



**CIOFF® NEWSLETTER**

# Entre Nous

**Edition 12**

**March 2012**

## CIOFF® - UNESCO MEETING

**Paris, 6th December 2011**

CIOFF® Delegation (Anne-Marie Cioffi, President of CIOFF® France, Magdalena Tovornik CIOFF® Representative to UNESCO and Philippe Beaussant, CIOFF® Secretary General) was received by the Director General of UNESCO Mrs. Irina Bokova at Headquarters of UNESCO in Paris on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2011. The aim of this very important UNESCO-CIOFF® high level official meeting was to inform the Director General about CIOFF® activities in general and more specifically to present her the program of next CIOFF® World Congress which will be held in Paris, November 2012. CIOFF® – NGO with Consultative Relations with UNESCO and recently also accredited to the Convention for Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of UNESCO, invited UNESCO Director General Mrs. Irina Bokova to have an opening speech at CIOFF® World Congress in Paris, to participate at our Cultural Conference and to organize together the Gala evening of French Folklore in UNESCO Headquarters. To our greatest pleasure all these proposals were accepted.

We also informed Mrs. Irina Bokova and Mrs. Cécile Duvelle (Culture sector, Chief of section of Intangible Cultural Heritage) about CIOFF® efforts to work better with Africa and about our permanent work for peace and mutual understanding in today's world of political, religious and cultural diversity. Sharing these UNESCO and CIOFF® values she expressed her readiness also to grant UNESCO patronage to some of our important festival activities.

The CIOFF® Delegation also had a meeting with Mr. Jean Audouze, the President of UNESCO National Commission of France in Paris, 6<sup>th</sup> of December. We informed Mr.



Cécile Duvelle , Philippe Beaussant, Irina Bokova ,  
Magdalena Tovornik, Anne-Marie Cioffi

Audouze about CIOFF® France activities in general and expressed our wish to work closely with UNESCO Commission especially in the domain of Intangible Cultural Heritage. CIOFF® also invited the Commission to participate to the Cultural Conference during next CIOFF® Congress in Paris, November 2012. This meeting had a very positive result and we hope to open a new page of good CIOFF® - UNESCO National Commission cooperation.

CIOFF®  
semi-annual  
Newsletter  
published by  
Working Group on Public Relations & Festivals  
Commission

**Preparations for  
CIOFF® World  
Folkloriada**

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# 41<sup>st</sup> CIOFF® WORLD CONGRESS

## RECIFE, BRAZIL, 12th-18th NOVEMBER 2011



41<sup>st</sup> CIOFF® World Congress and General Assembly took place in Recife, Brazil with over 140 participants from 31 National Sections with 15 proxy votes.

The following elections took place during the General Assembly: Vice President - Hugo Ifran (Argentina); Secretary General - Philippe Beaussant (France); Chairman of the Legal Commission - Cyrill Renz (Switzerland); Chairman of the Cultural Commission - Alexander Durt-

ka (USA); Representatives of North American Sector on the Council - Letitia Bulotano (Canada); North European Sector - Olga Maloney (UK); Central European Sector - Susanne Kramer (Luxembourg); South European and African Sector - Emil Pavlov (Bulgaria).

Honduras, Gambia and Congo were accepted as new Full Members of CIOFF®; Uzbekistan joined as a Corresponding Member. Twenty International Festivals were re-confirmed

as Recognized CIOFF® Festivals.

Council proposal for the New Structure was presented at the Sector Meetings.

The organizers, CIOFF® Brazil, arranged a cultural trip to OLINDA, an ancient capital of the State of Pernambuco, where the delegates enjoyed interesting history and spectacular views.



## FOCUS ON CIOFF® YOUTH

### THE REAL SENSE OF VOLUNTEERING

**CIOFF® Youth celebrated the European Year of Volunteering during the Cultural Conference in Recife.**



CIOFF® Youth wanted to give a contribution to the 41<sup>st</sup> CIOFF® World Congress in Recife by organizing a Lecture presented on

17<sup>th</sup> of November during the 1<sup>st</sup> Cultural Conference of CIOFF® Brazil. Since 2011 has been named "European Year of Volunteering", CIOFF® Youth believed that it is a very good topic to be discussed during that event.

