



journal

**Informations
on Films for
Children in
Europe!**

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ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DU CINÉMA POUR L'ENFANTS ET LA JEUNESSE



International Meeting on Children's Film and Media Education:

Kid Screen is back this Year!



Regione Lombardia

**No.1/2002
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The European Children's Film Association (ECFA) since 1988 has been working to promote quality film and audiovisual products for children and adolescents, the knowledge of media and its educational role with children and young people – through meetings, festivals and workshops. In 1994 the collaboration started between the Lombardy Region, one of the most active ECFA-members, and the association in order to organise the international seminar Kid Screen – aimed at providing training and updates, at a European level, for all those interested in the development of image education in schools.

Cinema has always been the starting point of Kid Screen. Between 1995 and the year 2000 Kid Screen took place, with the backing of the Lombardy Region and other public and private bodies, at the same time as MIFED at the Milan Fair. It brought to the attention of schools and cultural operators the value of cinema and of fostering a critical awareness in the most vulnerable audiences. Through the promotion of workshops with adults and children, ECFA has adopted an interdisciplinary approach to its projects, a method recently growing in popularity at every school level.

Every edition has always focused on one main issue, such as violence in the media or young people's creativity. The seminar has never missed an opportunity to represent a chance for sharing. Within an international context, Italian and foreign experience has fostered an increase in the production and diffusion of quality products for young people, bringing them closer to cinema and other media. With the inclusion of new technologies, within the framework of school programs, an increase in quantity and quality contacts between European schools and the cultural worlds has been realised. This meeting has always represented an opportunity for the Region to present its projects (in the same field) aimed at children. Every edition promoted an exchange of experiences between Italy and the rest of Europe,

the presentation of new products and the diffusion of useful information for teachers.

In the past years various issues have been tackled, all somewhat connected to the world of production and distribution of films for young people as well as to media education (self-esteem, violence on the screen, bullying ...). Media experts' considerations have worked in unison with the in-depth work in the territory carried out for many years through the project Lombardia Cinema Ragazzi (Lombardy cinema young people) co-ordinated by the Lombardy Region's Culture Department/Education and Entertainment Services in partnership with private and public Italian bodies and with the eleven provincial administrations of the Lombardy Region.

The meeting, supported in the past by the Culture Department, is presented, for the 2002 edition, by two Departments of the Lombardy Region (Agriculture and Cultures, Identities and Autonomies). Thanks to these two offices, with different but synergic competencies, the success of the initiative, as well as their priorities, will be guaranteed.

Kid Screen 2002 will take place in the Province of Brescia, November 3rd to 5th. The title of this year's edition is:

„I am what I eat“.

See page 3 & 4 for more details.

Dear Readers of ECFA-Journal,

This issue comes earlier than we planned ourselves, but we wanted to inform you on some new ECFA-projects before the General Assembly in Berlin on February, 9th. So don't worry if you have the feeling that some of the dates given in the news section seem familiar to you – they are worth being repeated.

The first project is Kid Screen 7: ECFA's President Eva Schwarzwald succeeded in preparing another issue of this European hot spot for all who are involved in film culture and media education. The second project, AGORA 2002, takes place in Athens/Greece in June as a co-operation between the

European Children's Television Center, ECFA and others.

Quite some activities for a small but lively association as ECFA is - and probably there will be some more projects coming up at the General Assembly. So see you in Berlin!

The News Section:

Films, Festivals, Prizes

International Film Festival for Children and Young People

Mar del Plata/Argentina

Silver Kite for the best long animation film: „Becassine, the Viking Treasure“

by Philippe Vidal, France 2001;

Gold Kite for the best youth film and CIFEJ-Prize: „El Bola“ by Archerio

Manaz, Spain 2000;

The Golden Elephant – Int. Children’s Film Festival, Hyderabad/India

Children’s Jury Award: „Thomas the Falconer“ by Vaclav Vorlicek, Slovak

Republic 2000

Critic’s Jury: „Tsatsiki, Mum and the Policeman“ by Ella Lemhagen, Sweden

1999

International Festival of Films for Children and Young Adults of Isfahan/Iran

Best Direction: „There is only one

Jimmy Grible“ by John Hay, UK 2000

Chicago Int. Children’s Film Festival

Children’s Jury Prizes

for international live action films:

