK)
Treasurer: M. Hervé Oursel (France)

Mme Irina Antonova (USSR)
Mlle Irène Bizot (France)
M. Per Bjurström (Sweden)
Mme Görel Cavalli-Björkman (Sweden)
M. Simon Levie (Netherlands)
Mr Ian McKibbin White (USA)
Dr Vitali Souslov (USSR)
Mr Christopher Till (Zimbabwe)
M. Dirk de Vos (Belgium)

At this point, as he had to leave shortly, the Secretary-General of ICOM gave his views on the post of treasurer and the Committee's finances. He proposed that ICFA open an account with the UNESCO Bank at the ICOM headquarters and that the account be in U.S. dollars, with payments in U.S. dollars, just as the Committee's subvention from ICOM was in U.S. dollars. (Subvention received for 1981: \$500). M. Monreal spoke of the difficulties of raising funds through a subscription as it both penalised some members and had not proved a cost effective means of fund raising with other committees. He proposed that an approach be made to the ICOM Foundation for funds towards the publication of the results of the working groups.

The meeting then broke for lunch.

5. Triennial Programme

After some discussion it was decided that it was no longer practical to undertake all three sections of the Triennial Programme as set forth in Mexico. This was mainly because it had taken longer than originally envisaged to write round and

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gather up members for the Committee. Having lost one of the three years, it was decided to drop point 2 from the Programme and to consider point 1 in 1981/2 and point 3 in 1983. It was decided to add "sharing" to item (e) of point 1 between "de-accessioning" and "long term loans". The Programme would thus read as follows:-

1981-2: 1. The Collection Activities of Fine Art Museums

- (a) Inquiry into collecting policies.
- (b) Inquiry into impact of Import and Export controls with special reference to the extent to which a nation's works of fine art should be retained by their country of origin.
- (c) Exchange of information regarding the market manipulation of fine art objects.
- (d) Exchange of information regarding fakes and forgeries.
- (e) Inquiry into the problems posed by de-accessioning, sharing, long term loans and exchanges.

1983: 3. Scholarship within Fine Art Museums

Exploration of the possibilities of curatorial staff exchanges between cultural and educational institutions both public and private.

It was decided to split the work for 1981/2 on point 1 into geographical working groups since this would be both a speedier means of gathering the information and the best way, in this particular instance, of reporting on this topic. The Chairman of each working group would have a dual responsibility

- (a) to gather into membership of ICOM and ICFA others in the Chairman's region
- (b) to co-ordinate the working parties' findings.

The following geographical groupings were proposed:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Chairman</u>
Sub Sahara Africa	Mr Christopher Till
Scandinavia	Mme Görel Cavalli-Björkman
USA	Mr Ian McKibbin White M. Per Björstom (who is due to make a special tour of USA)
Belgium & Netherlands	M. Dirk de Vos
France	Mlle Irène Bizot
Spain and Portugal	Ms Maria R A C Figueiredo
Eastern Countries North of the Tropics	Mme Irina Antonova to be asked to seek members to lead and create groupings within this geographical area.

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It was agreed that the Chairman should write to the Chairmen of National Committees of ICOM seeking members for ICFA in those countries where no membership at present exists.

It was moved that item 10 on the Agenda be taken next.

10. Next meetings of ICFA

Information on point 1 (a) - (e) should be with the Chairman at the latest by the next Executive Board Meeting of the Committee to be held between 17 and 21 April 1982 in Stockholm, at the kind invitation of Swedish colleagues in the Committee.

A Plenary Session of the whole Committee would then discuss the results at a meeting in September at a venue yet to be decided, though initial invitations had generously been received from Moscow/Leningrad, Amsterdam and Paris, and Rome was also mentioned as a possible venue in view of there being Italian members of the Committee by that date. The dates proposed are 17 - 22 September 1982.

6. Findings of Working Groups

Each working group should produce a report of 10,000 words (absolute maximum for larger countries; smaller countries asked to provide less) on point 1 of the programme, with this figure being made up of five reports of a maximum of 2,000 words each on points (a) to (e). The Chairman, at present editor of the Report, would provide a précis of the reports of the working groups with a limit of 10,000 words.

The reports of the working groups should be in one or other of the official working languages of ICOM, French or English.

Photographs should be included where possible.

7. Financing the publication of the Report

The Secretary-General had suggested (see above) that an approach should be made to the ICOM Foundation towards the cost of publishing points 1(a) - (e) in one volume and 3 in another. If funds did not run to two such publications then pamphlets could be published separately on some items (a) - (e). The Chairman undertook to write to the Chairman of the ICOM Foundation with such a proposal in time for its next meeting on Wednesday 24 June.

8. Relationships with other International Committees

It was decided to defer until after the Spring 1982 Executive Board Meeting a discussion on this subject. Contacts were, however, expected with such international committees as those on Conservation, Applied Arts, Security, and Public Relations.

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9. XIII General Conference of ICOM, London, 1983

ICFA would hold a plenary session during the Triennial Conference (July/August 1983). The theme of the conference had not yet been firmly decided. It was suggested, however, that there should be subsections on sculpture, painting, prints and drawings, photography problems, and copyright matters.

