

Minutes

VII IASPM General Meeting -- Stockton, California/USA, 14 July 1993

1 - 2. **ADOPTION AND COUNTERSIGNING OF MINUTES, 6TH GENERAL MEETING**

The Chair, Simon Frith, explained that as the Minutes had been temporarily mislaid, Items 1 & 2 of the Agenda could not be dealt with. The minutes will be printed in the next issue of RPM.

3. **ELECTION OF ELECTORAL OFFICERS AND RATIFICATION OF ELECTION PROCEDURES, 7TH GENERAL MEETING**

Ratification of Election procedures would, if necessary, be dealt with as part of Item 11 on the Agenda.

4. **RATIFICATION OF AGENDA**

No further items for inclusion on the Agenda. The Agenda was unanimously ratified.

5. **ACCEPTANCE OF 1991-93 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

The report was unanimously accepted.

6. **AUDIT OF TREASURER'S REPORT TO THE 7TH GENERAL MEETING**

Line Grenier and Gil Rodman were elected to audit the Treasurer's Report to the 7th General Meeting.

7.

a) **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer/Membership Secretary, Steve Jones, went through the printed accounts prepared and distributed at the meeting. Steve reported that branch dues are still IASPM's largest source of income. The main expenses for 1991-93 were RPM and travel assistance of members of non-IMF countries to the Stockton conference.

b) **MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Membership had declined slightly since the 1991 Berlin conference and currently stands at 550.

New branches have recently been established in Argentina, Cuba, Chile, Austria and Mexico.

All branches have paid dues except for France, Italy and Germany,

The French and Italian branches have been in contact with the Executive Committee but need to be re-established, although there are still individual French and Italian IASPM members.

The membership secretary of the German branch sent a letter to the Executive Committee to explain that their dues had been spent elsewhere. The Executive Committee has decided to allow the German branch an extended deadline within which to pay dues. If no dues have been received by August 15, the German branch will no longer be part of IASPM.

Ales Opekar asked what would happen if the German branch became, instead, an institutional member of IASPM. Steve Jones said that there was no provision in the Statutes for a branch to be an institutional member.

Reebee Garofalo commented on the low overall IASPM membership and asked what could be done about it. Steve Jones pointed out that if the German branch had been included in the figures, the numbers would have increased by 100.

Simon Frith pointed out that throughout IASPM's history branch membership has followed a cyclical pattern.

The Membership Secretary/Treasurer's Report for 1991-93 was unanimously accepted.

8. **FUTURE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

Paul Friedlander reported an yesterday's meeting of IASPM's Board of Representatives. According to the Statutes, the Board of Representatives should comprise representatives from each branch, and two additional delegates to represent individual members. The Board of Representatives was set up to oversee the Executive Committee because it was felt that the lauer was unable to deal with broader issues of inter-branch communication.

Those attending yesterday's meeting discussed whether the Board of Representatives should continue to function given that it had no budget. The overwhelming feeling was that it was worth continuing and that the Board had two main tasks:

- to enhance communication between the Executive Committee and individual branches;
- to enhance communication between branches.

Two particular suggestions emerged from the meeting:

- that an international IASPM membership list be printed in the next issue of RPM;
- that newsletters and any other information arising from branches be circulated to other branches.

Simon Frith announced that die Executive Committee proposed to co-opt a delegate from die Board of Representatives to sit on the Executive Committee. Paul Friedlander suggested that the Board of Representatives meet at 12:45 pm an the following day to discuss this proposal and elect a delegate if necessary.

Those present at the General Meeting were asked for their approval of the proposal that a delegate from the Board of Representatives be co-opted an to the Executive Committee. The proposal was unanimously accepted.

9. **PUBLICATIONS**

The Publications Officer had not provided the meeting with a publications report, but die following issues were discussed:

