

Arbeitsgemeinschaft Literarischer Gesellschaften und Gedenkstätten e.V.

Panorama and Perspectives.

Literary Societies and Literary Museums in Europe

Panorama und Perspektive. Literarische Gesellschaften und Literaturmuseen in Europa

Newsletter 7 – 03/2011

■ Belgium

■ *Flemish PEN-archive handed over to Letterenhuis.* PEN, of course, stands for “poets, playwrights, essayists, editors and novelists”. This international association was founded in 1921 and operates in 104 countries, including Belgium and Germany. PEN works to achieve good international relations and free speech through literature. Three of the members of the board of PEN Flanders now resigning (chairman Geert van Istendael, treasurer Suzanne Binnemans, and Ingrid Vander Veken, vice-chairman and administrator of the PEN flat) recently handed over their sections of the PEN Flanders archives to the Letterenhuis (Archive for Flemish Literature).

This gift provides an overview of the policy that chairman Geert van Istendael has pursued for three years. And also much more: the official deeds for the establishment of the PEN Writer’s Flat, for example, and, more interestingly, the correspondence with the authors who have stayed there – including the French-Moroccan Tahar Ben Jalloun and the South-African Antjie Krog. The archives also contain the financial reports and policy plans from the last ten years.

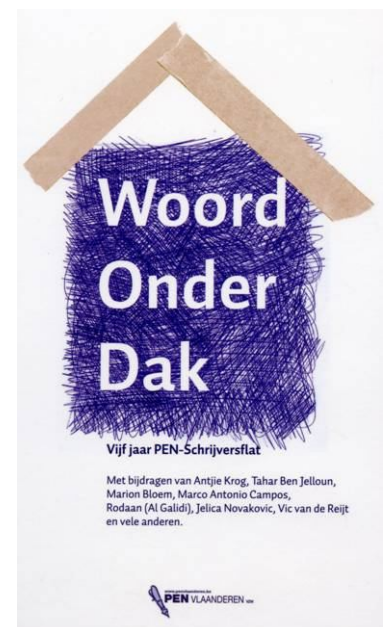
The gift is a fine addition to the existing collection at the Letterenhuis, which has already held part of the archives of the Flemish PEN Centre for several years. The earlier material is preserved in several personal archives such as those of one of the former chairpersons Fernand Toussaint van Boelaere (1875-1947). In this way the Letterenhuis has possession of letters from, among others, the Austrian-Hungarian writer Joseph Roth, Beatrice M. Worthing, the British biographer of the Belgian Nobel Prize laureate Emile Verhaeren, and the British playwright Herman Ould. The more recent material originates from the 1976 - 2003 period. These archives contain correspondence with Belgian and foreign writers and literary organisations, lists of members and thematic files on such items as foreign trips and the PEN Prize.

The archive of PEN is undoubtedly an interesting source for international research.

Leen Van Dijck | Letterenhuis (Archive for Flemish Literature)|

www.letterenhuis.be | letterenhuis@stad.antwerpen.be ■

■ En ce début d'année 2011, *les Archives & Musée de la Littérature poursuivent leur politique de publications liées à l'Afrique centrale* avec la parution du livre de Jean-Pierre De Rycke (chez PIE-Peter Lang): “Africanisme et Modernisme. La peinture et la photographie d'inspiration coloniale en Afrique centrale. 1920-1940”, livre qui paraît en même temps que *l'exposition “L'Afrique rêvée”* qui se tient au Musée des Beaux-Arts de Tournai jusqu'à fin mars 2011 et rassemble 200 œuvres.



■ *A propos de l'histoire des Avant-gardes européennes*, ils publient, dans la même collection, le livre de Geneviève Michel consacré à l'invention du surréalisme bruxellois et à son rapport foncier, mais subtil, au politique: "Paul Nougé. Une poésie au cœur de la révolution". L'étude de Lenia Marqués (Aveiro, Lisbonne) complète ce travail au travers d'une perspective essentielle chez cet auteur, l'étude du fragment et sa comparaison avec ce qui se passe en Suisse, à la même époque, dans l'œuvre de Charles Albert Cingria, écrivain aux antipodes politiques de Nougé mais que Paulhan appréciait tout autant que Nougé.

