Canada was the first State to sign the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, adopted by UNESCO member countries in Paris, on October 20th. “This is a great day for the cultural community,” said Minister of Canadian Heritage and Minister responsible for Status of Women Liza Frulla. “With this Convention in place, the international community will be able to take full advantage of the treasure of our diverse cultures and identities for generations to come.”

This successful outcome is the fruit of Canada’s international leadership and the productive partnerships it has built over the years with countries in the International Network on Cultural Policy, the Francophonie, and the Organization of American States. The International Network on Cultural Policy was created during a meeting of American States. The International Network on Cultural Policy was created during a meeting of 20 Ministers of Culture, in Ottawa in 1998. Canada is grateful for the hard work of its partner countries that have been advocating the need for this Convention.

Canada’s rich diversity, its two official languages, and its Aboriginal heritage, which are key to the country’s common identity, have nurtured numerous and varied cultural expressions that give meaning to what it means to be Canadian. “This is why Canada will move quickly to ratify the Convention and will continue to play a leadership role to ensure that the Convention is ratified by the largest possible number of UNESCO Member States as soon as possible,” concluded the Minister. It will need to convince 29 other States to follow its example.

The Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions recognizes that books, music and films are not goods like others. It recognizes the dual nature of cultural goods and services, which have both an economic and social value. States have the right to take measures to protect their culture and their diversity, and to fight against uniformity and standardization resulting from globalization. The Convention, which emphasizes this right, will be on an equal footing with other international treaties.

Story continued on page 2

MARKO STOYCHEV PASSED AWAY

JANUARY 20TH

I was very sad to read about the departure of our colleague and friend Marko.

He was Vice-President of CIFEJ in the 80’s and was still an Honorary Member of our International Organization at the moment of his death.

I had many occasions to meet him in General Assemblies in China, India, Poland...and Marko had many friends who will be sad to read that he passed away.

My last contact with him was writing a book about the history of CIFEJ in 2005. Marko accepted promptly to write a few pages of memories and tell the story of the General Assembly, which took place in Sofia in 1988. As a professional writer he convinced us of his great sense of humor.

Farewell Marko. You have served CIFEJ, children and young people with love and competence.

To his family and friends, I offer my deepest sympathy.

Robert Roy
Ex-Secretary General of CIFEJ

CHILDREN GET THE SPOTLIGHT AT SITHENGI 2005!

The Sithengi Film & TV Market in partnership with the Children and Broadcasting Foundation for Africa (CBFA) presented, for the fourth year, a special Children’s Festival that focused on active production of media for, by and with children. This year the children also participated in Kids For Kids Festival and learned how to produce their own one-minute film.

About 150 children - from all South Africa’s nine provinces with an emphasis on children from the Western Cape - attended the CBFA-Sithengi Children’s Festival. They were offered a series of film and media-related workshops that included Animation, TV Production, Radio Production and Arts and Culture Workshops. The objective of the programme was to encourage the participation of children in the production of both television and radio programmes across a wide range of genres such as drama, comedy, animation and magazine programmes.

Story continued on page 2

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Editor: Jo-Anne Blouin
Collaborators: Jo-Anne Blouin, Alejandro Malowicki, Robert Roy, Louise Hallé
Traduction : Louise Hallé
ALSO AVAILABLE IN FRENCH

A CIFEJ (International Centre of Film for Children and Youth) publication
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"
**NEWS FROM ARGENTINA: DISTRIBUTION QUOTAS**

INCAA’s decision to impose quotas on cinemas for the distribution of national productions throughout Argentina has contributed, as one would expect, to an increase in the local production of films for children. For the first time in many years, at least 3 feature films, Patoruzito 2, El raton Perez and Las ventured of Nahuel, will be launched between Christmas holidays and next summer. If before 2004, one could hardly imagine small spectators from Argentina enjoying local films, it is now a reality. Quotas are not perfect, but they were enough to motivate three producers to list Argentinean films on circuits or territories normally reserved for American films and to let them compete. These distributors are certainly aware when Argentinean films for children have access to local screens, they remain in circulation for a long time and become box office successes. Statistics have shown that films like Ico, Manuelita, Pinocho and Patoruzito were the favorite films of their generation and remained popular for years.

As a major contributor to our childhood identity, the film industry shapes our future. As long as competition is not on an equal footing and endangers the very survival of such a friendly and flowering industry, State support, in terms of production credits and guaranteed access to the commercial circuits, remains essential.

In view of this, it would be interesting to see what would happen if such quotas were imposed in the Argentinean television industry?

