The ICORN General Assembly
Ljubljana, 21-24 May 2014
Programme

Wednesday 21 May

Arrival of participants

16:00 - 19:30  Registration
Venue: Best Western Hotel Slon

18:30  Departure from the Hotel Slon Lobby

19:00 Welcome reception and buffet
Venue: Ljubljana City Museum (atrium)
Host: Ljubljana Mayor Zoran Janković
Thursday 22 May

08:45 Departure from Hotel Slon Lobby to the Puppet Theatre

09:30 Welcome to the 6th ICORN General Assembly
Greetings of welcome by the assembly host, Ljubljana City of Refuge
Venue: The Puppet Theatre

09:45 Presentation of all participants
Member Cities, Guest Writers, observers and other guests

10:00 General Assembly suggested Larry Siems as Chair of the GA.

10:10 Greetings from ICORN guest writers
Nasrin Madani (Iran/Växjö)
Fadi Abou Hassan (Syria/Drøbak)
Dessale Bereket (Eritrea/Bø)

10:35 ICORN General Assembly Agenda item III
PEN International WiPC report

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 ICORN General Assembly continues
Agenda item I: ICORN reports 2012, 2013
Agenda item II: ICORN financial results 2012, 2013
Agenda IV: ICORN budgets 2014, 2015

11:30-12:45 Guest Writers’ workshop part I
Venue: Town Hall

13:00 Lunch
**14:15 Market of ideas**

All delegates, writers, observers and other guests are invited to engage these facilitated workshops, targeting vital issues regarding protection, promotion and participation:

**A. Exit strategies : New beginnings**
Guests writers, host cities, and ICORN work together to explore possibilities and strategies for writers who cannot return to their home countries. An individual approach is necessary, but we also look at methods, tactics and lessons learned to secure a safe future after the ICORN residency. Hosts: Fredrik Elg (Malmö), Elisabeth Dyvik (ICORN)

**B. Xpress Freedom**
Bloggers, publishers, writers and communicators in dialogue on how to break traditional barriers, reaching out to an ever changing landscape of media and publishing. How to develop new audiences; locally, nationally and internationally, including in the guest writers’ home countries. Hosts: Danuta Glondys (Krakow), Megan McDowell (asymptote.com)
Interventions from Easterine Kire (Nagaland), Mezgebu Habtewold (Ethiopia) and Ali Amar (Morocco)

**C. The arts of hospitality**
How do we assess the needs of writers and artist in distress? In this workshop you get concrete tools and well-tried practices from people who have been successful in supporting artists and culture workers. The workshop is hosted by freeDimensional and forms part of a joint project for capacity building in ICORN.
Host: Mary Ann de Vlieg (freeDimensional)

**D. Creative ICORN**
How do we take advantage of the expertise and resources contained in the network of cities, guest writers and partners to create promotion opportunities locally and internationally? The EU’s new funding programme, Creative Europe, has launched a call for new cooperation projects. What are the possibilities, and how do we realise them?
Hosts: Mateja Lazar (Ljubljana/EU), Cathrine Helland (ICORN)

**15:45 Coffee break**

**16:00 Report back from workshop sessions and plenary discussions**
18:45 Departure from Slon Hotel Lobby. 20-25 min walk to the Mladinsko Theatre.

**19:30 Hell is Empty  Official opening of the Overflight Festival**  
The Overflight theatre festival opens with a specially commissioned performance titled “Hell is Empty”, based on texts and contributions by among others the four ICORN guest writers Girma Fantaye, Jahangir Akash, Naeimeh Doostdar and Mansur Rajih. Directed by choreographer Marko Mlačnik.  
**Venue:** Mladinsko Theatre

21:00 **Reception dinner buffet**  
**Venue:** Mladinsko Theatre

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**Friday 23 May**

**09:30 ICORN General Assembly continues**  
**Agenda item V: The ICORN Strategic Plan 2014-2018**  
**Venue:** The Puppet Theatre

The nuts and bolts of ICORN, history, present, future, Elsbeth Dyvik, ICORN  
ICORN’s new digital platforms, Cathrine Helland, ICORN

**11:00 Coffee break**

**11:30 The ICORN Strategic Plan continues**  
Shelters for Human Rights Defenders; Sophie Kammerer, European Commission  
Persecution of artists and freedom of expression: A global overview; Oliver Spencer-Shrestha, Article19  
ICORN going global; interventions from future member cities in USA, Latin America, South Africa and Europe

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**08:45** Guest writers depart from Hotel Slon lobby to the Mladinsko Theatre

**09:30 Writers workshop part II**  
**Venue:** Mladinsko Theatre

09:30 **Breakfast together with young European poets and the Overflight festival**

11:00 **Damned be the traitor of his homeland** Overflight festival performance directed by Olivier Frljic, with Q&A with ICORN guest writers
Plenary discussion and voting.

13:00 Lunch  
   **Venue:** The Puppet Theatre

14:15 **Report back from writers workshops; plenary discussion**

14:45 **Agenda Item VI: Elections**

15:30 **Final word from Helge Lunde, Executive Director ICORN**

15:45 **Summing up, closing procedure, vote of thanks**

16:30 **My Struggle**  
   A life as a fighter for freedom of expression in Turkey  
   With: Ragip Zarakolu, prominent Turkish writer and publisher, at present ICORN guest writer in Sigtuna, Sweden  
   **Venue:** Veliki oder stage of the Puppet Theatre

18:30 **Dinner**  
   **Venue:** The restaurant of Hotel Slon

20:00 **Ljubljanica River Poetry**  
   A unique and adventurous literary event, where the audience will be brought along the Ljubljanica river. Poetry readings by ICORN guest writers, Slovene and international poets, performing from a boat along the shore at the Makalonca and the New Square.  
   **Venue:** Makalonca

21:00 **To the Bridge Overflight festival performance, directed by Jaša Koceli**  
   **Venue:** Shoemakers bridge

22:00 **Farewell party with all participants**  
   **Venue:** Shoemakers bridge
Saturday 24 May
10:00 – 12:00  Ljubljana sightseeing trip
   Venue: TBA
All day:  Overflight theatre festival continues (free for all GA participants)

Sunday 25 May
   All day:  Overflight theatre festival continues (free for all GA participants)