



European Society for Mathematics and the Arts

Newsletter

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Dear All,

This year, Marseille is the European Capital of Culture. What is meant by culture is not well defined. Thus we may accept the fact that the invention and the development of a particular sport by Europe is a significant part of European culture.

Europe is then indebted to the German Karl Drais for the invention of the bicycle in 1817, which then evolved into cycle sport. The « Tour de France » is well known. It has been exported to Belgium, Germany, Italy and Spain. Yet there is not a six month Tour d'Europe, nor a one year Tour de Chine.

Well, Marseille has decided to honour the cycle sport. The decision was made to have an important cycle race starting from the Campus where the CIRM is located on Saturday 14.

That is partly the reason why on June 25, I received a mail from the CIRM:

- « The CIRM will be closed on Saturday [September 14] at the end of the day. It will not be possible to use the local restaurant or to get local accommodation.
- We cannot open on Sunday because of the blocking of the campus by a large-scale sporting event. »

In other words, we had to cancel the cultural events on math and art that had been planned during these two days.

Note that we had been in touch with the CIRM for one year. On July 17 2012 I received a first mail saying, « Further to our telephone conversation about our Math and Art exhibit, I confirm that we shall be delighted to welcome it in autumn 2013. »





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It seems also that the CIRM has not obtained the complete financial support it was expecting.

As a result of all these difficulties, we also decided to postpone the Marseille exhibit on Spring 2014.

By chance, if one can say that, the final preparation of the 120 pages catalogue was delayed by a few days so that I could mention differently that it is due to go along with the exhibit. Matthieu Renard made the page make-up for the printer who will bring the 300 catalogues to ESMA on July 12 2013.

Enjoy a sunny summer!

Waiting for you in Cagliari, for sure the sun will welcome you there.

Best wishes, Claude

> Claude Bruter, Publisher. Contributors: Sharon Breit-Giraud, Richard Denner, Jos Leys. Website: http://www.math-art.eu