1st Prize „Little Crumb“ by Maria Peters, NL 1999

2nd Prize: „Ikingut“ by Gisli Snaer

Erlingsson, Iceland 2000

for best animation films:

1st Prize: „Princes and Princesses“ by

Michel Ocelot, France 1999

2nd Prize: „Prop and Berta“ by Per Fly,

Denmark 2001

Le Carrousel International du Film de Rimouski/Canada

Best feature film & CIFEJ Prize: „The

Spring of Life“ by Milan Cieslar, Czech

Republic 2000

Int. Film Festival (Children’s Program), Rio de Janeiro/Brazil

Young Audience Prize: „Miracle“ by

Natasha Arty, Denmark 2000

Divercine X - Int. Festival for Children and Youth, Montevideo/Uruguay

Best feature film: „Miracle“ by Natasha

Arty, Denmark 2000

Children’s Jury and OCIC Award: „Little

Crumb“ by Maria Peters, NL 1999

Forthcoming Festivals

Internat. Filmfestival Berlin, Children’s Film Festival, February 6th to 17th 2002

Contact: Internat. Filmfestival Berlin,

Children’s Film Festival

Renate Zylla, Potsdamer Str. 5

D-10785 Berlin

Phone: ++49-30-25920420

Fax: ++49-30-25920429

E-Mail: kids@berlinale.de

Internet: www.berlinale.de

AGORA 2002, Athens, June 15th to 19th:

On Children’s Media

The AGORA event is the Annual Mediterranean Summit, where all regional children’s audiovisual actions are evaluated and new synergies among the professionals worldwide are created and promoted.

The four-day AGORA operates as a market and as a circle of seminars, addresses professionals and researchers. Renowned speakers present in a number of master classes, lectures and workshops the innovations of audiovisual production, research and education. Key-experts from the fields of both analogue and digital media present their future strategies, regarding their role in the Mediterranean audiovisual landscape.

Small and medium size companies have the chance to comprehend the recent tendencies in production and distribution and identify their position in the global market. Smaller countries have the opportunity of communicating with larger countries in terms of audiovisual production and establish extensive cultural exchanges.

AGORA has been subsidized for the last eight years by the MEDIA Promotion Programme of the European Commission.

AGORA 2002 focuses on the following:

MED-Observatory

Enhancing the role of the Mediterranean in the global media landscape

·Reviews and supervises the production, promotion, broadcasting and research, education and training of the children’s audiovisual landscape in the region;

·Collects and disseminates all information regarding international audiovisual innovations to the Mediterranean basin;

·Facilitates and promotes the production of common projects, opening up the capabilities and dynamism of the region to the audiovisual world;

·Calls key-experts from the fields of both analogue and digital media research to present their future strategies, regarding their role in the Mediterranean Collaboration and the region’s common positioning in the global audiovisual landscape;

·Provides media literacy frameworks and supports the creation of a common children’s audiovisual language.

Media Summer School (MSS)

Investing on the forefront of new media and communications research

First presentation of the Mediterranean Media Summer School for youngsters, to be organized by European Children’s Television Centre and hosted by Giffoni Film Festival, in Giffoni, Italy, in Summer 2004.

MSS has been conceived as a lab and training campus where old and new will meet, analogue and digital will fuse, student and tutor will co-invent, enthusiasts and professionals will grow together. MSS invites the best media and art personalities from around the world to present the cutting edge interactive multimedia technology.

In AGORA 2002, this part-conference, part-hands-on lab, will bring together film-makers, media tutors, producers, organizers, digital artists, researchers, media education designers, psychologists and children; anyone involved in the making of a school for the future.

Within the MSS sessions, two special workshops will deal with the following issues:

Millennium kids: A connected world organized by Regional Information Technology and Software Center (RITSEC)

Film Culture for children & the possibilities of New Technologies organized by Bundesverband Jugend und Film e.V (BJF)

World Sport’s Expo:

Putting children’s media on the track of the Athens Olympic Games in 2004

The session aims at extending an invitation to all professionals of the world media to participate in the preparation of the World Sports’ Expo held in Athens in 2004. It will present media products showing youth’s worldwide participation in sports and offering behaviour examples, developing and influencing the youngsters’ sports conscience. By February 25th 2002, we admit proposals for presentations of innovative methods of sports education and related pilot products.

