AGORA - The Mediterranean Summit on Media for Children:

Interactive Media for Children

AGORA is the annual event organised by the European Children’s Television Centre (ECTC). It offers to the children's audiovisual industry professionals a wide conference and market platform to present new innovative products, to develop creative synergies in all sectors, languages and means of the children's audiovisual industry, research and education. This year AGORA will take place in Bologna/Italy from June 20th to 23rd.

After eight years in Greece, AGORA, the Mediterranean Summit on Media for Children organised by the European Children’s Television Centre, travels to Bologna, Italy with the collaboration of RaiSat Ragazzi.

AGORA 2003 focuses on the theme „Convergence Trends in Media for Children“ to point out the main aspects of the media convergence market, analysing its development, new trends and the most innovative projects.

AGORA 2003 targets on: Youth Media and Mediterranean Networks of Collaboration: the policy co-operation, monitoring and networking among European and Mediterranean countries. Presentation of Euro-Mediterranean initiatives, such as the Mediterranean Observatory, the World Audiovisual Expo on Youth & Sports. Children’s Programming: the European and Mediterranean Children’s Channels Market and latest trends. Interactive TV, Exchanges and Co-productions: co-production synergies amongst the Mediterranean Professionals and the global industry. New projects and co-production proposals based on the use of different media, improving the Media market and industry focusing on children. Media for Children and Quality Standards: quality standards of TV programmes for children, Mediterranean and international production standards compared with the needs of the audience.

Kids For Festival and Roaming Reporters: promoting children’s innovations and artistic audiovisual creations.

See page 4 for programme and contact.

The Kids-for-Kids-Festival-selection can be seen during AGORA in Bologna on Sunday, June 22nd. A best-of-tape will tour afterwards to several festivals, and a compilation will be shown on the internet: www.roamingreporters.net

Continued on page 5

Europe and especially the Mediterranean countries. If you have the chance to go there use this opportunity to get inspired by the huge variety of ideas, projects and people waiting for you in Bologna. At AGORA there are not only the professionals who talk about media for children. There are the children themselves as well, lively and critically.

The 1st Worldwide Festival for Films made by Young People: The Kids for Kids Festival

Exactly 327 films made by children or young people from all over the world entered the Kids for Kids Festival. So it was a hard job for the juries to select the 50 films that will be presented in Bologna during AGORA.

The festival has four categories, animation, live-action, documentary and video clip. Each category is divided into two age groups (6 to 12 and 13 to 16 years old).

The European selection was made by ECFA. Africa, America, Asia and Australia was organized by CIFEJ, the International Centre of Films for Children’s and Young People. Of course the criteria for the selection had to be different from other festivals. Most importantly the juries regarded the originality of the idea, but also the quality of the components of the film (storytelling, technical treatment) as well as how deep adults or professionally were involved in the projects. Finally, the geographical representation of continents or countries was also considered.

Dear Readers of ECFA-Journal,

Something new in this issue of ECFA-Journal: A letter from our organisation’s president. From now on Mia Lindrup will inform us regularly on ECFA’s most important activities.

The European Union will have some new members next year. ECFA already has a board member from a country, which will enter the Union next year. Jerzy Moszkowicz from Poznan/Poland. Read more about this sympathetic and multiprofessional person on page 6.

This issue is mostly dedicated to AGORA 2003, one of the most important spots for all involved in media for children in Europe and especially the Mediterranean countries. If you have the chance to go there use this opportunity to get inspired by the huge variety of ideas, projects and people waiting for you in Bologna. At AGORA there are not only the professionals who talk about media for children. There are the children themselves as well, lively and critically.
The News Section:
Films, Festivals, Prizes
Europees Jeugdfilmfestival Vlaanderen, Antwerp & Brugge

Professionals’ jury, best feature film: „An Angel for May“ by Harley Cokeliss, UK 2002
Children’s jury, Prize of Tolerance of the Flemish Community: „Tinke - Little Big Girl“ by Morten Koehlert, DK 2002
Children’s jury, best short film: „Cats“ by Dace Riduze, Latvia 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@skynet.be
Internet: www.kidfilm.be

BUFF - International Children & Young People’s Film-Festival, Malmö/Sweden,
The City of Malmö’s Children and Young People’s Film Award: „Elina - As if I wasn’t there“ by Klaus Haró, Sweden, Finland 2002
Contact: BUFF - Internat. Children & Young People’s Film-Festival Lennart Ström, P.O. Box 179 S-20101 Malmö
Phone: +46-40-30 91 64
Fax: +46-40-30 322
E-Mail: info@buff.nu
Internet: www.buff.nu