■ La collection "Documents pour l'histoire des Francophonies" publie par ailleurs *deux monographies consacrées au plus âgé des écrivains belges vivants, Henry Bauchau (1913)*. L'approche d'Emilienne Akonga (Kinshasa), d'une part. Elle s'attache au mouvement qui va dans cette œuvre "De la déchirure à la réhabilitation. L'approche littéraire chez Henry Bauchau". Celle d'Emilia Surmonte (Naples / Salerne), d'autre part, qui se consacre au roman-phare de l'auteur paru en 1997 "Antigone". Ces deux ouvrages seront présentés parallèlement à une exposition qui se tiendra dans les murs de l'institution à Bruxelles et sera consacrée à l'auteur d'"Œdipe sur la route".

■ Enfin, en ce début d'année, dans leur collection "Archives du Futur", les AML publient – après celle publiée, en 1996, entre Stefan Zweig et Emile Verhaeren – *les correspondances entre Emile et Marthe Verhaeren, d'une part, Rainer Maria Rilke de l'autre ; Emile Verhaeren et Edouard Dehmel, par ailleurs*. "La lettre de Rilke à un ouvrier" (qui concerne Verhaeren) est introduite en français par Fabrice van de Kerckhove, qui donne par ailleurs un commentaire majeur à cette édition, commentaire qui restitue en profondeur l'Europe culturelle des deux premières décennies du vingtième siècle, et le monde germanique en particulier.

Marc Quaghebeur | Archives & Musée de la Littérature | www.aml.cfwb.be |
marc.quaghebeur@aml-cfwb.be ■

■ Czech Republic

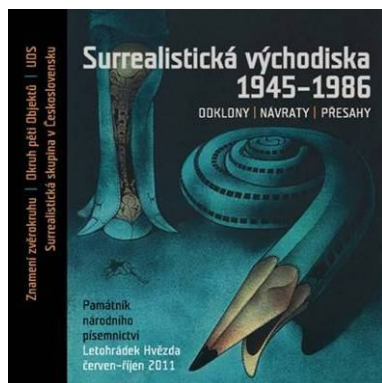
■ **until end of 2012** – *Travelling exhibition "The most beautiful Czech and Slovak Children's Books"*. The travelling exhibition showing 100 plus 100 most beautiful children's books by Czech and Slovak publishers is put on by the Medzinárodný dom umenia pre deti BIBIANA (International House of Art for Children), Bratislava, the Slovak Republic and the Museum of Czech Literature, Prague. The exhibition that was opened in Prague will be on display in 2011 in many towns and cities of the Czech Republic; in 2012 it will go on in Slovakia.



■ **15 - 30 April 2011 / Prague** – *Competition "The Most Beautiful Czech Books of the Year 2010"*. The display of award-winning titles of the 46th year of the competition will be held in co-operation with the Czech Republic Ministry of Culture. The awards ceremony will take place in the Museum of Czech Literature.

■ **26 May - 1 July 2011 / Berlin** – *Exhibition "Karel Hynek Mácha 1810-2010"*. In the ALG Newsletter no. 3 there was information about the exhibition "Karel Hynek Mácha 1810-2010" through which the Museum of Czech Literature remembered the 200th anniversary of the birth of the most significant Czech representative of Romanticism, the father of modern Czech poetry. As agreed with the Czech Centre in Berlin, the vast exhibition, which opened the 4th Congress of the World Literary Bohemistics at the end of June 2010, was created in a short German travelling version for the Humboldt University of Berlin.

■ **20 June - 30 October 2011 / Prague** – *Exhibition "Surrealistic Potentiality 1945-1986. Diversions, Reversions, Overlaps"*. The exhibition organised by the Museum of Czech Literature in Letohrádek Hvězda (the Hvězda Summer Pavilion) is devoted to Czech



post-war Surrealism associated in a circle called UDS. The exhibition room is divided into four units graduated according to each decade. It was Karel Teige who became the link of inter-war and post-war Czech Surrealism; and among prime figures which had a high profile, too, were: the theorist Vratislav Effenberger, the psychoanalyst Zbyněk Havlíček, and the writers Stanislav Dvorský and Petr Král. Among the items will be fundamental theoretic material, photographs, films and artworks of such authors like Václav Tikal, Josef Istler, Mikuláš Medek, Jan and Eva Švankmajer or Emila Medková.

■ *Permanent exhibition / Prague – “Ladislav Mňačko (1919-1994). Publicist, Novelist, Poet and Dramatist”.* The Museum of Czech Literature has prepared the permanent exposition presenting the study room of the significant writer, Ladislav Mňačko. In the exposition is a library that is open to the public during organised events, and to researches when prearranged.