The Lecture "CIOFF® and Volunteering" was presented by Irene Pimpinella, the President of YCC. She wanted to stress the importance of being volunteers in festivals and in other important events of CIOFF®. It is a volunteer NGO, and since its founding in 1970, all people who have given support have been volunteers. Irene underlined, also, the matter

of youth in the Festivals: they have a very significant role since most of the time youth make it possible for Festivals to take place thanks to their strong and active efforts.

Being volunteers in Festival is much more than organize or cooperate to a Festival. Being young volunteers gives very concrete chances to the youth to meet people, know other cultures, admire them, and then respect and love them.

This is one of the main meaning of Volunteering in CIOFF®.

*Irene Pimpinella,  
President of CIOFF®  
Youth Coordinating Committee*





# CIOFF® WORLD FOLKLORIADA 2012

1<sup>st</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> October, City of Anseong, Republic of Korea

The Organizing Committee of the 4th CIOFF® World Folkloriada, which will take place in the city of Anseong, Korea, between 1<sup>st</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> October 2012, presented the Schedule of Activities for this most important artistic event of CIOFF®.



The outline of the program was presented to the Working Group for Folkloriada at the meeting held in Recife, Brazil, during CIOFF® World Congress and General Assembly 2011, and was adopted by the members pre-

sent.

For the 14 days of this major CIOFF® World artistic showcase 1500 performers from 48 countries, plus 500 Korean performers representing 24 groups, will gather in Anseong and neighbouring cities. 2000 folklore performers, representing their unique cultures, will demonstrate that peace, friendship, respect for cultural diversity, preservation and dissemination of Traditional and Popular Culture, among other goals, are not just their intentions but an opportunity to give another dimension to their own culture, making it a tool for achieving these goals. All those performers will represent the spirit of CIOFF®, the spirit which has been acknowledged by UNESCO through cooperation to achieve the objectives proposed to its Member States and nongovernmental organizations that have the same concerns.

A natural park area with trees and a lake has been specially developed and pre-set for CIOFF® World Folkloriada 2012 in Anseong. The area will include a welcome-arch, parking, bus stop, information office, World Folklore Square, 7 stages for the performing arts, the crafts village, the area of agriculture, café, exhibition halls of world cultures, food places, etc.

The program will include Opening

and Closing Ceremonies, performances, crafts and other exhibitions, 5 days of traditional games, presentation of products and companies from Anseong, etc. Probably one of the most emotional moments of the Folkloriada 2012 will be the special tribute to the founders of CIOFF® and the creator of the idea of Folkloriada, including the oath of all participants to work for peace, friendship and preservation of cultural heritage of peoples.



The commitment of CIOFF® Korea and Anseong City, which includes the work of a large number of volunteers and a budget of \$ 6 million, and the efforts of the participating groups, will prove once again that CIOFF® is one of the most important organizations on the planet promoting the traditional cultures.



*Hugo Ifran,  
Chair of Folkloriada Working Group*



## FOCUS ON UNESCO

### UNESCO INTANGIBLE HERITAGE LIST

#### Five new inscriptions on the Intangible Heritage Representative List of UNESCO.

The Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of Intangible Heritage meeting in Bali (Indonesia) until 29 November, inscribed elements from Japan, Mali, Burkina Faso, Mexico, and Portugal on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. This brings to 14 the number of new elements inscribed on the Representative List so far.

#### Mariachi, string music, song and trumpet (Mexico)

Mariachi is a traditional music and fundamental element of Mexican



culture, transmitting values, heritage, history and different Indian languages. Traditional Mariachi ensembles include trumpets, violins, the vihuela and "guitarrón" (bass guitar), and may have four or more musicians who wear regional costumes adapted from the charro costume. Modern Mariachi music includes a wide repertoire of songs from different regions of the country and musical genres. Musicians learn by ear from father to son and through performances at festive, religious and civil events.

