

**Minutes of the SERCIA General Assembly**  
**Saturday, September 10, 2016, Turing Amphitheatre,**  
**Paris VII – Diderot University, France**

**COMMITTEE:** President: Jean-François BAILLON; Vice-President : David ROCHE;  
Treasurer: Céline MURILLO; Assistant Treasurer: Nicole CLOAREC (*leaves at 12 am*);  
Secretary: Isabelle SCHMITT; Assistant Secretary: Zachary BAQUÉ; Relations with other  
organizations, associations and institutions: Anne-Marie PAQUET-DEYRIS; Mailing list:  
Julie ASSOULY

**SECRETARIES:** Isabelle SCHMITT and Zachary BAQUÉ

**PRESENT MEMBERS:** *Suvilay BOUNTHAVY (?), Adrienne BOUTANG, Fátima CHINITA, Maranne COLBRAN (?), Raphaëlle COSTA DE BEAUREGARD, Anne CREMIEUX, Emmanuelle DELANOË-BRUN, Véronique ELEFTERIOU-PERRIN, Annie FEE, Pierre FLOQUET, Christophe GELLY, Ariane HUDELET, Marianne KAC-VERGNE, Anaïs LEFEVRE-BERTHELOT, David LIPSON, Stella LOUIS, Hélène MACHINAL, Gilles MENEGALDO, Chloé MONASTEROLO, Elizabeth MULLEN, Elise PEREIRA NUNES, Sarah PESCE, Piero POLIDORO, Yann ROBLOU, Dominique SIPIÈRE, Vincent SOULADIÉ, Penny STARFIELD, Melvyn STOKES, Clémentine THOLAS-DISSET, Dennis TREDY*

**PROXIES:** Bruno AGAR, Mehran AHMADI, Francine ANANIAN, Ilka BRASCH, Felix BRINKER, Tifenn BRISSET, Nicole CLOAREC (*after 12 am*), Claire CORNILLON, John DEAN, Jocelyn DUPONT, Andrea GRUNNERT, Scott HIGGINS, , Patricia KRUTH (?), Isabelle LABROUILLÈRE, Isabelle LE CORFF, Delphine LETORT, Kathleen LOOCK, Anne-Lise MARIN-LAMELLET, Julie MICHOT, Justin MORRIS, Zeenat SALEH, Shannon WELLS-LASSAGNE.

## **1. MINUTES OF 2014 CONFERENCE**

Jean-François Baillon opens the general assembly at 11:15am. The first order of business is the approval of the minutes of last year's general assembly in Arras, which is done by unanimous show of hands.

## **2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Jean-François Baillon explains that it has been a good year for SERCIA. The Arras conference on *Féminin-Masculin* was a great success, thanks to its organizers, Julie Assouly and Marianne Kac-Vergne. Membership is also rising, a sign of good health. Concerning the process of giving grants to scientific manifestations organized by SERCIA members, the committee has received more applications than last year and has decided to divided 500€ in four, which shows that the system is working. Some of the benefits of these grants are that they advertize SERCIA to a wider public and may attract new members. As examples of the recent or forthcoming events partially subsidized by SERCIA, Jean-François Baillon mentions the symposiums on TV series and addiction (Paris-Ouest); *On the Road* (University of Burgundy); *Women Who Kill* (Toulouse-Jean Jaurès); and *Nostalgia* (Angers).

When it comes to our relation with the president of the Agrégation Externe jury, what SERCIA has done has not been quite successful. It appears that the current president is not so keen on welcoming suggestions from the presidents of societies concerning the

program. Another attempt will be made next week during the SAES meetings on September 16. At the meeting of presidents of societies organized last June in Lyon, all of them were unhappy about this.

Last year, it was suggested that the committee may try to meet more than once at the yearly conference, but it was unable to do so. Perhaps we could do better in 2017.