■ Another exhibition for foreign visitors that the Museum of Czech Literature would like to put on in a travelling version is devoted to five significant Czech authors (Karel Čapek, Jaroslav Seifert, Jaroslav Hašek, Bohumil Hrabal, and Václav Havel) whose translated works have been published in Europe and other countries. The arrangements of this *exhibition called “Literature without Borders”* are being negotiated now.



Alena Petruželková, Růžena Hamanová and Vladimír Uhlík | Museum of Czech Literature, Prague | www.pamatniknarodnihopisemnictvi.cz | petruzelkova@pamatnik-np.cz ■

■ Denmark

■ *Danish-Swedish Writers' Society 1995-2010:* Not that the bilingual society has given up its activities – it has been celebrating its 15th anniversary in the city of Malmoe. Since 1995, the society has published quite a number of anthologies, two of which are dealing with the perception of the neighbouring country and its population through history, the rest on the very subject of writing. To become a member of this special literary society one has to be exactly that: a writer, either in Danish or in Swedish.

Twice a year, the members of the society are invited to present their recent publications at a public event, and once or twice, a meeting is held on the subject of great writers in the two literatures. In 2010, the Swedish symbolist Ola Hansson's 150th birthday was celebrated by two conferences, respectively in Copenhagen and Malmoe, not neglecting the fact that Ola Hansson's influence on German literature once was considerable.

Currently, the president of the Danish-Swedish Writers' Society is the Danish modernist poet Helge Krarup of Copenhagen. Find out more about the society at: www.dansk-svensk.com

■ By Christmas 2010, *the Society Bellman in Denmark published Volume 5 in its series of publication*; the book was presented to the public at the annual meeting on the poet's 271st birthday in February 2011. One main objective of this society is the research on the Swedish national poet Bellman's reception in Danish literature, fine arts, music and staging arts; in this volume, however, the field is widened as to comment on works of fine arts (mostly illustrations in books, but also paintings etc.) from Denmark, Finland, Sweden and Germany, as well as on works of literature (poems, plays, novels etc.) from Denmark, Finland and Sweden. – German literature could have contributed as Ernst Moritz Arndt, Rilke, Johannes Bobrowski and others have composed works concerning Bellman; but that is not a chapter in the actual publication.

Researchers from Finland, Sweden and Denmark contribute with articles and essays. Bellman's main works, "Fredman's Epistles" and "Fredman's Songs" have during 220 years had a considerable number of illustrated versions, and one chapter contains examples from almost every artist during this period of time, collected and commented by the late Mr Jens Lund from the Society Bellman in Denmark, who, on this special area, perhaps is the most competent art historian ever. Likewise, a series of poems in Danish and Swedish exemplifies the use of Bellman themes in literature. Articles deal with the Danish classical writer Steen Steensen Blicher (of current interest in both German and French translation, in English earlier) and the Swedish poets and playwrights Carl von Snoilsky and Lars Forssell; the Finland-Swedish poet Lars Huldén refers to what he himself has contributed, and the Danish poet-writer Søren Sørensen, chairman of the Danish Bellman Society, takes the reader through Danish 20th century literature in connection with Bellman portraits in poetry, ending his examination before the date of the publication of his own collections of poetry on the subject and his portrait novel of 2009.

As a special third angle, Carl Michael Bellman's religious poetry takes the floor in the "Bellman i Billed og Digt". Find out more at: www.bellman.dk

■ **12 May 2011 / Copenhagen** – *Literary Marathon on Francesco Petrarca at the Literaturhaus in Copenhagen*: Why has a Danish literary institution a German name, one could wonder? The founder and leader of the Literaturhaus, Paul Opstrup, explains it with referring to the fact that the inspiration came from German cities: the Literaturhaus is named in German because the phenomenon was invented in Germany – just as jazz carries its American name, because it was invented in the USA.

The activity of the Literaturhaus is high; one special event is called Literary Marathon. In October 2010, a Literary Marathon took place focusing on the Norwegian poet and playwright Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson – in his time a leading intellectual in the whole of Europe, engaged in the freedom struggles of the oppressed nationalities, Czechs, Poles, Finns etc. The next Marathon will be on 12 May 2011, focusing on Francesco Petrarca whose "Canzoniere" is being published complete for the first time in a Nordic language by the poet-translator Søren Sørensen (in Danish). In 2005, Sørensen published a selection of 122 poems from the "Canzoniere", which is one third of the complete edition; the publication of 2011 contains all 366 sonetti, canzoni, sextine, ballate and madrigali.