#### Mibu no Hana Taue, ritual of transplanting rice in Mibu, Hiroshima (Japan)

Mibu no Hana Taue is a Japanese agricultural ritual asking the rice deity to assure an abundant rice harvest. It takes place in two communi-

ties of Hiroshima Prefecture on the first Sunday of June after rice transplanting is completed. Villagers, cattle, an elder leader and colourfully dressed girls re-enact the stages of planting and transplanting a rice field specially reserved for this event. Participants sing accompanied by drums, flutes and small gongs. Transmission is ensured by the elders who also oversee the ritual's smooth execution.

#### Sada Shin Noh, sacred dancing at Sada shrine, Shimane (Japan)



Sada Shin Noh comprises a series of purification dances as part of the ritual changing of the rush mats performed every year on 24 and 25 September at the Sada Shrine in Matsue City, Japan. Dancers hold the rush mats to purify them before offering them to the deities to sit upon. Diverse types of dance are performed on a stage specially constructed within the shrine, accompanied by singing, flute and drums. Sada Shin Noh is transmitted from generation to generation by the community.

#### Cultural practices and expressions linked to the balafon of the Senufo communities of Mali and Burkina Faso

The balafon of the Senufo communities of Mali and Burkina Faso is a pentatonic xylophone composed of eleven to twenty-one keys of varying lengths arranged on a trapezoidal frame with gourd resonators of varying sizes arranged beneath. Under the instruction of a teacher, one first learns to play a children's balafon before advancing to full-size ones. Played solo or as part of an ensemble during festivities, prayers, work, funerals and more, the balafon is a

symbol of community identity.

#### Fado, urban popular song of Portugal



Photo by Carlos Mateus de Lima

A symbol of identity, Fado music is widely sung in Lisbon and represents a distinctly Portuguese multicultural synthesis of Afro-Brazilian music, local genres of song and dance, rural music, and urban song patterns of the early nineteenth century. Fado is typically performed by a solo male or female singer, accompanied by an acoustic guitar and the Portuguese "guitarra", a pear-shaped twelve-stringed lute. It is performed professionally and informally in grass-root associations and often transmitted over successive generations within the same families.

The Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage was adopted by UNESCO's General Conference in 2003 and now includes 139 States Parties. Only those countries that have ratified the Convention are eligible to present items for inscription on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Lists.

*Submitted by Arturo Cueto*

*CIOFF® Mexico*

*Based on official UNESCO intangible*

*heritage list*

<http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/index.php?pg=00011>



## FOCUS ON UNESCO

# CIOFF® RECIEVES UNESCO ICH ACCREDITATION

In November 2011, as a recognition of CIOFF® 41 years long activities, CIOFF® was accredited by the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee of the Convention of Safeguarding of Intangible cultural Heritage.

CIOFF® position and role in Intangible Cultural Heritage domain can substantially improve after getting this accreditation – both on local, national and international levels!



CIOFF® main aims are to serve objectives of UNESCO, in particular in the domain of Intangible Cultural Heritage. CIOFF® main activities are to promote the Intangible Cultural Heritage through different forms of expression as dance, music, rituals and customs and through traditions and arts. We organize and coordinate more than 250 CIOFF® Festivals all over the world, organize conferences, symposia and exhibitions and we cooperate with many others governmental and non



governmental organizations..

In the year 2012 we would like to strengthen CIOFF® cooperation with UNESCO, CIOFF® Congress in Paris can be an excellent opportunity! CIOFF® National Sections are invited to work closely with UNESCO



National Commissions. We can offer our knowledge and experience in this field for the proposals to be submitted on the list of Intangible Cultural Heritage in each country. We can also invite National Commissions to participate in some CIOFF® activities ( for ex. to grant patronage to some important events we organise) and vice versa.

