

2005

YEAR OF THE MEDITERRANEAN
ANNÉE DE LA MÉDITERRANÉE
ANNO DEL MEDITERRANEO



Newsletter
n. 2

Sept. 30, 2005

**ACTIVITIES COMPLETED IN THE YEAR 2005
AND IN CELEBRATION OF**
The 10th Anniversary of the
Euro-Mediterranean Partnership/Barcelona Process

organized and realized by

Fondazione Mediterraneo
and
Maison de la Méditerranée

(with the contribution of numerous other Euro-Mediterranean Institutions and Organizations)



Maison de la
Méditerranée

Main activities carried out by the *Fondazione Mediterraneo* and the *Maison de la Méditerranée* from 31 March 2005 to 30 September 2005:

More information on all activities can be found at: <http://www.euromedi.org/attivita/attivitaanno.asp?anno=2005>

1) 1st EURO-MEDITERRANEAN CONCERT FOR INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE

In celebration of the European Union's recognition of 2005 as the "Year of the Mediterranean", the **1st Euro-Mediterranean Concert for Dialogue Among Cultures** was launched in **Cairo** on 4th December 2004, and has since visited numerous cities, including **Otranto, Naples, Rome, Cosenza, and Luxembourg**. Future stops will include **Algeria, Aichi** (Japan), and **Barcelona**. Artists from **Algeria, France, Morocco** and **Mozambique**, to mention just a few, have performed in the concert series.

This series of musical events arises from a new policy of the **Fondazione Mediterraneo** which aims to combine political and cultural strategies in order to produce concrete actions for the development of a dialogue among the parties representing the Mediterranean, Europe and the Islamic world. The concerts are inspired by the idea of the rich traditions of culture and art exported from the Mediterranean coasts, a trend throughout history which continues today through contemporary artistic and cultural movements.

COSENZA, 13th May 2005

Concluding the **Euro-Mediterranean Meeting**, another successful concert in the series took place at the Piazza Prefettura in Cosenza, Italy. Conducted by Maestro **Eugenio Bennato** (Italy), it featured fascinating performances by Egyptian musician **Fathy Salam**, and by gnawa singer and gumbri player **Hasna El Becharia** of Algeria.

The *Hymn of the Mediterranean* was played by the **Chamber Orchestra of the Conservatory of Cosenza**, which was conducted on this occasion by **Nayer Nagui, Director of the Cairo Opera House**. The performance attracted and entertained over 10,000 spectators; among the audience were numerous diplomats and representatives of the Euro-Mediterranean countries.



CAIRO, 30th June 2005

A spectacular concert was held at the **Pyramids of Giza, Egypt**. The event, *Italy Meets Egypt – Music, Dances and Songs of the Mediterranean*, was organised by the **Fondazione Mediterraneo-Maison de la Méditerranée** in collaboration with the **Egyptian Ministry of Tourism** and the **Italian Embassy in Cairo** to celebrate the one millionth Italian tourist in Egypt in 2005.

The Italian artists **Eugenio Bennato** with **Taranta Power, Pietra Montercorvino** and the Egyptian group **Wust el Balad** took part in the initiative. For the occasion of the one millionth tourist, several Italians won a four-day trip to Egypt through the RAI-sponsored quiz "Alle Falde del Kilimangiaro". Present were the **Egyptian Minister of Tourism Ahmed El Maghrabi** and the **Italian Ambassador to Egypt Antonio Badini**, who commended the high cultural standing of the event.



LUXEMBOURG, 11th July 2005

Luxembourg's Abbaye de Neumünster hosted another stop of the concert series, which featured musicians from various backgrounds including Greek, Turkish, Armenian, Turkish-Cypriot, Greek-Cypriot, Israeli, Egyptian, Iranian, and American. These performers have created the **Association of Artists for Peace (ADAP)** in order to demonstrate that in working together, similarities prevail and differences become less relevant.