Leeds Children’s Film Festival, Leeds/UK
Audience award: „Mujhse Dosti Karoge“ by Kunal Kohli, India 2002;
Contact: Leeds Children’s Film Festival Debbie Maturi The Town Hall/The Headrow GB - Leeds LS1 1AD
Phone: +44-113-247 8398
Fax: +44-113-247 8494
E-Mail: debbie.maturi@leeds.gov.uk
Internet: www.leedsfilm-cyp.com

Festival International du Cinema Jeune Public, Laon/France
Professional’s jury: Grand Prix to „One-Way-Ticket to Mombasa“ by Hannu Tuomainen, Finland 2002
Special Mention to „Momo“ by Enzo d’Alo, Italy/Germany 2001
Young People’s Jury: „One-Way-Ticket to Mombasa“, Special Mention: „Elina - As if I wasn’t there“ and „Momo“
Audience’s Award & CIFEJ Prize: „Tinke - Little Big Girl“
Contact: Festival International du Cinema Jeune Public

Letter from ECFA’s President Mia Lindrup:
See you at Bologna and Oslo this Year!

This year ECFA is involved in interesting cross border projects underlining our aims to focus on young people and their relationship to film and media, and to promote quality cinema for children.

We’re now approaching the 3rd edition of Kids for kids festival, a festival focusing on young filmmakers. It will take place in Bologna in Italy in June. In co-operation with CIFEJ and on behalf of ECTC (European Children’s Television Centre) in Greece ECFA has promoted and collected more than three hundred films made by children from all over the world. The European pre-selection jury met in Lillehammer, Norway, during the Amanda Film Festival in April. A good selection of the participating films were screened as part of the festival programme, and they were really appreciated by a young and enthusiastic Norwegian audience.

The jury selected 40 films from Europe that will be screened in Bologna during AGORA 2003.

Another important ECFA-event is this year’s edition of KIDSCREEN, the conference „Audiovisual Stories of a Digital Age“ that takes place in Oslo in October. The conference is being organized by The Norwegian Film Institute in co-operation with ECFA and ICM. Here film and media workers within different disciplines from all the continents will meet for professional updating and exchange of ideas, including a trip to the Olympic city of Lillehammer hosting among others the national film school.

The programme for the conference is taking shape. The first day of the conference has been given the title „Media, Reality and Democracy“. Three nordic authorities on the subject will take us into the complexities of our daily work as media professionals. They will present their views on how media shapes its experts, the stimulations youth get from watching reality shows and how the identities of young people in the digital age is being created through their expressive use of media.

Filmmakers working with films for and about children will present their views on film culture, and there will be lectures about new research within media education.

The second day of the conference will focus on „Digital Stories“ and how the developments within digital technology give life to new forms of working with film and media in education, new forms of story telling in movies and computer games. Research into how young people interact in and with the new media reality in the digital age will also be presented.

In addition to this, there will be ICEM Me-

Mia Lindrup, President of ECFA
Films on the Horizon

The Beast of Beauty
Feature Film, Norway 2003
Director: Hilde Heier
Production: Paradox Produkjon AS
Release: August 2003
World Sales: Paradox Produkjon AS
Fossveien 24A
NO-5511 Oslo
phone: +47-22-80 95 20
fax: +47-22-80 95 21
E-mail: firmapost@paradox.no
Internet: www.paradox.no

Capricciosa
Feature Film, Sweden 2002
Director: Reza Bagher
Production: Sweep Film o TV HB
Release: August 2003
World Sales: Triangelfilm
Stortorget 29
S-2134 Malmö
phone: +46-40-176550
fax: +46-40-129099
E-mail: info@triangelfilm.se
Internet: www.triangelfilm.se

Jester Till
D-14482 Potsdam
phone: ++49-331-400 00 50
fax: ++49-331-400 00 53
E-mail: antaeus-film@t-online.de

Hop
Feature Film, Belgium 2002
Director: Dominique Standaert
Production: Executive Productions, Signature Films, Sokan
Already released
World Sales: Signature Films
Michel Houdmont
Maria-Hendrikstraat 3
B-1050 Brussels
phone: ++32-2-502 55 52
fax: ++32-2-511 70 23
E-mail: signature.films@skynet.be

Malunde
Feature Film, Germany/ South Africa 2001
Director: Stefanie Syhoff
Production: Traumwerk Filmproduktion, Munich
Already released
World Sales: Promark Entertainment
3599 Cahuenga Blvd. West
USA-90068 Los Angeles
phone: ++1-323-87 80 404
fax: ++1-323-87 80 686
E-mail: sales@promarkgroup.com
Internet: www.promarkgroup.com