*Magdalena Tovornik*  
CIOFF® Representative at UNESCO



## UNESCO REGIONAL CENTRE FOR SOUTH EUROPE

Regional Centre for Safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage in South-East Europe was opened on 20<sup>th</sup> of February in Sofia, Bulgaria. The centre is established in accordance with decision taken during the Thirty fifth Session of the General Conference of UNESCO and the consequent agreement between the Bulgarian government and the Organization. The Official Ceremony was opened by Mrs Irina Bokova -

General Director UNESCO. There are only 5 other culture centres in the world – in Japan, China, Korea, Peru and Algeria. Up to now the Center in Sofia is the only one in Europe. The aims of the center are to popularize the Convention of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and countries from South-East Europe are represented in it. The Regional Center is established by Ministry of Foreign affairs and Ministry of Culture of Bulgaria as

well as Bulgarian Academy of Science.

National Section CIOFF® Bulgaria was invited to become member of the board of the new Regional Center. After the opening ceremony a general assembly of the members was held and the membership of National Section CIOFF® Bulgaria was approved.

*Emil Pavlov*  
CIOFF® Bulgaria

## FOCUS ON CIOFF® NATIONAL SECTIONS

### CIOFF® ARGENTINA

**Barbarita Cruz:**  
**Living Human Treasure CIOFF®**  
**Argentina**



CIOFF® Argentina tries to implement all the recommendations and proposals of UNESCO by including them in CIOFF® Argentina work objectives. We believe that CIOFF® Argentina can become "the ambassador" of many UNESCO proposals. Such UNESCO initiatives as "For a Culture of Peace for the Children of the

World", which involves work with native communities, "Revaluation of the Games in Aboriginal Communities" and "Living memory Bank", are just a few examples of the work implemented by CIOFF® Argentina National Section.

The idea of "Living Human Treasures" proposed by UNESCO, urging its member states to identify people in their countries, who contribute outstanding values of their traditional culture, was recognized by CIOFF® Argentina.

We found Barbarita Cruz, in a small town of Purmamarca, the Quebrada de Humahuaca (National Heritage Site), who could represent other "Living Human Treasures", who due to the lack of time, finance or other reasons could not be nominated at that time. She is "The Master of Life", Pottery and Coplera, who



through using clay and songs carries her ancient cultural message that gives identity to her people, through timelessness of the clay pieces (characters, angels, pots, etc.) which she makes and through deep meaning of her songs, reflecting the life of her people.

"Life is sad and beautiful, It smells of roses, Where you find thorns - You also find flying butterflies".

*Hugo Ifran,*

### CIOFF® BULGARIA

**6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Intergovernmental Committee of UNESCO for Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.**



At the end of November 2011 after the World Congress of CIOFF® in Brazil, the Bulgarian national section participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Intergovernmental Committee of UNESCO for Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. The session took place in Bali, Indonesia and NS CIOFF® Bulgaria, invited as official consultant, was represented by Emil Pavlov and Stiliyana Yorgova. Vlasta Ondrusova from CIOFF® Czech Republic and Christina Baptista from

CIOFF® Portugal also attended the meeting. The Indonesian government supported UNESCO's budget with 10 million dollars. The Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of Intangible Heritage inscribed 11 new elements on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding and 19 on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. It also selected 5 new proposals to the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices. 34 new requests for accreditation from NGOs were presented.

After the Session of the Committee the representatives of NS CIOFF® Bulgaria participated in International Conference for masks and masquerades, organized by Ministry of Culture and Education of Indonesia and International Association for masks and arts IMACO. During the conference Stiliyana Yorgova and Emil Pavlov read a lecture on the topic "Traditions of masks and masquerades and advantages of

realized projects of Programs of the EU, related to them".

**Sad News from Bulgaria**



One of the best among Bulgarian choreographers and folklore friends – Ivan Donev passed away on 11th of December 2011

He was awarded the "Golden Yoke" by the National Section of CIOFF® Bulgaria for all his contributions to Folklore.

Rest in Peace!

*CIOFF® Bulgaria*



## FOCUS ON CIOFF® NATIONAL SECTIONS

### CIOFF® COSTA RICA

Since last April, CIOFF® Costa Rica has its own programme on the radio. With support from the Cultural Centre of Spain and the Spanish International Cooperation Agency, RADIO Farolito [www.radiofarolito.com](http://www.radiofarolito.com) is regularly broadcasting our program called "From the roots" produced by CIOFF® COSTA RICA, which promotes traditional heritage and culture of Costa Rica.

