Portugal, report 2007

Lisbon's Municipal Fonoteca maintained regular activities during 2006, despite budget reductions. Apart from our regular services we would like to point out some activities organized by library staff: 35 concerts (Pop, Rock, Western Art Music, Traditional and Jazz music), Images about music, a documentary film cycle (2nd edition, with 9 films) and 30 visits from schools (1.500 children had access to our pedagogical activities - Mozart Anniversary; African Percussion Musical Instruments and Dances; Portuguese Traditional Musical Instruments; Strings, Wind and Percussions Ensembles workshops) took place in our facilities. We also symbolically supported the edition of 17 titles (16 CD, 1 pedagogical book+2CD). Our goal was the promotion of music in general and the Portuguese in particular and also library services.

From the national point of view we would like to point out that the Government, through the Minister of Culture, announced the creation of a "Sound Museum". This institution will be a national sound archive. It will be responsible for the legal deposit of sound recordings and will integrate the actual Music Museum which is located in Lisbon and specially dedicated to musical instruments. The Sound Museum will also receive a collection of ancient Fado recordings that will be bought from Bruce Bustin by the Government, with the help of Lisbon's City Council and an anonymous private patron.

Also, Portugal has to review its Decree Law No 332/97, November 1997, transposition of Directive 92/100/EEC of 19 November 1992 on rental right and lending right and on certain rights related to copyright in the field of intellectual property. The European Court of Justice case law from 6th July 2006 condemned Portugal saying that the transposition was not right and that it went too far on loans. Now this situation is being reviewed by the Law 141/X, a proposal to reduce the number of circumstances where fees do not have to be paid to the rights-holders. This proposal is being discussed and the Portuguese Librarians Association is participating in it, trying to protect users and also library regular services - local listening or consultation - from payments. They argue that the Ministry of Culture should be responsible for all payments, considering library budgets and users cultural needs.

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