

MITHS AND LEGENDS OF ISKELE FESTIVAL



7TH CIOFF® WORLD YOUTH FORUM IN ZACATECAS, MEXICO



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CIOFF® HAS BEEN AWARDED THE UNESCO ASSOCIATE PARTNER STATUS AS NGO

CIOFF® NEWSLETTER

ENTRE NOUS



MUNDIAL ZACATECAS MÉXICO 2016



VERY SUCCESSFUL 45TH CIOFF® WORLD CONGRESS AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN AREQUIPA, PERU

IMPORTANT ACHIEVEMENTS AND EMOTIONS AT POPULAR CULTURAL SUMMIT

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IMPORTANT ACHIEVEMENTS AND EMOTIONS AT POPULAR CULTURAL SUMMIT

Cultural workers from many different places took part in a dynamic week of work, which resulted in great advances within the framework of the 45th World Congress of the International Council of Organizations of Folklore Festivals and Folk Arts, which is known around the world by its initials: CIOFF®.

Arequipa, with its rich architectural heritage and pleasant climate, became the stage where this popular cultural summit took place, where international leaders, National Section delegates, guest experts and youth contributed to the growth of this great organization. Local authorities were also present to support this momentous event. This was evidenced as Dr. Alfredo Zerraga Tejada, Mayor of Arequipa, awarded the leaders of CIOFF® the designation of "Illustrious guests".

The many working sessions of the Congress took place from October 10th to 18th of the year at the main auditorium of the San Agustin National University. The building itself is one of the many jewels found in the capital city of the Province. Here, many innovative proposals were brought forward, that undoubtedly will bring benefit to all the member countries of this "new CIOFF®".

We had 31 National Sections present: Argentina, Austria, Bosnia Herzegovina, Canada, Chinese Taipei, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, FYROM, France, Germany Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Republic of Korea, Latvia, Luxemburg, Mexico, Montenegro, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Romania, Russia, Spain,

Slovenia, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, USA; 3 Associate Members: Tahiti, Philippines, South Africa; 4 Corresponding Members: Australia Multicultural Festival, Benin, Cyprus Iskele festival, Kyrgyzstan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and 2 Observers: Bolivia, Chile.

The election of Council Members, the Cultural Conference, the Open Forum and Exchange of Good Practices gave the gathering a packed agenda, where many important decisions were adopted, such as the creation of the African Sector. Many interesting ideas were heard, aimed at embarking in a mission to give CIOFF® more visibility in the conventional media, as well as social media.

During the last day of the event, emotions ran high, as two long standing serving members of CIOFF® were honored for their many years of service. Cyril Renz (from Switzerland) and Alcides Hugo Ifrán (from Argentina) retired from the Council. CIOFF® President, Philippe Beaussant, acknowledged their contribution to the organization, and the audience responded with thunderous applause and a ten minute standing ovation. Tears were shed and hugs were in abundance, as their names were shouted out loud by those who shared their hard work and dedication to the organization.

As stated above, elections of new and re-elected members of the CIOFF® Council took place: Alejandro Camacho González (México) as Vice President for Cultural Affairs, Olga Maloney (United Kingdom) as Secretary General, Magdalena Tovornik

(Slovenia) as CIOFF® Representative to UNESCO; Oscar Delgado (Paraguay), Chairman of Communications and Public Relations Commission, Beatriz Sangoy (Argentina), Chairperson of Cultural Commission, Wolfgang Denke-Otterbein, Chairman of Festivals Commission. and Francesco Mallozzi (Italy), Chairman of the Legal Commission. Concerning new Sector Representatives, we are pleased to present: Mario García Siani (Paraguay), for the Latin American and Caribbean Sector, Alexander Durtka (USA), for the North American Sector, Riitta Korhonen (Finland), for the North European Sector, Susanne Kramer (Luxembourg) for the Central European Sector.

Günther Lippitz from Austria was elected as member of the Election Committee.

Fernando Andrés Marani (Argentina) was elected as Legal Adviser

The new members quickly joined the rest of the Council, their first meeting took place immediately following the conclusion of the Assembly. A great feeling of hope was left in the air, as CIOFF® prepares to move forward to continue to preserve, foster and promote popular and traditional culture in all member countries which make up this great family.

Oscar Delgado
Chairman of CIOFF®
Communications and Public
Relations Commission



During the 38th General Assembly of UNESCO in Paris (3rd-18th November) CIOFF® has been awarded the UNESCO associate partner status as NGO, being one of the only three NGOs, who received the associate status in 2015.

Since its foundation in 1945, UNESCO has sought to collaborate with NGOs, which are fundamental civil society partners for the implementation of the Organization's activities and programmes. Over the years, UNESCO has built up a valuable network of cooperation with NGOs having an expertise in its fields of competence, i.e. education, science, social and human sciences, culture, communication and information. Currently, UNESCO is enjoying official partnerships with 373 international NGOs and 24 foundations and similar institutions, only around 40 of which have associate status and all the others consultative status.

This recognition of CIOFF® by UNESCO reflects the new level of cooperation with CIOFF® in providing a valuable partnership to UNESCO in recent years, having made regular major substantial contributions to framing UNESCO's objectives and implementing its programmes in the field of safeguarding and promoting the World intangible cultural heritage.

CIOFF® becomes the only organisation working in the field of ICH to receive associate partnership status of UNESCO.

What that means for CIOFF® is:

- Visibility – an immense chance to promote the work and activities of CIOFF® by both CIOFF® International and the National Sections
- Opportunity to develop and implement new exciting programmes and projects with the support of UNESCO
- Responsibility- to maintain the high level of engagement with UNESCO as an associate partner, constantly strengthening CIOFF® organisation on national and

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international levels and delivering effective programmes and projects.

This extremely important an-

nouncement comes at a time when CIOFF® is preparing for its flagship event - the 5th CIOFF® World Folkloriada, which will take



place in Zacatecas, Mexico in August 2016, with participation of over 2500 dancers and musicians representing more than 70 countries of the World.

Founded in 1970, CIOFF® is now represented in 112 different countries in which there are more than thirty thousand folklore dance and music groups and folk arts organizations. Today CIOFF® globally coordinates over 300 annual international folklore and folk arts festivals, uniting thousands of volunteers around the world with its mission to encourage cultural exchange in order to promote a growing spirit of friendship and peace.

Olga Maloney
CIOFF® Secretary General





A GREAT ACHIEVEMENT OF 2015: THE CREATION OF AFRICAN SECTOR

In the same year of celebrating the 45th anniversary of CIOFF® and the 70th anniversary of UNESCO, one of the most important results for CIOFF® was the creation of the African Sector in 2015. This great achievement happened during the UNESCO Forum on Cultural Diversity which took place during the Conference of CIOFF® Africa. The Forum was organized by CIOFF® Cameroon from 25th to 27th September, where participants discussed the importance of creating a sector managed by African Countries.

