

## THE FOUNDATION OF-IASPM

IASPM, the International Association for the Study of Popular Music was officially founded in September 1981, as a direct result of a decision taken by the over 100 participants at the First International Conference on Popular Music Research, held at Amsterdam in June the same year. The Association is now registered as an official non-Profit-making organisation with its administrative base in Sweden.

## SECURING A FUTURE

Since its election at the Amsterdam conference the Temporary Executive Committee of IASPM (usually known as 'TEC') has met three times. The first meeting was convened in the Hotel Armada in Amsterdam, after the conference, the second took place in Kassel (FRG) in September 1981, and the third in Berlin (GDR) in March 1982.

Considerable progress has been made on the key questions of constitution, affiliation, finance, etc., and the Committee will present its recommendations to the next international conference in Italy in 1983.

The next meeting of the committee will take place in Exeter (UK) on September 22-24, 1982.

The Committee members are:

- Paul Beaud (Switzerland)
- Franco Fabbri (Italy)
- Charles Hamm (USA) (Chairperson)
- David Horn (GB)
- Gerard Kempers (Netherlands) (Treasurer)
- Günter Mayer (GDR) (Vice-Chairperson)
- Sylvia Moore (Netherlands)
- Paul Oliver (GH) Helmut Rosing (FRG)
- Philip Tagg (Sweden) (Secretary)

At present all IASPM business is run by T.E.C. members on a voluntary 'spare-time' basis in addition to their often extremely heavy schedules of regular (paid) work. There is no likelihood of anyone being paid to carry out any of the Association's administrative chores in the foreseeable future.

This means that IASPM will be hard pushed to achieve its aims and to realise its current projects (publication of reports and Bulletin, organisation of conferences and seminars, compilation of bibliographies and discographies, lists of projects in the study of popular music, etc.) unless membership, the Association's only real source of income and guarantee for independent activity, is radically increased. Though financial aid may be forthcoming in the future IASPM must rely solely on membership dues, individual gestures of goodwill, etc. for its existence at this stage. It is true that this state of affairs guarantees the Association a certain independence vis-à-vis both 'the industry' and public culture institutions and their frequently restricted view of 'art'; however, it also means financial insecurity. IASPM must increase its number of members threefold before even such basic running costs as telephone, postage, organising committee meetings, etc. can be covered. This will depend on the active campaigning of all our members.'

Author: David Horn (?)