2) EXHIBITION: *BREAKING THE VEILS: WOMEN ARTISTS FROM THE ISLAMIC WORLD*

PADOVA, 20th May 2005

The *Fondazione Mediterraneo*, the *Municipality of Padova* and the *Association "Mediterraneo"* organised the exhibition *Breaking the Veils: Women Artists From the Islamic World*. This event was promoted in collaboration with the *Royal Society of Fine Arts in Amman* and the organisation *Femme-Art-Méditerranée* (May 20 – June 20 2005). Present at the event, which took place at the Sala della Gran Guardia, Piazza dei Signori, in the presence of **President Michele Capasso** and **Mayor Zanonato of Padova**



Inaugurated in Luxembourg (25th November – 31st December 2004), this exhibition brought together approximately 70 paintings by 51 women artists representing 21 different Islamic countries, from Indonesia to Yemen. They are all women and all are Muslim, but they are of distinct faiths and generations. And it is precisely this theme that these artists wished to highlight with their work: that the Muslim world, rather than simply representing one conception of "Islam", is actually a cultural mosaic, and that, similarly, the complexity of the Muslim woman is "veiled". To spread this message the artists used the universal language of art. With oil paints and water colours, with engravings, collages and serigraphs (silk-screen prints), and with the transformations of their own bodies, faces, and shadows, these women illustrated and explained their world, their traditions, their political challenges, and their status.

3) INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS ON EURO-MEDITERRANEAN ISSUES

The *Fondazione Mediterraneo* has organised a series of lectures to celebrate its ten years of commitment to the *Euro-Mediterranean Dialogue*. This high-profile series, entitled *La Politica Internazionale nel Mediterraneo (The International Politics of the Mediterranean)* is co-ordinated by **Fabio Petito**, **Massimo Galluppi**, and **Franco Mazzei** of the *Università di Napoli "L'Orientale"*. The lectures examine key issues of the region's geo-politics by gathering internationally renowned scholars – in particular, from English-speaking academic and foreign-policy circles – who are critical of current American foreign policy towards the Middle East and who support a more decisive and co-operative European role in the Mediterranean.

This initiative is part of a new five-year agenda (2005-2010) of the *Fondazione Mediterraneo* entitled *The Mediterranean, Europe and Islam: Actors in Dialogue*, whose mission is to strengthen mutual understanding and co-operation among the countries around the Mediterranean Sea as well as throughout Europe and the Muslim communities within and outside of Europe. The lecture series also aims to increase public awareness in Italy to the political challenges within the Mediterranean space through the involvement of the Italian media at each event.

NAPLES, 17th March 2005

Professor **Michael Cox** of the *London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)* presented a lecture entitled *The Grand American Strategy and the Global War Against Terrorism*.



NAPLES, 6th April 2005

Professor **Alessandro Colombo** of the *University of Milan* lectured on the theme *War, Democracy and the Equality of States: The Middle East and the Mediterranean*.



NAPLES, 21st April 2005

Professor **Joseph Camilleri** of **La Trobe University**, Australia, presented *Between Europe and the Middle East: Episodic Geopolitics or Transformative Encounter?*



NAPLES, 26th May 2005

A concluding round-table was held to discuss *La Politica Estera Italiana tra Partenariato Euromediterraneo e Grande Medio Oriente (Italian Foreign Policy Between the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and the Greater Middle East)*. The following people took part in the discussion: **Michele Capasso**, President of the *Fondazione Mediterraneo*; **Massimo Galluppi**, "L'Orientale" University, Naples; **Riccardo Sessa**, Director General for the Countries of the Mediterranean and Middle East – Ministry of Foreign Affairs; **Franco Rizzi**, Director General of UNIMED; **Fabio Petito**, ESCP-EAP, Paris and "L'Orientale" University, Naples; and **Franco Mazzei**, Università di Napoli "L'Orientale".



4) MEDITERRANEO, UN MARE DI PACE

NAPLES, 31st March 2005

The project *Mediterraneo, un Mare di Pace (The Mediterranean, a Sea of Peace)* was carried out with civil service volunteers and other young people entering the working world, with the aim of promoting peace and cooperation among Mediterranean area communities.