With the support of the Municipality of Cartago, Province of Costa Rica,



CIOFF® Costa Rica launched a craft fair involving all the craftsmen who are members of CIOFF® Costa Rica.

In 2011 Compañía Folklórica Flor de Café and CIOFF® Costa Rica held the second National Festival "Flor de Café" in Central Park in San Jose featuring all the groups affiliated to CIOFF® Costa Rica.

The second CIOFF® National Festival of Costa Rica "Costa Rican Cultural Diversity" was also held in 2011 together with the most renowned group CURIME in the country's second most important Theatre Melico Salazar Popular Theatre. CURIME, founded in the early 70s, was the first traditional cultural group in Costa Rica, who started the promotion of Intangible Cultural Heritage, emphasizing the importance of the preservation of folk arts, they were the first group to tour the CIOFF®

festivals in Europe and all over the World representing Costa Rican culture.

In 1981 during Confolens Festival in France the CURIME founder and Director Abednego Torres created a song called "World of Friends" which became extremely popular at that time.



*Hans Leiton Gutierrez  
CIOFF® Costa Rica,  
Photos by Oscar Sojo*

### CIOFF® ESTONIA

In 2011 the Estonian Qualifications Authority gave the rights to CIOFF® Estonia to serve as an awarding body of professional certificate of Specialist in Traditional Culture. Awarding of professional qualifications is the assessment of conformity of the professional competence of a person applying for a professional qualification with the requirements specified in the professional standard.

The Specialist in Traditional Culture has to support and guide the complete development of personality through its activities and to safeguard the preservation and sustainability of cultural heritage, both intangible and material. The Specialist in

Traditional Culture can work in cultural or educational organisation, local municipality, non-profit organisation etc. Popular job descriptions are: teacher, group leader, musician, specialist in dance, craftsman, storyteller, cultural manager etc.

In the first round there were 10 applicants with different backgrounds, such as musicians, teachers, cultural managers, craftsmen (including masters in musical instrument making), folklore group leaders, folklore bearers. All of them had to show their very good skills in at least one area of traditional culture and to pass interviews and valuations of the experts.

First certificates will be handed over in March 2012 during the Annual Meeting of CIOFF® Estonia.



*Professional certificate coordinator Krista Sildoja (on right) is one of the first applicants (Picture from expedition 2011, taken by Uku Sildoja)*

*Laura Liinat,  
CIOFF® Estonia*

## CIOFF® ANNOUNCEMENT

### CIOFF® ON TWITTER AND FACEBOOK

CIOFF® is now on Twitter as **CIOFF\_NGO**. Please follow us for all the latest CIOFF® news from around the World. CIOFF® is now also on Facebook with over 2000 group members.



## FOCUS ON CIOFF® NATIONAL SECTIONS

### CIOFF® HUNGARY

#### Táncház method: a Hungarian model for the transmission of intangible cultural heritage (2011)

On the 25th November 2011, the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for Intangible Cultural Heritage selected the táncház method for inscription on the **Register of Best Safeguarding Practices**.

The **Táncház** ('dance-house') is a form of community entertainment in which traditional dance and music heritage lives on, as it is acquired through transmission and learning.

The **Táncház** ('dance-house') model of teaching folk dance and music combines traditional forms of acquisition with modern pedagogical and academic methods. Participants ac-

quire dance knowledge from experienced members or tradition bearers by direct observation and imitation to the accompaniment of live music, while using their own individual level of creativity to develop their competence and dancing ability.