■ **Summer 2011** – *The Blicher Society arranges a journey* along the traces given by the Danish poet-writer Steen Steensen Blicher in 1836 on his travel to Sweden – a travel that inspired him to write one journey report and one collection of poems, but also gave impulses to a strong political activity in the home country after the journey. More information about the activities of the Blicher society you can find at: www.blicherselskabet.dk

■ **19 - 21 August 2011 / Elsinore** – *A Conference about the classics and present day literature is planned for August 2011 in Elsinore*: The umbrella associations in the Nordic countries have initiated a series of conferences on literary issues, and after a substantial and interesting first conference in 2009, organised by the DELS/Sweden, the Association of Literary Societies in Denmark has undertaken the arranging of a second one this year. The issue will be how the classic works and writers inspire modern writers in their work – with a quotation from the Danish poet Søren Ulrik Thomsen "at eye level with the classics". The focus will primarily be on the Nordic classics the "Edda" and the "Kalevala", and secondly on those classics around which the majority of literary societies, museums etc. are established.

Lectures and discussions will deal with the poets Søren Ulrik Thomsen (Copenhagen) and Lars Huldén (Helsinki) and their relation to the classics, "The Nordic Old Testament" by the poet Vagn Lundbye, Nordic classics in modern media, Nordic classics in Europe, gender perspective and Georg Brandes as inspirer of Nordic literature. The latin utopia of the Danish-Norwegian 18th century playwright and philosopher Ludvig Holberg, "Iter subterraneum" (Nicolas Klim's Subterranean Journey), was recently translated into Danish by Peter Zeeberg and Karen Skovgaard Petersen; on Friday, 19 August, Peter Zeeberg will comment the translation and the actor Christian Steffensen will recite parts of the book. On Saturday evening, the composer-writer-singer Per Warming will lead a sing-along on the theme of the conference according to the special Danish tradition of songs (the Grundtvig tradition).

The Association of Literary Societies in Denmark cooperates in the event with the Danish Academy and the Danish Association for Nordic Cooperation/Foreningen Norden.

Working language during the conference will be, as normally at Nordic conferences, Danish, Norwegian and Swedish – languages mutually understandable. Lecturers are leading literature historians and writers from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, and participants are expected from all parts of the Nordic countries. European colleagues with sufficient language skills are welcome.

The meeting place is the suburb Snekersten on the southern part of Elsinore in northern Zealand, a region with heavy literary inheritance, not only Danish, but also European in general, described e.g. by Shakespeare, Strindberg, Thomas Mann, Rainer Maria Rilke and Larbaud; among the Danish writers Hans Christian Andersen, Søren Kierkegaard, J.P. Jacobsen (“Gurre-Lieder” cf. Arnold Schönberg), Henrik Pontoppidan and Karen Blixen are the most renowned. Professor Niels Kofoed will speak especially on this subject, and professor Louise Vinge of Lund's University will comment on the Swedish parallel of Värmland. More information about the conference you can find at: www.litteraturselskaber.dk

Søren Sørensen | Association of Literary Societies in Denmark | www.litteraturselskaber.dk |

kirsoeren@pc.dk ■

■ France

■ The 24th edition of the newsletter “Bulletin d'informations” published twice a year by the *French Fédération nationale des maisons d'écrivain & des patrimoines littéraires* is now at your disposal. You can download it from our website: www.litterature-lieux.com

In this edition you can read a central article about the literary spots that we are going to visit in March in Normandy where our General Assembly takes place, and a lot of information about our members' life.

You will find all the previous editions of the Newsletter (since 1998) on the website – and shortly a totally new edition of our website, that is currently being refreshed and modernised...

Jean-Claude Ragot | Fédération des maisons d'écrivain & des patrimoines littéraires |

www.litterature-lieux.com | maisonsecrivain@yahoo.com ■

■ Germany



■ **17 - 20 March 2011 / Leipzig** – As in the last years, *the ALG will be present at the Leipzig Book Fair*. Information brochures and publications from our members will be available on the stand, a small panel exhibition will showcase literary museums and societies.

You can find us in Hall 5 / Stand A 107.