Experiments such as Algo habràn hecho, a program on Argentinean history that became one of the most popular of its time slot, show that given a choice Argentinean viewers prefer programs with challenging themes that reflect their identity, daring programs that use imagination and creativity. We believe so, but to produce such programs, we need creative business leaders, imaginative and eager to honor their profession by taking risks! In the future, we need more viewers eager to see national productions and, for that reason, it is essential to have as of now programming which prepares children by offering a diversity of visions, and to invest in a true national television industry. Taking children in consideration should be a priority, and a law should be established to reflect their audiovisual interests, particularly with regards to television, and that takes into account the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Children. This law would allow the State, ONGs, television channels and producers to join together to support rich, imaginative and diversified productions scheduled at appropriate time slot for young viewers.

As for distribution quotas for television, it belongs to the State to impose them. It will be necessary for current procesista law concerning broadcasting to be cancelled and for a new law to be developed showing political willingness and a spirit of sovereignty.

Alejandro Malowicki,
Editorial from Saviaa.org, Number 0022, Year 01, December 2005

**CANADA SIGNS THE CONVENTION ...**

Underlining the Canadian government’s commitment towards the cultural sector, the Minister of Canadian Heritage Liza Frulla took this opportunity to announce that the budget for the Canada Council for the Arts would be doubled over the next three years. A partnership agreement between Canadian Heritage and the Canada Council for the Arts will also lead to increased diversity in the arts sector. The InterActions Fund partnership agreement will enable professional artists and arts organizations from diverse cultural communities to increase their access to the Canada Council’s programs and enhance their artistic development.

**CHILDREN GET THE SPOTLIGHT AT SITHENG I 2005! ...**

Trinity College – Dublin held an interesting workshop on digital narratives, using mobile phones to produce of short films. Clifford Cohen of AnimAction, (Hollywood, USA) and Nyanga Tshabalala of The Box (South Africa) facilitated the Animation workshops.

Firdoze Bulbulia, Chairperson, CBFA, and producer of the Fifth World Summit, adds that “to encourage kids to produce television and radio programmes, the SABC, in partnership with the CBFA, hosted a pitching session with children. A select group of kids were invited to write a short treatment of a story that they would like to see on television. The treatment could be any genre (ie. Drama, comedy, animation, magazine, etc.) The aims was that children should be able to present their idea in three minutes to a panel of judges who would decide on the best pitch. Judges comprised representatives from UNICEF, SABC, Independent Communications Authority of SA (ICASA), pay TV channel M-Net, free-to-air channel e.tv and African broadcasters from Nigeria, Kenya, and Egypt.”

The children also conducted their own International Think Tank (ITT), in order to facilitate discussions and presentations for setting the agenda for the 5th World Summit on Media and Children. The Summit will be hosted by the CBFA in Johannesburg in March 2007 –the first time ever in South Africa.

Excerpt from Screen Africa vol. 17 Nov./Dec. 2005
Prizes & Awards for the following festivals are now available on the CIFEJ Web Site www.cifej.com

OLYMPIA
December 3 to 10, 2005

September 9 to 13 2005
October 27 to November 2, 2005
November 14 to 20, 2005

November 12 to 20, 2005

October 23 to 30, 2005
October 27 to November 6, 2005
November 14 to 20, 2005

November 19 to 26, 2005

Production Guide
Producers, distributors, and broadcasters are invited to send information on their current and recent productions for publication in this guide to CIFEJ secretariat.

Information should be in the format shown here:

**TITLE:** (The * indicates a literal, not commercial translation)
**Director** (If more than three directors, use Various)
**Production company** (Contact person)
**Fax number**
**Year of production / Release Format of production / Length (in minutes) / Genre / Target audience**
**World sales agent (WS), Contact person for world sales, Fax number**
**Synopsis**

**PRIZES & AWARDS**

**CANADA**

**Vitamine et Friandises**
Candies and Vitamins*
Sandie Valiquette
2005
16 mm /32 min. /Fiction/All ages
WS: Sandie Valiquette
Phone: + 1 450 585 0199
turbolala@hotmail.com
www.friandises.ca

In a small Community Village, the peaceful and idyllic life of young Charlie and his friends is disturbed by the arrival of a new mayor, coming from Big Town, who intends to exploit the natural resources of the area and impose a social reform going against local values. A whimsical and humanistic tale, filled with love and music, for children and adults of all ages.

**Le père de Gracile**
Gracile’s father *
Lucie Lambert
Les Films du Tricycle
2005
35 mm /80 min. /Documentary/Teens
WS: Les Films du Tricycle
Phone: + 1 514 382 6059
tricycle@arobas.net

Gracile’s quest in search of her father takes her through Northern Quebec. She encounters wolves, trees, rocks, and men whose sometimes-tragic fate is linked with the territory. Her paths leads to gaping wounds – devastated forests, mine pits, an industrial zone in ruins. Throughout her adventure, Gracile is accompanied by thoughts of her mother and of an Innu grandmother whose voice fuels her dreams.

