



HALMA
THE EUROPEAN
NETWORK OF LITERARY
CENTRES

Berlin, August 16, 2010

Press Release

EUROPEAN LITERATURE NETWORK HALMA IN LATVIA Latvian Poetry Days and panel discussion on Europe with young authors

From September 10th to 12th, 2010 the annual HALMA members' meeting of the European Network of Literary Centres will take place in Ventspils, Latvia. The International Writers' and Translators' House in Ventspils will be the host of the meeting and invites to a weekend of literature and events on the occasion of the Latvian Poetry Days.

„**Financial Crisis – European Cultural Crisis?**“ – A panel discussion with the president of the HALMA network Krzysztof Czyzewski (Poland) and HALMA-grantees Andrés Barba (Spain) and Jeroen Theunissen (Belgium) will take place on September 11th. An audience of cultural and literary experts has been invited to discuss with the members of the HALMA network how the financial crisis affects the cultural sector in Europe.

On September 11, 2010 at 5 p.m. the **Prize of the Ventspils House** will be awarded for the second time to renowned international authors who have lived and worked in Ventspils in the past two years as residents of the Writers' and Translators' House.

On September 12, 2010 at 8:30 p.m. **public readings with Latvian poets** will take place at the Writers' and Translators' House in Ventspils. Maira Asare, Uldis Berzins, Liana Langa, Edvins Raups and the artistic group Orbita have been invited to present their works.

With kind support of the European Commission and the Robert Bosch Foundation.



Robert Bosch **Stiftung**

The Ministry of Culture, the Ventspils City Council and the Latvian Literature Center established the **International Writers' and Translators' House** in order to promote the development of literature, to encourage cross-cultural dialogue and to introduce Latvian literature on an international level of exchange. Furthermore, the decentralisation of the development of literature in Latvia shall be facilitated by fostering a lively cultural environment in different regions of Latvia.
www.ventspilshouse.lv

HALMA connects 26 literary centers in 21 European countries, from Finland in the North to Rhodes in the South, from Minsk in the East to France in the West. The network organizes annual meetings as well as two-month scholarships for writers. It was initiated by the Literary Colloquium Berlin, the Polish Pogranicze Foundation and the Robert Bosch Foundation.
www.halma-network.eu

We would appreciate it very much, if you could circulate this information. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best regards,
Nicola Beißner