The Games are targeted to offer youngsters an integrated vision towards sports: What is the contribution of media to the world sports and youth community?

Special events

AGORA 2002 invites you to a number of attractive special events, organized by some key-players of the global children’s audiovisual industry:

Children’s Channels event will be organized by RAISAT Ragazzi, the children’s pay-TV channel of RAISAT Spa. The International Centre of Film for Children & Young People (CIFEJ) and European Children’s Film Association (ECFA) will present the **Kids For Kids Festival**. The **Festival Tribute** will give you an overview of the overall philosophy, future plans, world appeal and on-line services of all Mediterranean film festivals for children. The **Roaming Reporters** are an already established action, implementing an innovative media literacy application, which was initiated in the 3rd World Summit on Media for Children.

AGORA 2002 will be held in Athens/Greece from June 15th to 19th. Join us in the heart of the Mediterranean basin, in four days of cultural interchange, bridging the entire media industry world. Contact: European Children’s Television Centre 20, Analipseos Str., GR-Vrilissia 152 32 Phone: ++30-10-7258904 Fax: ++30-10- 7258953 E-mail: management@ectc.gr

Kid Screen 7:



„I am what I eat“

On how media influence children's eating habits and how education can inform them of a healthy diet helping them to grow up better.

Kid Screen brings cinema to the attention of educational and cultural sectors, focusing on the importance of cultural growth of the most vulnerable audiences and promoting workshops with adults and children. Each edition of Kid Screen focuses on a different topical issue. By promoting the exchange of experiences between Italy and abroad, ECFA's presentation of productions and projects, has provided invaluable information for teachers.

In fact, the provision of good procedures affirming the importance of cinema and media education in general, links this work to those issues that are relevant to young people today.

Among these, we decided to tackle the new food emergencies – mad cow disease (B.S.E), transgenic food, and the growing consumers' attention to food safety and environment – all issues on which schools work with interest. Food awareness, food quality, food culture and traditions, are all part of many projects in schools.

Since the time of the first civilisations 14.000 years ago, produced or consumed foods have always been part of the activities in which the family and the group engaged together. All the processes involving food e.g. growing, harvesting, processing, eating are definitive characteristics of human cultures. That's why food is so important in the framework of human ethical patterns, which are instilled from birth and become assumptions of normality.

It is increasingly apparent that new modes of value, transmitted through advertising and media, greatly influence young people's habits. Extreme examples of this can be observed in conditions such as anorexia or bulimia. The problem of obesity is growing: fashion drives girls to excessive weight losses; acceptance of aesthetic canons unrealistic and dictated by economic interest are all issues that we are aware of.

Food at the same time could represent an important element of cultural exchange. Knowledge of diversity is the key and in this direction many initiatives in schools have been taken. Through the preparation of food from different countries, children have shared with their school mates their own cultural and religious roots as well as their traditions.

Kid Screen 2002 is going to focus on the following issues and questions:

- Children's bodies needs to be fed, otherwise their soul is affected: does food quality influence behaviour?
- Advertising and television influence eating habits: how can we use media to teach young people to eat better?
- Films about food and young people's relationships in schools: fat children suffering violence from their peers, poor children who don't have anything to eat, the family supper as a place of love or tension: how does/has cinema dealt with these subjects?

- Is it possible to direct teachers, through projects involving typical food products, to promote the knowledge of the territory in their work at school?

- Is food an interesting subject in audio-visual production made by young people? What does eating mean for them? What comes out of their films?

All those issues and many more will be tackled through lectures and workshops, during a three day session in which cinema and audio-visual products on these subjects will be presented.

The meeting will have the following structure:

1. Cinema

How has the subject „food and diet“ been treated in European cinema, with special reference to children and young people. Films will be shown, followed by a debate on how cinema could be used in the classroom. Cinema is not only entertainment, but also as a tool of prevention regarding issues affecting young people. Bullying is a quite common phenomenon nowadays and food can bring people together or push them further apart. Are there any films for young people on the subject of food?