■ **9 – 11 September 2011 / Berlin** – *Annual General Meeting of the ALG and celebration of the 25th anniversary of the umbrella association*. Details about the event will follow in the next Newsletter.

■ The *Internet appearance of the ALG has been amended and modernised*. Have a look at our new website at www.alg.de. A link on the first page leads to the website of the European project “Panorama and Perspectives” (<http://literaryheritage.culturebase.org>).

Gesa Schubert | Arbeitsgemeinschaft Literarischer Gesellschaften und Gedenkstätten |

www.alg.de | schubert@alg.de ■

■ Italy

■ *The Alberto Moravia Museum House – a new museum.* The Alberto Moravia Museum House is the house where the writer, critic, essayist and member of the European Parliament, Alberto Moravia (Rome, 1907-1990) lived. After having lived with Elsa Morante in via dell'Oca, the writer moved to this house on Lungotevere della Vittoria in 1963, living first with Dacia Maraini and later with Carmen Llera.

On the occasion of the 103rd anniversary of the birth of the writer, the house in Rome, overlooking the River Tiber, has now become the Alberto Moravia House Museum. It opened its doors for the first time to the public on 1 December 2010. With this new acquisition by the Cultural Policies and Communication - Superintendence of Cultural Heritage in collaboration with the Associazione Fondo Alberto Moravia (www.fondoalbertomoravia.it) and with the organisational support of Zètema Progetto Cultura (www.zetema.it), the house has become the 18th museum of the Civic Museums Network (www.museiincomuneroma.it).

The apartment – now headquarters of the Associazione Fondo Alberto Moravia – is divided into a series of rooms, connected by two corridors, which still reveal the personal style of the landlord: a lounge with a large terrace overlooking the Tiber, a seventies-style kitchen, a bedroom and study.

Numerous paintings and portraits of the writer are hung on the walls of the house: these works testify his relationship with the protagonists of the Italian art scene: Renato Guttuso, Mario Schifano, Sergio Vacchi, Giulio Turcato, Corrado Cagli, Lorenzo Tornabuoni, Leonardo Cremonini, Onofrio Martinelli, Adriana Pincherle (Moravia's sister) and others. Noteworthy is the collection of traditional masks and objects collected in the numerous trips to Africa, Asia and South America.

The Library is one of the most interesting elements of the house. It contains evidence of the many and varied interests cultivated by Moravia, e.g. Italian and foreign literature, books and essays on visual arts, politics, psychoanalysis, non-European cultures; the Archive also contains about 15,000 documents including letters, manuscripts and newspapers.

■ *Literary exhibitions on the web are increasig also in Italy.* Some of them are accessible through the Internet Culturale portal (www.internetculturale.it); the website is promoted by the General Direction for Libraries, Cultural Institutes and Copyright of the Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activities and has been realised by the Central Institute for the Union Catalogue of Italian Libraries and for Bibliographic Information (ICCU).

Internet Culturale proposes an integrated access system to the digital and traditional resources of libraries, archives, and other Italian cultural institutions and through the "Cultural Routes" menu, to the exhibitions. These are devoted to writers and poets such as Elsa Morante, Italo Calvino, Guido Gozzano, Mario Tobino and many others from the nineties up to now.

A good example is the exhibition "*Giorgio Bassani. Il giardino dei libri*", organised by Cento municipality, the Giorgio Bassani Foundation (www.fondazionegiorgiobassani.it) and the Ministry for Cultural Heritage. It is an interesting example for its international importance: the event took place for the first time in Rome (2004-2005) and then moved to Paris (2006), Montreal (2008), New York (2009), Ferrara (2010), increasing over the years with unpublished documents, new sections and critical perspective up to the last edition that took place in Cento, near Ferrara, from 15 February to 19 March 2011. On the web is accessible the 2004-2005 edition (www.internetculturale.it/genera.jsp?s=143).

■ "*Copy in Italy. Autori italiani nel mondo dal 1945 a oggi*" is an exhibition organised by the Mondadori Foundation (www.fondazionemondadori.it) in cooperation with the Cariplo Foundation, Lombardia Region and the Italian Publisher Association (AIE). It is the story of the Italian books success abroad throughout over 2000 images. The exhibition was mounted for the first time at the Braidense national Library in Milan during the 2009 IFLA World Library and Information Congress and is now available, in four sections, as a travelling exhibition, bilingual in Italian and English.

