



INPUT 2003

TELEVISION
CONFERENCE
11-16 MAY 2003
A A R H U S
D E N M A R K

INPUT in its 26th Year

by Carl Otto Dethlefsen, Conference Chairman

There is still a need to support and nurture television in the public interest. A television, that serves the audience first and foremost and not selling itself to the advertisers. That is what we, the Family of INPUT, believe in.

Our dream is a television that would serve the audience in all its needs: Information, enlightenment, entertainment. Not making "ratings" the supreme criterion, not letting quality drop out of sight, and thus make the public the real loser.

With a quarter of a century's consistency, INPUT has insisted on quality. Year after year we have selected the programming of an ideal channel that would adhere to this commitment. That would respect the viewer as an intelligent human being.

The viewers should go to bed at night proud of themselves, happy or indignant, aggressive or confused, or all of the above at the same time, but never ashamed of having spent their precious time in front of the small flickering, blue screen.

Television makers with the skills to make you laugh or cry with intelligence, do – thank God! – still exist. Over the years they have been taking part in INPUT conferences. And they keep coming! We feel sure that you are here this week, screening your programme or attending the conference as a delegate.

From being a small meeting of a few dedicated individuals from US and Western Europe, who gathered for the first time in 1987, INPUT has expanded into what it is today: A truly international forum for screening and discussing television in the public interest.



The Founding 15 in Bellagio: Front Row (l to r) Fred Barzyk (U.S.), Russel Connor (U.S.), Agnes Vincent (A2 France), Howard Klein (U.S. Rockefeller Foundation), Chloe Aaron (U.S. PBS), Hans-Geert Falkenberg (WDR Germany), Sergio Borelli (RAI Italy). Back Row (l to r) Eugene Katt (U.S. CPB), Jacques de Jouffroy (France INA), James Day (U.S.), Kjeld Veirup (DR Denmark), Robert Stephane (Belgium RTB), Bill Viola (U.S.) Nam June Paik (U.S.), Salvatore Bruno (RAI Italy).



Two of the founders are still active in INPUT. Hans-Geert Falkenberg has been active as a National Coordinator for Germany and on the International Board, and Sergio Borelli, the "inventor" of INPUT is still the controversial and provocative coordinator of the selection process. But since the start in 1987 many, many dedicated individuals from the television community have taken part in the voluntary work of moving INPUT forward and getting the annual conferences organized.

INPUT Mission

Public television is not the same today as when the founders of INPUT laid down the foundation and philosophies of INPUT in 1987. INPUT is a living organism, made up of different ideas and different dedicated personalities who have all had some influence on the idea of INPUT and the execution of INPUT activities and annual conferences. The present International Board has been working on expressing in short what INPUT stands for, and here is the result of their efforts:

Our vision

We are dedicated to exploring the limits of television beyond the merely conventional and derivative and reject the notion that it must be either "popular" or "cultural", refusing to view these terms as mutually exclusive.

Our mission

In order to celebrate and encourage the development of public service television world-wide, we organize international forums to screen, discuss and evaluate cutting-edge public television programmes from around the world, thereby producing a unique and exciting professional development opportunity for those working in television.

Our activities

- *Holding a conference in a different city in the world each year where as many as 100 cutting-edge programmes are screened with their producers present in intensive, interactive forums.*
- *Holding smaller "mini" conferences on a regional basis.*
- *Producing publications, websites, training-workshops etc. in support of the mission and as appropriate.*
- *Providing an international archive.*

INPUT is much more than a television festival. It is a voluntary organization governed and administered by men and women working with public television. It is supported by conference registration fees, public television organizations, individuals and interested institutions, agencies and foundations.

INPUT Activities World Wide

INPUT has always been characterized by the dedication of people who believe in the idea of sharing and developing television in the public interest. This has resulted in an amazing number of activities world wide in between the annual conferences. This has definitely been the case since the Rotterdam conference in 2002. Here are some of the events which have taken place:



THE INPUT ARCHIVE (www.inputarchive.org)

The INPUT Archive is a collection of TV programmes that have been screened at the INPUT conferences since the first one, in 1978, until today. The Archive, housed at Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona, started in 1994 by agreement between the INPUT International Board and UPF.

The Archive contains over 1600 VHS tapes with programmes from many different countries. These programmes were selected for INPUT for their innovative value, their courage in addressing difficult topics or their willingness to explore uncharted TV territory. This collection aims to be a reference library for TV professionals, students and academics all over the world.

According to the agreement with the INPUT International Board and to protect producer's rights, the Archive can only hold tapes of the programmes for consultation at the UPF library. Therefore, there are several ways to watch the programmes: going to the Archive in Barcelona, attending workshops and Mini-INPUTs that take place in Europe, North and South America, Africa and Asia, or contacting the producers directly.

The INPUT Archive database can be searched at www.inputarchive.org. The database includes information about all the programmes screened at INPUT (over 2800), including those they don't have a tape of yet (the Archive has a complete collection of tapes for all the programmes included in the INPUT conference from 1997 onwards; but it's not complete for previous conferences, although they try to get the missing tapes). You can find more information about how the database works at the website. The information is provided in English, French, Spanish and Catalan – but the search is done in English as it is based on the information provided by the producers in the INPUT entry forms.

Beyond the information you can find at the Archive's website (programme and session information), they would like to include research works or any interesting additional information related to INPUT and its programmes. If you have any of this information please contact the Archive at feedback@inputarchive.org.

INPUT website

The virtual home of INPUT is the website: www.input-tv.org
Currently it is kindly being hosted by ITVS.

INPUT Partners

INPUT is supported indirectly by public broadcasters and institutions all over the world. But over the years INPUT has been successful in establishing strong and lasting ties with a handful of organizations.