The Devil Knows Why
Feature Film, Fairytale, Czech Republic 2002
Director: Roman Vavra
Production: Dinamo Story AS
Release: Autumn 2003
World Sales: AB Svensk Filmindustri
A-Gatan 14
S-16986 Stockholm
phone: +46-8-680 35 00
fax: +46-8-710 44 22
E-mail: sfsales@sfs.se
Internet: www.sfsales.se

Forthcoming Festivals
International Film Festival for Children and Youth Zlin/Czech Republic, May 25th to 31st 2003
Contact: Ateliéry Bonton Zlin, a.s.
St. Marcin Street 80/82
400 01 Zlín
CZ-76179 Zlín
Phone: ++420-57-7592300
Fax: ++420-57-7592442
E-mail: festival@ateliery.cz
Internet: www.zlinfest.cz

International Young Audience Film Festival "Ale Kinol", Poznan/Poland
June 1st to 7th 2003
Contact: National Center of Art for Children and Young People
St. Marcin Street 80/82
PL-61809 Poznan
Phone: ++48-61-645 52 61
Fax: ++48-61-635 18 80
E-mail: alekino@sylla.pl
Internet: www.alekino.sylabapl
The complete Programme:

**AGORA 2003: Mediterranean Summit on Media for Children**

**Thursday, June 19th: Arrival Day**

**Friday, June 20th:**
- **Youth Media: Mediterranean Networks of Collaboration**
  - 09:30 - 12:30
- **Image Education:**
  - 14:00 - 16:30
- **TV and Film Rights Centre**
  - Bologna Children’s BookFair.

**Saturday, June 21st:**
- **Children’s Programming in Europe and in the Mediterranean**
  - 09:30 - 12:30
  - TV just for kids
  - The European and Mediterranean Children’s Channels Market and latest trends. Co-ordinated by RaiSat Ragazzi, Italy.
- **Focus on:**
  - 14:00 - 15:00: Spanish production:
  - Case study on a cross media project for children. TV3 Cataluna and OETI, Spain

**Sunday, June 22nd:**
- **Opportunities in the European and Mediterranean Market:**
  - 09:30 - 12:30
  - Interactive TV Interactive Media Industry for children in Europe and in the Mediterranean. Co-ordinated by BBC, UK.
  - **Journalists and Children**
    - How journalists talk about children in the daily news. Co-ordinated by ODG, Italy.
  - **Pitch it! Co-production opportunities**
    - Presentation of co-production projects to improve the Mediterranean media industry.
  - Where to develop a market on Interactive media. Presentation and factibility discussion on Interactive media projects for the Mediterranean Landscape. RITSEC, Egypt.

**Monday, June 23rd:**
- **Media for Children and Quality standards**
  - 09.30 – 12.30
  - **14.00 - 16.30**
  - Quality standards: international comparison. Quality standards according to a worldwide children’s programming overview. Rai, Italy

**Information and Participation:**
- **AGORA 2003** will take place in Bologna, Palazzo Re Enzo.
- Participation fee: 50 Euros per day or 200 Euros for all days, including meals, services, materials.

**Contact:**
- Ente Autonomo Festival Internazionale del Cinema per l’Ragazzi e per la Gioventù
- Piazza Umberto 1
- 1-8005 Giffoni Valle Piana,
The Selected Films:

Category Animation 6 – 12:
- SOS (Austria/Slovenia)
- The Case’s Secret (Mexico)
- Neighbors (Mexico)
- Polar Friendship (Mexico)
- Seesaw (Serbia & Montenegro)
- The Big Wash (Russia)
- Film in Africa (Sweden)
- Molly Bannaky (USA)

Category Animation, 13 – 16 years old:
- Big Persons, Small Persons: Patience & The Row (both Argentina)
- William Tel (Canada)
- Dino and Bob (England)
- Lucky Dog (France)
- Workshop (Poland)
- Fire is Dangerous (Russia)
- Is There Life on Mars? (Russia)
- Skunks, Punks & Battlin’ Bagpipes (Scotland)
- Chaos / Wheel (Serbia & Montenegro)
- The Egg (USA)
- Game (USA)

Category Live Action 6 – 12:
- Getting to Know Charlie (Canada)
- Le Pari (France)
- The Ghost Apparition (Mexico)
- Friends (Spain)

Category Documentary 6 – 12:
- Childhood in the Midst of Mines (Lebanon)
- Our Streets, My Home (Philippines)
- It and Education (South Africa)
- First Love (Israel)
- Get the Message – Understand (Sweden)