**OLYMPIA**

**DANEMARK**

**Far til Fire**
Father of four
Claus Bjerre
2005
35 mm /90 min./Fiction/10+
WS: ASA Film Production
Fax: +45 3961 9481
asa@film.dk
www.asafilm.dk

A father of four is fired because he doesn’t match the new corporate profile, Søs becomes a model, Ole struggles to get a band together, Mie organizes a big talent show at school and Per attempts to solve the family’s problems in his own special way.

**November 14 to 20, 2005**
Kisses
Kaspar Munk
No Sun Productions
2005
35 mm/10 min./Fiction/7+
WS: No Sun Productions
Fax: + 45 32598440
info@nosunproductions.com
On a very special day 13-year-old Line is surrounded by kisses, but all have a very different meaning.

Pip og Papagoje
Pip and the Parrot
Natasha Arthy
Frontier Media A/S
2005
Digital Beta/3X 24 min./Fiction/5+
WS: Danish Broadcasting Corporation
Fax: + 45 3520 3969
dsales@dr.dk
www.dr.dk
Tobias is crazy about birds. He wants a parrot, but his mum won’t allow any mess in the apartment. Tobias saves a sparrow who turns out to be a blind fairy and who in return promises to fulfill one of his wishes.

FRANCE

Kirkou et les bêtes sauvages
Kirkou and the Wild Beasts
Michel Oselot
2005
35 mm/75 min./Animation/All ages
WS: Celluloid Dreams
Fax: + 33 49 70 03 71
info@celluloid-dreams.com
www.celluloid-dreams.com
www.kirkou-lefilm.com
Grandfather, sitting in his blue cave, tells us how inventive Kirkou became gardener, detective, potter, merchant, traveler and doctor, always the smallest and most valiant of heroes.

La Femme seule
A woman Alone *
Brahim Frigia
Les Films sauvages
2005
35 mm/23 min./Documentary/Teens
WS: Les Films sauvages
Fax: +33 (0) 1 53 31 19 47
www.filmssauvages.com
Akosse Legba, a young woman from Togo, is kept as a slave in modern day France.

FRANCE / GREECE

To Oveipo tou Ikapou
Ikaro’s Dream
Costa Natsis
Love Dreams Productions
2005
35 mm/88 min./Fiction/Teens
WS: Love Dreams Productions
Phone: +33 1 53 38 43 45
Elias, a solitary young boy, lives in Epirus, a mountainous region in northern Greece with breathtaking landscapes, ancient traditions and, especially, haunting music. Despite the opposition of his mother Elias dreams of becoming a musician. Between dream and reality, and in spite of his domestic situation, Elias remains determined to realize his childhood ambition.

GERMANY

Die Hülle des iGelben Hundes
The Cave of The Yellow Dog
Byambasuren Davaa
2005
35 mm/93 min./Fiction/10+
WS: ARB Selection
Fax: +33 1 45 63 83 37
www.arbselection.com
Spirited Nansal returns from school to the Mongolian prairie where her family lives. She tends sheep alone, collects dried dung and takes care of the younger children. One day Nansal finds a dog in a cave and becomes attached to it. Her father tells her to take the dog away, but Nasal hides it among the sheep.

INDIA

Children of Nomads
Meenaskshi & Vinay Ray
2005
35 mm/9 min./Documentary/7+
WS: Rai Entertainment
Fax: +35 756908 26488898
raientertainment@yahoo.com
The discovery of the difficult living conditions of nomadic children, and the contrast to her own lifestyle gives 6 years old Shruti a mission in life. She discovers a simple solution to bring cheer and smiles to the faces of deprived children. A film that generates value and respect for life.

Eurasian TV & Film
Kavita Kana
2005
Indian English
WS: Asian University
Fax: +91 11 4763 6432/432
eurosian@asianuni.org
A man and his very young son have been on the run for a long time. When they reach their destination, they realize they are still in trouble. For his son’s future, the father has to choose between two evils.

NORWAY

Bawke
Hisham Zaman
2005
35 mm/15 min./Fiction/Teens
WS: Norwegian Film institute (Toril Simonsen)
Fax: +47 22 47 45 97
torils@nfi.no
A man and his very young son have been on the run for a long time. When they reach their destination, they realize they are still in trouble. For his son’s future, the father has to choose between two evils.

