CNFAP's ACTIVITY REPORT for the period 2011 to 2014

CNFAP is the IAA National Committee for France. Located in Paris with 300 members. CNFAP was created in 1954 with the participation of Unesco. The present board of 17 members was elected in December 2013 with Hervio as President.

1. International activities.
The major activity of CNFAP during this period of time was a DIALOGUES program set up with SANAVA, the South African NC. The framework of such a program is typically an exchange of events over a 2 years period of time with other member countries of IAA, in order to facilitate confrontation and dialogue between artists and artistic organizations. CNFAP started the DIALOGUES programs with Italy in 2008 by an exhibition of Italian and French artists in Venezia followed by a reciprocated exhibition in Paris, in 2009. After the exhibition of French artists in Pretoria in 2012, together with a program of visits and symposiums including a conference delivered by Anne Pourny, Delegate of CNFAP, on Artists Resale Rights, in Europe and in the rest of the World. CNFAP concentrated its works and efforts to set up in 2013 the reciprocated event in France, with an exhibition of South African and French painters in Paris, together with a program of visits and meetings for the artists who came from South Africa.

Having obtained the approval to benefit from the prestigious Orangerie Hall of the French Senate, the show, in May 2013, was a big success, with an affluence of 22,000 visitors over the 15 days of the show, a record setting since the start of the Orangerie's program several years ago, according to the Senate Cultural Department.

The annual EC of IAA had been planned in Paris at the same period of time, in order to allow the attendance of the President of IAA and all members of the CE to the opening of the show. This was an excellent opportunity to make IAA more visible in France.

2- Local activities
Besides the setup of exhibitions for CNFAP members and the visits of artist's studios, the major local activity of CNFAP is centered into the development of the World Art Day celebration in France. After a first run in 2013 in the south of France, near Marseille, where an organization of art teachers used the WAD opportunity to organize specific activities within their schools such as conferences on Leonardo da Vinci, talks on History of Art, and application works, it was decided to operate in 2014 in 3 different locations and develop a common scheme for these 3 locations. The goal was based on the following guide lines:

1. to concentrate on activities dedicated to children and youngsters.
2. to favor a joyful approach together with some kind of a competition leading to the delivery of a « CNFAP-AIAP diploma » certifying the participation to the celebration of WAD in 2014.
3. to include the delivery to all participants of an IAA's presentation reminding its worldwide involvement for the benefit of visual professional artists together with its attachment to UNESCO, explaining the choice of the date and the symbolic of Leonardo da Vinci, validating the universal characteristics of the WAD celebration.

The 3 chosen locations were:
* A well-known confessional school in Paris : the Ecole Arménienne Catholique of the Cathedrale Sainte Croix in Paris. Hervio, President of CNFAP, participated personally to this event, together with Tamar Ghabro of CNFAP. All art works done were exposed in the meeting hall of the school.

* The « 16 -17 years old prisoners » Department of the city's jail in Reims. 5 of the 7 prisoners of this department participated to this event organized by Gisèle Donagi, a member of CNFAP and President of the « Tout en Couleurs » association, (« Everything in colors »). It was the first time that these youngsters were meeting people talking with them about art and about Leonardo who they didn't have never heard about before. They got the right to take back with them, in their cells, the art works they had done, pieces « expressing rage and conviction » as quoted by the newspaper L'UNION-L'ARDENNAIS which covered the event.
The Department of « Activity and Prevention for the Youth » of the City Hall of Voisins-le-Bretonneux, a city controlling 7 smaller cities, located near Paris and where youth’s entertainment is a typical problem facing now most of the large suburbs. The celebration was organized by the manager of the City Department, Yolette Boullanger, and the artworks produced, after being exposed on the walls of the City Hall, went to the local gallery « Imajin » run by a member of CNFAP, Fatema Binet Ouakka. Several enthusiastic articles have been published by the local newspaper. Each of these celebrations was successful and Asilva, Communication Delegate of CNFAP and architect of the above WAD operations, will keep a close contact during 2014 with the persons which had managed these 3 celebrations. The goal is to help them spreading the fact within their respective network that April 15th is a powerful opportunity to create a dynamic and useful event in schools, in “under 18 years old » departments of jails as well as in cities’ departments in charge of « youth activity » in the suburbs of large cities.

In a more classical approach, WAD was also celebrated in Paris7° under the leadership of Pascale Courbot owner of the Gallery Lehalle and member of the EC of CNFAP. Billboards in the streets and the shops, thousands of mails to local inhabitants were sponsored by the City Hall of Paris 7° and the local Commercial Union. Moreover the Gallery Lehalle organized an exhibition with 21 Slovakian and French artists, members of CNFAP. Young people of Paris 7° were particularly invited to visit the show and see a video on Leonardo da Vinci.

Activities towards the development of IAA
From 2011 till 2013, CNFAP was very active in identifying and helping organizations from Tunisia and Algeria which could eventually join IAA. For this purpose CNFAP promoted a Tunisian candidature and the Tunisian member of the CNFAP’s board, Khédija Ennifer-Courtois, was of great help to conclude the signature of SMAP as the new NC of Tunisia, in 2012. Similarly, the presence in the CNFAP’s board of Mohamed Haddad from Algeria has been instrumental to build up the proposal and facilitate the exchange of information with Algeria: a new Algerian NC was approved by IAA at the end of August 2013. Moreover, the presence of the UNESCO’s Headquarters in Paris imposes on CNFAP some duties and advantages. Among them, there is the “act of presence” and participation to the numerous symposiums and conferences organized by UNESCO throughout the year. For instance, in May 2011, CNFAP was invited by Frédéric Mitterrand, the French Minister of Culture, to participate to the round tables on “International actions in Visual Arts”.

New presentation of the CNFAP website
With the assistance of Rob den Boer from the Netherland’s NC, who has also remodeled the IAA website, a new CNFAP website has been implemented. The goal was to facilitate the presentation of works and activities of individual members of CNFAP and make a more attractive outlook of the site. This job should be terminated by end of 2014.