The dancing is complemented by singing instruction, handicraft activities and ethnographic presentations. Anyone regardless of age, competence or prior exposure can become an active participant. The aim is to establish a value-based, community-building, entertaining yet educational form of recreational activity through the practice and transmission of intangible cultural heritage. Táncház methods are also utilized in art schools and all levels of public and higher education, and influence folk dance and music performance. An annual National Táncház Festival and Fair constitutes the largest meeting of bearers, mediators and enthusiasts, yet age or content-specific Táncház-es have developed, as well as workshops, camps, handicraft clubs. Increasing numbers of

publications popularize Táncház and assist in refining and transmitting its methodology, while the folk dance and music resource centres enable the public to access archival recordings. The model is easily adaptable for the safeguarding and transmission of any community's intangible cultural heritage through hands-on acquisition, thereby sustaining its diversity.



In 2012 the táncház movement celebrates the 40th anniversary of its emergence in Budapest in the 1970's. The XXXI. National Táncház Festival and Fair will be in Budapest from 29<sup>th</sup> March till 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012.

*Eva Hera,  
CIOFF® Hungary*



## CIOFF® PORTUGAL

#### Analysis of Portuguese CIOFF® Festivals in 2010



INATEL Foundation commissioned a study from the Observatory of Cultural Activities, a non-profit Associa-

tion whose founding members are the Portuguese Ministry of Culture, the Social Sciences Institute of the University of Lisbon (ICS-UL) and the National Statistic Institute (INE) on the CIOFF® Festivals held in Portugal in 2010.

The 12 festivals were watched and analyzed for public organization, impact and other factors, and surveys and interviews were conducted with stakeholders.

The result was an extensive report, from which we highlight the following indicative data:

- In three months (July to September), there were 183 performances and 20 parades;
- About 200.000 people watched various shows live;
- To participate in the Festivals, 62 groups from 42 countries, from 4

continents travelled to Portugal. For the same purpose, about 62 Portuguese groups circulated throughout the country;

- Considered altogether, the number of participants reaches nearly 4.000, and about half of these are foreigners;
- Over 1.000 volunteers were involved.

This study provided a deeper knowledge about these cultural events and revealed to be very useful even for the festivals. In 2011 the Portuguese CIOFF® Festivals conducted a self-assessment based on the analysis performed in 2010 by the Observatory of Cultural Activities..

*Rita Pascacio,  
CIOFF® Portugal*



## FOCUS ON NATIONAL SECTIONS

### CIOFF® ISRAEL



#### New Initiatives

During 2011, CIOFF® Israel, discussed and formulated three ideas, which, we believe, can contribute to improve our abilities to pursue CIOFF® objectives.

We would like to share these ideas with all the National Sections.

#### Honoring Our Heritage –



CIOFF® Israel made a proposal to Folkloriada Working group and CIOFF® Council to include a ceremony of commemoration of our past leaders and dreamers, including the late Shmuel Bialik, our past president, as the initiator of the Folkloriada ("Papa Folkloriada").

We feel the need to acknowledge their creation "on their shoulders we stand".

The proposal will be discussed at CIOFF® Spring Council Meeting 2012.



#### Development of Digital Documentation of Folklore –

CIOFF® Israel in cooperation with "Israel Central Dance Library" started to develop a virtual digital museum



of folk culture which will include: folk groups, festivals, dances, songs, traditional games, leading choreographers etc. in the framework of their historical, cultural, social and anthropological contexts.

We would encourage other National Sections to develop similar virtual museums in cooperation with other relevant institutions in their countries.

Further, CIOFF® Israel has suggested that CIOFF® consider developing a "Code of Ethics" for National Sections.

*Dan Ronen,  
CIOFF® Israel*

## SAD NEWS

### CIOFF® HONORARY MEMBER FRANÇOIS GOUAUD



*Francois Gouaud with Henri Coursaget and Jean Roche*

François GOUAUD joined CIOFF® family in 1970 when he worked as Permanent Secretary until 1992. He was always extremely thorough and meticulous, during meetings of the Executive Board (established in 1974) and the General Assemblies he always set up a full system of cables and microphones to record the debates for the minutes. But François

GOUAUD also enjoyed travelling. Thanks' to his cheerful character and some knowledge in foreign languages, he easily established contacts with delegates from the different countries. As Permanent Secretary, he was close to his friend and president Henri Coursaget as well as to the Representatives of the National Sections, his function allowed him to work discretely for an efficient development of the CIOFF® organization.