5) CHAIRE AVERROËS

MARRAKECH, 29th April 2005

For the *Chaire Averroès* academic year 2004-2005, which is a project undertaken jointly by the *Fondazione Mediterraneo* and *Qadi Ayyad University, Marrakech*, featured the theme *The Use of the World: Knowing How to Live Together*. The writer and sociologist **Adbelkabar Khatibi** gave the inaugural lecture.



6) EURO-MEDITERRANEAN MEETING

COSENZA, 13th - 14th May 2005

In order to celebrate "2005, Year of the Mediterranean" and the tenth anniversary of the *Euro-Mediterranean Partnership*, the *Fondazione Mediterraneo* and *Maison de la Méditerranée* collaborated with the *Province of Cosenza* to organise a Euro-Mediterranean meeting on *Cooperation and Partnership: a Strategic Choice for Security, Peace and Development in the Mediterranean Area*.



Decision-makers from the Province of Cosenza created the *Foundation Europa-Mezzogiorno-Mediterraneo* with the objective of promoting intercultural dialogue, and of development a network for economic and social relations between the Region of Calabria and the other areas of the

Mediterranean. A further meeting in 2010 and the creation of a Euro-Mediterranean free-trade zone were also discussed during the event.

The **ambassadors of Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Jordan, Algeria, Libya, Syria, Albania**, as well as various deans of the respective universities took part in this meeting.

7) SEVENTH ANNUAL "NAPOLIFILMFESTIVAL"

NAPLES, 5th June 2005

The opening ceremony of the seventh annual *Napolifilmfestival* was held at the **Università Federico II di Napoli**. The **Fondazione Mediterraneo** provided institutional support for this event, and **Fondazione Mediterraneo President Michele Capasso** presented the "**Vesuvio Award**" to honour the film *Titanus* by Guido Lombardo. Actor Nicola Di Pinto accepted the award for this achievement.

Citing the appeal of Michele Placido for the liberation of Clementina Cantoni in Afghanistan, President Capasso pointed out that cinema can enhance understanding among cultures.



8) SREBRENICA 1995-2005: A WARNING TO EUROPE

NAPLES, 6th June 2005

Marking ten years since the massacre at Srebrenica, the **Fondazione Mediterraneo** appealed for a major commitment by Euro-Mediterranean intellectuals to create a "United States of Europe", fostering peace, equality, and democracy.

The appeal was published in many Italian newspapers and subscribed to by hundreds of people who considered the initiative a necessity, lest the hundreds of thousands of victims have been "sacrificed in vain".

9) PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN AT THE MAISON DE LA MÉDITERRANÉE

NAPLES, 25th - 26th June 2005

The Presidents of Mediterranean countries including Libya, the Balkans and the Principality of Monaco gathered to constitute the **Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean** under the auspices of the Interparliamentary Union.

The participants expressed their appreciation that the Fondazione Mediterraneo and Maison de la Méditerranée publicise a "Mediterranean" dimension that includes Libya and the Balkans.



10) 2nd INTERNATIONAL CONTEST FOR SHORT FILMS "ALTRI SGUARDI" AND 1st INTERNATIONAL CONTEST FOR SONGS "ALTRI SUONI"

NAPLES, 29th July 2005

With financial support of the **European Commission**, the **Fondazione Mediterraneo** organised the second edition of the contest "**Altri Sguardi**" ("**Another Look**") for short films,



and the first contest “**Altri Suoni**” (“**Other Sounds**”) for songs inspired by peace and intercultural dialogue.

The contests highlight mutual understanding between the peoples of the two shores of the Mediterranean through employing innovative cinema techniques such as Internet movies.