2. Media education

The influence of advertising and media on young people's eating habits. How to help them to distinguish between true and false messages, good and bad information. Examples from Europe of good practices in schools and of audio-visual productions.

3. Food safety and education

Children need to know the products of their land, be prepared since birth to be aware of what they eat, so as to sustain the value of food quality, find pleasure in a good nourishment, as to take back the right to be respected by the adults. Food is also a way of communicating and exchanging one's own land products with peers, opening also oneself to other cultures, for a better cultural integration at school.

4. Agriculture

Getting to know agriculture, animals and farms could revive a sense of belonging to the land that this consumption orientated society lacks, with its rhythms far removed from the natural cycles of agricultural production. Young people's spirituality could be awoken by the silence of the countryside or the sound of a cowbell. The „educational farms“ of the Lombardy Region, other Italian and foreign experiences will be introduced.

The News Section: Films, Festivals, Prizes Forthcoming Festivals

Europees Jeugdfilmfestival Vlaanderen, Antwerp, February 10th to 17th 2002

Contact: Europees Jeugdfilmfestival Vlaanderen, Katrijn Korten Bisschopstraat 67

B-2060 Antwerp

Phone: ++32-3-23 26 409

Fax: ++32-3-21 31 492

E-Mail: kidfilm@glo.be

Internet: www.kidfilm.be

SehPferdchen - Kinderfilmfest Hannover Hannover, March 3rd to 8th 2002

Contact: SehPferdchen - Kinderfilmfest Klaus Kooker, c/o LAG Jugend und Film Niedersachsen Moorstr. 98

D-29664 Walsrode

Phone: ++49-5161-911463

Fax: ++49-5161-911464

E-Mail: info@filmfest-sehpferdchen.de

Internet: www.filmfest-sehpferdchen.de

BUFF - International Children and Young People's Filmfestival, Malmö, March 12th to 17th 2002

Contact: BUFF - Internat. Children and Young People's Film-Festival Lennart Ström, P.O. Box 179

S-20101 Malmö

Phone: ++46-40-30 91 64

Fax: ++46-40-305 322

E-Mail: info@buff.nu

Internet: www.buff.nu

Cairo International Film Festival for Children, March 14th to 21st 2002

The festival is looking for features, animations, documentary and educational films as well as TV-programmes for children up to 14 years old.

Contact: Cairo Int. Filmfestival for Children Dir. Soheir Abd-El Kader 17, Kasr El Nil Str, Cairo, Egypt

Phone: ++20-2-3923562

Fax: ++20-2-3938979

E-Mail: CIFFC@cdf.eg.org

www.cdf.eg.org/English/index_e.htm

Leeds Int. Children's & Young Peoples Film Festival, March 18th to 29th 2002

Contact: Leeds Children's Film Festival Debbie Maturi

The Town Hall/The Headrow GB- Leeds LS1 3AD

Phone: ++44-113-247 8398

Fax: ++44-113-247 8494

E-Mail: debbie.maturi@leeds.gov.uk

Internet: www.leedsfilm.com

Festival International du Cinema Jeune Public, Laon, March 19th to 29th 2002

Contact: Festival International du Cinema Jeune Public Florence Dupont, B. P. 526

F-02001 Laon Cedex

The News Section: Forthcoming Festivals

Phone: ++33-3-237 93 937
Fax: ++33-3-237 93932
E-Mail: festival.cinema.laon
@wanadoo.fr
Internet: www.laonfilmfest.com

Stockholm Film Festival Junior April 6th to 12th 2002

Contact: Stockholm Filmfestival Junior
Elin Ljungfors, Box 3136
S-10362 Stockholm
Phone: ++46-8-6775027
Fax: ++46-8-200590
E-Mail: Junior@filmfestivalen.se
Internet: www.junior.filmfestivalen.se

Kristiansand Internat. Children's Film Festival, April 30th to May 5th 2002

Contact: Kristiansand Kino, D. M. Krohn
P.O.Box 356
N-4663 Kristiansand
Phone: ++ 47-38-10 42 05
Fax: ++ 47-38-10 42 01
E-Mail: d.krohn@krskino.no
Internet: www.filmweb.no/
kristiansandkino/barn

