

ICEFAT NEWS

NEWSLETTER FROM ICEFAT NO 1 – 2004 HIGHEST STANDARDS IN FINE ART SHIPPING

BOOM FOR FINE ART TRANSPORT IN SPAIN

"In view of the 2004 ICEFAT Convention being held in Barcelona, this issue focuses on the Spanish art market". Exhibition and museum work in Spain has expanded over the past five years. Not only are there more exhibitions in the major cities, but all round the country, art lovers can enjoy the boom.

When ICEFAT News spoke to Jessica Ahlgren and Tania Santiago at Edict S.L., one of Spain's leading fine art transporters, it was two satisfied but also stressed Exhibition Co-ordinators describing the Spanish art transport market to us. The company has been fully occupied with a series of inward and outward loans over the past years. Jessica Ahlgren explains that the market has been growing over the past five years, mostly thanks to the great willingness of the Ministry of Culture to back up and finance cultural events.

"And the loan and saving banks in Spain have a commitment to invest an important percentage of their profits in culture," she continues.

As well as this, the Spanish state has backed a major project called Spanish Art Abroad.

"We are currently transporting works by Spanish artists all over the world; from Egypt to El Salvador and Bolivia to Brasil," adds Tania Santiago.

Neither she nor Jessica expects any great changes on the Spanish art market over the coming years especially consider-



JESSICA AHLGREN AND TANIA SANTIAGO BOTH WORK AS EXHIBITION CO-ORDINATORS FOR EDICT S.L. IN MADRID, SPAIN.

ing that the major museums in Madrid are making their installations larger which means that there will be more temporary exhibitions, as well as the fact that a lot of new museums in smaller Spanish cities have been created over the last 5 years.

"It looks very good," they smile.

SPECIAL CLASSIFICATION

Both women agree that the Spanish art market is in many respects similar to those of France and Italy. The state is keen to keep strict control of Spanish heritage which means that loaning out fine art from Spain can be difficult, and tangled in a mass of bureaucracy.

"For all art which is at least 100 years old, or where the artist is deceased, a special export licence is always required, even within the EU" explains Jessica Ahlgren. "That licence can take up to six weeks to get, so it's important that institutions who want to borrow works of art from Spain make arrangements in good time." This is obviously important for the foreign agents to keep in mind too. "We often receive requests for sending works to for example the US within 10

STRONG WORLD-WIDE MEMBERSHIP

Dear Members and Colleagues, Welcome to the 3rd issue of the ICEFAT newsletter. As Simon Fors (MTAB) predicted each new issue has been better and more informative than the last. Congratulations to everyone involved with this publication. Starting with this issue we are embarking on a new distribution method that will increase our readership and hopefully, interest in the organization and our members. The Steering Committee and Newsletter Sub-committee appreciates hearing your comments, suggestions and ideas.

2004 is shaping up to be another fantastic year to be a member of this dynamic organization. Our membership is strong and represents some of the finest professionals in our field, worldwide. Interest in becoming a member is strong as new applications are being received on a regular basis. The Membership Sub-committee is continuing its efforts in redefining the criteria and application process for new members. They must also be congratulated for their dedication to this enormous undertaking.

Following on the success of the Helsinki Convention, plans are underway for ICEFAT and its members to sponsor the opening event at the International Registrar's Symposium held in advance of the AAM convention in New Orleans (May 4-5). ICEFAT is working on plans to hold an opening reception for this event during the evening of Monday May 3, 2004.

In addition, for the second year, ICEFAT will have a booth in the exhibit hall during the AAM convention (May 7-9). Do not miss this opportunity to meet many of our colleagues as

CONT. P2

CONT. P2

VISIT WWW.ICEFAT.ORG WHEN YOU NEED SAFE FINE ART TRANSPORT

DON'T MISS THE FLIGHT

All airfreight must be loaded in a manner that balances the airplane during flight. Airfreight companies call this “The Cargo Load Factor”. Which means the percentage of available capacity on an airplane to load passengers, baggage, fuel and cargo. The formula for calculating the locations on an airplane where cargo containers should be loaded is done by the airplane’s computer system – based on the weight of each container.



It is important to understand that there are different aircraft designs and the optimum balance points vary from aircraft to aircraft. Of course the most important load on an airplane is the fuel stored on the wings. The amount of fuel loaded depends on the distance an aircraft will fly. When fuel is loaded into the wing tanks, it is measured by weight. The

majority of airfreight flies on passenger jets, and passengers and their luggage take priority over the cargo. The airline company must calculate the total weight each flight will be carrying to keep within safe flying limits. Cargo is loaded into the hold after those calculations have been made. The cargo containers are loaded in a pre-specified order, based on their

weights in order to properly balance the plane in flight.