- **RPM:** On behalf of IASPM, Simon Frith expressed gratitude to Will Straw for producing RPM for the past two years, and for agreeing to continue to do so. RPM is now sent out to individual members, but there have been some problems getting it to those members who have recently changed address. Any branches who wish to do so could return to the old System whereby the branch distributes RPM itself The Executive Committee believes, however, that the new system of distribution is more efficient.
Simon Frith urged people to contribute to RPM. The newsletter is only as good as what is sent in.
Will Straw pointed out that it would be helpful if branches could send him mailing labels as one branch has already been doing, and if they could send him copies of any newsletter they produce. Extra copies of RPM are available from Will if anyone wants them.
- **Worldbeat:** Simon Frith announced that one issue of Worldbeat had been produced and sent out to IASPM members. If there is anyone who should have received a copy but hasn't, they should contact Peter Wicke in Berlin.
Steve Jones reported an correspondence with the publishers Sage and the University of Minnesota Press regarding Worldbeat. Both publishers will require an IASPM membership of one thousand before they will consider taking an the journal.
Barbara Bradby asked if another issue of the journal would be produced. Simon Frith said there wouldn't. He outlined the aims of Worldbeat and the different languages it incorporated, and explained why it was difficult to persuade commercial publishers to take it on. The Executive Committee has been discussing alternative means of distributing information, articles, etc., such as electronic mail (see below).

- **Conference Proceedings:**
 Simon Frith reported that proceedings from the 1989 Paris conference have now been mailed out. Proceedings from the Berlin conference have been ready for publication since January 15th, but production is being held up by two particular articles.
 Barbara Bradby enquired about the rumour that the problem with the articles was just a matter of correcting the English. Simon Frith pointed out that the Publications Officer was not present to confirm this.
 Reebee Garofalo asked if there was any provision for those not *at the Paris conference to receive copies of the proceedings. It was agreed that Information on this should be published in the next RPM.
 Simon Frith announced that there were plans to publish the proceedings of the Stockton conference, so speakers should submit copies of their papers, preferably on a disc as well as in print. Responsibility for collecting submissions will be taken by the newly elected Publications Officer.
 Simon Frith also informed the meeting that Manchester University Press has expressed interest in publishing a selection of articles. Negotiations with MUP will begin shortly.
- **Electronic mail:**
 Steve Jones reported that he had persuaded staff at Tulsa University, Oklahoma, to let IASPM use their electronic mailing system: They have produced the hardware for this and will spend the next couple of months testing the software. This facility can act as a mail reflector, duplicating to subscribers all messages sent to Tulsa. A digest of messages will go out and in the future it may be possible to distribute RPM, articles, and even conference proceedings in this format. The service will be for IASPM members only. Any further information on this will be printed in RPM.
 Barbara Bradby asked about subscription to this system. Steve Jones explained that subscriptions would go through him and would be limited to IASPM members. Paul Friedlander asked for a show of hands to see how many of those present at the meeting had access to E-mail. Approximately three quarters raised their hands.
- **Other.**
 Simon Frith announced that the Executive Committee planned to produce a list of IASPM members and their interests. He said that unfortunately, the questionnaire that had previously been circulated with RPM to gather the relevant information had not been returned. Another will be circulated.
 Marcus Breen announced that the Australian branch had been involved in establishing a new popular music journal entitled Perfect Beat. They will be happy to accept any material submitted for publication. Information on the journal will be circulated in RPM.
 Will Straw said that he intended, unless there were any potential legal complications, to publish tables of contents of such journals in future issues of RPM. The next issue should contain information on Perfect Beat.
 Kai Finkentscher asked about IASPM journals that weren't in English, and Simon Frith agreed, that the possibility of publishing translations needed to be considered.
 Paul Friedlander reported that at the meeting of the Board of Representatives it had been suggested that a synopsis of non-English newsletters could be written in English for distribution. Such synopses could be published in RPM. Paul then announced that Volume 5 of the US Journal of Popular Music Studies is now available for subscription to all IASPM members.

10. **LOCATION OF FUTURE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES**

Simon Frith announced that the 1995 IASPM International Conference will be held in Glasgow, and the 1997 Conference will be held in Japan. A decision on the location of the 1999 conference need not be made yet, but Simon suggested that it should perhaps take place somewhere on the American continent. A more definite proposal is expected at the 1995 General Meeting.

11. **ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1993-95**

Simon Frith read out the nominations which had previously been circulated in RPM, and asked for

any other nominations from the floor. None were forthcoming. Toru Mitsui, Ales Opekar and Will Straw were duly elected to the 1993-95 Executive Committee.

The meeting unanimously moved a vote of thanks to Peter Wicke, who now leaves the Executive Committee, for all his hard work as a member of the Executive Committee over previous years.

12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The meeting unanimously moved a vote of thanks to Paul Friedlander for the organisation of the VII International Conference. on Popular Music Studies.

13. **THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9 IM.**

Sara Cohen
IASPM Secretary