Francesca Ghersetti | Fondazione Benetton Studi Ricerche, Treviso | www.fbsr.it |

francesca.ghersetti@tin.it ■

■ **7 and 8 May 2011 / Palermo and Trapani** – *A meeting of literary museums in Sicily.* On the beginning of May, Valeria Li Vigni, coordinator of ICOM Italia in Sicily, has organised – in collaboration with Maria Gregorio who is in charge of Italian literary and composers museums – a seminar as part of a regional meeting between the museums on the island. Among them, some are for major figures in the history of Italian literature and music: the composer Vincenzo Bellini, the writers Luigi Capuana, Giovanni Verga, Luigi Pirandello, Lucio Piccolo and Salvatore Quasimodo.

But in Sicily there are also literary parks, an Italian institution kindred to that of the museums, with significant examples throughout the country. In Sicily, parks are dedicated to Giovanni Verga and Salvatore Quasimodo. Moreover, we also remember a number of important literary foundations that act as centres of study on authors such as Elio Vittorini, Gesualdo Bufalino, Danilo Dolci, Leonardo Sciascia, Stefano D'Arrigo, and (soon to be set up) Vitaliano Brancati.

The meeting will take place over two days in Palermo and Trapani and will focus on the issue of how to work as part of a regional network, how to establish and maintain useful contacts with the literary museums throughout Italy and how to participate in European projects.

Also taking part, in addition to the managers, directors and curators of literary museums, parks and foundations, are representatives of outstanding cultural institutions in Sicily, as well as the Chairman of the Associazione Case della memoria (www.casedellamemoria.it), Adriano Rigoli, and the Chairman of Parchi letterari and of Paesaggio culturale italiano (www.literary-landscapes.com), Stanislao de Marsanich.

Since 2011 is the year in which relations between Italy and Russia are celebrated, the guest of honour will be Galina Alexeeva, Head of the Academic Research Department, Leo Tolstoy Museum-estate "Yasnaya Polyana" and Secretary of the International Committee for Literary and Composer Museums (ICLM).

■ **On 9 May 2011** ICOM Italia will hold its National Assembly in Palermo, and the Chairman, Alberto Garlandini, will also be present at our meeting. A report on the meeting will appear in the next Newsletter.

Maria Gregorio | ICOM Italia | www.icom-italia.org | mariagreg@tiscali.it ■

■ Upcoming Events

This list includes upcoming events announced in earlier newsletters as well as major events announced above

■ **until 18 March 2011 / Luxembourg: Mersch.** Exhibition "Hugo Gernsback: An Amazing Story" hosted by the Centre national de littérature (CNL) in Mersch. The event puts the focus on the Luxembourg-born author, editor, inventor and businessman Hugo Gernsback, considered to be the father of the term "science fiction". Info: www.cnl.public.lu ; Contact: cnl@cnl.etat.lu

■ **17 - 20 March 2011 / Germany: Leipzig.** The Arbeitsgemeinschaft Literarischer Gesellschaften und Gedenkstätten will be present at the Leipzig Book Fair (Hall 5 / Stand A 107). Information brochures and publications from the members of the umbrella association are available on the stand, a small panel exhibition will be shown. Info: www.leipziger-buchmesse.de and www.alg.de; Contact: alg@alg.de

■ **25 - 27 March 2011 / France: Normandy.** The Fédération nationale des maisons d'écrivain & des patrimoines littéraires organises its next General Meeting in March 2011. The topic of the conference is: "Writers' Houses and Universities". Info: www.litterature-lieux.com; Contact: maisonsecrivain@yahoo.com

■ **15 - 30 April 2011 / Czech Republic: Prague.** Competition "The Most Beautiful Czech Books of the Year 2010". The awards ceremony will take place in the Museum of Czech Literature. Info: www.pamatniknarodnihopisemnictvi.cz/en/nckr-directorium-and-secretary.php; Contact: hostova@pamatnik-np.cz

■ **27 April 2011 / Switzerland: Bern.** Swiss National Library: Discussion about poetry "Sprache als Zeichen und Laut" with Felix Philipp Ingold and Raphael Urweider; presentation: Ulrich Weber. Info: www.nb.admin.ch/org/organisation/00783/01043/index.html?lang=de; Contact: arch.lit@nb.admin.ch

