

Welcome

Welcome to Interpret Europe's first e-newsletter.

As you will know, Interpret Europe was founded last year at a successful conference in Ljubljana hosted by the Slovenian Interpretation Network. Delegates from all round Europe signed the constitution and since then Patrick and Bettina Lehnés, our managing directors, have been hard at work getting the organisation up and running.



Interpreters reveal what is easily missed (here in Latvia's nature)

Interpret Europe brings together people who are professionally involved in heritage interpretation - the art of explaining the significance of places to local people and visitors. Our principal aims are to widen the awareness of interpretation as a management tool at natural and cultural heritage sites, to set quality standards for interpretation and to support the work of people involved in interpretation.

We plan to hold an annual conference where we can share knowledge and experience and the first one is in Freiburg this July. The programme is now complete and includes a range of presentations, workshops and field visits. Book your place now. You can do it on our website: www.interpret-europe.net

If you want to tell people about Interpret Europe, the website is full of useful information. In addition, we're producing a leaflet in several languages which will soon be available for downloading from the website and which you can use to tell others about Interpret Europe.

We would also like your news - so please send any items for the next newsletter, to be published after the Freiburg conference, to mail.07@interpret-europe.net. The deadline is August 10.

Best wishes to you all from Michael Glen and all his colleagues on the Supervisory Committee.

News from Interpret Europe

Lots of new members

We are signing up new members every week and we're on our way to the first 100! Thank you for joining and showing your faith in Interpret Europe. Please talk to colleagues, clients and friends and encourage them to join up as well. The more members we have, the more we can offer our members.

Do you want to show
you are a member?



If you wish to demonstrate that you, or your organisation, are a member of Interpret Europe you are now able to do so. The Committee has agreed that you can include a special version of the logo - see the illustration- on your websites, publicity material and stationery. Please contact Bettina Lehnés so that we can authorise your use of the symbol. It will help to publicise IE as well as showing that you are 'well connected'.

Freiburg is going to be
busy in July



*The Muenster
in Freiburg*

The programme for Interpret Europe's first annual conference is very exciting. It's full of interest for everyone with lively classroom sessions and workshops, relevant site visits and plenty of time for networking. We're delighted with the number of interpreters who wish to hold sessions and run workshops at the conference.

We are expecting people from all over Europe and beyond.

Registrations are very promising: Sweden, Denmark, Latvia, Poland, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Slovenia, Croatia, Italy, Malta, Spain, UK, Holland, Germany, Israel, Morocco, Indonesia, Taiwan, Australia, Canada...

Remember the dates 11 to 15 July.

Look at our website, www.interpret-europe.net, for full details and book your place as soon as possible.

Who's running
Interpret Europe?

The website has full details but it's worth reminding you that Patrick and Bettina Lehnés, our directors run our secretariat in Freiburg and members of the Supervisory Committee represent a number of countries: There is also a group of expert advisors whom the Committee can call upon for extra help.



First meeting of committee and secretariat near Rome in January 2011

Left to right:

Maurilio Cipparone (Italy), Patrick Lehnés (Germany), Peter Seccombe (UK-England), José-Maria de Juan Alonso (Spain), Iryna Shalaginova (Ukraine/Germany), Bettina Lehnés (Germany), Lili Mahne (Slovenia), Michael Glen (UK-Scotland), Marjeta Keršič-Švetel (Slovenia)

Missing: Nicole Deufel (Germany/UK-Wales), Darko Babič (Croatia)

Interpret Europe has made a submission, led by Libby Urquhart of Arch (Scotland), to the Leonardo Partnership scheme. The aim is to develop a common and high standard training for interpretation managed by the network partners. This aim is served by exchanging best practice in the interpretation of natural and cultural heritage and we want to achieve this through each of the 10 partners running a workshop / meeting / event with a pre-selected theme. We hope to hear soon if the project has been accepted for funding.

Interpreters at work

Italian Parks Celebrate the Anniversary of National Unity in America

On 17 March Italy celebrated 150 years of national unity: the nation's "jewels" of natural and cultural heritage were featured in a public presentation of the George Wright Society, the leading international organization of Protected Areas professionals.

"Rethinking parks and protected areas in a changing world" was the theme of the international conference of the GWS, which this year, for the first time, invited representatives of AIDAP, the Italian National Association of Directors Officials and Protected Areas, to participate.

The conference was held in New Orleans from March 14 to 18 and on 17th (the same day as the celebration in Italy) a presentation was made on the state of, and "best practices" in Italian parks, reporting on ongoing initiatives and projects of AIDAP Italian partners, including the University of Molise and the CURSA, University Consortium for Economic Research and the Environment.

Maurilio Cipparone, spokesperson for the Union for the parks and nature of Italy and Interpret Europe Vice Chair, coordinated the special "Italian" session.



Back: Nino Martino, director of the Dolomiti Bellunesi National Park, director of the Marsh Billing Rockefeller National Historical Park.

Front: Maurilio Cipparone, Dr. Nora Mitchell, director of the Conservation Study Institute of the NPS

In the same GWS session an agreement was presented between AIDAP & CURSA to achieve a true "Campus for Protected Areas," spread throughout Italy, open to the participation of organizations that want to join and cooperate with universities and protected areas worldwide. The first official initiatives will be dedicated to environmental interpretation, introducing in the Italian "academic world" the principles, the objectives and techniques of interpretation. Interpret Europe is likely to be asked to collaborate with this ambitious initiative.