### **3. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Céline Murillo shows to the general assembly the budget of SERCIA (attached at the end of these minutes). She then explains that the use of the direct debit option is relatively stable and encourages members to opt for it as it is much easier for both the treasurer and the members. More than 1,000 euros from our income comes through PayPal but Céline Murillo explains that there is a fee paid by SERCIA (1.20€ per transaction). If the PayPal option is good for people with bank accounts located elsewhere, for these members who have a French bank account, direct debit is the best option. The global income amounts to 4130€, but this has been an exceptional year, partly thanks to the work of Nicole Cloarec, the deputy treasurer, who has managed to secure some 110 paying members even before the conference. Some membership fees for the last conference were sent in 2016, hence the unusually high amount. Spending has also been quite unusual for SERCIA as it amounts to 5333€, which includes the seed money given to scientific events and to the SERCIA conferences in Arras, Paris, and Nijmegen (including money for the publication of the conference papers). Céline Murillo also details the promised money, which can be considered as already spent and cannot be used for anything else: the publications of the conference papers given in Bath, Bordeaux, and Arras. The budget is unanimously approved by show of hands.

### **4. AMENDMENT TO SERCIA'S CONSTITUTION**

Jean-François Baillon explains that an amendment to the SERCIA constitution was rendered necessary by the enlargement of the editorial staff of *Film Journal* as new positions were created. The text of the proposed amendment is shown and read, both in French and in English. It reads as follows:

*"The Film Journal editorial board is composed of 4 members: the editor in chief, the assistant editor, an editor of book reviews and an editor of occasional papers, all elected by the SERCIA General Assembly. Positions are renewable twice on a 2-year basis. The editor in chief proposes candidates to the three other positions. The applications will be examined by the Film Journal editorial committee before being submitted to the General Assembly. All the members of the editorial board have to be members of SERCIA but they cannot be elected members of the SERCIA committee."*

Penny Starfield explains that it would better to use "*hors-thème*" instead of "*varia*" for the occasional papers in the French version of the proposed amendment. David Roche reminds all present members that the actual idea of the amendment was accepted last year and that this year, just the phrasing of the amendment should be discussed. The amendment is approved by unanimous show of hands.

### **5. ELECTION OF APPLICANTS TO THE NEW POSITIONS OF *FILM JOURNAL***

Before presenting the applicants to these new positions, Penny Starfield describes what has been done by the editorial staff: Fabrice Lyczba is currently finalizing the new format for the journal, available at [filmjournal.org](http://filmjournal.org). As the new template is shown to the general assembly, she explains that it is now more user-friendly and that articles can be downloaded in PDF form. Issue 3 is being finalized and the evaluations for issue 4 are

under way. She thanks Jacques Lerogon, David Roche and the editorial committee. Penny Starfield then asks the present members to say whether they would want to be part of the reviewing committee. Issue 5, which will be devoted to "Screening the Supernatural", has been started. She then reminds that *Film Journal* is the brainchild of Melvyn Stokes and that it was first located on the University College London website: the first two issues were published on the UCL website. Penny Starfield concludes her remarks by saying that *Film Journal* is based on themes and that she is happy to discuss proposal of themes. Propositions can be sent to [filmjournal.sercia@gmail.com](mailto:filmjournal.sercia@gmail.com). The idea is the same for occasional papers as well as different contributions or what she would call *varia*, interviews for example. All new editors will meet very soon.

Elizabeth Mullen asks whether the SERCIA website includes a link to the old or the new *Film Journal* website. Penny Starfield replies that the change will be done shortly and adds that if members notice potential glitches, they should send her a message.

The candidacies are then presented, knowing that they all went through the editorial committee, as per the new amendment. There is one application for each position:

Nicole Cloarec presents her candidacy for the position of editor of occasional papers: she has been a member of SERCIA since 2000, organized the conference on Letters at Rennes II, and has been a member of the SERCIA committee for two years. She is glad to help *Film Journal*. As she cannot combine this position with that of assistant treasurer, she resigns from the latter. Her candidacy is approved by unanimous show of hands.

