

UNESCO CENTER FOR WOMEN AND PEACE IN THE BALKAN COUNTRIES
HELLENIC NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO
ASSOCIATION OF INTERBALKAN WOMEN'S COOPERATION SOCIETIES

Call for Participation in the Third Festival :

*"Woman Creators of the Two
Seas,
the Mediterranean and the Black
Sea"*

Thessaloniki, 2-11 June, 2006

Call for Participation

UNESCO Center for Women and Peace in the Balkan Countries organizes alongside with the Hellenic National Commission for UNESCO and the Association of Interbalkan Women's Cooperation Societies the Third International Festival of Women Creators of the Two Seas - the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, which will be held in Thessaloniki, on June 2-11, 2006, under the high patronage of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture .

This unique event aims at presenting the cultural identity of the participating countries, their traditional art, in all forms of expression. Another important target is the promotion of communication among woman artists, through a large debate on the position of women in cultural activities in contemporary societies.

The organizers hope to initiate a sustained dialogue on the issues of cultural diversity, on the solidarity and the respect for all creators in the area, on the need for increased action for the preservation of our traditional inheritance.

The program of the Festival hosts a variety of events in the following fields of creation: architecture, fine arts, theater, music, dance, literature, cinema and photography.

The events are open to participants from the following 30 countries : Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Georgia, Greece, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Palestine, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine.

The Organizing Committee invites women creators to participate in cultural events, happenings and performances. Proposals for participation should be submitted, before December 30, 2005, to :

UNESCO Center for Women and Peace in the Balkan Countries
30, Ploutonos - G. Papandreou St., 546 55 Thessaloniki
Phone - / 30 2310 / 422 270 & 423152; Fax - / 30 2310 / 422 271
E-mail : unesccenter@the.forthnet.gr

All applications will be answered in writing, within the specified deadlines. The projects and the artists selected for participation will be notified in writing and will be extended official invitation letters.

The organizers

- offer hospitality in Thessaloniki for the period mentioned in the invitation letter
- cover the expenses incurred by the public presentation of the work / performance
- finance and actually undertake advertising in Thessaloniki

Please note that the materials accompanying the applications for participation will not be returned

Fine Arts

The program of the Festival includes :

- an *exhibition of works on the theme "Woman and Tradition"*,
- a *Round Table discussion on contemporary traditional artistic production of women in the countries of the area, inspired from traditions*
- a *Seminar on "Strategies and technologies of preservation - two priorities for the new millennium in the field of traditional art"*,
- *the meeting of the founders of the Network of Woman Fine Artists of the Two Seas.*

Participation prerequisites :

- *the participants* : all women artists in the concerned countries who have participated in international / regional exhibitions, or whose works are on permanent display in museums;
- *the works* : paintings, sculptures and miniatures. Each artist will be invited to exhibit 1 - 2 works;

The process of selection :

- because of limited space, preference will be given to works addressing the aims and spirit of the festival

The applications :

- the proposals, including a letter of interest, a CV, the colored slides of the proposed works and the technical details (technique, material, dimensions), should reach UNESCO Center for Women and Peace in the Balkan Countries not later than December 30, 2005.
- selected applicants will be notified in writing, before March 30, 2006, and will be extended official invitation letters.

Financial support from the organizers : the organizers will :

- offer hospitality (hotel accommodation and meals) for the duration of the exhibition to the national commissioners (one expert designated by the responsible national bodies, preferably among the members of the Network of woman artists from the two seas and wishing to contribute to the round table or to the workshop),
- cover the costs related to the presentation of the works of four-five artists from each participating country (hall rental, advertising, security, electricity, etc.),
- print the catalogue of the exhibition,
- for artists willing to attend the Festival no participation fee will be requested and the organizers will negotiate special prices for hotel accommodation.

The transportation and insurance of the displayed works is not covered,

Theater

The program of the Festival includes :

- *theatrical performances of traditional works (popular theater, puppets, traditional performances for special occasions, etc.);*
- *a workshop on "Multi-national theatrical projects", open to professionals in the fields of ethnography, theater, and cultural management;*
- *a Round Table discussion on : "Intercultural mediation through theatrical performances", open to critics, playwrights, actors, directors, scientists, communication professionals, representatives of local administration and civil society .*

Participation prerequisites :

- *the participants* : as mentioned in the previous paragraph;
- *the works to be performed* : plays and traditional ceremonies, especially if focusing on the condition of women throughout history and across geographical space are welcome. For reasons of easier understanding, pantomimes, performances with concise dialogue, as well as performances combining dialogue with dances and singing will be given preference.

The applications :

- companies should submit letters of interest and the presentations of the production (press review, technical assistance requested, video cassette with a selection of max. 15 minutes and the cost of one public performance) before December 30, 2005;
- other accompanying information materials on the cultural context of the production (pamphlets, papers, press clippings, photographs, cassettes, CDs, etc.) will be considered a supplementary asset. Special preference will be given to productions better adapted to the spirit of the festival by bringing together artists from various countries;
- individual professionals interested in attending the workshop or the round table, should send applications (letter of interest, CV and summary of the intervention) before December 30, 2005.