How does this system of “weight and balances” affect the movement of works of art? For example; if the flight is overweight, or the plane is unbalanced, the Airline will remove cargo from the flight to correct the problem. The cause of an overweight situation could be a very full flight, or even stormy weather that can cause a plan to take on more fuel, adding to its weight.

All museums should realize that unless your cargo is supervised, there is always a possibility your freight will miss its flight. Having a knowledgeable ICEFAT Agent working with the airlines on your behalf will avoid problems with your shipment and get it safely to its destination.

days and if it’s a Goya-painting it’s just not possible”.

PLANNING

Transport companies must also submit to public tenders to compete for the larger incoming exhibition. This means that many shows are allotted at the last minute, and that can make planning painful. It also has consequences for agents working with Edict as they might be asked to do packing and transports in a much shorter time than they would prefer.



FREE POLICE ESCORT

Edict’s head office is in Madrid. Everywhere in the country is accessible from the capital by lorry within one day.

“Basically it’s 600 km to most corners of the country, as well as to Lisbon in Portugal”, explains Tania Santiago. “And security measures are very good; all public institutions can apply for police escort - which is free of charge – for the transport of their works or of exhibitions if

they consider it to be necessary.

Madrid’s proximity to the rest of the country by road means that both women recommend all fine art air transport coming into Spain to end in Madrid or Barcelona and do the onwards transportation by truck.

The advice both Tania and Jessica can offer to museums and exhibitors wanting to work with Spain is essentially to give themselves plenty of time. The certified transporters in the country are experienced and accustomed to dealing with everything necessary for both inward and outward loans of fine art.

they visit our booth, plan to volunteer some time during this event.

Finally, investigations are underway to determine if there is a way for ICEFAT to be a significant participant during the European Registrar’s Convention to be held in Wolfsburg, Germany in November. I am sure more information will follow as the conference details get finalized.

The organization of the 28th Annual Convention to be held in Barcelona is well underway. We expect this convention will draw the largest attendance we have seen in the last few years. Barcelona’s temperate climate should produce a warm and pleasant environment for the sharing of ideas and fostering the camaraderie that ICEFAT has become synonymous with.

I would like to on behalf of ICEFAT, wish everyone a very joyous, productive and successful New Year.

Mark Starling
Chairperson
ICEFAT Steering Committee

NEW STANDARD FOR WOOD PACKAGING USED IN TRADE

During 2004 new international regulations covering treated wood will go into effect. This will have an impact on crates being manufactured for the transport of fine art.

The FAO International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) No 15 on Guidelines for regulating wood packaging material in international trade contains phytosanitary measures in respect of movement of wood packaging material in the form of packing cases, crates, drums, pallets, etc. This is aimed at reducing the risk of introduction and spread of quarantine pests associated with wood packaging materials in use in international trade.

The reason for this decision is that the Pine Wood Nematode has been shown to be a growing threat to the forests of Europe. New discoveries of this dangerous pest have been made in wood packaging



WHEN YOU ORDER CRATES, BE SURE THAT YOUR SUPPLIER IS CERTIFIED AND THEREBY FULFILLS THE DEMANDS FOR PRODUCING WOODEN PACKAGES THAT ARE APPROVED.

originating in Canada, the USA, Japan and China. The Asian Longhorned Beetle, which damages deciduous trees, has also proved a threat in the USA as well as Europe. This beetle has been found in packaging manufactured from deciduous timber in China.

EUROPE

In Europe, European Union Member States must adopt and publish, by 30 June 2004 at the latest, the necessary laws, regulations and administrative provisions. They must apply these provisions from 1 July 2004.

The Directive from the European Union stipulates that the wood of conifers, except that of Thuja l., in the form of packing cases, crates, drums, pallets and box pallets, originating in Canada, China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan and the USA must be stripped of its bark, must be free from grub holes larger than 3 mm diameter, and must have a moisture content (expressed as a percentage of dry matter) of less than 20%, achieved at the time of manufacture.

NORTH AMERICA

The USA originally targeted January 1, 2004 for implementing the IPPC standards but has now adjusted this to April or May 2004, and will start issuing notices of non-compliance in January.

All crates IMPORTED into the United States, from other nations, must be constructed using heat treated wood products. These regulations will be similar to those already in use for American wood products (crates) exported from the United States into EU countries, Japan, China, etc. It may take months, or even several years for these rules to become established.