Penny Starfield then presents the candidacy of Jocelyn Dupont as editor of book reviews. He has been a member of SERCIA and attended some of its conferences in the past. He is also active with CICLAHO, has published a recent issue of *CinémAction*, and is organizing next year's AFEA conference. As his recent involvement with SERCIA is questioned, Penny Starfield explains that he is very active and dependable, and has been taken by other activities. A debate ensues on whether it would be preferable to have competitive elections. Julie Assouly says that all members were aware of the vacancies as a specific message was sent to the mailing list. Melvyn Stokes adds that competitive elections are great but that finding willing candidates is very hard. Penny Starfield says Jocelyn Dupont was the only candidate. A hypothetical question is asked: what happens if someone is elected and does not do the job? It is answered that this person may be voted out two years after her or his election. Penny suggests that some continuity is absolutely necessary so as not to be detrimental to *Film Journal*. The candidacy of Jocelyn Dupont is then vocally supported by several SERCIA members. It is then put to the vote: 4 members abstain from voting; all others vote for Jocelyn Dupont. Penny Starfield expresses her happiness about the newly constituted editorial board.

## **6. ELECTIONS: RENEWAL OF POSITIONS**

- President: Jean-François Baillon presents his candidacy. He has been SERCIA's president since the Nijmegen conference in 2014. He is happy that SERCIA's international dimension will be confirmed by the forthcoming conferences (see below). He adds that our relations with other societies are quite good, even if the ties with AFECCAV could be strengthened. After the ballots have been counted, the result is as such: 50 in favor; 6 blank ballots. Jean-François Baillon is reelected as SERCIA's president.
- Vice-President: David Roche describes SERCIA as his intellectual family and is always happy to see all members, especially considering the quality of the recent conferences. After the ballots have been counted, the result is as such: 50 in favor; 6 blank ballots. David Roche is reelected as SERCIA's vice-president.

- Treasurer: Céline Murillo explains that she will keep doing what she has done, trying good methods to raise funds. She also explains that the work between the treasurer and the assistant treasurer has been adequately split. Her candidacy is approved by unanimous show of hands.
- Assistant Treasurer. Marianne Kac-Vergne presents her candidacy. Raphaëlle Costa de Beauregard wishes to recall that the aim of the association is to help young students and that members believe in making this adventure together. Marianne Kac-Vergne concurs and explains that paying the fee is the best way to show one's commitment to the SERCIA project. Her candidacy is approved by unanimous show of hands.
- Secretary and Assistant Secretary: Isabelle Schmitt and Zachary Baqué present their respective candidacies and are elected by unanimous show of hands.

## **7. HELP FOR PUBLICATION**

Jean-François Baillon describes a proposal from the SERCIA committee, which would be to give grants toward the publication of books resulting from good PhDs, written in English or French. The opinion of the general assembly is asked so as to find the best procedure possible. Members of a special committee will examine the applications. The committee has to include 2 members of the SERCIA committee and Anne-Marie Paquet-Deyris and Melvyn Stokes have already accepted to participate: As specified in the minutes of last year's general assembly, three SERCIA members also have to sit at this new committee. Yann Roblou, Sarah Hatchuel, and Emmanuelle Delanoë-Brun wish to participate. Jean-François Baillon reminds members that a 500€ total has been designed for this purpose and that the sum may be split. The money will be given directly to the publisher after a firm contract has been signed and an invoice been sent. Candidates will have to send a PDF version of their PhD, a book proposal (including a general presentation, an appraisal of the target audience, a table of contents), a schedule of completion, and the PhD report if it applies. The deadline for sending the application will be mid-May 2017 and the committee will have to send its reply for the next general assembly. Jean-François Baillon adds that the committee may choose its own guidelines in the future. The general assembly is in favor of this proposal and the five members of the committee are warmly thanked.