U.S. based **ITVS**, The Independent Television Service, is currently hosting the website and is acting as the fiscal agent for INPUT. Also ITVS is engaged in hosting the 2005 conference in San Francisco.



Canada has a long tradition of organizing Post-INPUTS and Michel Gelinat from Radio-Canada has been extremely active this past year with Post-INPUTS in Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa and New Brunswick. The one in Montreal must be a record: 250 people attended the three day event, which was the 18th of its kind!

Also the Scandinavian countries have a long tradition, and Mini-INPUTS have taken place in **Norway, Finland and Denmark.**

Thanks to the extraordinary help of The Goethe-Institut INPUT activities were organized in Porto Alegre, **Brazil** and La Paz, **Bolivia**, and early this year also in Johannesburg, **South Africa**. Another first, also with the help of the Goethe-Institut, was in London, **UK**, where almost 100 participants showed up for the Mini-INPUT on the 12th of January. Also the Mini-INPUT in Cardiff, **Wales** was a first, and so was the spectacular event in November last year in Kingston, **Jamaica**. Here Caribbean Coordinator Cheryl Ryman made an effort to introduce the philosophies and methods of INPUT to delegates from the Caribbean islands.

Following a long tradition, Sheila de Courcy arranged a Mini-INPUT in Dublin, **Ireland** in January of this year, and since Rotterdam 4 events have taken place in **Spain** – Cartagena, Barcelona, Coruña and Madrid.

A Mini-INPUT event has been organised in March of this year in San Francisco, **USA**. In April a small version of the SF event will be presented at Syracuse University, New York State and also an event is scheduled to take place in the Philadelphia area. Finally a new idea has been introduced in South Carolina ETV. Once a month station producers and independent producers are invited to the stations' large screen HDTV theatre for a screening of an INPUT programmes while they enjoy their lunch. What a great way to have a monthly dose of INPUT!

Every year Leonid Zolotarevsky, Coordinator for The Russian Federation, has succeeded in establishing a **Moscow Workshop**. With the help of UNESCO funding 50-60 producers from all corners of the federation meet to screen and discuss their programmes before sending a quota to the international selection.

How INPUT is run

INPUT is run entirely by volunteers. The governing body, the INPUT International Board, is made up of individuals who work for the idea – some are supported by broadcasters or organizations, some are just in it for love. The board meets twice a year plus several meetings during the annual conference. Most board members are elected to serve for 4 years and elections take place during the annual conference.

Most importantly INPUT has an impressive group of dedicated National Coordinators who represent INPUT in their constituency, and their constituency in INPUT. The National Coordinators are elect-



ed by the board and so are the Shop Stewards who select the programmes and compose the annual conference.

See list of all these individuals elsewhere.

PREPUT

Designed for training professionals the PREPUT conference is an opportunity to exchange ideas, trends, new technologies and new advanced methods in television training. This year the conference is hosted by the Danish School of Journalism and the Centre for Journalism and Further Education.

The Statistics of INPUT Conferences

Year	Site	Host	Delegates	Countries with programmes	Official programmes
1978	Milano	RAI	240	12	173
1979	Milano	RAI	208	16	121
1980	Washington	CPB/PBS	293	19	110
1981	Venice	RAI	319	16	108
1982	Toronto	CBC	364	22	87
1983	Liège	RTBF	303	20	79
1984	Charleston	SCETV	410	41	81
1985	Marseille	INA	520	29	86
1986	Montreal	CBC	718	32	92
1987	Granada	RTVE	625	36	97
1988	Philadelphia	WHYY	596	42	94
1989	Stockholm	SVT	668	36	94
1990	Edmonton	CBC	634	30	92
1991	Dublin	RTE	670	33	96
1992	Baltimore	MPT	721	32	88
1993	Bristol	BBC	825	39	101
1994	Montreal	SRC	1057	35	99
1995	San Sebastian	ETB	955	34	106
1996	Guadalajara	University and others	1050	35	94
1997	Nantes	INA	1125	29	82
1998	Stuttgart	SDR	1277	35	76
1999	Fort Worth	TCU	851	39	99
2000	Halifax	CBC	1036	39	81
2001	Cape Town	SABC	1699	33	86
2002	Rotterdam	NOS/IFFR	936	59	86
2003	Aarhus	Nordic Broadcasters	?	33	87



RAI and **ORB**, have both made a unique contribution to the function of INPUT by hosting the selection process.

A long term relationship has existed between **UNESCO** and INPUT. Workshop activities in Africa, Asia and The Russian Federation have been supported by UNESCO under the programme – Crea-TV.

Pompeu Fabre University of Barcelona, has formed a partnership with INPUT through the work of the archive.

The Goethe-Institut has become an invaluable partner for INPUT. By helping individuals and by supporting regional development of INPUT activities the institute is now a major contributor to the development of the INPUT family.

Finally quite a few devoted individuals have supported INPUT by working and participating in meetings and activities, funded solely by themselves!

How to become involved in INPUT

As INPUT is run entirely by volunteers we invite newcomers to become part of the INPUT “family”. If you support the ideas laid down in our Mission Statement and want to contribute to the volunteer work, please do not hesitate to contact either Board Members or National Coordinators. There are still countries not represented by National Coordinators and the Board is always eager to welcome new blood. Also each year we need enthusiastic Shop Stewards who are able to devote time and energy to select programmes and moderate the screening sessions at the annual conference. Even if the next two conferences are pencilled in – 2004 in Barcelona and 2005 in San Francisco – we invite prospects for hosting a conference to come forward in due time – the planning of an INPUT conference requires long term relationship with INPUT and should fit with the intention of bringing INPUT to a new continent each year.

Finally, we value any ideas and suggestions from conference delegates, and we urge you to approach us or use the evaluation form.