The African continent has been always been included within the South European Sector of CIOFF® with the purpose of helping them develop, year by year, organizational autonomy and a cultural plan. So what better opportunity to create a new CIOFF® sector, if not during an important UNESCO Forum as the one organized in Cameroon? Many delegates from other African countries attended the Conference and the Forum which was a great opportunity to learn more about each other, and an occasion to start a common plan of work, especially within the framework of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Held in the city of Founban, thanks to the National Section

of Cameroon, the Conference achieved high marks among African cultural proponents. During the Conference, a very interesting Forum took place about Cultural Diversity and the International Decade for the Rapprochement of Cultures related to the 2005 UNESCO Convention. During the Forum, it was emphasized how important it is to demonstrate and share what Africa can do and to promote this important Intangible Cultural Heritage at both the continental and international levels. It will be a great opportunity for Africa's more than 350 folklore groups to be known all over the world too.

CIOFF® was represented during the Conference by Mr. Philippe Beaussant, World CIOFF® President;

Mrs. Magdalena Tovornik, CIOFF® Representative to UNESCO, and Mr. Jean Roche, Honorary Member of CIOFF® and past CIOFF® Representative to UNESCO until 2010.

Prince Isaac YAMEKUE from Cameroon and Mr. Jan Lombard from South Africa were elected, respectively, as President and Secretary of the newborn African Sector. Two Vice Presidents were also elected and are: Mr. Alexie GOGOUA from Ivory Coast and Mr. Gilles BOKPE from Benin.

Now, we can finally declare that CIOFF® is a world-wide reality!

Irene Pimpinella
Vice Chair of PR &
Communication Commission



FOLKLORIADA: INCREASING ENTHUSIASM FOR THE CIOFF® FLAGSHIP EVENT

In more than one hundred countries, folks are speaking enthusiastically about the approaching dates for CIOFF® WORLD FOLKLORIADA 2016. In more than seventy of these countries, the pulses of artists, group directors, and leaders of National Sections committed to participate in this event are intensively accelerating. All of them are thinking and dreaming of the approaching dates for this event, which will take place in Zacatecas, Mexico from July 30 to August 1.

The challenge is GREAT! This worldwide Olympiad of Folklore (from which the name of FOLKLORIADA was derived) develops as a great cultural sample, but not as a competition. Therein lays the difference between FOLKLORIADA and the Olympics. Nevertheless, despite there being no competition, each group and each artist take great care to represent their country in the best

way. For several months, they have been intensely preparing themselves to participate in the various functions of this super festival with height and dignity. Because of this, in all the countries associated with CIOFF®, the main topic of conversation nowadays is FOLKLORIADA!

The State of Zacatecas, through its Governor, Miguel Antonio Reyes, has signed an Agreement with the President of CIOFF®, Philippe Beaussant, outlining the guidelines for this undertaking, which, according to information already available, will be spectacular. The chief protagonists of this immense work will be members of CIOFF® Mexico and of the CIOFF® Committee on FOLKLORIADA, as well as the highest organisms of CIOFF®.

An Official Opening to take

place in a stadium, two huge parades, numerous performances, an exhibit of photographs and an exhibit of musical instruments from around the world, in addition to a handicraft show with live craftsmen, as well as a Youth Forum, are a few of the happenings that will take place in this enormous manifestation of "people culture." It is estimated that approximately 3,000 (three thousand) persons will be welcomed to Zacatecas, among dancers, musicians and other artists, besides leaders, craftsmen and youth representatives, who are active in CIOFF® in the most diverse countries. All of them will give life to FOLKLORIADA!

In addition, it is anticipated that the event will attract tens of thousands of tourists from five continents.

In these days, Zacatecas will be the cultural capital of the planet.

Óscar Delgado





CULTURAL COMMISSION

CIOFF® FORUMS AND CONFERENCES A CONTRIBUTION TO OUR RECOGNITION BY UNESCO

I think it is important to insist on the magnitude that the cultural activity acquires, increasingly, in the bosom of CIOFF®.

The 70th UNESCO Anniversary celebration inspired the idea to stimulate actions that, in our 45th Anniversary to demonstrate to the intergovernmental organism, our commitment to become the executing arm of their Recommendations, Conventions and dispositions intended toward the preservation of the Traditional and Popular Culture, and the protection of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

In the report to the World Assembly in Arequipa, Peru, we reported activities in national sections. The magnitude of the information is so great that only those projects with supporting documentation could be presented, and therefore there were others that were implemented without being properly documented, and even others for which those responsible didn't take advantage of the reporting opportunity.

The diversity of the subject matter of meetings, seminars, workshops, forums, conferences (among other formats adopted to convene and gather specialists and others interested in the subject), is an eloquent index of CIOFF®'s capability to establish itself, as it has done, as an essential reference for UNESCO to deal with issues relat-

ed to multiculturalism, to the carriers of fragile cultures facing the advance of globalization and even with peace itself, as utopian as it may seem, in its relationship with the primal human culture.

CIOFF®'s Cultural Conferences and Forums have become a vital part of the annual Congresses and Assemblies, not only for the time that we agreed upon them, if not for the high level of exhibitors that at every opportunity bring unknown aspects of local culture, but also for the results of investigations of scientific level or studies of excellent knowledge. The Assembly and Congress in Arequipa, Peru, has not been an exception to this quality rule which it has contributed to a large and active participation of Congress attendees. First, it allowed us to meet our obligation to UNESCO, through information from our President Philippe Beaussant, who also holds the Secretariat of the Liaison Committee of NGO's with UNESCO, which allowed to know objectives, work proposals, integration to other NGO's, etc.

The theme of **Intangible Cultural Heritage** was developed on the part of the Sector's Coordinator of the UNESCO Office in Lima, Enrique López Hurtado Orjeda, who spoke about **"Peruvian Dances, Intangible Heritage of Humanity"**, and the Peruvian CI-

OFF® President, Luciano Revoredo Rojas, who did it under the title of: **"The Marinera, national dance of Peru"**.

The **Interculturality** - another UNESCO concern - was the theme of Regis Andrade Oblitas, representing the Sub-Direction of Interculturality of the Peruvian Culture Ministry, developed as **"The Q'ero community of Cusco. Worldview and cultural continuity,"** that we discussed in a separate article.

The **social inclusion** of people with various disabilities, using folklore as a tool of inclusion, was developed by Mr. Josef Szigetvari, from Hungary, with an important contribution from Ada García Montes, delegate from Puerto Rico.

As if that were not enough, under the premise "Good Practices" there were exposed a variety of proposals indicative of creativity and sensitivity, which will generate an increasing number of themes that shape the culture upon which CIOFF® is working.

In summary, a CIOFF® that was unimagined until not so long ago, has responded to a cultural policy with clear concepts, that today is one of the reference points of UNESCO.

Prof. Beatriz Sangoy
Chairperson of CIOFF® Cultural
Commission

LET'S BE HUMANS BORDERS COULD SEPARATE US!

When browsing internet we see many, many pictures. But there are a couple of them which could stall us and cause deep sadness.

One of them describes the massacre in the Bacatlan Theater in Paris, lots of lifeless bodies, in a silence filled by death. The other one regards Syrian children murdered by bombing, their bodies settled one next to the other.

