



PRESS RELEASE: May 9th 2007

On-the-Move gains European support and recognition

On-the-Move is pleased to announce that it has been awarded an operational grant for 2007 by the European Commission as a networked organisation active at European level in the field of culture. This is the first time OTM has received funding of this type and it represents a major milestone for the organisation.

Since the web portal was launched in 2002 by IETM as a practical solution to the need for international mobility information in the performing arts sector in Europe, OTM has grown substantially and established itself as an independent association. It now carries nearly 2,000 links, acting as a toolkit of resources for performing arts professionals to research their own international mobility needs. The site receives over 27,000 visits per month. It has users in all European countries and many more.

The News and Announcements section of the site has expanded substantially over the last year. It now publishes some 600 items a year: news and opportunities for international mobility such as calls for participation, grants, international training, residencies, partner search and resources. A free monthly e-bulletin is distributed to over 8,000 Subscribing Members across Europe and beyond and is also available in Spanish.

Specialist publications on practical issues such as tax and social security, global connections and co-productions are available on the site as free downloads (35,000 downloads in 2006). In 2007, these will be updated and translated into Spanish. Thanks to our funding partner, Iberautor/Fundación Autor, OTM's growing Spanish-speaking user group will have direct access to key mobility documents from OTM.

The funding requested from the European Commission was relatively modest and designed to maintain the web portal in 2007 at the same level of activity with a part-time Editor and decentralised voluntary support from Editorial Collaborators around Europe. Nevertheless, this support for OTM's core activity is significant. It will allow us a period of much needed stability to plan for the future. We intend to review our activities and communication and how to develop further our network of collaborators and subscribers across Europe.

We work with Editorial Collaborators such as the Finnish Theatre Information Centre, Centro Dramático de Aragón in Spain and Goethe Institut in Brussels who support OTM by contributing to the site content and quality.

OTM is grateful to its funding partners, past and present, who have recognised the value of the project. Particular thanks go to those who have sustained it in recent months: the Open Society Institute, Iberautor/Fundación Autor in Spain and the Arts Council of Ireland.

"We believe that the promotion of international mobility in the cultural field can make a considerable cumulative contribution to the development of cooperation and the integration of cultures in Europe. The ethos of OTM is to federate and circulate information as widely as possible, in order to ensure equality of access to information and opportunities."

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Supported in 2007 by:



The Open Society Institute