In 1990, on request of his Swiss friend Paul Pulh, founder member of CIOFF®, François GOUAUD helped with editorial work for the first edition of the CIOFF® History covering the period from 1970 to 1990. – For this commitment and loyalty CIOFF® is extremely GRATEFUL to François!



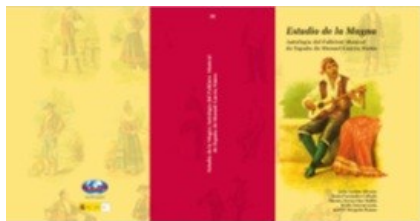
*Francois Gouaud with Henri Coursaget and Bernard Criner at 40th CIOFF® Anniversary celebrations in Gannat in October 2010*

At the funeral of Henri Coursaget, giving a last goodbye in front of the burial vault, François GOUAUD told to him "See you soon". Seven months later, on October 21<sup>st</sup> 2011, he passed away.

*Cyrill Renz  
CIOFF® Switzerland*

## FOCUS ON NATIONAL SECTIONS

### CIOFF® SPAIN



Among notable activities of the National Section CIOFF® Spain in the year 2011, the publication should be noted of the latest book entitled "Estudio de la Magna Antología del Folklore Musical de España de Manuel García Marto", product of an investigation made by an experts team directed by Mrs. Julia Andrés Oliveira.

It is also worthy of note to point out our participation in the various meetings held by the State Council for Scene Arts and Music of the Ministry of Culture, of which CIOFF® Spain is member.

CIOFF® Spain continues providing annually a Search Grant in Folklore which in its last edition has been granted to Mrs. Mercedes García Bernal for her project entitled "Estudio etnomusicólogo de las Danzas Rituales en las Provincias de Huelva y Sur de Badajoz". In 2011 it has called for a new edition endowed with 4,500€.

In all Spanish festivals, commemorations in memory of Henri Coursaget, Founding President of CIOFF®, have been held.



Among the events of interest, we can also mention that from 3rd to 6th December, in Lorca (Murcia), the Annual Congress of CIOFF® Spain was held with the participation of almost all the members of the National Section. Among other issues, we dedicated an evening to discuss "The influence in our festivals of the economic situation of Spain. Financial problems and ways to overcome them", moderated by David Castellano and María del Carmen López.

Rafael Maldonado,  
CIOFF® Spain



### CIOFF® UNITED KINGDOM

**"World Cultural Ambassadors" welcome International Performers.**



Billingham International Folklore Festival launched "World Cultural Ambassadors" project, which became the theme of the Festival 2011. All the local primary schools were invited to select and research one of the countries invited to the festival 2011. The school children then made paintings reflecting what they learned about each country's culture and heritage.

Each School then selected two winners and transferred their paintings on to huge wooden boards, which

during the festival were displayed around the perimeter of the main Festival Arena.

The two children, the winners of the competition were invited to act as "World Cultural Ambassadors" during the Festival. They spent one day accompanying the International Performers during their morning & afternoon concerts, workshops and at meal times, carried a Banner with Country name on Parades and Presentations, and presented the groups on stage.

All the "World Cultural Ambassadors" were wearing specially made



track-suits and "World Cultural Ambassador" sashes.

All the children, "World Cultural Ambassadors" thoroughly enjoyed their experience and had a great time joining in dances and games with the International Performers.

Some of the International Groups even brought children's traditional costumes with them and dressed their "Cultural Ambassadors" in the costumes of their country.

Olga Maloney  
CIOFF® UK





## FOCUS ON NATIONAL SECTIONS

### CIOFF® USA

#### Celebrating Culture without Borders - 68th Annual Holiday Folk Fair International

Holiday Folk Fair International selected "Celebrate Culture without Borders" as its theme for its 68th annual festival showcasing more than 60 ethnic groups. The kite was chosen as the symbol of the theme.