The pictures are very different from one another, and yet, at the same time, they are equal. We see death in both cases. We see innocents who lose any chance to benefit from their lives, to project their own futures, to live in fullness their own dreams, to love intensely. Someone decided for them!

Once more, a few decide for many. Until when?

These children could have been our kids and the youth our brothers. That's what makes us feel so bad. Death makes us equal, because we are so during lifetime.

There are no first class deaths, and others of second class. Thus, there shouldn't be humans of first class and humans belonging to a second class.

"Imposed death" fills us with impotence. Our eyes fill with tears as well. In Europe, in the Middle East, in Africa, in America, it is the same, because "imposed death" runs very fast, since there is a big structure which supports it, because it is financed by million of dollars, because it has assured impunity. Today we see hate, mutilations and murders among people who are pushed by others.

Our reflection, inevitably, leads us to CIOFF®, an NGO which has been granted the new important Status as Associate Member of UNESCO. Actually, it is the only organization at international level, which ob-

tained that status in the field of promotion and safeguard of Intangible Cultural Heritage of people around the world.

This make us feel so proud of it!

CIOFF® is already close to people; however, this situation all over the world should get it even closer, more and more. It should reach all possible people; generating knowledge and conscientious feelings on values, promote peace, not only with words, but by using concrete actions, listening to the voice of people with humility and helping them to let their dreams come true.

If you believe that, having become so important to UNESCO, we are now an institution which has to work only for protocol, we are not adequately describing our task.

One of the great achievements of CIOFF® in recent years, has been the involvement of Palestine in 2012, in line with the UNESCO policy. This has great value; it is a trascendental action. It means that CIOFF® raised the flags of its mission: showed tolerance, brotherhood, peace and respect among people all around the world.

Today we don't feel close to a particular nation. We suffer for our bothers who are paying, every day for the consequences of crazy choices, taken by those who decided to play for a blood God: Money.

We suffer for not having the chance to do something for them, but we are convinced we could do it through CIOFF®.

Don't put nationality to death: Be Humans. Don't put creed to death: Be Humans. Don't raise any party flag and frontiers to death: Be Humans. Let's love, respect. BE HUMANS. With that, we will have achieved our mission.

**Irene Pimpinella and
Imanol Gabriel Muñoz**



CULTURAL COMMISSION

CONFERENCE: THE Q'ERO COMMUNITY OF CUSCO. WORLD VISION AND CULTURAL CONTINUITY

As an introduction to the subject, it seems important to define the position of UNESCO in its relationship with CIOFF®, and this is not accidental; it reflects the increase in the field of Traditional and Popular Culture.

That which was created in Confolens in 1970 to define the criteria for organizers of International Folklore Festivals (CIOFF®) has become, 45 years later, an Official Partner of UNESCO in areas that

match their aims, namely the safeguarding, promotion and dissemination of traditional culture and folklore.

And this is precisely the product of our work, not only in the field of Festivals and Folk Groups, but also in proposals for investigation of cultural phenomena, under the standards intended to safeguard the authenticity of the heritage in staging, in respect for the cultural diversity that is required for these

projects, in the assessment of the cultures expressed in more than 300 Festivals on all continents, and in the education that is projected by their seminars, courses, workshops and forums worldwide.

Precisely, the CIOFF® Cultural Conferences that took place within the World Congress and General Assembly in Arequipa, Perú, give us the opportunity, not only of titling this article, but also to reaffirm my previous statements.

46TH CIOFF® WORLD CONGRESS – ITALY 2016

FIUGGI, 3RD TO 13 OCTOBER 2016

The 45th General Assembly of CIOFF® held last October in the city of Arequipa approved CIOFF® Italy to be the next host for the Annual General Assembly.

This was the reason for the arrival in Italy of our Secretary General, Olga Maloney, who was a guest of CIOFF® Italy from 13 to 17 April to verify and check the preparations for the next World Congress. During those days, the Secretary visited the Congress location and all the structures that will be involved in hosting all the delegations that are preparing to take part in the Congress. The result was excellent; she approved all the locations, including the standard for the accommodations, and the entire program of the event, not the least of which was the kitchen that produces delicious and highly varied meals, and is attentive to every type of special diets and needs.

The location established for the Congress is the city of FIUGGI (FR), a thermal location situated a distance of 87 km from Rome. It stands on a hill at the foot of the "Ernici" Mountains and is sur-



rounded by chestnut trees in a quiet and relaxing harmony. All the Congress activities will take place in FIUGGI, with the exception of a visit to Rome, planned for the 8th of October, for an audience with the Pope.

All the delegations will be hosted in "3 Superior" and "4 star" hotels, located on the street of the city's center at distances not exceeding 200 meters from one another. The General Assembly will be hosted in the Meeting Hall of the Hotel "Ambasciatori Palace." The theme for this Congress is to create a village surrounding the Congress site, where people can feel all together and at home. All the structures, shops and any needs are accessible on foot, and, with the CIOFF® Credentials, it will be possible to receive discounts at several shops and activities in the city.

Many cultural and social activities await our CIOFF® guests. Unfortunately, right now it is not yet possible to give further information about the program that still needs to be confirmed by the Secretary, but we are sure that all the people who will join us in our country will not be dissatisfied.



CIOFF® Estonia, CIOFF® United Arab Emirates, CIOFF®

With the mission of preserving intangible cultural heritage, many CIOFF® sections exhibit different methods of educating youth and adults. Four such examples of “Best Practices” were shared with CIOFF® World Congress participants in Peru in 2015.

CIOFF® Estonia’s President Kati Taal spoke about CIOFF® Estonia’s Training and Education Centre, where local folklore and heritage education is provided for adults and youth through courses and lectures. The Training Centre in CIOFF Estonia was created in 2008 as a registered private school under CIOFF Estonia National Section. Most courses are financed by the European Union Social Funds, by local funds for traditional culture and by the ministry of culture. Most courses are free for participants or have a very small participation fee, plus catering, and for courses longer than one day, sometimes also accommodation.

The office of CIOFF® Estonia is situated in Tallinn, but more than 80% of the trainings take place outside of Tallinn. Trainings and courses are organized together with local communities, collaborating with local small enterprises such as tourism farms, local musicians, and craftsmen within the community. They often focus on one specific topic (for example weddings) or on one specific group (for example men) and provide a comprehensive exploration of this heritage. Other topics have included: celebrating traditional holidays, the circle of folk calendar, the heritage of minorities living in Estonia, how to teach folklore in schools, and traditional dancing.

CIOFF® United Arab Emirates presented “Heritage ... The Basis of Our Originality.” Heritage Days, which are held in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, provide cultural education in outdoor spaces. These spaces are several hectares in size that reflect the culture of the three most characteristic areas of the country’s geography: desert, mountains and sea.



SHARE BEST PRACTICES DURING PERU WORLD CONGRESS

During “Heritage Days,” conferences, symposia and competitions are presented, with the participation of several organizations and Arab and international governmental institutions. These presentations contribute to the promotion of the customs of the UAE and develop awareness among the younger generations about their roots, including the work of their parents and grandparents.