Canada is implementing a new policy directive on January 2nd, 2004. This policy change was required to harmonize Canada's import regulations with the new International Standard ISPM.

Canada, the US and Mexico will coordinate the phase-in of the International Standard. Canada may release non-compliant wood packaging materials accompanying shipment to destination on detention, pending inspection and subsequent release or treatment.

China has introduced requirements over and beyond the standard – health certificates on all dispatches. North America, the EU and other countries introducing the standard during 2004 will not be making this requirement. The intention is for the standard's marking requirement to replace health certificates.

For more information: www.ippc.int
www.aphis.usda.gov

THE RULES IN BRIEF

The standard covers both coniferous and deciduous wood, and practically all types of wooden packaging materials. Exceptions are chipboard, plywood and other forms of wood manufactured using gluing, high temperatures or pressure. Note that if even one single piece of untreated wood is included, it must be processed, approved and marked..

- Timber must be processed, initially by heat treatment (HT) according to a specified time and temperature schedule, to guarantee that the heart of the timber has been heated up to at least 56°C for 30 minutes.
- Kiln drying (KD) to at least 56°C for 30 minutes is approved.
- Gas treatment using methyl bromide (MB) is an alternative for countries lacking the facilities for heat treatment.
- Timber must be debarked (DB).
- All sections of packaging must be processed and marked.
- Timber must be marked according to a specified model.

FINLAND

The 27th ICEFAT Convention held in Helsinki, Finland, gathered more than 120 delegates from all over the world.

Led by chairman Pol Maertens of Maertens International in Belgium, the Convention discussed issues such as the New Membership profile, Finance, Marketing projects and the ICEFAT Website.

MEMBERSHIP

On request of the Steering Committee, the Sub-committee Membership reviewed the application procedure and their proposals for the admission of new members, as well as amendments to the Articles of Association, were amply discussed in the meetings. The incorporation of the Membership Profile, as an important tool to judge an application, together with recommendations from three ICEFAT Members and an e-mail questionnaire to the membership should be a good basis for the acceptance or rejection of companies applying for membership.



FINANCE AND MARKETING

Further to the results of the 2002 Convention in Lima, the Sub-committee Finance have established Policy Guidelines for the Payment Behavior between ICEFAT Members, which were approved by the Membership to be included in the ICEFAT Rules and Regulations. With new members, this Sub-committee will continue to develop other interesting projects for the benefit of the Members.

Stefan Fors, from MTAB in Sweden, highlighted the motivation to start actively marketing the ICEFAT brand.

"In the past year we have designed the new logo and graphic guidelines are available on the website for members," he said. "We have designed a new website

which has proved to be a useful source of information for clients and members. Two issues of the Newsletter were produced, and positively received by both members and clients. A brochure and postcard were handed out in Portland last May, at the AAM, where we were represented with a fantastic booth for the first time in ICEFAT history."

The positive response from our Clients to these initiatives and the unanimous acceptance by the Membership of the ambitious plans for 2004 prove that ICEFAT is on the right track

STEERING COMMITTEE

In the Annual General Meeting, the Convention elected two new members to the Steering Committee: Oliver Howell from Gander & White Shipping, London, and Sean O'Malley from US Art Company, New York., to succeed Pol Maertens and Bill O'Connor, who resigned from the Committee.

With the announcement that the 28th ICEFAT Convention will be held in Barcelona in 2004, from September 30-October 4, the Chairman closed this successful and enjoyable Helsinki Convention.

MEET ICEFAT IN NEW ORLEANS

The Registrars Committee will organize an International Registrars Symposium at Hotel Monteleone in New Orleans on May 4 and 5, 2004.

The focus of this symposium will be on organizing exhibitions and loans internationally.

As museums around the world continue to organize large, complex exhibitions and loans the role of the registrar is constantly changing. This symposium will bring together those who are charged with making it happen: registrars, pack-

ers, shippers, art handlers, insurance agents, conservators, and all those who are part of the process.

ICEFAT will host the Opening Reception on Monday evening May 3, at the New Orleans Museum of Art as a welcome to New Orleans to all Symposium attendees.

AAM ANNUAL MEETING AND MUSEUMEXPO

With over 4,000 attendees this meeting attracts every segment of the museum industry.

During the Convention days (May 6-10) you can attend numerous educa-



VISIT ICEFAT AND ITS MEMBERS AT BOOTH # 628.

tional sessions, meetings and workshops. At the MuseumExpo (May 7-9) you can turn to over 300 exhibiting companies in the industry.

Meet ICEFAT and its Members at booth # 628.



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