■ **7 and 8 May 2011 / Italy: Palermo and Trapani.** Meeting of literary museums in Sicily, organised by ICOM Italia. Info: www.icom-italia.org ; Contact: mariagreg@tiscali.it

- **9 May 2011 / Italy: Palermo.** National Assembly of ICOM Italia. Info: www.icom-italia.org ; Contact: mariagreg@tiscali.it
- **12 May 2011 / Denmark: Copenhagen.** Literary Marathon on Francesco Petrarca at the Literaturhaus in Copenhagen. Info: www.literaturhaus.dk; Contact: paul@literaturhaus.dk
- **21 - 22 May 2011 / United Kingdom: Lichfield.** The Alliance of Literary Societies annual weekend, hosted by the Johnson Society of Lichfield/Staffordshire. Info: www.allianceofliterarysocieties.org.uk; Contact: l.j.curry@bham.ac.uk
- **26 May - 1 July 2011 / Germany: Berlin.** Exhibition "Karel Hynek Mácha 1810-2010". Special German version for the Humboldt University of Berlin of the larger exhibition concerned with the most significant Czech representative of Romanticism, the father of modern Czech poetry. Info: www.pamatniknarodnihopisemnictvi.cz; Contact: hostova@pamatnik-np.cz
- **8 June 2011 / Switzerland: Bern.** Swiss National Library: Discussion about literature, language and the creative process with Jürg Amann and Andreas Neeser; presentation: Corinna Jäger-Trees. Info: www.nb.admin.ch/org/organisation/00783/01043/index.html?lang=de; Contact: arch.lit@nb.admin.ch
- **20 June - 30 October 2011 / Czech Republic: Prague.** Exhibition "Surrealistic Potentiality 1945-1986. Diversions, Reversions, Overlaps" devoted to Czech post-war Surrealism. Among the items will be fundamental theoretic material, photographs, films and artworks of such authors like Václav Tikal, Josef Istler, Mikuláš Medek, Jan and Eva Švankmajer or Emila Medková.
- **19 - 21 August / Denmark: Elsinore.** Nordic Conference about the classics and present day literature. Lecturers are leading literature historians and writers from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. Info: www.litteraturselskaber.dk; Contact: kirsoeren@pc.dk
- **9 - 11 September 2011 / Germany: Berlin.** Annual General Meeting of the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Literarischer Gesellschaften und Gedenkstätten and celebration of the 25th anniversary of the umbrella association.
- **until end of 2012 / Czech Republic and Slovakia.** Travelling exhibition "The most beautiful Czech and Slovak Children's Books" showing 100 plus 100 children's books by Czech and Slovak publishers. In 2011 the exhibition will be on display in many towns and cities of the Czech Republic; in 2012 it will go on in Slovakia. Info: www.pamatniknarodnihopisemnictvi.cz; Contact: hostova@pamatnik-np.cz

■ Latest News

■ *Funding for Grundtvig Assistants.* If your organisation can imagine to host an assistant from another European country, you should have a look at the Grundtvig Assistants Programme (http://ec.europa.eu/education/llp/doc/call11/fiches_en.pdf – document no. 38)

Key Information: ■ placements can last between 12 and 45 weeks ■ the next deadline for the application is 31 March 2011 ■ the host organisation receives no funding, the assistant receives a grant to cover living cost etc.

Grundtvig Assistants may, for example: ■ help facilitate learning (the focus of the programme is on adult education) ■ support adults with special educational needs ■ introduce or reinforce the European dimension of the host organisation ■ initiate, develop and assist with projects ■ etc. ...

The National Agencies publish lists with organisations seeking assistants and vice versa. If interested, please look at the website of your National Agency or contact them (http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-programme/doc1208_en.htm).

■ Further Newsletters

The next newsletter will be issued around June 2011.

Suggestions for improvement of our newsletters are welcome as well as hints on persons who could be interested in reading our news. Please contact: schubert@alg.de ■

LIBRARY
Here is where people,
One frequently finds,
Lower their voices
And raise their minds.
 – Richard Armour

Arbeitsgemeinschaft Literarischer Gesellschaften und Gedenkstätten e.V.
 c/o Deutsches Patent- und Markenamt | Gitschiner Str. 97-103 | 10969 Berlin
 Postal address: Postfach 610 412 | 10927 Berlin | Germany
 Tel: +49 30 804 902 07 | Fax: +49 30 804 902 35 | E-mail: alg@alg.de | Internet: www.alg.de