The Sharjah Heritage Institute is responsible for this important forum for tradition and folklore heritage of the Emirates, and “Heritage Days” may be a new model for the structure of festivals of national and international popular culture. Programming contains various cultural and entertainment activities for adults and children, includ-

ing classes held at the “Villa Infantil Heritage,” and the “Villa of the Five Senses,” as well as artistic performances, contests, riddles, and folk tales presented by groups representing local and regional heritage of the UAE. Food, crafts, ceremonies, music, dance, and games are presented with the purpose to immerse visitors within Arab culture.

CIOFF® USA presented “Celebrate the Culture of the Artisan: The Masters of Arts, The Keepers and Practitioners of Ancient Traditions.” Holiday Folk Fair International 2014’s theme was Celebrate the Culture of the Artisan. Artisans use manual and artistic skills to design items that may be functional or strictly decorative—pottery, quilts, stained glass, clothing, jewelry, toys, household utensils,

United States and CIOFF® Bosnia and Herzegovina



tools, storage containers, rugs, floral arrangements, and musical instruments. They are carvers, glass blowers, metal arts workers, potters, stained glass artists, instrument makers, and weavers.

Master Artisans are identified persons who possess a very high degree of the knowledge and skills required for creating these items from the cultural traditions of groups, communities and individuals.

Safeguarding intangible cultural heritage is about the transferring of knowledge, skills and meaning. It is the transmitting of cultural heritage from generation to generation; it is not the concrete product or crafted item.

Due to the aging of artisans and

the lack of successors, their arts and crafts, traditional skills and knowledge are facing the danger of extinction. This is why the Holiday Folk Fair International 2014 focused on the artisans--encouraging them to continue to produce their crafts and to pass their skills and knowledge on to others, particularly within their own communities. Master artisans were nominated for the Holiday Folk Fair International Guild of Master Artisans and recognized during the festival. Each year their masterpieces will be showcased in a special exhibit.

Anka Raič, representing the National Section of Bosnia and Herzegovina, explained the great work that they accomplished in the area of traditional children's games. Af-

ter much research and many meetings with officials, they were successful in causing a number of primary schools to offer a mandatory 2 hours per week of traditional children's games. These mandatory primary school programs have been in place since 2012.

After the International Congress in Kupres, the Ministry of Education sent a recommendation to all primary schools to include these hours of traditional children's games. CIOFF® Bosnia and Herzegovina Youth continue to work for the inclusion of all areas of Bosnia and Herzegovina in these programs.

Karen Babcock
Member of PR&Communication
Commission



7TH CIOFF® WORLD YOUTH FORUM IN ZACATECAS, MEXICO

The 7th CIOFF® Youth World Forum will take place from 1st to 5th August in Zacatecas, Mexico. For us, young people, the Forum has always represented an essential moment in the experience that is gained in CIOFF®. The Forum is the moment in which our organization aims to move the spotlight on us, on our projects, on our ambitions.

For me, the Forum is always a great time to share, to come into contact with young people from all over the world, who are housed together, and each of them tells his or her story, his or her experience. This, for me, is the meaning of sharing culture.

Leaving aside the sentimentality, and dwelling specifically on the structure of the Forum, we can say

that this will be a Forum completely revolutionized, from the point of view of the format and the content.

The first main difference - in contrast to the previous Forums - is that this Forum takes place before the World Congress. It will take place during another great event organized by CIOFF®, the World FOLKLORIADA.





The structure will consist of five actual days of work, during which young people are not just participants, but real protagonists. It was chosen to focus throughout the program on the basis of informal learning; so, unlike in the past, YCC (Youth Coordinating Committee) members in attendance will not take over the training process, but, instead, will be part of the Forum, youth among youth.

The activities that will take place during the Forum will not only be meetings but also conferences (coordinated by young people, rather than by experts). The aim is to raise awareness of the issues of interest to us, and to hold workshops to show how to carry out practical cultural activities.

The real uniqueness of this Forum is the number of the participants. We have never dealt with such a large number of participants. During the Forum, more than 120 people will cooperate and exchange ideas (in the past the maximum number of participants was about 40).

I conclude by saying that this event for us should not simply be seen as a goal, but the success of this project is to give us awareness of our capabilities and allow us to carry out more and more tasks on these stages, not to give visibility to ourselves, but simply to give the right image to our great guest "culture".

By Antonio Mallozzi, Chairman
Youth Coordinating Committee

BOLIVIA ESTABLISHES COMMITTEE TO WORK FOR THE CIOFF® NATIONAL SECTION

Last October, during the 45th World Congress of CIOFF®, which took place in Arequipa Peru, Professor Roberto Sardón Orihuela, CEO of Academy Folkdance 'ADAF BOLIVIA', was awarded the acceptance of Bolivia as an Associate Member in CIOFF® worldwide.

From that moment on, the process of socialization was initiated for a project that will benefit to Bolivia, as expressed in its various cultural manifestations.

For this purpose, teachers were summoned from different departments of Bolivia, resulting in positive responses from La Paz, Cochabamba and Sucre, with whom, after sessions via Skype, we scheduled a Charter Meeting for the Committee, which was planned for Saturday, 23rd January at 10.00am.

Attending this meeting were the following teachers:

Susana Rocha (*FolkBallet from Cochabamba* Director)

Rosario Carazas (*Charito Carazas Traditional Dances Company* Director)

Nelly Cortez (*Alfredo Domínguez Cultural Center* Director)

Paola Rivero (*Danzares Company* Director)

Miguel Mérida (*Ave María FolkBallet* Director)

Roberto Sardón (*'ADAF BOLIVIA'* Academy Folkdance Director)

Edson Gil (*Municipal Ballet of Sucre* Director)

Yolanda Mazuelos (*CONADANZ*) National Dance Company Director)

After agreeing on some important points, the Committee which will work for the National Section of Bolivia, was elected. This Committee is composed as follows:

PRESIDENT: Roberto Sardón Orihuela (La Paz)

VICEPRESIDENT: Susana Rocha Cardozo (Cochabamba)

SECRETARY GENERAL: Nelly Cortez Flores (La Paz)

RECORDING SECRETARY: Edson Gil Curcuy (Sucre)

SECRETARY OF FINANCES: Rosario Carazas Hurtado (La Paz)

SECRETARY OF LEGAL AFFAIRS: Miguel Mérida Fernández (La Paz)

OTHER VOTING MEMBERS: Paola Rivero Antezana (Cochabamba)
Yolanda Mazuelos Pol (La Paz)

This was a first meeting and a resulting commitment of intent to work under the guidelines of democracy, inclusion and collaborative work that CIOFF® promotes worldwide for its Associate Members, and we are all sure that this will put Bolivia in a very important place in what are cultural manifestations and popular traditions.

The publication of this note is appreciated.