11) OFFICIAL VISIT TO FONDAZIONE MEDITERRANEO - MAISON DE LA MÉDITERRANÉE BY PRIME MINISTER ERDOĞAN

NAPLES, 2nd September 2005

Fondazione Mediterraneo President **Michele Capasso**, Vice President **Caterina Arcidiacono** and Turkish Ambassador to Italy **Uğur Ziyal** welcomed Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey **Recep Tayyip Erdoğan** at Naples airport. Accompanying the prime minister were **Minister of State Mehmet Aydın** and members of the Turkish media. The entourage then proceeded to the Fondazione Mediterraneo for a high-level visit.

Since 1994 the Fondazione Mediterraneo has supported the role of Turkey as a key country of the “**Greater Mediterranean**”, stressing on numerous occasions and through various means – meetings, workshops, appeals, articles – that Turkey should become a member of the European Union. The Fondazione Mediterraneo sees Turkish membership as a necessary criterion of culturally, socially and economically integrating the region it represents and thus increasing regional prosperity and peace.

The Turkish model of secularism, which values Islam as a source of socio-cultural identity that can remain independent from politics, represents an indispensable resource and hope for Europe and for the pacification of the Middle-Eastern region. Further, it sends a message both to those who politicise religion and to those who do not believe Islam and democracy can function compatibly.



12) “MEDITERRANEAN INSTITUTION” AWARD TO PRIME MINISTER ERDOĞAN

NAPLES, 2nd September 2005

Turkish Prime Minister **Recep Tayyip Erdoğan** was honoured during his visit to the Fondazione Mediterraneo in a ceremony presenting the “**Premio Mediterraneo Istituzioni 2005**” (Mediterranean Institutions 2005 Award).

Prime Minister Erdoğan is known and respected for his integrity and his democratic and pluralist style of politics. As mayor of Istanbul, he was able to modernise municipal administration; as prime minister, he has enhanced the political and cultural dialogue between Turkey and Europe.

This award ceremony acknowledged the great progress of a country whose culture is rooted in the Eastern world, but which has nonetheless established long-lasting and deep relations with the Western world. The intention of the ceremony was to highlight the wish for a new widening of Europe aimed at ending the age-old tension between Christian and Muslim States.



13) CEREMONY AND ACCORD BETWEEN THE FONDAZIONE MEDITERRANEO AND THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY

NAPLES, 1st September 2005

On the occasion of the visit of Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, a **letter of intention** was presented providing for a partnership protocol between the Fondazione Mediterraneo and the Government of the Republic of Turkey. The protocol entails establishing a seat of the Maison de la Méditerranée in Istanbul as a point of reference within the "**Greater Mediterranean**" project.



14) INAUGURATION OF ISTANBUL HALL AT MAISON DE LA MÉDITERRANÉE

NAPLES, 2nd September 2005

Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, accompanied by the Secretary General of the Maison de la Méditerranée Walter Schwimmer, Fondazione Mediterraneo President Michele Capasso, and other members of the Fondazione Mediterraneo, inaugurated the "**Istanbul Hall**" on the top floor of the Maison de la Méditerranée. This attractive hall represents the various countries of the "**Greater Mediterranean**" and is dedicated to Istanbul, the great city which has been the seat of splendid cultures and civilizations.



15) RENAMING OF THE FONDAZIONE AND PRESENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME “GREATER MEDITERRANEAN”

NAPLES, 1st September 2005

The international Board of the Fondazione Mediterraneo met in Naples on September 1st 2005. The Board made the following actions and decisions:

1. to adopt, as of 1st September 2005, the name FONDAZIONE MEDITERRANEO
2. to review and approve plans for the project “**Greater Mediterranean**”
3. to review and approve a letter of intention to the government of Turkey
4. to review and approve the new general prospectus of the Fondazione Mediterraneo



16) OPENING SEMINAR FOR THE SECOND COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT MASTER'S PROGRAM

NAPLES, 8th - 9th September 2005

In the opening seminar of the second **Community Management Master's Program**, the Fondazione Mediterraneo contributed its know-how in project-designing and development of dialogue and cultural exchange within the Mediterranean basin in order to cultivate the resources of young actors in Southern Italian civil society.

The program entails advanced training to meet the challenges of social and technological change in the new millennium with regard to quality of life, work, social participation, family management, and municipal organization.