## **8. RELATION WITH OTHER SOCIETIES and ONLINE VISIBILITY**

Anne-Marie Paquet-Deyris explains that she attended the ESSE conference in Galway last month with Gilles Menegaldo. Some of the attendees expressed their interest in the activities of SERCIA but Anne-Marie had nothing to hand out. She suggests that we should come up with fliers summarizing what we do, to which the logo and the website address could be added. To avoid costs, it is suggested that a PDF file could be sent to all members so that they can print it and hand it out. Gilles Menegaldo wonders whether that document should include a list of publications. Anne-Marie Paquet-Deyris suggests that this flier should be as simple as possible, especially since publications can be found on the website. She adds that SERCIA should not give up its efforts to have a say in the Agrégation program and that proposals for topics are needed.

Jean-François Baillon and David Roche mention the organization of SERCIA workshops at the yearly SAES conference, which they have done for the past 4 years. They explain that this four-year commitment is important because it helps SAES clearly identify SERCIA organizers. Isabelle Schmitt, who helped manage the workshop last year in Lyon, and Christophe Gelly accept to represent SERCIA at SAES conferences.

David Roche explains that the SERCIA website runs smoothly and wonders whether a Facebook page, which is used more and more, may be interesting. Julie Assouly says that she will work on it.

The page has been opened since the conference on [facebook.com/sercia93](https://facebook.com/sercia93).

## **9. PUBLICATIONS**

Jean-François Baillon agrees that this can be a very sensitive issue. As of the date of the general assembly, no-one in the committee knows exactly how close to being ready the publication of the Bath conference is. As for Bordeaux 2013, the publication at the Presses Universitaires de Bordeaux, is under way: it is self-sufficient in terms of money as the local research center has been very generous, which means that SERCIA only has to contribute 500€. The book is expected to come out next year. For the Nijmegen conference, Melvyn Stokes explains that Frank Mehring has identified someone to push the publication forward. There are already 28 articles, more than Frank Mehring means to be put in the book, so that some can be published online, in *Film Journal* maybe. Melvyn Stokes and Frank Mehring will see each other soon to discuss the matter. As for the Arras conference, articles are being selected and two books are envisioned, one in French with the Presses Universitaires d'Artois and one in English with McFarland.

## **10. FUTURE CONFERENCES**

Sara Pesce, from the University of Bologna, is working closely with the Department of Visual Performing Arts and Media to organize next year's conference. The putative dates are September 7 to 9, 2017, but these still have to be confirmed. The general theme will be "That's entertainment! Fun, Glamour, Leisure and the Performing Body". The call for paper should be ready by this coming November. She insists on the hospitality of the city and its university and thanks the committee for its past and future help.

The next project, still to be confirmed, is presented by Fátima Chinita, who has a post-doc fellowship in Sweden. Her supervisors have agreed to host the 2018 conference. Everything will have to be confirmed but the project is advancing pretty well. The location will be the Humanities Department in Växjö, in the south of Sweden. The only major concern is that the selection process may have to be organized earlier than usual because the offer for hotels is somehow limited, which means that it is better to plan in advance. For the 2019 conference, Elizabeth Mullen proposes the University of Brest in western Brittany. It is still in the early days of the organization but a conference there, maybe cosponsored with the University of Rennes, is probable.

## **11. GRANTS FOR SERCIA-RELATED EVENTS**

Jean-François Baillon reminds the remaining members that SERCIA supports events organized by SERCIA members. The rules are as such: the event has to be organized by a SERCIA member; it has to involve other SERCIA members; it has to deal with English-speaking cinema. The total amount of 500€ devoted for these grants may be divided depending on the number of applications and the size of the planned event. Candidacies, including a call for papers, a temporary budget and a provisional program, must be sent to Jean-François Baillon and Isabelle Schmitt. The deadline for applications is the end of November 2016 for events planned during the next civil year.

At 1:30pm, the general assembly is called to a close. Jean-François Baillon renews his warm thanks to the organizers of the 2016 conference, Ariane Hudelet and Anne Crémieux.