



CIRCOLO SCANDINAVO

Skandinaviska Föreningens Konstnärshus i Rom

BOARD MEETING 18.3.2020 online

Present: Chair Kolbrún Halldórsdóttir, Vice Chair Lars Strandh, Björn Ross, Lone Falster, Ingo Arnason, Tinja Räsänen, Mia Törnqvist, Hilla Okkonen, Christopher Prescott, Marie Kraft.

1. Opening and selection of the secretary.

The meeting was opened at 10:16 on Wednesday 18th of March 2020.

Halldórsdóttir acted as chair and Räsänen was selected as secretary for the meeting.

2. Annual Report

The board accepted the Annual Report with only minor suggestions about changes.

3. The current situation at Circolo Scandinavo

Today Circolo is closed and all artists in residence have gone home, this is due to the Covid-19 situation in Europe and in accordance with instructions from Italian authorities. The board decided to contact the artists arriving in April, May, June and July and inform them that CS is closed until further notice and it depends on the Italian government when the residency is able to open again. All the artists will be given the opportunity to change the date of their residency to the next AiR period starting in October 2020. If they prefer to cancel instead of postponing their stay, the board must take into consideration to reimburse the confirmation fee, i.e. if the artist's insurance company does not cover their loss. Since no one is currently staying at CS, the possibility to have the rooms painted already in April will be looked into. Arnason will contact the painters. If the rooms are painted in April, then it would be possible to have the residency open in August. Arnason will keep in touch with the artists and make necessary arrangements.

4. Accounts 2019 and budget for 2020

Arnason presented the accounts for 2019 and the budget for 2020. There is a significant change in the budget for 2020 since the NCM - Nordic Council of Ministers has raised its annual contribution to Circolo by € 40,000.- as a result of the boards effort to create space in the budget to raise the salaries of the director, counting for Arnason as well as Kraft.

Under the circumstances the board decided to wait at least until the end of May to make decisions about raising Arnason's salary, keeping open the possibility of raising the salary in retrospective when the financial situation is more clear.

The board decided to offer Marie Kraft the same salaries as the current director for July - December 2020, but by the end of the year the board and Kraft will renegotiate the salary aiming at a raise in accordance with the budget.

Since the additional funding from the Nordic Council of Ministers was intended for raising the director's salary, the board will inform NCM of these arrangements due to the financial situation created by the Covid-19.

(Kraft left the conversation at 11:04 and returned 11:25 and Arnason left the conversation at 11:04 and returned 11:20)

5. Countermeasures

The board discussed whether to change the deadline to apply for residency for the period October 2020 - September 2021, and decided to change it from the 1st of April until the 1st of June. The selection will take place during June and the results will be published in the beginning of July. Arnason will inform all Nordic artist's associations about this change.

The board discussed the possibilities of applying for extra financial support. Okkonen suggested that the board starts a crowdfunding campaign, which was supported by the board. A new Slack-channel for fundraising will be created and the board can discuss the matter further on the platform.


Strandh suggested that the board contacts the landlord, Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, to discuss the possibility of lowering the rent for CS for the coming months. The board together with the director will look into what measures the Italian government are doing regarding the economy and for the cultural actors.

The call for the General Assembly has to go out by the end of April. The board decided to have a new online meeting in late April and decide a new date for the General Assembly, keeping the possibility open that the meeting will be opened at the latest possible date, according to the statutes, and postponed until sometime later this year.

The board is very happy to welcome Marie Kraft as the new director for CS. "Kraft will be a valuable asset to CS and we look forward to see what we can accomplish together." The board is optimistic for the times to come in spite of the situation CS and the whole world are facing at the moment.

The meeting was closed at 12.00.


Kolbrún Halldórsdóttir
Chair


Tinja Räsänen
Secretary