PORTUGAL

Quando a Terra Tremer...
When the Earth Shakes...
Pascal Scrivani
2005
Digital Beta/8 min./Animation/7+
WS: Pascal Scrivani
Fax: +35 121342 1258
pascal.scrivani@tungsten.pt
Tinoni & Co. go on an adventure finding all about earthquakes.
**SOUTH KOREA**

**Ahnnyeong Hyeong-An**
Little brother
Im Tai-Hyung
2005
35 mm/95 min. /Fiction/7 +
WS: MK pictures
marykoon@mkpictures.co.kr

Nine-year-old Hani is a terrible troublemaker. His schoolmates are all his underlings. Even family members are subject to his whims, especially his older brother Han-byul. When Han-byul is hospitalized with cancer, Hani must grow up and help his family deal with their pain.

**Welcome to Dongmakgol**
Park Kwang-hyun
2005
35 mm/133 min./Fiction/10 +
WS: Showbox / Mediaplex Inc.
agnes_lee@showbox.co.kr

During the Korean War, a platoon of North Korean soldiers are attacked. Only Commander Lee, Private Jang and kid soldier Taek Ki survive the carnage. After meeting a beautiful young girl named Yeo Il, the soldiers follow her back to her village, an Eden-like place known as Dongmakgol.

**THE NETHERLANDS**

**8.1**
Oerd van Cuijenborg
2005
35 mm/14 min. /Animation/All ages
WS: Arena Films
Fax: T +31 765219324
info@arenafilms.nl

An abstract animated adventure into the music of Franz Schubert. What do you see when you listen to music with your eyes closed?

**Handig**
Hand Made
Martijn Schroevers
2005
Digital Beta /7 X 7 min. /Fiction/6+
WS: Martijn Schroevers
Fax: + 030 2718446
martijn@schroevers.nl

A series of wordless stories situated in the world of animals and in which human hands perform all characters. They play, hunt, give birth, quarrel, make noise and grow old, but in the end all comes well.

**Het Schnitzelparadijs**
Schnitzel Paradise
Martin Koolhoven
2005
35 mm/90 min./Fiction/Teens
WS: Lemming Film
Fax: +31 20 6610979
info@lemmingfilm.com
www.lemingfilm.com
www.schnitzelparadijs.nl/

A modern fairy tale about the love between a Moroccan kitchen help and a wealthy Dutch girl

**Rabbit**
Peter Zeveld & Dick Hauser
VPRO Television
2005
DigiVideo/20 X 5 min. /Animation/3 - 5
WS: NPB Sales
Fax: +31 0 35 677 53 18
npbsales@omroep.nl
www.npbsales.com

Rabbit lives in a house and drives a car. He always remains optimistic and finds a creative solution to all problems.

**Kennis voor het leven**
Knowledge for life
Sander Francken
2005
35 mm/29 min. /Fiction/All ages
WS: NPB Sales
Phone : + 31 35 677 3561
npbsales@omroep.nl
www.npbsales.com

A tale inspired by West African traditional oral storytelling. A Marabout asks his pupil: What is the biggest part of all knowledge? The young man sets off to find an answer and consults amongst others a blacksmith, a fisherman and his first love. Since no one knows, he returns to his master and admits that his ignorance: that turns out to be the answer.

**U.S.A.**

**Bullets in the Hood:**
A Bed-Stuy Story
Terrence Fisher & Daniel Howard
DCTV
Digital Beta
2005/29 min. /Documentary/Teens
WS: DCTV (dctvny.org)
Fax: +212 966 4510

Terrence Fisher lives in a housing project in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn. He is just a normal teenager who likes playing hip-hop music with his friends. Seven of his friends have been shot and killed by guns. Terrence and a fellow teen Daniel Howard used a camera to tell the story of gun violence in Bed-Stuy.

**U.S.A. / FRANCE**

**Pee Stains and Other Disasters**
Jon Carnoy
Blue Rat Productions
2005
DigiVide/100 min./Fiction/Teens
WS: Blue rat Productions
Fax: T + 310 828 9499
mikehorelick@yahoo.com

The coming of age story of best friends Ben and Thomas whose lives are based on two things: skateboarding and girls. But suddenly things change. Thomas discovers his father at a gay bar and Ben gains first experience with an Au Pair-Girl. While working their way through this confusing maze, their friendship is tested in ways they never expected.