People have been flying kites for thousands of years. They were used more than 2,800 years ago in China where materials ideal for kite building were readily available: silk fabric for sail material; fine, high-tensile-strength silk for flying line; and resilient bamboo for a strong, lightweight framework.

Ancient and medieval peoples have used kites for measuring distances, testing the wind, lifting men, signaling, celebrating harvests, fishing, sacred rituals, communication in military operations and as messengers.

Stories of kites were brought to Europe by Marco Polo towards the end of the 13th century and by sailors from Japan and Malaysia in the 16th and 17th centuries. They were initially regarded as mere curiosities but by the 18th and 19th centuries kites were being used as vehicles for scientific research.

Today kites are used mainly for recreation. Kite festivals are a popular form of entertainment throughout the world. They include local events, traditional festivals that have been held for hundreds of years and major international festivals that bring in kite flyers to display their unique kites and demonstrate their latest technical developments.

Kite makers today continue to develop their own distinctive kite designs and traditions; as in the past they are decorated with mythological motifs, legendary figures and symbols - reflecting the culture of the kite maker. The anchor point of the kite line is the kite flyer who holds the kite firmly to the earth. And although the

kite is tethered in its own culture by its kite line held by the kite flyer, it is free to catch the wind, to climb and to loop and to soar sharing its own cultural heritage without boundaries or borders - wherever it finds itself in the world.

Kites from around the world were exhibited during the festival, including hand-made kites from CIOFF® Taipei and Korea, Turkey's kite festival, fighter kites from India and several made by a traditional fighter kite maker from the Philippines and a football team kite from the beach in Recife, Brazil.

The Children's Showcase opened with a kite runner whose world kite took the audience around the world through the dances and games presented by more than 400 children ages 5-12. And children could create their own kites under the guidance from Milwaukee's local kite makers.

*A kite, a sky, a firm breeze and hundreds of yards of string!*



The World Kite held by the kite runner who opened the Children's Showcase. This kite is followed by some of the kites displayed in the exhibit - Kites: Our Roots and Wings. The kites are held by their ethnic representatives from left to right - Brazil, Japan, India, Korea, Chile (Easter Island), Turkey, Taiwan and the fighter kites above from the Philippines.

#### Ballet Folklorio Huehuecoyotl Celebrates its 15th Anniversary.

Founded fifteen years ago, Ballet Folklorio Huehuecoyotl (BFH) provides an opportunity for people living in the western Chicago suburb of Elgin, Illinois to preserve and pass on their intangible cultural heritage. BFH is the resident performing arts group of the College of Elgin.

The anniversary performance presented a program sampler of traditional music and dances from various areas in Mexico including their Indian, Spanish and Mexican heritage. Performers ranged from young children and youth to adults.

Ballet Folklorio Huehuecoyotl is a member of CIOFF®-USA and has continued to study dance, music and culture with CIOFF® Mexico's Alejandro Camacho.



Following the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Performance, a plaque was presented to the group by CIOFF®-USA President Alexander P. Durtka, Jr., (left) to Julián and Cynthia Hernández, directors of Ballet Folklorico Huehuecoyotl. With them are Maya and Marcos, their 18 month old twins who also enjoy dancing.

Sharon Durtka  
CIOFF® USA

## FOCUS ON CIOFF® FUTURE EVENTS

**42<sup>nd</sup> CIOFF® WORLD CONGRESS,**  
Paris, France 11<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> November 2012

**CIOFF® YOUTH FORUM,**  
Paris, France 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> November 2012



[www.cioff-france.org](http://www.cioff-france.org)

***CIOFF® Working Group on Public Relations would like to thank everyone who sent their contribution for this edition of the Newsletter.***

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

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## NEXT PUBLICATIONS OF CIOFF® NEWSLETTER

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

*The thirteenth edition of CIOFF® newsletter will come out in June 2012 with the deadline for information submission of 15th May 2012.*

*If your Festivals, National Sections, CIOFF® Sectors, Commissions or Working Groups 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® Working Group on Public Relations by e-mail:***  
***[newsletter@cioff.org](mailto:newsletter@cioff.org)***