CIOFF® YOUTH COMMISSIONS 3.0

Happy and great families are those that grow up more and more and our CIOFF® family is not an exception. In 2000, a new branch of CIOFF® was born and since that year, CIOFF® Youth continues to grow in both quality and quantity. More national sections are giving youth the opportunity to take part in their organizations, giving them confidence and help to express themselves, and to bring some fresh air into the movement. Nowadays CIOFF® Youth is present in 35 countries all over the world in each sector as follows:

- 13 countries in the Latin America and Caribbean sector: Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Paraguay, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Puerto Rico, El Salvador, Panama, Peru, Chile, Brazil
- 2 countries in North America sector:

- Canada and Belize
- 4 countries in Central Europe sector: Slovenia, Germany, Netherlands, Austria
- 2 countries in North Europe sector: Estonia and Finland
- 6 countries in South Europe sector: France, Greece, Italy, Bulgaria, Macedonia (FYROM), Bosnia and Herzegovina, and a Corresponding Member from North Cyprus
- 2 countries in Africa sector: Egypt and Cameroon
- 6 countries in Asia and Oceania sector: Philippines, Syria, Tahiti, Turkey, Kyrgyzstan, Indonesia

After the last two CIOFF® Youth Forums, 8 new countries have created CIOFF® Youth in their national section. For us this is a great goal reached, and we are proud and

happy to welcome the new youth members from: Belize, Chile, Peru, Philippines, Syria, Tahiti, Egypt and Cameroon. Of course we do not forget the "old" youth members in Zacatecas where the CIOFF® Youth Forum was a great opportunity for growth, education and development.

The main idea expressed by the EXCO members in their speeches in Bautzen during the youth forum was: "Youth are not only the future of CIOFF®, they are the present." We are proud to say that the future and the present of CIOFF® are in good hands. We take the opportunity to invite all National Sections to send us contacts for youth in their own countries. We are always happy to welcome new youth to our team!

By Giulia Ciuffa
YCC Secretary



GREAT SUCCESS OF 1ST CENTRAL AMERICAN MEETING OF CIOFF® YOUTH COMMISSIONS



The working groups of youth movements in CIOFF® Central America recently met to unite with bonds of friendship, networking, growing support and development, to strengthen culture, share knowledge and disseminate information on issues of accreditation.

Held in San José, Costa Rica, the first meeting of the Youth Movement CIOFF® Costa Rica, with National delegate Hans Leiton Gutierrez, took place with the support of the Executive Council and members of the national section of CIOFF® Costa Rica. The meeting focused on promoting and developing youth, where young members representing each CIOFF® youth commission of Central American countries like Panama, El Salvador, Honduras, Guate-

mala and Costa Rica attended. In the meeting they presented that the youth movement CIOFF® Costa Rica is the only Central American country to be certified in the field of CIOFF® youth movements.

After arduous hours of work, food sales, raffles, get-togethers, and meeting logistics, by the youth movement of CIOFF® Costa Rica with the national delegate and executive council, we achieved objectives. These objectives included the promotion, dissemination and safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage. Participants were offered and conducted forums, various trainings, exhibitions, field work, research, exchanges and cultural activities. It fully achieved the expectations by the national section of CIOFF® Costa Rica and the youth movement.

The young people of the youth movement Costa Rica collaborated to organize the meeting elements such as tour guides, transportation, training, logistics, work, food and constant and continuous participation during the course of this event. This work by the youth created bonds of friendship and unity with the fraternal countries of Central America. We will continue the good development of activities, and promote the culture of peace between countries through all means of cultural exchanges. So I think that the work was successful for both CIOFF®, the Youth Movement of Costa Rica, and the National Section.

Kevin Aguilera
CIOFF® Youth Costa Rica



MYTHS AND LEGENDS OF ISKELE FESTIVAL





According to CIOFF® Youth Coordinating Committee's decision, I have decided to vitalize one of our myths and legends here in Cyprus. My volunteer dancers and I, as the choreographer, worked on this project and gave life to it.

One of Iskele community leg-

ends is the following: there is a tree which is identified as a "wish tree." The most important issue about this tree is that ladies used to go there to pray and to bind cloth pieces on it. After that, it is believed that their wish will come true. Usually ladies were praying and binding clothes on the tree for their love to come together with them.

Another myth which we decided to rescue deals with the situation in which there used to be ladies who put on spells and magic. Other ladies who believed in their spells

used to go to these ladies to do a spell for them.

I have choreographed a dance, which uses traditional steps and music interpreting the love of a girl and a boy, in which she prays and binds cloth on the wish tree. Also, on the other hand, the jealous group of girls in that village go to the spell maker lady to spoil their love and split them.

Dilara Meral Korahan
CIOFF®YCC
Iskele Festival



CIOFF® ASIAN AND OCEANIAN SPRING SECTOR MEETING

18th – 22nd April 2015 Istanbul / TURKEY

CIOFF® Asian and Oceanian 2015 Spring Sector Meeting was successfully hosted by CIOFF®Turkey between 18th -22nd April in Pendik - Istanbul, Turkey

29 members from 13 countries participated in the meeting, which was held during the Pendik International Children Festival.

The meeting started on April 18th with a reception hosted by the Mayor of Pendik, and ended on April 22nd.

On April 19th and 20th , Nation-

al Delegates of the Sector gathered to discuss meeting topics with resulting decisions.

New members of CIOFF® in the Sector are: Associate Member Pakistan and Corresponding Members Saudi Arabia and Syria, whose representatives attended the meeting for the first time. The participating members attended various cultural activities and performances during their stay in Turkey.

Mr. Muammer Arslan
AO Sector Representative

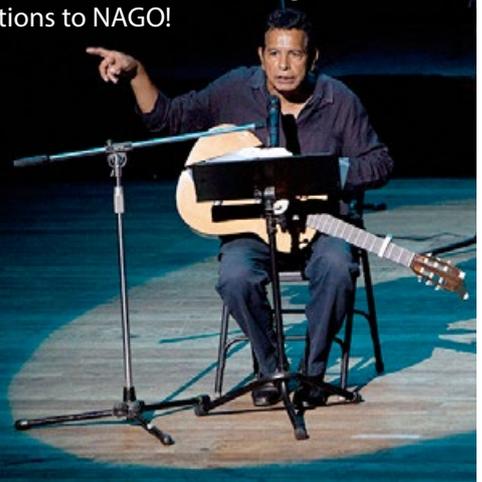


HONOR SOMEONE TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE

CIOFF® Costa Rica, thanks to the support of the Latin American and Caribbean Sector of CIOFF®, has initiated this well-deserved honor in order to preserve, disseminate and fairly and adequately recognize the life of the Folklore of Guanacaste in Costa Rica and around the entire world. We prepared the ceremony for the presentation of the SILVER PIN to be awarded to a Costa Rican during the World Congress and 45th of CIOFF®, which took place in the city of Arequipa, Peru in the month of October of the

past year. This is the highest RECOGNITION with which the International Council of Folklore and Traditional Arts toasts a person of great experience in the field of traditional and popular culture. The first such award to a Costa Rican also recognizes him for his song, "MUNDO DE AMIGOS," which has been the official song of more than one Festival in Europe and in America, and, especially, for being one of the founders of CIOFF® in the South American Continent and Honorary President of CIOFF® Costa Rica.

