Annual Newsletter, 2009

Report on the 2009 ICOM-Glass Committee Meeting Lisbon, 10-14 November

Dear ICOM Glass Members and Colleagues,

We had a very successful meeting in Lisbon from 10th to the 14th of November 2009. The Local Organizing Committee organized an unforgettable meeting for the Glass Committee.

With a participation of more than 46 people from 18 different countries, the welcome took place in the Auditorium of The Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian with the presence of Luis Raposo, President of ICOM Portugal Committee and António Pires de Matos, head of the Local Committee.

The Conference Program included different topics on glass made in Portugal and in another origins. Teresa Médici started the lectures with an interesting theme: "The Portuguese glass and glass found in Portugal", she explained the history of post-roman archaeological glass heritage in Portugal, and the most relevant Portuguese glass production dated from the 18th onward in different factories. Manuel Augusto Lima Engrácia Antunes spoke about "Glass for the Benedictines 1629-1822" in Portugal, liturgical and domestic wares, lighting and another typologies of objects connected with the Benedictine provenance. Márcia Vilarigues, Susanna Coentro, Teresa Médici and Augusto Lima described the Analysis of Medieval Glasses from the archaeological excavation at Av. Miguel Fernandes in Beja. Manuela Almeida Ferreira told us about Glassware from an aristocratic 18th century Lisbon palace and elsewhere. Jan Kock described a statement on Danish Studio Glass and traditional glass production. Helena Horn told us about Glass and azulejos: are there cross-links and interconnections between factories designs and Styles?. Thanks to the participation of Milan Hlaves we learned about Sources of Inspiration of Czechoslovak Glass in the 1950s and 1960s. Finally Karin Rühl described one of his projects: The Frauenau Glass Garden.

Without a doubt, the Conference program allowed us to clarify different aspects related to the Glass in Portugal and others interesting topics.

We are very grateful for the wonderful organization of the Local Committee of VICARTE (Vidro e ceramica para as Artes of the Universidade Nova de Lisboa) headed by Antonio Pires de Matos with the coordination of Marcia Vilarigues, and the collaboration and big effort of Manuela Ferreira, Teresa Médici, Filipa Lopes, Augusta Lima, Mario da Cruz, Fernando Quintas and Carlos Queiroz. We appreciate at this team involved, their enthusiasm and cooperation at this most interesting meeting. We also would like to thank Manuel Antunes for his commentaries about the history of Porto.

After the General Assembly we had the good opportunity to know different Museum, reserves, Institutions, exhibitions, collections, factories, etc... into the city of Lisbon and outside, in Porto, Coimbra, Alcobaça, Aveiro and Marinha Grande.

We also wish to thank those people who welcome us to the museum and institutions in Museu Calouste Gulbenkian, Museu Nacional de Arte Antiga, Museu Nacional de Arqueologia, Museu da Vista Alegre, Universidade de Aveiro, Museu Nacional de Soares dos Reis, Mosteiro de Santa Clara-Velha, Fabrica Atlantis, Mosteiro da Santa María da Vitória, Museo do Vidrio de Marinha Grande, Museu Santos Barosa, Museu da Ciència, Museu da Farmácia and VICARTE, Research Unit Vidro e Cerámica para as Artes. We are very grateful for their collaboration and participation at this interesting meeting.

As you can see in the minutes of the General Assembly Meeting wrote by Jane Spillman, was decided to celebrate in 2010 two different meeting, a joint meeting in Shanghai with the people in charge of DEMHIST (Historic House Museums), ICDAD (Decorative Arts and Design), and ICFA (Fine Arts) in November (7-13 November), and another meeting in the same year in Finland and Tallin, in September (7-10 September).

Please find in attached the preliminary program of Shanghai and Finland-Tallin meetings. The organizations of both meetings need to know in advance an estimation to participation to each meetings. For this motive, we need your collaboration, we would like to ask you if you are interested in taking part in these meetings. Kaisa Koivisto could organize also an interesting post congress tour to Saint Petersburg (see attached), but she would like to know also who is interested in going to participate in the post congress tour and if somebody should have any special wishes about the meeting in Finland.