## **ECSA Autumn Sessions in Alicante**



Photo: Mexisto

Delegations of composers and songwriters around Europe gathered on October 3rd and 4th in Alicante, Spain. The meetings included sessions of FFACE, APCOE and ECF.

On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, ECSA hold its General Assembly in "Ciudad de la Luz", the Alicante Film Studios. The meeting examined last evolutions of the ECSA's Structure Working Group, the Coercion Working Group and the Global Repertoire Database, where ECSA's role as GRD member was carefully assessed and discussed.

At the heart of the debate were furthermore ESCA's upcoming events, notably the Creators Conference and the determination to bring authors back to the centre of European discussion on copyrights. Finally, the Alliance also assessed its growing membership network to more than 40 national associations of composers and songwriters in 29 European countries.

## **ECSA at FIMU Vienna**



ECSA Secretary General Patrick Ager and Austrian Composer Paul Hertel discussed how composers and songwriters can best defend their interests on national and European level in Vienna, on September 20<sup>th</sup>. The discussion

took place during a panel entitled "My voice in Europe" in the framework of the International Film Music Days.

Both, Paul Hertel and Patrick Ager stressed the importance of networking and active engagement within professional associations and collective societies, such as for instance in Austria the ÖKB and AKM. These organizations, based on a model of solidarity, provide crucial membership services (i.e. legal and professional advice), which are vital when starting a career as composer. The panel was moderated by Fritz Niemann, EU XXL Project manager.

Photo: Julia Wesely



## How political is music in 2011?

The Swedish Society of Popular Music Composers engages in a conference on music, revolution and author's rights.

In the light of the events in Tahrir Square, Egypt, the freedom of expression for musicians worldwide and the link between freedom of speech and author's rights is again reiterated: how to support authors and musicians against censorship and repression?



Already confirmed speakers are: Kerstin Brunnberg, Executive Chairman of the Swedish Arts Council. Austin Dacey, philosopher, author and human rights activist, Rana Farhan, persian blues singer and songwriter, Alfons Karabuda, composer and chairman of SKAP and ECSA and Ahmad Zatari, journalist, poet and translator.

For further information: www.right11.se

## **Upcoming Events:**

- Soundtrack Cologne: See the Sound! 3-6.11.2011
- Ljubljana ECF Composers Congress 5-7.11.2011