The selection process :

- for obvious technical reasons, preference will be given to plays, with light stage settings;
- individual applicants will be selected for participation in each of the other events (the workshop and the round table), alongside with a limited number of experts invited by the organizers.
- Selected companies / individual participants will be notified in writing, by March 30, 2006, and will be extended official invitation letters.

Financial support from the organizers : the organizers will :

- offer hospitality (hotel accommodation for three nights and meals) for performing artists and for invited speakers in the other events (workshop, round table),
- cover the performance costs (such as presented in the project proposal),
- undertake advertising in Thessaloniki.

Music

The program of the Festival includes the following events :

- *concerts, lyrical performances and recitals (including urban and Mediterranean folklore)* featuring small lyric companies, orchestras, groups, and soloists;
- *a seminar on "The preservation of musical folklore" focusing on recent progress of ethnographic research in the participating countries;*
- *a round table of professional interpreters and musicologists on "The ways to musical mastery, public recognition and international reputation : meeting new demands and standards".*

Participation prerequisites :

- *the participants* : as mentioned in the previous paragraph;
- *the works to be performed* : traditional musical creations, both instrumental, vocal and orchestral are accepted. Preference will be given to rural musical folklore, although urban traditional creations will also be accepted.

The applications :

- soloists, lyric companies, choirs, folklore groups and orchestras should submit letters of interest and presentations of the proposed production (press review, video cassette with a selection of max. 15 minutes, required technical assistance, the cost of one public performance) not later than December 30, 2005,
- other accompanying information materials on the cultural context of the production (pamphlets, papers, press clippings, photographs, cassettes, CDs, etc.) will be considered a supplementary asset. Special preference will be given to productions better adapted to the spirit of the festival by bringing together artists from various countries;
- individual professionals interested in attending the workshop or the round table, should send applications (letter of interest, CV and summary of the intervention) before December 30, 2005.

The selection process :

- *the projects* selected for public presentation will be included in the program of the Festival. For obvious technical reasons, preference will be given to productions with easier technical requirements and limited casts;
- individual applicants will be selected for participation in each of the other events (the workshop and the round table), alongside with a limited number of experts invited by the organizers;
- Selected companies / groups / individual performers will be notified in writing, by September 30, 2005, and will be extended official invitation letters.

Financial support from the organizers : the organizers will :

- offer hospitality (hotel accommodation for three nights and meals) for performing artists and invited contributors to the panels,
- cover the performance costs (such as presented in the project proposal),
- undertake advertising in Thessaloniki.

Dance and Choreography

The program of the Festival includes the following events :

- *performances of traditional dances and ceremonies, as well as contemporary productions of traditional inspiration,*
- *a seminar of choreographers on : "The art of movement and traditional art and art in multi-cultural contemporary societies",*
- *a workshop on the theme : "Productions of traditional dance : the new challenges for the creators and for the public".*

Participation prerequisites :

- *the participants* : the festival is open to companies featuring mainly (but not solely) professional female dancers and choreographers;
- *the works* : folk dances, traditional ceremonies, recent productions by female choreographers finding inspiration in traditional dance;

The applications :

- dance companies and folklore groups should submit letters of interest and the presentations of the proposed production (press review, video cassette with a selection of max. 15 minutes, required technical assistance, the budget of one public performance) not later than December 30, 2005,
- other accompanying information materials on the cultural context of the production (pamphlets, papers, press clippings, photographs, cassettes, etc.) will be considered a supplementary asset. Special preference will be given to productions better adapted to the spirit of the festival by bringing together artists from various countries;
- individual professionals interested in attending the seminar or the workshop, should send applications (letter of interest, CV and summary of the intervention) before December 30, 2005.

The selection process :

- two productions will be selected for presentation in the Festival. For obvious technical reasons, preference will be given to choreographic productions with light settings and limited technical requirements;
- individual applicants in each of the two other items of the programs (the seminar and the workshop) will be selected for participation, alongside with a limited number of experts assigned by the organizers;
- Selected projects and individual participants will be notified in writing, by March 30, 2006, and will be extended official invitation letters.

Financial support from the organizers : the organizers will :

- offer hospitality (hotel accommodation for three nights and meals) to performing artists and to invited contributors to the other events,
- cover the performance costs (such as presented in the project proposal)
- undertake advertising in Thessaloniki.

