

ECSA Autumn Session 2016 Ljubljana, Slovenia

Composers and songwriters from all over Europe united in welcoming the EU copyright directive as an essential first step to establish fairness in the value chain.

Delegates from 50 European associations of composers and songwriters gathered for their traditional Autumn Session from 28 to 30 September 2016 and assessed the recent copyright proposals from the European Commission released on 14 September 2016. The ECSA Autumn Session was hosted by the Society of Slovene Composers (DSS).

ECSA members were pleased to see that the work of ECSA in the last years provided concrete results with several provisions set out in the copyright directive aiming at establishing more fairness for music writers in the value chain.

“I am very pleased to see that the Commission’s proposals are solution-oriented, looking at problems in the market and identifying mechanisms establishing a more sustainable environment for songwriters and composers. The liability of internet service providers must be clarified in copyright terms to ensure that composers and songwriters are fairly remunerated and the Commission’s proposals are a very good first step in this regard” comments Alfons Karabuda, President of ECSA.

“A solution-driven approach is truly appreciated. Composers and songwriters are pleased to see that the Commission also assesses the contractual situation music

creators face when assigning their rights to first intermediaries. Here is where the first value gap appears and the different rules applicable to copyright contracts in EU member states create an unlevel playing field for creators,” adds Patrick Ager, Secretary General of ECSA.

The ECSA Autumn Session also show-cased a core project of ECSA’s Creative Europe Programme – ECCO, which included a special collaboration with RTV Slovenia producing extraordinary performances of the Big Band of RTV Slovenia led by Sigi Feigl (Austria) and by the RTV Slovenia Symphony Orchestra led by conductor Jessica Cottis (UK). Both concerts followed a Europe-wide call for scores assessed by the ECCO Artistic Committee and “highlighted the variety of aesthetic approaches of Europe’s contemporary music repertoire with a breathtaking effect on the audience” comments composer Dusan Bavdek, ECSA’s Slovenian representative for contemporary music and member of the ECCO Working Group and Artistic Committee.

The ECCO concert featuring the Big Band of RTV Slovenia took place at Kino Šiška on 28 September 2016. The Big Band performed pieces by Michel Herr (BE), Piotr Wróbel (PL), Outi Tarkiainen (FIN), Nikki Iles (UK), Mark Lockheart (UK), Matjaž Mikuletič (SI), Krešimir Herceg (HR), Helge Sunde (NO), Klemen Smolej (SI) and Jukka Linkola (FIN). The following day at the Slovenian Philharmonic, the Symphony Orchestra of RTV Slovenia performed pieces by Benjamin de Murashkin (DK), Ignacy Zalewski (PL), Knut Vaage (NO), Jani Golob (SI), John Casken (UK) and Indra Riše (LAT).



ECCO Concert – RTV Symphony Orchestra Slovenia, conducted by Jessica Cottis (photo: ECSA)

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