This honor was awarded to Abdenago Torres "NAGO DE NICOYA." Cordial congratulations to NAGO!



CIOFF® BULGARIA PARTICIPATED IN THE 5TH IMACO CONFERENCE IN SHANGHAI



The 5th IMACO (International Mask Arts & Culture Organization) Conference was held in Shanghai, China from November 5th to November 8th 2015. The conference was organized by IMACO (International Mask Arts and

Culture Organization, KOREA) / BICER (National Base for International Cultural Exchange and Research, CHINA), Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, and supported by Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Korea, International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region, under the auspices of UNESCO;

Mr. Emil Pavlov, President of National Section of CIOFF® Bulgaria and Ms. Stiliana Yorgova received official invitations to be special speakers at the Conference.

The theme of this year's conference was "The World Map of Masks and Symbols 3." The symbol stands for tattoo, character, totem pole and face painting. The conference was designed to build networks between China and member countries, and exchange information related to the international masks and symbols. There were more than 240 people present from 22 countries.

The Conference was officially opened on 6th November by Zhao Shao Hua – Vice minister of Ministry of Culture, China; Zhou Bo – Vice Mayor of Shanghai City; Chen Sheng Lai – Director of Nation-

al Base for International Cultural Exchange and Research, China.

During the Academic conference the delegates of National Section of CIOFF® Bulgaria presented the theme "Masks – Living Traditions". In the preparation of the Bulgarian presentation there was participation by members of CIOFF® Youth Bulgaria.

During the event, Mr. Emil Pavlov and Ms. Stiliana Yorgova participated in a working meeting with Mr. Kweon Young-sae – President of IMACO, Zhou Bo – Vice Mayor of Shanghai City and Representative of International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO. The main topic of the meeting was the 5th Symposium and General Assembly in 2019 and the possibility of Bulgaria being the host of the event.





OP ROAKELDAIS INSPIRES

The 50th Edition of the International Music and Dance Festival Roakeldais was a great success. The organization managed to set up a unique festival with numerous activities. At the start of the festival the province showed a great appreciation and the festival received a special award of honor from the Mayor of the municipality. More special was the Medal of Honor in name of the King of The Netherlands.

Mayor Marijke van Beek surprised the Chairman of the Board. "The municipality Eemsmond is proud of 50 years Op Roakeldais and therefore proposes this special award. With this award we want to show that we are very pleased with and proud of Op Roakeldais and all the memorable stories during the last 50 years. Special thanks to all the volunteers of the festival. This is the first time that this prize is has been awarded by the municipality."

Then the Commissioner of the

King, Max van den Berg, spoke: "It is a tremendous achievement that this festival is being organized for 50 years. Op Roakeldais allows people from around the world and from different cultures to meet. This makes it a show-piece for Warffum and the province "He handed the medal to artistic director David Kloosterhuis and said: " This medal is for people and institutions of great merit for the province of Groningen. It is for the board and for the volunteers who have made Roakeldais possible."

During the various dance performances many cultures were featured, recognizable in music, dance, clothes and choreography. The local National group 'Gruneger Daansers' mostly elderly people, and the younger group 'Paloina' from Amsterdam managed a special performance. Both cultures came together during a show with a lot of energy. A special thanks to both groups.

The Argentines with their tango and special drum dances were many spectators' favorite, and Cuba elicited a standing ovation. Mexico and Martinique performed a colorful party on stage. Swaziland impressed with singing and dancing, as did Botswana. Bulgaria with its young dancers fascinated many visitors. Georgia also. The appearance of Malaysia also scored high of in appreciation. It was innovative and glamorous, with percussion and acrobatics together. The hall was fully packed until the late evening.

The festival also featured a program especially for the primary schools in the province of Groningen. Over 1800 primary school kids were welcomed during this special performance. The school kids enjoyed short and interactive performances of many groups. Hand clapping with the African groups, percussion rhythms with Malaysia. or just watch a performance of Cuba. In cooperation



AND CELEBRATES

with several musicians, the school kids prepared a song with lyrics about the festival and jointly sang this song as a gift for the organization. It is just so beautiful to let kids enjoy the richness of the intent of the festival.

On Friday after the show, the public enjoyed a Latin night, in cooperation with local salsa schools and, of course, the rhythms of the Cuban musicians. Colorful performances and people dancing till late in the night! During the 'Dance together' the ensembles demonstrated their traditional dances on a special stage and danced together with the public of the festival.

Especially Saturday was a success. Before the traditional Parade through the characteristic streets of the village of Warffum, the public enjoyed music on different stages, a local market with many products, and local chefs presented their typical food in the culinary street. In the local harbor there were many choirs singing. In collaboration with the museum, the festival organized an exhibition with the theme "50 years friendships trough Op Roakeldais," talking about many stories, the history of the festival and the invited groups from the past 50 years. From early in the morning till late in the evening the whole village was full of people. After the Parade the public was invited to the festival area. With several stages, the public had the opportunity to select their own show. Later this night, there were several artists



and bands playing joyful tunes.

In honor of the 50th Festival of Roakeldais, the organization asked the groups of Botswana and Swaziland to prepare a special ending of the festival. In cooperation between both groups, the public went wild after their final performance. Both groups were singing and dancing together, so there were more than 50 people on stage. This was a special proj-

ect where both groups melded into one to share the intent of the festival, namely unconditional friendship.

With total attendance of about 30,000, Festival Op Roakeldais celebrated a great edition and is ready for 50 more years!

David Kloosterhuis
Artistic Director of Roakeldais
Festival

HIGHLIGHT OF CIOFF®-SPAIN IN 2015

During 2015 CIOFF®-SPAIN maintained a very active life. In addition to its many partner festivals, it has undertaken other activities, among which the following should be included:

- Publication of four books in relation to research of different aspects of ICH.

We highlight Volume II (two volumes) of the Mapa Hispano de las Danzas y Bailes de Tradición Oral, which is part of a series of 5 volumes

- We held the XXXIII Annual Congress of CIOFF® SPAI SPAIN, in during which the Board was renewed, and it is currently composed of the members:

- President: Rafael Maldonado, Festival of Badajoz.
- Vicepresident 1º: Rafael Cantero, Festival of Ciudad Real.
- Vicepresident 2º: Miguel Alonso, Festival of Burgos.
- Secretary: Javier Carro, Festival of A Coruña.
- Treasurer: Ana García, Festival of

Portugalete and País Vasco.