Events

Cartoon Movie, Potsdam, Germany, March 14th to 16th 2002

Contact: Cartoon, A. Maes, C. Coustie
Phone: ++32-2-242 93 43
Fax: ++32-2-245 46 89
E-mail: movie@cartoon.skynet.be
Internet: www.cartoon-media.be

Films on the Horizon

The Chain King

Arto Koskinen, Finland 2002
Release: March 2002
Producer: Kinoproduction Oy
Katajanokankatu 6
FIN-00160 Helsinki
Phone: ++358-9-663 217
E-mail: kino@kinoproduction.fi

Hayfower and Quiltshoe

Kaisa Rastimo, Finland 2002
Release: Autumn 2002
Producer: Kinotaurus Oy
Merimiehenkatu 26 A 25
FIN-00180 Helsinki
Phone: ++358-9-2486 1880
Fax: ++358-9-4522 090
E-mail: kinotaurus@hotmail.com

Help, I'm a Boy

Oliver Dommengot, Germany 2002
Premiere at Children's Film festival Berlin
Producer: Studio Hamburg, Anja Jabs
Jenfelder Allee 80
D-22039 Hamburg
Phone: ++49-40-66885800
E-mail: Ajabs@studio-hamburg.de

Continuing from page 3

Kid Screen 7: „I am what I eat“

Parallel events

As the seminar is addressed to adults, workshops for the schools of the territory will be organised. In particular:

5. **Films** for young people will be selected from the most recent international festivals targeted at this audience, or films considered interesting for school screenings, but which are not valued within the normal distribution networks.

6. **Taste workshops** to educate young people in food knowledge and its cultural and historical origins.

7. **„Piazza dell'arte“**. The Belgian association Gynaika organised fully-equipped buses to work with children in production of films, art, sculpture, painting, theatre and other disciplines. The six buses will be used as big travelling laboratories, perfectly equipped to involve 150 girls and boys aged between 12 and 18 in an interactive experience. Some workshops will be held in schools. There will be nine workshops connected to some of the typical Lombardy Region products: Multimedia, Digital photography, Video-animation, Electronic music, Art, Sound, Dance, Costume design and Advertising creation (Multimedia). The subject of this media education will be on food products of the territory. Girls and boys will produce adverts on bresaola or provolone, go through artistic journeys starting from the products, etc. After these four „creative“ days, they will present their products within a joint meeting.

8. **Desk at the MIFED**. Kid Screen again will organise a desk service within Mifed for the customers of the market, aimed at stressing the importance of European quality films for young people, by promoting and distributing them. Within the Mifed typical food products of our Region will be presented to foreign customers.

The spirit of Kid Screen ...

is to promote exchanges that, with specific reference to the field of cinema and image education, can broaden the horizons of knowledge of the operators from a multidisciplinary standpoint. Researchers, university lecturers, teachers and professionals from the industrial sector of reference will bring their experiences and knowledge on issues that relate to the school world, in a common direction aimed at the development of a program in the interest of children.

To promote children's wellbeing means today to create alliances and synergies between all those operating in the promotion of their rights and their awareness and for this reason there will be lectures on various themes, only apparently far from the main issue: it will all make sense as they will all relate to the promotion of cultural values in the interest of children, by updating teachers with examples and experiences coming from Italy and abroad.

Kid Screen 2002 will in fact aim at:

- emphasising the work developed in the past years by the Lombardy Region, Departments of Agriculture and Cultures, Identities and Autonomies, giving space to the presentation of productions for children (videos and CD-ROM)

- promoting the knowledge of interesting European experiences in media education
- promoting the knowledge of some interesting European experiences in the field of food education and educational farming
- promoting workshops for girls and boys on food and media
- giving schools opportunities for networking.