Category Documentary 13 – 16:
- Imports: Warning, Do Not Wear (Australia)
- The Soul Owner (Scotland)
- Ecran, je serai grand (France)
- Who Am I? (India)
- The Cage (Iran)
- Little Norway (Norway)
- Kamosatula (Portugal)
- Homeward Bound (Scotland)
- Dad (Austria / Slovenia)
- Memory Has A Price (Spain)

Category Live Action 13 – 16:
- Bom dia Bahia (Denmark)
- First Love (Israel)
- Get the Message – Understand (Sweden)
- Memory about a tree (Armenia)

Thoughts while viewing the Kids for Kids Festival’s entries:

„For me, it is very important that the youngest children have some fun in making films and also that they discover film making as a normal medium in which they can have a say. Amongst the participants, I found many films that are really the work of young individuals. For example there was a Norwegian girl who has never attended a film class or workshop, but she sent us a film, completely made by herself, as the most individual expression of the stories that she wants to tell us. I have the greatest respect for this child, as she presented a most beautiful documentary about her grandmother. And I have seen other films made by individuals, without the support of grown-ups, with less successful results, but at this point I don’t know if results still matter, because these children truly discovered film making as a way to tell their thoughts and stories. Film cameras are more and more available and a lot of technical barriers are about to be erased by all this new technical equipment. So there are less and less reasons that can hold back children from presenting their ideas in a film.”

Gert Hermans, ECFA’s Project Manager Kids for Kids Festival
ECFA in Persons:
Jerzy Moszkowicz, Poznan/Poland

Jerzy Moszkowicz, theatre director, TV-script writer and director, art manager and educator by profession, lives and works in Poznań, Poland.

In ECFA Jerzy Moszkowicz represents the International Young Audience Film Festival Ale Kino!, organised by Children’s Art Centre and Poznań Film Foundation. Moszkowicz is the director of the Festival and since 1991 - of the Children’s Art Centre.

Jerzy Moszkowicz has many years of experience with international organisations. Among others from 1982 - 1986 he was board member of the European Arts Organisation for Children and Young people and from 1996 - 2002 he was President of CIFEJ, the International Centre of Films for Children and Young People. In February 2003 Jerzy Moszkowicz was elected to the board of ECFA.

The main reason why Moszkowicz and the Festival Ale Kino! became a member of ECFA is the opportunity to be present on its platform in order to exchange information, expertise and experience: by participating in the meetings and by access to ECFA’s informative materials. The networking provided by ECFA seems to be important for the festival as well as his professional activities. Moszkowicz also points out, that in ECFA he has met many people who have become real friends.

As a director of a film festival for children and young people Moszkowicz wants to make the audience of his region familiar with the valuable films, to which they do not have access every day. He believes that good films can make people better, and that it is very important for the young audience to watch various movies from different countries and cultures, about different stories based on common human issues.

Moszkowicz regards international networks like ECFA very helpful in reaching these goals: by providing information about films and by facilitating the personal contact between the people working in this field.

Among ECFA’s activities his favourites are the new Kids for Kids Festival and ECFA Journal. (Thanks for the flowers, the ed.).

That among the activities of ECFA Jerzy Moszkowicz would like to strengthen, are the meetings on particular issues. Due to financial and personal limitations ECFA can only organize a few conferences like Kid'Screen or co-operate with AGORA. But Moszkowicz is an idealist by nature and profession, so he goes for more: „Maybe the festivals can create some space for this kind of events, I will probably present a project of this kind to ECFA in future.”

Kid’Screen 2003, Oslo, Oct. 4th - 9th: Call for Papers - Reminder

The deadline for proposals to the ICEM/ECFA Conference Audio Visual Stories of a Digital Age has been extended until May 30th. We have already received a number of interesting proposals, like „Stories from Cyberspace. What did we learn from online education?” and „Understanding Cultural Agency and Political Resistance out of Context: an ethnographic video project of North African and Turkish youths living in Amsterdam”, but there is space and time for more presentations at our conference. We are certain that there are projects and knowledge about the developments in media and media education around the world that will find an audience in Oslo October 2003. We are especially seeking papers about how children and young people use media in different ways.

For more information, see www.nfi.no/conference/call_for_papers.html

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ECFA-journal is published and distributed both on paper and as pdf-file in 500 copies and reaches almost everybody involved in the production, distribution, broadcasting and exhibition of films for children in Europe. It is an effective publication to inform the scene of your new production, sales offers, festival dates or distribution programme.

Prices: full page (267 x 180 mm): 200 Euros 25 % reduction for ECFA-members! half page (133 x 180 mm): 120 Euros column (267 x 53 mm): 70 Euros Special formats on request. If artwork is necessary it will be charged extra.

For more details and for advertising on ECFA’s website please contact the editor.