- Chairs: Carmen López, Festival of Viveiro

- David Castellano, Festival of Ingenio

- Rufino Cevidanes, Festival of Jaén

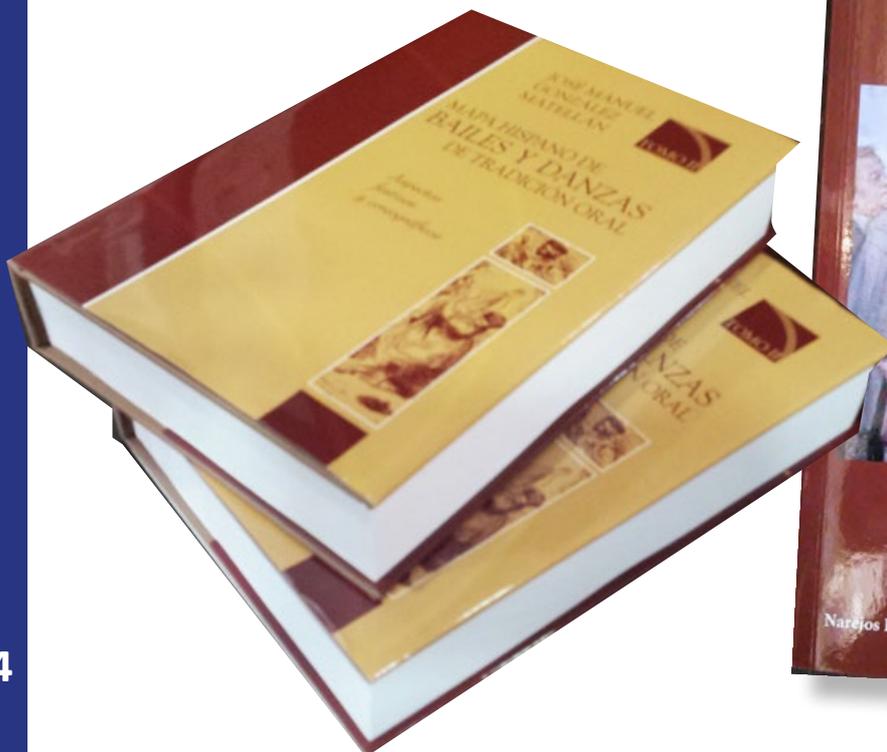
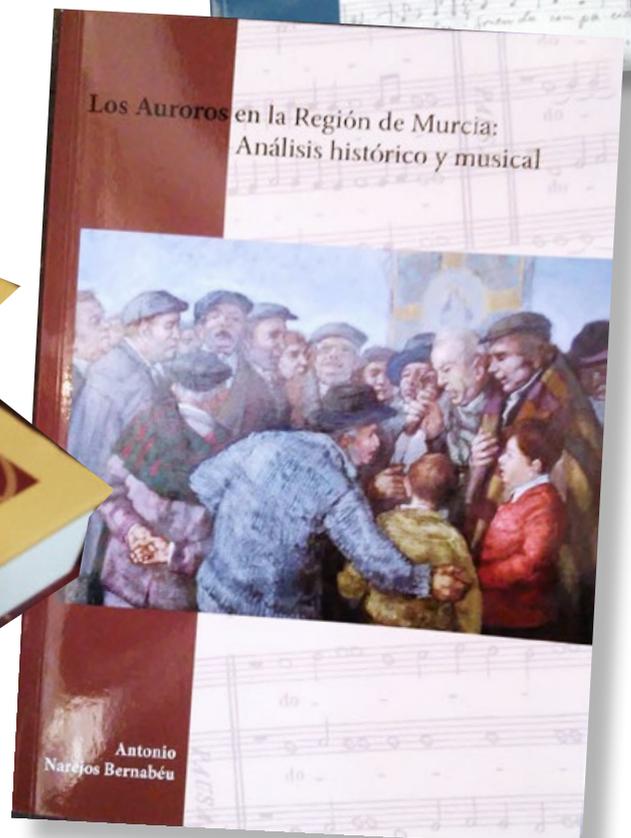
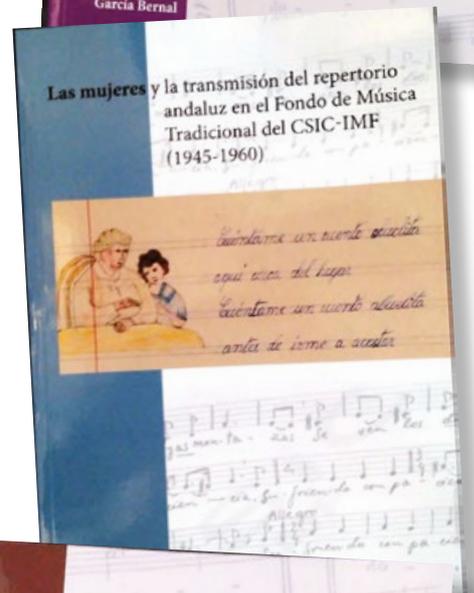
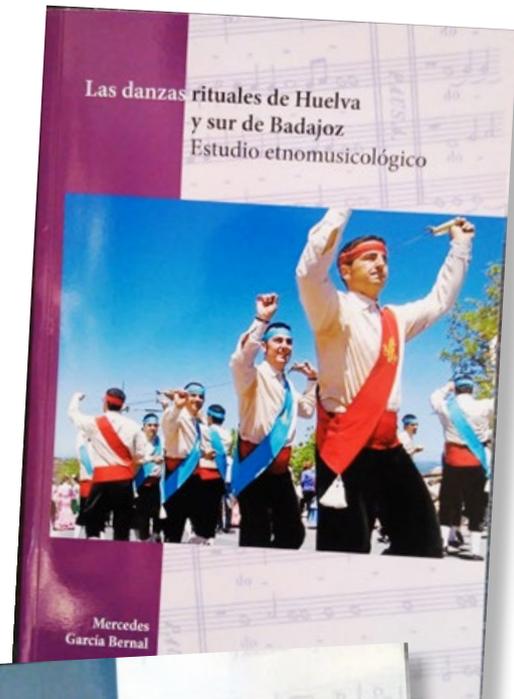
- Inmaculada Martínez, Festival of Lorca

- CIOFF® SPAIN was reappointed as a Member of the State Council for the Performing Arts and Music of the Education, Culture and Sports Ministry.

- Several festivals joined in the commemoration of the 45th Anniversary of CIOFF® and 70th Anniversary of UNESCO.

- The Festival of Vilareal has been dismissed from the organization.

With a deep feeling, we must report the passing away during May of our dear friend, Jose Ignacio Beitia, who for many years was the Treasurer of CIOFF®-SPAIN, representing the Festival of Portugalete and the Basque Country. May he in peace.





XXXIII CIOFF® ITALY GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND CIOFF® YOUTH ITALY ANNUAL MEETING

From 15 to April 17 the city of Matelica was the host of the XXXIII General Assembly of CIOFF® Italy whose members gathered in the meeting hall of the restaurant "TANA DI BIUTINO." The meeting was directed by President Francesco Mallozzi.

As usual, the main matter of discussion was the imminent festivals season, that will see 21 festival partners of the CIOFF® Italy section organizing international folkloric reviews throughout the country. Extraordinarily, instead, we had the presence of an illustrious international guest, Olga Maloney, General Secretary of CIOFF®. She was visiting in Italy to verify the facilities and the location chosen by the CIOFF® Italy for the organization of the 46th World Congress CIOFF®. She used the occasion to join in the assembly, bringing the regards of the executive committee of CIOFF®.