So far, these are the lectures organised:

- **Rosa Bianco Finocchiaro**, psychologist, coordinator of the Interregional Project on Communication and Food Education on „The influence of media on children's food habits“
- An anthropologist on **„Food and children“**: Food & communication between young people
- **Terry Staples**, UK: food in films
- **Presentation of Educational Farming**, a regional project (Agriculture Department)
- **Gianni Canova**, co-ordinator of some projects on food education in schools
- **„Piazza dell'arte“**, Gynaika Association, Belgium: media workshops with young people
- **Bonnie Bracey**, US: „Bring granny's recipe!“ Through cooking we get to know each other
- **UK Alliance for better food and farming**: Pilot projects involving schools
- **Advertising education forum**. Presentation of a research on young people's behaviour following advertising in television
- **Flavia Alman, Sabine Reiff, Carla Vittoria Rossi**: „Ghiotti dotti“ (knowledgeable gluttonous), educational CD for schools promoting the typical products of the Lombardy Region and food education for young people
- **Video** produced with the support of the Cultures, Autonomies and Identities Department of the Region to promote the knowledge of culture and territory
- **Jan Jonasson**, The National Innovative Center for General Education in Denmark. „Farming Online“, or how can you become a „virtual farmer“. Project addressed to kids 14 and 15 years old
- **„A treasure to eat“**: journey within the magical world of Grana Padano. A project created by the Grana Padano Consortium
- **Centre for the studies of image education**, Italy: workshop for teachers on using media as means to elaborate interdisciplinary journeys
- **Jessica Dahlof Ask**, Sweden: a project on anorexia and the presentation of the film „You can never be too rich or too thin“
- **Anne-Michele Hantler**, UK, art psycho-therapist: „How to increase young people's self-esteem by teaching them how to cook“
- **Mimi Nichter**, anthropologist, US: „Teaching teens to be critical media consumers.“ Other lectures are still to be confirmed.

Eva Schwarzwald

Useful Information:

Kid Screen will take place in the province of Brescia in a location suitable from the viewpoint of transfers to the airport, situation of hotels, availability of a meeting Centre etc.

Participation fee: 50 Euro including simultaneous translation, support materials, two coffee breaks per day, evening events and film screenings in a cinema theatre.
Contact: Regione Lombardia
Piazza IV Novembre 5, I-21124 Milano
Phone ++39 - 02 - 67 65 26 87
Fax ++39 - 02 - 67 65 27 35
E-Mail: schwarzwalde@regione.lombardia.it

A unique Experience in Europe:

Kino mobil - To bring the Cinema where the Children are

Since Summer 2000 German ECFA-member Bundesverband Jugend und Film (BJF) has organized a mobile cinema to give those children a chance to see films on the big screen, who do not have any cinemas around them. The Kino-mobil-Tour travels through regions with special needs for social and cultural innovation. In summer 2001 Anna-Michele Hantler, Director of Kid Conscious Consultancies (Great Britain), wanted to know more about the project that seems to be quite unique in Europe. Here is her report.

Following a presentation by Reinhold T. Schoeffel, managing director of Bundesverband Jugend und Film, at the 3rd World Summit in March 2001, a liaison was established between BJF and Kid Conscious Consultancies (UK). I initiated this consultancy service to promote „Emotional Education through the Arts“, working with schools and youth projects to help develop emotional literacy for children and young people. After a presentation on children's self esteem and bullying issues at two Kidscreen conferences in Italy, I have been inspired to learn more about film and include it as part of this approach.



BJF's Kino mobil

Increasingly I am convinced that the screening of quality children's film, and facilitation thereafter, is a vital way into 'starting where children are at' for the adults working with or caring for them. It provides a rich tool to support self awareness, enhance understanding of relationships and human diversity.

Following the BJF presentation at the summit, I was interested in visiting the Kino Mobil project, which takes film screenings and educational workshops to (rural) areas of deprivation and particularly, to 'disadvantaged young people'.

Together Reinhold Schoeffel and I obtained a European Youth Grant to contribute towards the cost of two visits, July and September. The aims of these visits were:

1. Opportunity to familiarize myself with the diversity of quality children's film (as screened within the KINO Mobil project)
2. To gain an overview of the project and consider the feasibility of duplicating a similar project in the UK (or possibly Australia) in the future
3. To establish ways in which Kid Conscious Consultancies could support the aims of film education workers by introducing them to teaching methods suitable for Emotional education within their specific settings. This aims to ultimately help children and young people share more effectively their emotional response to the film.