Major agreements have already been signed between Italian Parks and American institutions, in particular, with the Conservation Study Institute and with Acadia National Park. According to Maurilio Cipparone, the realization of the "Campus of Protected Areas " and the agreements already signed for the exchange of experience and academic training "is an extraordinary opportunity for the staff of our parks, and for students to pursue internships to increase motivation and preparation, something that we have discussed with our American partners and that we intend to propose already this year. "

What is going on in Europe

We are more!
An initiative of
Culture Action Europe
in partnership with ECF

In July, the European Commission will officially launch its discussions on how much will be spent on culture in the next EU budget. They will also be questioning the shape and content of the EU Culture Programme.

The resulting decisions by national governments and EU policymakers will influence the next ten years of support for cultural activities.

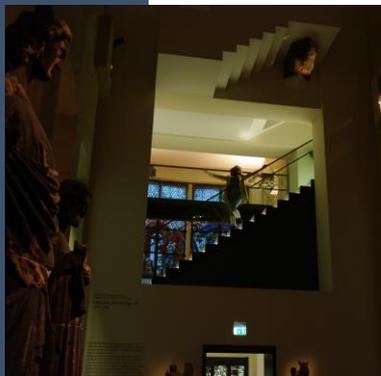
It will directly affect everyone who lives in Europe.

Currently, direct support for arts and culture represents 0.05% of the total EU budget.

We believe this does not properly reflect the importance of arts and culture in the development of all European societies. We seek increased support for culture in the next EU budget.

We cannot wait another decade. We need as many signatures as possible before July to have our voices heard by governments and policymakers.

Make a difference by actively supporting [we are more!](#)



The new
Augustinermuseum
in Freiburg

The 1st Heritage Forum of Central Europe

July 07-09, 2011. Krakow, Poland

Organizers: International Cultural Centre, Krakow

The International Cultural Centre in Krakow, Poland, and the V4 Cultural Heritage Experts' Working Group are organising the First Heritage forum of Central Europe.

The Forum will discuss issues relating to the protection and management of cultural heritage, such as:

- recognition of current trends and challenges;
- exchange of views, experience and good practices;
- identification of optimum strategies and solutions as well as formulation of recommendations.

Organised as a meeting of experts as part of Poland's Presidency of the

Council of the European Union, the first edition of the Forum will be an opportunity to summarise the twenty years of transformation in cultural heritage in the region, as well as to identify common problems and new challenges.

The Forum is for people who are responsible for developing cultural policies, experts and specialists in cultural heritage protection and management, and caretakers and managers of historic monuments and sites from Central Europe.

Conference fee: 50 € (200 PLN), which includes participation in the conference, lunches and coffee breaks, a copy of the 2010 V4 conference proceedings

Deadline for application: May 15, 2011

Contact: heritage.forum@mck.krakow.pl

www.mck.krakow.pl

28 - 30 September 2011. Kalmar, Sweden

Organizer: Linnaeus University

This conference investigates the relations between people and places, focusing on the role of stories in constructing meaning and affecting human emotions. Both rural and urban landscapes contain numerous locations that become meaningful places through their association with stories. These stories may be told orally by narrators or by material design; they may be permanent or temporary. The stories may be linked, for example, to the vegetation, the geology, the wild life, the cultural heritage, the mundane built environment, or metaphysical creatures. Whether such stories are historically accurate, purposefully invented or created entirely in residents' or visitors' minds is however less important than their potential to touch human beings.

Main aims of the conference

1. to explore the relations between people, places, and stories in the context of notable trends in the Experience Society such as the role of affect, emotion, and sensual stimulation.
2. to investigate how the visual and performing arts can complement academic research by generating both new questions and new kinds of responses to topics at the interface between places, people and stories.

[More information](#)



The call of the mountains

What contribution has mountain tourism made to our Cultural Heritage?

06 – 09 October 2011, Pieniny Mountains (Poland/Slovakia)

Organisers: International Friends of Nature, Polish Tourist Country Lovers' Society (PTTK) – Krakow Academic Section; Department of Tourism and Recreation, Academy of Physical Education, Krakow

In co-operation with: Pieniny National Park (Western Carpathians)

Interdisciplinary and
International Conference on
Places, People, Stories 2011

V International Seminar
on Mountain Tourism



Black Forest is calling...

In many parts of the World mountain tourism has become a well-recognised aspect of the culture; certainly in Europe, mountain tourism as a social activity has a history extending back more than 200 years. During this

it has become a vital and creative force in the development of our culture but in some formats has reached mass scale and commercialisation. This is why mountain tourism is nowadays sometimes perceived as a destructive force,

a challenge both for the natural and the cultural environment.

During our Seminar we want to concentrate our attention on the contribution made by mountain tourism to our respective cultures, in a variety of manifestations - including art, music, architecture, literacy, photography, tradition and environmental awareness. How should we sustain the legacy of mountain tourism, not simply as a purely physical activity, but as an enriching and educative experience for young people? We would also like to consider the place in our culture of buildings such as mountain huts and similar structures associated with mountain tourism, many of which have accrued heritage value. Should they be protected in the same way as other cultural and natural monuments, and who ought to take on the responsibility?

Participants are kindly invited to submit papers, posters or any other kind of presentation related to the theme of the Seminar.

For more information please contact:

Christian Baumgartner: christian.baumgartner@nf-int.org

or Piotr Dabrowski : dabrowski@eko-tourist.krakow.pl

indicating: name, surname, e-mail address and represented in protected area/company/media organisation. The organisers will forward full details and a registration.

Search and find

Guest professors in Sweden

The Swedish Centre for Nature Interpretation is looking for people who could be relevant as guest professors in Sweden in the field of heritage and nature interpretation. Contact Per Sonnvik at per.sonnvik@slu.se for more information.

**Deadline for contributions for our next newsletter:
10 August 2011**

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