During her visit, the Secretary appreciated the pleasant location of the future congress, had further opportunity to verify the solidity of the CIOFF® Italy section, solidity of groups and festivals in partnership



with the section, and participated in the meeting in Matelica.

In Matelica, on Saturday the 16th, the annual meeting of CIOFF® Youth Italy took place. This annual meeting has welcomed numerous new young people of varied age, who have brought new energy and new ideas to the goals driven by the President, Chiara Di Elia. The young people are always considered important to the mission of CIOFF® and this was evident in presentations by the Secretary General, Antonio Mallozzi and

Giulia Ciuffa, respectively Chairman and Secretary of Youth Coordinating Committee of CIOFF®

The XXXIII General Assembly of CIOFF® Italy, was the prelude to the 46th World Congress of CIOFF®, which will be held from 3rd to 13th October 2016 in FIUGGI (FR), The Assembly has been organized by the folkloric association "Città di Matelica."

By **Antonio Mallozzi**



SUCCESSFUL CULTURAL TOUR OF CIOFF® PARAGUAY

With resounding success, CIOFF® Paraguay has developed a Cultural Tour of International Festivals in seven different cities throughout the country. From February 17th to March 9th, folklore was presented from participating countries to include collections of music, dances, songs, handmade-products, traditional food, and talks. This Cultural Tour traveled to the cities of Juan E. O’Leary (Festival of Yguazú Lake), Minga Guazí (Festival Minguero Jeroky), Itakyry (Festival of Tereré), Nueva Esperanza (Festival of Nueva Esperanza), Katueté (Festival of Integration), San Alber-

to (Festival Jeroky Kyre’^y”), and y Asunción (Internacional Festival from Asunción).

NEXT ASSEMBLIES

CIOFF® Paraguay celebrated two assemblies on May 29th in the city of San Alberto. Based on the Statute of the Paraguayan Section of CIOFF®, the Ordinary General Assembly chose a new Executive Council after the two-year term limit of the current officers expired. On the same date and in the same place, the Extraordinary General Assembly modified some points from the current Statute. They have already published proposals for some changes in the text of the Consti-

tution which regulates the National Section. The call for both assemblies were made public in the media.

RECORD OF WORKSHOPS

In the course of a year they held fourteen workshops on various topics in CIOFF® Paraguay. These included creative workshops to generate new choreographic scenes, traditional costumes, training of youth leaders, training of volunteers for festivals and other cultural undertakings, and training groups incorporated as CIOFF® Paraguay’s partners. Finally, workshops included training members for ‘Custodians of Memory,’ a team preparing to conduct cultural research and record images and sounds in different media and formats.

This work exceeded the previous mark of ten workshops in a year. The training meetings were held in seven cities across the country: Minga Guazú, O’Leary, Asunción, Itakyry, San Alberto, Nueva Esperan-





za and San Lorenzo.

PARAGUAYAN GROUP'S TOURS

In 2016, several groups that are members of CIOFF® Paraguay will make international tours. One that has just returned is the Children's Group 'Paraguay ete' from Turkey, participating in the Gokcan College Children's Festival in Istanbul, and the Corlu Municipality Children's Festival in Corlu.

In May, the 'Paraguay rekove' group, which is directed by Gianni Pizzani, will go to a festival in Costa Rica. In June, the 'San Alberto' group will go to Cuzco, Perú. In July, the 'Kunu'úsaite' group, which is directed by Alethia López, will go to the Brunssum Festival, in Holland. In July-August, the 'Paraguay ete' group, which consists of a selection of artists from various groups associated with CIOFF® Paraguay, will go to Mexico to participate in the World CIOFF® Folkloriada in Zacatecas. In August, the 'Kove' group, directed by Belén Riveros, will go to Turkey, Cyprus and Greece. Also in August, the 'Pacholi' group, directed by Nélica Agüero will go to Turkey and Lebanon, and the 'Itakyry' group of Dance and Music was invited to participate in two festivals in Peru: the 'Tingo Maria' and 'Festidanza of Arequipa'.

By participating in so many international festivals, the groups that are part of the family of CIOFF® Paraguay continue spreading the popular and traditional culture of Paraguay in America, Europe and Asia.

Mario García Siani
CIOFF® Paraguay



LUCAN STORYTELLERS 2015

THE FOREST TELLS US...

LEGENDS, MYTHS AND SIMPLE PEOPLE HAVE MADE THEIR LIVING FROM THE FOREST. THESE ARE FIGURES RELATED TO OUR TRADITIONS WHO HAVE ENTERED OUR IMAGINATION, AND REMAIN PART OF OUR PRESENT:



THE MILLER

These images are just some examples. The purpose of the project "I CONTAFATTI LUCANI 2015," is to revive these figures and mythical characters through pictorial representation (on panels that exhibit a scene), and through a performance of stories, songs and dances directly extracted from the tradition "moliternese," all taking place in the natural setting of forests "Appennino Lucano."

This project proposes a new way of interpreting our land and traditions inspired by the Storyteller, who walked the streets entertaining with real or fantastic tales.

The performance consists of four scenes, where a profession related to the forest is represented. Each scene is presented by the **Storyteller** and is characterized by a piece of tradition along with a popular dance.

The location is in the forest FAGGETO di Moliterno (Potenza), oasis and special area of conservation.

EUROPEAN THEATER CENTER

In collaboration with

Laboratorio Teatro Popolare - Folklore Group "U Cirnicchiu di Moliterno PZ Ass. ARES Naturalmente Ben-Essere"

ARTISTS

Giuseppe Saponare - "Il Pastore" - The Shepherd

Nicoletto D'Imperio - "Il Cacciatore" - The Hunter

Sinfiorosa Cicchelli - "Il Mugnaio" - The Miller

Paola Del Prete - "La Fattura e il Muncieddu" - The Forest Elf - The Malediction

Vincenzo Melfi (CIOFF® Italy)
Member of PR&Communication
Commission



THE SHEPHERD



**THE FOREST ELF
THE MALEDICTION**



THE HUNTER



CIOFF® Commission on Communications and Public Relations and Festivals Commission would like to thank everyone who sent their contribution for this edition of the Newsletter.

CIOFF® Commission on Communications and Public Relations and Festivals Commission bear no responsibility for the content of the articles received from CIOFF® members and published in this Newsletter.

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PUBLICATIONS OF CIOFF® NEWSLETTER

The CIOFF® Newsletter "Entre Nous" is published twice per year: after the Spring Council Meeting and after the annual CIOFF® World Congress.

The nineteenth edition of CIOFF® Newsletter will come out in January 2017 with the deadline for information submission of 15th December 2016

If your Festivals, National Sections, CIOFF® Sectors, Commissions or Committees have any interesting or important information, which you would like to submit to be included into the next CIOFF®

Newsletter, please send it to: CIOFF® Communications and Public Relations Commission by e-mail: newsletter@cioff.org



www.cioff.org