11. Any Other Business

- (a) Item 5 of the Annual Report - suggestions concerning the functioning of ICOM.

As a fresh and new Committee, it was not felt proper that the Committee should make any proposals at this stage.

- (b) Support for attendance at ICOM Committee Meetings

The problem of individuals having to pay for themselves to attend ICOM/ICFA functions was raised. There was several suggestions that an approach should be made to one's Foreign Ministry through one's National Committee on the basis that there would be no national support of one's particular country without one's attendance.

- (c) Additional point for item 4 of the Agenda.

A need was clearly seen for a Fine Art Committee of having members in Germany and Italy. Accordingly a place on the Executive Board should be kept for at least one representative of each of these countries.

The meeting was adjourned until Friday 19 June at 10.15am.

When the Committee met again the next morning a general discussion took place on the programme and suggestions were made regarding those members of fine art museums who should be asked to join ICFA. Mlle Irène Bizot was pleased to report that Mr McKibbin White had accepted membership of the Executive Board. It did not prove possible to contact M. Oursel or M. Levie for their decision during the morning, but both subsequently confirmed that they would be happy to be members of the Executive Board, and M. Oursel agreed to act as Treasurer.

George Breeze
Secretary, ICFA

Minutes read and approved by the Chairman, but subject to ratification at the next meeting of ICFA.

NOTES REGARDING THE PLENARY SESSION

1. Working Groups

Members within a designated geographical working group should write to its Chairman. Those not in a designated group should write to the ICFA Chairman, Mr Timothy Clifford, City Art Gallery, Mosley Street, Manchester 2, U.K.

2. Constitutional Changes

The additional rules (item 3 of the Plenary Session Agenda) were approved at the ICOM Executive Council Meeting on 25 June, subject to minor corrections to be notified. The Executive Council of ICOM is to conduct a review of the rules of all International Committees, when revisions to ICFA rules may be proposed (for instance under rule 6(b) co-option up to 40% of the total membership was thought to be too high). A copy of the present rules of ICFA (i.e. prior to this Plenary Session) is attached.

3. Request for financial support from the ICOM Foundation

The outcome of the meeting on 24 June is not yet known.

4. Next Meeting of Executive Board

Would members of the Executive Board please note in their diaries that the next meeting is planned for Saturday 17 - Wednesday 21 April 1982 in Stockholm. Further details will be sent in due course.

5. Next General Meeting

Would all members of ICFA please note in their diaries that the next plenary session of the whole committee is likely to be held on or about Saturday 18 - Wednesday 22 September 1982 almost certainly in Europe at a location still to be advised, though Amsterdam, Moscow/Leningrad, and Paris have all issued tentative invitations (see item 10 of Plenary Session Agenda).

6. XIII General Conference of ICOM

At its meeting on 23 June the Advisory Committee was informed that the next Triennial Conference would be held in the Barbican Centre, London between 24 July and 2 August 1983. The theme, agreed upon, will be "Sharing the Heritage", enabling an examination to take place of "the distribution of resources throughout the world's museums and the sharing of the knowledge and resources of museums with the communities they serve."

9 July 1981

George Breeze
Secretary, ICFA

ANNUAL REPORT

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FINE ARTS (PRE 1900) (ICFA)

1. Composition of the Committee

Executive Board

Chairman: M. Timothy Clifford, City Art Gallery, Manchester 2 (UK);
Secretary: M. George Breeze, City Museum and Art Gallery, Birmingham 3 (UK)
Treasurer: M. Per Bjurström, National Gallery, Stockholm (Sweden)

Mme Irina Antonova (USSR); M. John Baratte (USA); Mlle Irène Bizot (France)
Mlle Görel Cavalli-Björkman (Sweden); M. Juri Korolev (USSR);
Dr Vitali Souslov (USSR); M. Christopher Till (Zimbabwe); M. Dirk de Vos (Belgium).

Number of Members

Thirty four

Working Groups

None at present.

2. Activities of the Committee

As the Provisional Executive Board is relatively small and as the Committee's general membership is so far relatively small and as the Triennial Programme is large, it is felt that working groups cannot be set up until the Committee has achieved a reasonable size. It has taken longer than originally envisaged for applications to join the Committee to be made.

Letters were sent to the Chairmen of all the National Committees of ICOM asking them to circulate their members with information about ICFA and asking that any interested members of ICOM get in touch with the Secretary. It is apparent that information about the Committee is now filtering through the newsletters of many of the member countries of ICOM.

When approval was given for the foundation of the Committee at the XII General Conference, it was stated that the Committee must hold a Plenary Session prior to the next meeting of the Advisory Committee of ICOM. Accordingly a Plenary Session is being held in Paris on 18th - 19th June, when the entire Executive Board of the Committee is up for election.

3. Relations with Other Organisations

There have been no relations with other International Committees at this stage, but there has been correspondence with both National Committees and the ICOM Secretariat concerning widening the membership and seeking applicants for membership of the Committee.

