
MUSEUM PROFESSIONALS IN DIALOGUE II :

The International Association of History Museums is organising a visit for museum professionals to the *Museu d'Historia de Catalunya* in Barcelona, Spain. All IAHM members are invited to participate.

Based on the very successful first such visit by our Association to the House of Terror Museum in Budapest two years ago, we will once again visit an important, innovative and controversial museum and view the ten year old permanent exhibition of the Museum of History of Catalonia, as well as its current temporary exhibit on Witch Hunting. This exhibit is designed as a prefiguration of the approaches, styles and museographical solutions that will be given to the new permanent exhibition, due to be presented to the public next year.

After a pause for lunch, which will be graciously offered by the host museum, we will spend the afternoon in a round table discussion, together with the museum's responsables. The agenda for the discussion is open to be configured according to the participants' impressions and interests. We will particularly focus on innovation and controversy.

The *Museu d'Historia de Catalunya* has been chosen for the event this year for multiple reasons. Firstly, it is one of the very important museums within Europe, to present the history of a nation re-emerging from the break-up of monolithic national state ideologies. Catalan identity is becoming an important component of contemporary Spain, deemed worthy to be presented – and promoted – through this grand museological project. Secondly, the permanent exhibition, which was considered innovatory when the museum was opened ten years ago, is today under re-examination, due to be replaced soon. What parts of it have become habitual? What is still viewed as innovatory? What are the new ideas for the future?

On behalf of the Administration Council of IAMH, I am inviting you all on **Friday, May 4**, to the *Museu d'Historia de Catalunya*, to be followed the next morning by our annual General Assembly. Participation is free, but each participant will take care of his own travel and accommodation expenses. A maximum of 20 participants will be allowed. Please confirm with me your intention to participate (p.mazarakis@nhmuseum.gr, ++30-694-295.02.88). You will find hereby attached a list of hotels offering special prices for all participants.

I wish to thank mr Josep Boya i Busquets, head of the exhibitions service of the MHC for his help and cooperation in organising this meeting.

Event address: Museu d'Història de Catalunya
Palau de Mar, Plaça Pau Vila 3, 08003 Barcelona
Tel. ++34-93-225.47.00 - <http://www.en.mhcat.net/>

Schedule,	Meeting at the entrance lobby:	10:00h
Friday, May 4:	Visit of permanent and temporary exhibitions:	10:00-13:30
	Lunch at the museum restaurant:	13:30-14:30
	Round Table meeting in AULA 7 (4 th floor of the museum):	14:30-18:00

Yours truly,

Philippos Mazarakis-Ainian
IAHM president