

Report: Young Critic's Seminars

2007

This year three seminars will take place; they are all on our web site already.

The seminar in **May 28- June 2** in **Novi Sad** is already fully booked: 16 participants and two monitors. Jean-Pierre Han is directing the seminar and monitor the French speaking group, Andrea Tompa monitors the English speaking group. The seminar has a theme: **IN/OUT of context** – about being a critic in a new place, seeing international theatre and writing about it to readers in a different context.

Many thanks to Dusana and Ivan who proposed and worked out the theme, and also accepted a larger group than planned.

October 1-7 a seminar will be organized in Cordoba, Argentina. Thanks to Halima Tahan it will happen in connection with the theatre festival in Cordoba, and focusing on "**new theatrical realities**". The economic possibilities are rather limited, the group of participants will be only ten, I will direct the seminar and will – probably- only have a "local" assistant. Working language English and Spanish. The normal funding of the director's/monitor's travel costs will not be possible in this case, and I am trying to have Swedish funding; so far I look optimistically on this. Some details remains to polish and a more elaborate text on our web will appear in May.

In **October 23-27** a seminar is organized in Spain, in Santiago de Compostela. Thanks to Manuel Vieites, the festival of the town, local institutions and ADE are collaborating to make this happen

The working languages are this time a new combination: English-Portuguese-Spanish, and the seminar is directed by Paulo Eduardo Cavalho, since our last ex-com assisting director of the seminars. Details on the seminar are already on the web.

During the period since Seoul I have been working with Paulo. A new "form" for applying participants to fill in have been worked out and is to be returned to them when they contact us. Most important is, of course, the recommendation from a national AICT association. It is also a try-out for this year that the person directing the seminar in place (Jean-Pierre Han in Novi-Sad, Paulo in Santiago, Margareta in Cordoba) receives and handles the applications, but that they are coordinated by the formal director of the seminars (Margareta). The tendency during the last years is that the seminars are more numerous and slightly smaller with 10-15 participants, and thus the preparation work is spread. So far, it looks like working fine.

My intention, which Paulo has approved, is that we can find some monitors among the "old" young critics in the alumni group. Such an assisting person is still to be found for Santiago.

The alumni seminar during our extraordinary congress in Seoul (thank you again Yun-Cheol!) has made the seminars more visible in general and formed a network group of young critics working with a news-letter-web. Only one issue has appeared, so far, due to problems with the domain which has to be changed. Hopefully these problems will be solved, and some regularity established. This web is only linked to AICT, and not a responsibility of ours; still I consider this as an important step of up-dating our forms of work, in this way we are seen by new kinds of readers.

Considering the ultra-quick changes in the new medias, blogs and web-sites, I also think that time has come to update our own web and it's design. It could look more "attractive", photos of places for the seminars, the persons monitoring them etc. would be good for our work.

2008

We are lucky enough to have proposals for seminars in 2008: In May, the Shakespeare festival in Craiova, Roumania, is inviting a young critic's seminar. In September the festival Manigances in Jonquière, Québec, is inviting us as well, and eventually the festival in Vigo, Spain, will do likewise in March. According to Miguel Vieites it is not yet decided if ADE wishes an 'all ages' critic's seminar or a young critic's seminar. Still the planning for 08 looks good, details on number of participants etc are not yet fixed. An eventual seminar in Amman (contacts par J-P Han) has also been mentioned, but no formal contacts are established.

Margareta Sörenson / Director of the young critics seminars