**READER’S CORNER**

**I wish I were a Bird**
Photo-voices publication of Palestinian refugee children living in Shatilla and Borj Al-Barajneh camps in Lebanon. For more information, please see Al_Jana website: http://www.al-jana.com/jana/productions/books.htm
UPDATE YOUR WHO'S WHO

Canada
Venay Felton of Reel 2 Real International Film Festival for Youth in Vancouver has a new e-mail address: venay@shaw.ca

NEW MEMBERS

BELGIUM
Pieter Boeckx, Artistic Director
European Youth Film Festival of Flanders
Bisschopstraat 67
B-2060 Antwerp
Belgium

Pieter Boeckx is the artistic director of European Youth Film Festival of Flanders. After completing film school in Brussels, Pieter worked as a casting director. Then in 2001, he joined the European Youth Film Festival of Flanders. He is member of the board of the Flemish Centre for Children's and Youth Film. In February 2005 he was elected board member for ECFA (European Children's Film Association). Pieter is currently preparing the 18th edition of the European Youth Film Festival of Flanders that will take place in February of 2006 in Antwerp and Bruges.

CANADA
FRV Media International
Contact: Ms Xiaojuan Zhou,
Vice-president, Distribution
225 Roy Street East, Suite 200
Montréal, Québec
Canada H2W 1M5

Founded in 2003, FRV Media International acquires films and TV productions for worldwide distribution. It specialized in international distribution of high quality films, with a particular focus on family films. It currently handles worldwide distribution of well-known family films produced by Bos Bros (Holland), Production La Fête (Canada), Extrafilms (Austria) and Shanghai Animation Film Studio (China) among others.

TAIWAN
Taiwan International Children's TV & Film Festival
Contact: Hsiao-Pei Chen
5 Fl No. 50, Lane 75, Kang-Ning Road, Sec. 3,
Taipei, Taiwan
114 85 R.O.C.

The Second edition of Taiwan International Children's TV & Film Festival (TICTFF), under the patronage of the Government Information Office Taiwan ROC, is organized by the Public Television Service to provide a view of interesting, original and diverse cultures of the Taiwan community. Held from January 13 to 17, this biennial event had a juried international competition and presented wide selections to Taiwanese Children. Welcome to share a beautiful memory of childhood with children around the world.

APPLICATION FOR CIFEJ MEMBERSHIP

Name of Organization: _____________________________

Name of Contact Person: __________________________

Address: ________________________________________

Tel: __________________ Fax: _______________________

E-mail: __________________ Web: __________________

Organizations: please enclose a copy of statutes or incorporation paper, a list of board members and documentation on activities in audiovisual media for children.

Individuals: please enclose a résumé or cv and documentation on your activities in audiovisual media for children.

CIFEJ Info – Number 129 – January/February 2006

ARGENTINA
Association NUEVA MIRADA calls for entry for the First NUEVA MIRADA Scriptwriting Contest for Short Films for Children. This year's edition will focus on short documentary and fiction films on the theme of the Culture of peace. The contest is open to young people, students, professionals or amateurs from Argentina, and foreigners with a minimum of five years of residence in the country. Film duration should not exceed 15 minutes, including titles and other credits. Winners will be announced in April 2006. The films will be included in the 2006 edition of the International Film Festival for Children and Youth in Buenos Aires.

Deadline for entry: March 1, 2006
For more information: www.nuevamirada.com
E-mail: asociacion@nuevamirada.com

CANADA
The Media Awareness Network launches its Prix d'excellence 2006 to underline the most remarkable achievements of the last two years for French language television programs for youth in Canada. The contest is opened to all the Canadian productions for youth broadcasted in its original French version, in Canada, between January 1, 2004 and December 31, 2005. Deadline for entry: March 3, 2006.

DENMARK
Signe Zeilich-Jensen is leaving Cinekid, where she has worked as Film Programmer and Project Manager for Cinekid International for the last seven years, to become Sales Manager Northern Europe for SDI Media. Mrs. Monique Ruinen will take over as head of Cinekid International.
We wish the best of luck to Signe and Monique in their new endeavors.

LUXEMBOURG
L'envers de l'image, Luxembourg television short film magazine hosted by Andy Jetzen, launches a special festival section: Rubrique Festival. To promote your festival or for call for entries, send the information along with a poster or photograph of your festival. The program is broadcasted Wednesdays at 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. on TTV. For further information, TTV's Web site: www.ttv.lu

CATEGORIES OF MEMBERS
For the purpose of paying dues, we should be considered as follows (circle one):

- International organization $300
- Production & Distribution company $400
- Specialized group (educational, cultural, film institutes) $300
- Festival (budget 100,000US$ or more) $400
- Festival (budget 100,000US$ or less) $250
- Major corporation (TV network, Specialty channel) $1200

If you don't belong to one of these categories:
Individual membership $175

You will receive an invoice from CIFEJ upon approval of your application.