The aim of the master is to train young people to develop the ability to create responsive projects and related civic activities not included in traditional educational curricula.



17) INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR: EUROPEAN COMMUNITY PSYCHOLOGY AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

NAPLES, 15th - 17th September 2005

The Fondazione Mediterraneo organized and hosted an international seminar entitled **European Community Psychology and the Mediterranean**. The key themes were social participation and citizenship, sustainable development, urban and regional planning, and social mediation.

The seminar focused on social communities at the municipal level by looking at how community psychology strategies can shed light on relevant challenges, including managing the relationship between local and global development. A further issue covered was knowledge-sharing among professionals involved in social institutions planning and civil society development.



18) 12th BIENNIAL OF YOUNG ARTISTS FROM EUROPE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

NAPLES, 19th September 2005

The junction of culture and art creates a place in which people, rather than clash, are free to meet and exchange their views, thus creating a reality which demonstrates an ideal of what should be the politics of states in the future. This is the idea behind the **Biennial of Young Artists from Europe and the Mediterranean**, the twelfth edition of which was hosted at the medieval Castel Sant'Elmo in Naples.



Approximately **800 artists** presented **350 works**, representing the visual arts, music, multimedia installations, and dance. Many exhibits were open to the public until late September and some of them until mid-October. The theme of this edition was the concept of "Passion" as seen from within Mediterranean countries such as Egypt, Greece, Jordan, Israel, Palestine, Cyprus, and Libya as well as Montenegro, Slovenia, Bosnia. Among the works representing dialogue between peoples, there were Israeli-Palestinian and Serbo-Croatian and Kosovar collaborations.

Euro-Mediterranean partners participating in activities up to 30th September 2005

ANSA, press agency (Italy); ANSAMed, press agency (Italy); Ministry of Culture (Egypt); Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Italy); Italian Embassy in Cairo (Italy); Italia-Egitto (Italy-Egypt); The Cairo Opera House (Egypt); Al-Ahram Hebdo (Egypt); Alitalia (Italy); Gruppo Grimaldi Navigazione (Italy); Ministry of Culture (Luxemburg); Neumunster Abbey (Luxemburg); Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Luxemburg); Royal Society of Fine Arts (Jordan); Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts (Jordan); F.E.M. Femme-Art-Méditerranée (Greece); Istituto di Culture Mediterranee della Provincia di Lecce (Italy); Provincia di Lecce (Italy); Otranto Municipality (Italy); Telerama (Italy); RAI (Italy); Municipality of Rome (Italy); Comunicare Organizzando (Italy); Studio S (Italy); Auditorium Parco della Musica (Italy); Taranta Power (Italy); L'empreinte digitale (France); Regione Campania (Italy); Provincia di Napoli (Italy); Municipality of Naples (Italy); Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali (Italy); Soprintendenza per i Beni Architettonici ed il Paesaggio e per il Patrimonio Storico e Artistico Demoetnoantropologico di Napoli e Provincia (Italy); Hotel Renaissance – Naples (Italy); Grand Hotel Flora – Rome (Italy); La Corte – Naples (Italy); Association Galassia Gutenberg (Italy); Liguori Editore (Italy); Edizioni Magma (Italy); Salvi Impianti (Italy); Fondazione "Tito Schipa" di Lecce (Italy); University of Naples "L'Orientale" (Italy); University "Federico II" of Naples (Italy); University "Cadi Ayyad" of Marrakech (Morocco); Associazione "Grand Atlas" (Morocco); Georgetown University (USA); Université de Louvain (Belgium); Oxford University (UK); London School of Economic (UK); Université La Sorbonne (France); Orchestra "Koiné" (Italy); University of Florence (Italy); University of Rome "La Sapienza" (Italy); Cairo University (Egypt); Provincia di Benevento (Italy); Provincia di Lecce (Italy); Provincia di Cosenza (Italy); Abbaye de Neumunster (Luxemburg); ECPA (EU) European Community Psychology Association.

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