A preparation was made in July at BJF's Frankfurt headquarters and at the project site in Angermuende/Eastern Germany. Here I had the opportunity to liaise with both the Director of BJF and Mobil Media Worker, Maria Weyer, along with the cooperative partners from a variety of Angermuende youth agencies.

With translation, I was able to participate in one of the workshops run for youth workers. This is a regular event of the Mobil's and offers participants an introduction to film theory and language, ideas to initiate discussion with young people and recommendations of quality film suitable for their audience.

Some Facts on Kino mobil:

Kino mobil is a 7,5t truck with a projection room (35 & 16mm, DVD), cashier and transport capacities inside. On location a tent will be raised with 70 seats. It can be placed in any school yard, housing area or on a village's market square.

The preparations at BJF for a Kino mobil-tour start with the research, in which regions children and young people hardly have the chance to visit a cinema or a film club. In these regions (suburbs or rural areas) BJF tries to find local partners who are interested in organizing a film week end for the young audience. With these partners a programme is set up with high quality films. The selection is usually made from the large film catalogue of BJF's own distribution. There has been a pre-selection of films, for example films centred around the theme „courage and magic“, but the film programme can very much be adopted to local interests. Important is that the films' stories should be related to the biographical experience of their audience.

The local partners have to create a co-operation of all institutions and organisations who work with young people: schools, youth clubs, churches, sports clubs etc. They all can participate in the programme, can also involve their youngsters in the film selection and have to take responsibility for the local event.

These events usually start on Thursday morning and end on Sunday afternoon. During these days there are 10 to 15 screenings.

The programme aims at different target groups, like school classes of different ages, girls or boys, immigrants, families (famous are the Sunday morning specials with a brunch after the film etc), or grand-

The follow-up visit to Reichenbach in September allowed me to see more of the final preparations for a Mobil programme. Maria and I departed from Frankfurt traveling by (four!) very stylish German trains, where upon arrival, she met with the local cooperative partner's to finalise arrangements for the screening programme.

This particular visit required a change in plans, and a great deal of sensitivity, given that in the preceding week, sadly three teenagers from the town had committed a satanic pact suicide. Needless to say, the town's people were still reeling from this.

Maria and the local council had managed to reschedule a workshop for teachers and youth workers to discuss how best to provide emotional support for young people, with a focus on film that address sensitive issues and young people's need for identity.



The children are coming ...

parents with their grandchildren. The social aspects of going to the cinema are part of the concept.

The film screenings start with a welcome to the audience and an introduction to the film. After the screenings there are occasions for various communicative activities: games, drawing, theatrical scenes or – for the older ones – discussions on the film and its story. With these animations we want to invite the young people to use the films to reflect on their own „art of life“: Who they are, what is important for them in life, which are the aims they want to achieve.

With these film week ends we also want to inform the local youth workers on the opportunities of film culture for young audiences and motivate them to organize screenings themselves. In workshops they learn how to arrange film screenings in schools, youth clubs or any other locations. BJF also offers follow-up services: with the films in distribution, with support and information – whatever is needed.

The Kino mobil project is supported by the German government for three years until June 2003. Then almost 50 film fests will have been organized with more than 25.000 children and young people.

For more information on Kino mobil contact: Bundesverband Jugend und Film, Kennedyallee 105a, D-60596 Frankfurt/M. Phone: ++49-69-6312723, Fax 6312922, E-Mail: mail@BJF.info
Internet: www.BJF-kinomobil.de
When Kino mobil is not on the road with BJF you can rent it from:
Saechsischer Kinderfilmdienst,
Phone ++49-371-307704, Fax 365016
Internet: www.kinderfilmdienst.de



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Translations with the help of
 Janet Reuter

ECFA - The EUROPEAN CHILDREN'S FILM ASSOCIATION

The goal of ECFA is to support cinema for children in its cultural, economical, esthetic, social, political and educational aspects. ECFA was founded in 1988 in Mons (Belgium) after the Conference of Troja (Portugal) and it brought together a wide range of European film professionals and associations, producers, directors, distributors. ECFA's aim is to set up a working structure in every European country for films for children and young people, a structure adapted to Europe's multicultural interests.