4. Projects for 1981

A start on the Triennial Programme is to be discussed at the Plenary Session in Paris (noted above) and a meeting of working groups should be held later in 1981. Further discussions on this latter point will take place at the Plenary Session.

5. Suggestions Concerning the Functioning of ICOM

Proposals will be requested at the Plenary Session in June.

21st May 1981

ICOM

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FINE ARTS (PRE 1900) (ICFA)

MEMBERSHIP

(As at 17 June 1981)

BELGIUM

9805 M. Robert Hoozee
Museum Voor Schone Kunsten
Citadelpark
B-9000 Gent

0190 M. Dirk de Vos
Stedelijke Musea
Groeningemuseum
Dyver 12
B-8000 Brugge

FINLAND

1411 Ms Maritta Pitkänen
The Gösta Serlachius Museum of Fine Arts
35800 - Mänttä

FRANCE

5033 Mlle Irène Bizot
Reunion des Musées Nationaux
Palais du Louvre
75001 Paris

3579 Mlle Françoise Debaisieux
Musée des Beaux-Arts
Esplanade du Chateau
Caen 14000

6231 M. Hervé Oursel
Musée des Beaux-Arts
Jardin du Musée des Beaux-Arts
59000 Lille

NIGERIA

7209 Mr Otu E O Ekpa
Cultural Centre
Museum & Arts Gallery
P M B 1158
Calabar

Mr Okpa is currently working at the Dept of Museology,
Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University of Baroda,
Baroda 390002, India, to which correspondence should be
sent.

cont.....

PORTUGAL

6752 Ms Maria R A C Figueiredo
Calouste Gulbenkian Museum
Av Berna
1093 Lisboa

SINGAPORE

5539 Mr Christopher Hooi
National Museum
Stamford Road
Singapore 0617

SWEDEN

6770 M. Per Bjurström
Nationalmuseum
Box 16176
10324 Stockholm

4945 ~~Mme~~ Mlle Görel Cavalli-Björkman
Nationalmuseum
Box 16176
10324 Stockholm

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

3159 Mme Irina Antonova
Musée d'Etat des Beaux-Arts Pouchkine
Rue Volkhonka 12
Moscou

2910 Dr Vitali Souslov
Musée de l'Ermitage
Dvorzovaja naberezhnaja 34
Leningrad

9494 M. Juri Korolev
La Galerie Tretiakov
Laurouchinski per 10
Moscou

UNITED KINGDOM

8036 Mr Alasdair Auld
Museums & Art Galleries
Kelvingrove
Glasgow G3 8AG

0236 Mr George Breeze
City Museums & Art Gallery
Chamberlain Square
Birmingham B3 3DH

cont.....

UNITED KINGDOM (cont.)

4567 Mr Timothy Clifford
(M1) City Art Gallery
 Mosley Street
 Manchester M2 3JL

0847 Mr Michael E Keen
 Victoria and Albert Museum
 Cromwell Road
 London SW7 2RL

7877 Mr John William Last
 Walker Art Gallery
 William Brown Street
 Liverpool L3 8EL

4567 Mr Roy Ford
(M1) Manchester City Art Galleries
 Mosley Street
 Manchester M2 3JL

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

6139 Mr John Baratte
 4225 Lennox Drive
 Coconut Grove
 Florida 33133

6296 Mr Michael S Bell
 Midland Art Council
 1801 W. St Andrews
 Midland
 Michigan 48640

8226 Mr Ildiko Heffernan
 The Robert Hull Fleming Museum
 University of Vermont
 Burlington
 Vermont 05405

4299 Mr John Holverson
 Portland Museum of Art
 111 High Street
 P O Box 4018
 Station A
 Portland
 Maine 04101

3139 Mrs Lee Kimche
 3320 Quebec Place N.W.
 Washington DC 20008

4358
HU-0007 Mr Donald E Knaub
(M1) Huntsville Museum of Art
 700 Monroe Street S.W.
 Huntsville
 Alabama 35801

cont.....

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (cont.)

3067 Mme Madeleine C Lejwa
 9 East 88 Street
 New York
 New York 10028

2521 Dr Nina Parris
 Columbia Museums
 1112 Bull Street
 Columbia
 South Carolina 29201

9507 Mrs Jane G Rice
 San Diego Museum of Art
 San Diego
 California 92100

1403 Mr Spencer A Samuels
 Spencer A Samuels & Company Ltd
 13 East 76th Street
 New York
 New York 10021

? Ms Mary A Weaver
 Comprehensive Art Publications, Inc.
 11214 Laurie Drive
 Studio City
 California 91604

1605
(MI) Mr Ian McKibbin White
 The Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco
 Lincoln Park
 San Francisco
 California 94121

5602 Mr Mitchell Wolfson
 Audubon House Museum, Key West
 c/o Wometco Enterprises
 Pam Johnson
 P O Box 2440
 Miami
 Florida 33101

ZIMBABWE

2537 Mr Christopher Till
 National Gallery of Zimbabwe
 P O Box 8155
 Causeway
 Salisbury