**Songwriters’ Guild of America and ECSA team-up for the Global Repertoire Database**

On the occasion of SKAP’s annual Spring Dinner, representatives of the Songwriters Guild of America (SGA) and ECSA gathered in Stockholm on May 29th and signed a Memorandum of Understanding, which formalized the collaboration of both organizations for the Global Repertoire Database (GRD). The Memorandum states, in principle, that SGA members will be represented in the GRD Working Group (and future board) through ECSA representatives. In turn, the SGA will be briefed regularly on the GRD developments and consulted on all major decisions to be taken at the GRD WG level.

The collaboration of both writers’ organizations had been intensified in light of the rapid development of the GRD, which will provide, for the first time, a single, comprehensive and authoritative representation of the global ownership and control of musical works. ECSA is a member of the GRD Working Group since February 2011 and is represented by Jörg Evers (songwriter, composer), Patrick Rackow (CEO BASCA) and Patrick Ager (ECSA Secretary General).

Prior to the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding, ECSA and SGA met for a “Hangover Seminar”. High on the agenda was the discussion on the role of copyrights and authors’ rights, perceived as a crucial economic right and essential to keep a fair level of control on how works are exploited. It was emphasized that, particularly in Europe, these rights are crucial in order to claim attribution and integrity of works.

It was understood that only a strong authors’ rights regime, attributed and granted to authors, can guarantee freedom of choice of writing lyrics, melodies and artistic expression.

Photo top (from right to left): Janie Ross Coulter, Rick Carnes, Charles Sanders, Marten Karlsson; 2nd Photo (from left to right): Patrick Ager, Alfons Karabuda, Niels Mosumgaard, Leif Pagrotisky; Photo credits: Stina Gullander

Watch the video of Hangover Seminar [here](#)!

---

**Film composers meet during the 65th Cannes Film Festival**

Film and Media music composers gathered on the occasion of the 65th Cannes Film Festival from 16th-27th of May. Entitled Cannes Soundtrack, the film music pavilion included a wide range of workshops, seminars and roundtables dealing with music composed for film and TV, creators rights and cross-Atlantic collaborations of composers. The presence of Film music composers at this year’s Film Festival was achieved through an intense collaboration (among many others) of FFACE, Cine Cologne and Soundtrack Cologne.

From left to right: Chris Smith, Bernard Grimaldi, John Groves, Luis Ivars

**Upcoming Events:**
ECF open board meeting, 10th of June, Salzburg, Austria