Literature

The program of the Festival will include :

- “Memory(ies)” - a poetry reading event by invited guests,
- presentation of (recent) books written by women, preferably (but not exclusively) translated in English or French,
- panel discussions on various topics related to literary creation and preservation of traditions, aimed at bringing to the fore woman professionals as writers, critiques, scientists and as members of multi-cultural environments. The following topics are proposed: "Traditional literary creations as factors of intercultural mediation and dialogue in the contemporary societies", "Storytelling - traditions and modern forms of expression", "The feminine personality reflected in the popular culture", "The politics of translation : the place of folklore on the market"
- the opening of a Literary Café (Café de la Paix) hosting various events (open readings by Festival attendees, guests' performances & presentations of audio and video cassettes, get together for literary critiquing and dialogue)

Participation prerequisites :

- *the participants* : the festival is open to all women writers, journalists and translators, as well as to the publishing companies, particularly the ones focusing on the promotion of women's literary production;
- *the works* : recent research works dealing with traditional literature, translations (preferably, but not exclusively, in English and French), popular fiction, etc. are accepted. Preference will be given to translations in international languages although some events address specifically works presented in their original language. Publishing companies are invited to support the organizers by providing information on the translations they published lately;

The selection process :

- *applications* : *publishing companies* should send letters of interest, presenting the female writers and their recent books that they wish to present during the festival. Supplementary information on their publishing policies and samples of recent production are welcome. The letters of interest should reach the UNESCO Center for Women and Peace in the Balkan Countries before December 30, 2005.
- *selected* writers will be extended official invitation letters for the public presentation of their books , before March 30, 2006.

Financial support from the organizers : the organizers will :

- offer hospitality (hotel accommodation for three nights and meals) to the invited speakers and to the guests of the various events (panel discussions),
- cover the costs related to the presentation of the books (hall rental, advertising, security, electricity, etc.),
- for professionals willing to attend the Festival no participation fee will be requested and the organizers will negotiate special prices for their hotel accommodation.

Photography

The program of the Festival includes :

- *An exhibition of works by professional photographers from the participating countries on the theme "Traditional professions in the Mediterranean area" focusing in particular on female participation in traditional professions, arts and crafts,*
- *meetings with the public and the press, targeted at improving the perception of female contributions in the field of photography.*

Participation prerequisites :

- *the participants* : the festival is open to all professional woman photographers in the concerned countries;
- *the works* : recent works of the participants (2-3 works by each artists), illustrating the theme and aims of the festival. All techniques are accepted. The recommended dimension of the photographs is : 70 cm / 70 cm;

The selection process :

- *the applications* : individual letters of interest should be submitted to the organizers, by December, 2005, together with a CV, providing information on the personal activity, samples of works (on slides, booklets and catalogues) and a press file, if available. Information provided by press companies on their policies concerning the promotion of women's works and their assignment to specific coverage missions will be given special appreciation.
- *selected artists* will be notified in writing, by March 30, 2006, and will be extended official invitation letters.

Financial support from the organizers : the organizers will :

- offer hospitality (hotel accommodation and meals) for the duration of the exhibition to the national commissioners (one expert designated by the responsible national bodies),
- cover the costs related to the presentation of the works (hall rental, advertising, security, electricity, etc.)
- print the catalogue of the exhibition
- for artists willing to attend the Festival no participation fee will be requested and the organizers will negotiate special prices for hotel accommodation

The transportation and insurance of the displayed works is not covered.

Cinema

The program of the Festival includes :

- *presentations of recent productions (video-cassettes) describing traditions related to marriage in the participating countries,*
- *a panel discussion on film making in the context of multi-cultural societies,*
- *meetings - open to the press and public - with outstanding film makers and interpreters, reiterating their artistic pathways and destinies.*

Participation prerequisites :

- *the participants* : the festival is open to productions of professional film makers (preferably women) in the concerned countries;

The Selection process

- *the applications* : letters of interest should be submitted to the organizers, by December 30, 2005, together with a copy on professional cassette and with information on the creator (CV, press review of previous works, etc.)
- *selected productions* will be announced in writing, by March 30, 2006.

Financial support from the organizers : the organizers will :

- cover the costs related to the public presentation of the works (hall rental, printing of the program, etc.) and
- undertake advertising in Thessaloniki.

Architecture

The program of the Festival includes :

- *presentation by female professionals, individually or as a group, of practical proposals and designs* for the “Museum of the Axios River Delta” in the framework of the Third International Contest of Women Architects;
- *working sessions* for the assessment of the proposals;
- *the meeting of the founders of the Network of Women Architects in South Eastern Europe and a Round Table discussion on the further functioning of this organization.*

Participation prerequisites :

- *the participants* : woman architects or teams of female professionals;
- *the works* : written proposals, sketches, designs and original solutions can be submitted to the organizers;
- *the applications* : individual / group letters of interest, together with the proposals (preferably on a diskette) should be submitted to the organizers by December 30, 2005;
- *the selection* : all participants having submitted proposals will be given certificates of participation including a brief appraisal of their project. A Prize and two Honorary Awards will be presented publicly to the best three contestants and on the occasion, the international jury will present the motivation of the final choice.

The organizers offer hospitality for the duration of the event (hotel accommodation and meals), and will cover the costs related to the public presentation of the proposals (hall rental, advertising of the events, etc.).