For more informations and membership (membership-fee 200 Euros per year) contact:

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 Internet: www.ecfaweb.org

The European Children's Film Distribution Network:

www.ecfaweb.org/english/ecfnet/index.htm

Databases on children's film festivals, sales agents, distributors and TV-programmers interested in European films for children.

Kino mobil – To bring the Cinema where the Children are



Inside Kino mobil

Unfortunately, being English speaking only, I was not able to actively participate in this, but we do hope that one of the outcomes of this workshop may provide an opportunity to meet the third aim of my visits – training of staff in Emotional Education.

Realising that these young people did not necessarily commit suicide because they were satanic worshippers, but that perhaps the act itself was a communication for deeply felt unhappiness, we need to question why young people would be drawn to identifying with such a cult in the first place.

It was strongly felt by many of the secondary school teachers that not only are they unable in their school system to provide adequate opportunity for young people to think through their feelings, nor were they as staff given training or resources to enable them to do so. Maria was able to suggest a number of films to help explore some of the issues pertaining to adolescence, identity, peer group pressure eg: „Crazy“, „Billy Elliott“ ...

It is now hoped that together, Maria and I will return to Reichenbach in 2002 to run a two-day workshop. Combining Maria's infinite wisdom and enthusiasm for using film with young people, alongside my knowledge of teaching methods such as Draw and Write Research and Circle Time, we can support teachers and youth workers in their emotional education of children and young people. Should this prove successful we may be able to open up this work to others involved in film and media education - perhaps developing a workshop specifically for inclusion in children's film festival programmes. However, we still need to secure funding to cover all costs, so any sponsorship gladly received!

In terms of our second aim, to duplicate the Mobil project in the UK, I have realized from both of my visits the immense amounts of organization, funding, including national and local government backing, and individual commitment to establish a project of this kind. At this point in time, we are not in a position to make immediate plans to duplicate this model in the UK. However, with further investigation, networking and interest from film education organizations, this is still a possibility some time in the future.

Whilst Maria is supported by Reinhold and BJB and has the moral and technical backup from her projectionist Peter Zeitelhack in reality, it needs to be the work of more than one person. Or dare I say it, someone with youth, energy and a willingness to work long over and above the call of duty! I am in awe of not only the dedication that Maria brings to the Mobil project, but her creativity, imagination and theatrical flair enlivens all the entire proceedings, and I am sure provides a unique and special occasion for children, youth and adults who are lucky enough to visit the Mobil.

It has been a fantastic opportunity for me, to acquaint myself with the range of quality children's film productions as shown in the mobile's programme, and to witness what wonderful opportunities for entertainment and education, are available to audiences which would otherwise rarely get to see such caliber of film. On a large screen, in their very own neighborhood!

Work aside, as tiring as constant traveling can be, it was of course a great time socially. I was warmly welcomed and well cared for by my German hosts, returning to England on both occasions, happily exhausted. Definitely a job though, for the young and enthusiastic!!

Anna-Michele Hantler

**Anna-Michelle Hantler,
 Kid Conscious
 Consultancies (left),
 Kino mobil project
 manager Maria Weyer**



ECFA's General Assembly at Berlin, February 9th 2002

The annual General Assembly of the European Children's Film Association will be held during the International Film Festival Berlin on Saturday, February 9th, 4 pm. Location: Hotel Unter den Linden, Unter den Linden 14, 10117 Berlin.

- AGENDA:**
1. Report on the Annual General Meeting 2001
 2. Report on the ECFA-activities 2001
 3. Report on the financial situation 2001
 4. Approval of the activity and financial report
 5. Projects for the year 2002
 6. Budget for the year 2002
 7. Any other business

Get together of the Children's Film Community at the International Film Festival at Berlin, February 9th 2001

Same day, in the evening: At 9 pm. there will be a get together for all those working with children's films, organized by ECFA, Bundesverband Jugend und Film, Foerderverein Deutscher Kinderfilm, Stiftung Goldener Spatz, AFM Film Distribution and MDC International Film Distribution.