



FSE Newsletter July 2010

New format for FSE newsletter

As of this newsletter we will be publishing a shorter newsletter on a monthly basis. The newsletter will be produced eleven times a year (excluding August). Member Guilds are invited to submit news items from their own Guild which they think will be of interest to other member Guilds.

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News from Europe

Creative Content Online

Since our last newsletter, FSE has co-signed a response written by several organizations of the Creators' Group (FIA, FIM, EFJ, FERA, UNI-MEI and FSE, representing musicians, actors, technicians, journalists, screenwriters, directors, etc.) in Brussels, to the reflection document called "Creative content in a European Digital Single Market: Challenges for the future", published by the European Commission (DG Info and DG Markt) last year and sent its own statement to the Commission.

More > http://ec.europa.eu/avpolicy/other_actions/content_online/index_en.htm

Multi-Territory Licensing - the KEA report

FSE was invited to participate in the stakeholder workshop concerning a study on "Multi-Territory Licensing for the Online Distribution of Audiovisual Works in the European Union", conducted by KEA European Affairs and CERNA for the European Commission (DG Info). The study describes policy options to foster the development of multi-territory distribution mechanisms and new business models for online distribution. This meeting brought the issue of the EBU proposal to extend the principles of the Cable and Satellite Directive to the online environment to wider focus. FSE has responded briefly in writing to the KEA report.

More > http://www.keanet.eu/docs/stakeholderworkshopslides2june2010_updated.pdf

Collective Rights Management

The European Commission (DG Internal Market) organized in Brussels on 23rd April 2010 a “Public Hearing on the Governance of collective rights management in the EU”. The aim of the hearing was to explore how the relationships between copyright owners, collecting societies and commercial users of copyright have evolved over time. The meeting was a relatively formal presentation of positions by a long list of organisations, mostly those arguing in favour of facilitating multi-territory licensing.

More > http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/copyright/management/management_en.htm#hearing

EU XXL

FSE attended the EU XXL Forum (Austria, 4th-7th May 2010). This conference on recent European developments relevant to the audiovisual sector focused this year on cinematographers. Panel discussions, working groups and Master Classes gathered film professionals, stakeholders of umbrella association and business agents, legal experts as well as political representatives from all over Europe. Lively debates led to agreement on a potential statement of the participating organisations.

More > <http://www.eu-xxl.at/content.asp?id=58&id2=54&id3=0&lid=2&eid=2>

Gender in the Audiovisual

FIA, the International Federation of Actors, organised on 8th June 2010 in the European Parliament a conference on “Engendering Change: Strategies to Combat Gender Stereotypes and Promote Equal Opportunities in Theatre, Film and Television in Europe”. An occasion to discuss the issues with several MEPs and present the publication of the results of a research on good practices.

More > <http://www.fia-actors.com/en/projects.html>

Freelancers and Competition rules in Europe

The Creators’ Group in Brussels held a meeting to discuss the issue of competition law and the right to collective bargaining. The Group has submitted a joint statement to the Commissioners for Competition, Employment, Culture and Internal Market, as well as to the European Parliament. As a first result the Creators’ Group (including FSE) met with Michel Barnier’s Cabinet. The statement, called “Joint Statement of the European Federations Representing Cultural and Creative Workers, Collective Representation of Freelance Workers in the Media/Entertainment/Creative Sector” is available on the website of the FSE.

Gruny Report

MEP Pascale Gruny prepared a report on “atypical contracts, secured professional paths, flexicurity and new forms of social dialogue” for the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs at the European Parliament. In particular this report opens questions of social protection for contract workers and the right to bargain collectively. The Creators’ Group in Brussels addressed a joint letter to Pervenche Berès, Chairwoman of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, to react to the report and invite the Committee to adopt an important proposed amendment to the Report that offers legal guarantee of equal rights to atypical workers.

More > <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/file.jsp?id=5830712>

Promoting European Cinema

The Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union organised a seminar in Mons, Belgium, on 4, 5 and 6 July 2010, titled "From the AVMS directive to the 'Cinema' communication: towards a global and coherent approach to European cinema". The seminar included several workshops: 1) 30 months after the adoption of the AVMS directive: how to promote European works in on-demand-services? 2) From the writing of a film until its release: the role of public funding in all steps of the film creation process, 3) Cinema, between culture and industry.

Conclusions, workshops reports and presentations of the seminar >
http://www.audiovisuel.cfwb.be/index.php?id=avm_mons2010en

News from the members

3rd Script Forum, POLAND, Warsaw, 12-16 July 2010

For five days, the screenwriting community of Poland and beyond met in the historic campus of the University of Warsaw. The forum provided them with information and know-how, promoted the art of script doctoring and script development, as well as boosted the prestige of the profession, through riveting lectures, seminars and debates, a choice of group workshops focused on project development, etc. The guest speaker was Linda Seger, world famous script consultant (author of *Making a Good Script Great*).

Since its inception, the event has been collaborating closely with the Union of Polish Screenwriters, which sets the agenda for the final day of Script Forum devoted entirely to the Polish Screenwriters' Conference - a trade debate about the current condition of Polish screenwriting.

FSE was represented at the meeting.

More > www.latofilmow.pl and www.scenarzysci.org.pl

Update from Turkey

SENDER, the Turkish guild of screenwriters, sent an update of the recent developments of the film industry in Turkey. 1) The organizations acting as "collecting societies" have eventually received their licensing authorizations and the intellectual property system of the cinema industry will start to function more effectively. 2) The French National Cinema Institute invited a delegation representing the Turkish film industry with the aim of establishing a partnership. 3) The Chamber of Commerce of Istanbul and the Turkish Cinema Council have formed a joint committee, whose first project is a research to give a detailed and comprehensive portrayal of the film industry in Turkey. 4) SENDER has joined a committee formed by the Ministry of Foreign Trade and the Turkish Cinema Council and will advocate for the return of property rights to the authors as an asset for the quality of the national industry.

Detailed report available at info@scenaristes.org

News from FSE

Lobbying

David Kavanagh resigned his position as a member of the Board of the FSE as of 25th March. Robert Taylor has been co-opted to take his seat until the next elections. Financial support from the International Affiliation of Writers Guilds has enabled the FSE to commission David Kavanagh to work on advocacy and lobbying for the FSE on a part time basis for an initial period of 6 months.

Save the date !

The next General Assembly of the FSE will be held in Brussels on 19th and 20th March 2011. The representatives of the member guilds will receive more information in the coming months.

Board Meeting

The Board members of the FSE met in Berlin on 1st and 2nd July 2010 to discuss over policy orientations and internal matters and to prepare the next joint meeting with the IAWG in Dublin on 20th September.

"Who Wrote It ?" Campaign

The FSE and the IAWG have jointly launched their new campaign towards film festivals. Several screenwriters have attached their names to the campaign: Guy Hibbert (WGGB, UK), Olivier Lorelle (UGS, France), Howard A. Rodman (WGA West, US), James Schamus (WGA East, US) and Sveinbjörn Baldvinsson (FLH, Iceland). The aim is to establish a World Screenwriters' Film Festival List of Excellence, based on how the festivals profile screenwriters and their work in programs, publications and events, in order to encourage them to honour screenwriters' contribution to the films they showcase.

Preparation of Remuneration Leaflet

As part of the group of leaflets on writers issues which FSE is committed to publish, a detailed questionnaire has been published and sent to the member guilds for completion. We expect that the collection and distillation of the information will be difficult, but it is hoped to publish the leaflet in the Autumn.

www.scenaristes.org

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