



**INDEPENDENT MUSIC PUBLISHERS
INTERNATIONAL FORUM**

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IMPF members meet in Lisbon

Linda Bosidis and Elisa Amouyal join Board of Directors; Annual Report presented at General Assembly; High-level Speakers at Summit

In a scenario that is indicative of the challenging times we have all been through over the past couple of years, the current IMPF Board met face-to-face for both the first and last time on Thursday (March 24).

With the present Board members having been elected during the pandemic, and working under various lockdown restrictions across the world, the meeting of publisher members at the Hotel Tivoli in Lisbon, Portugal, was a much welcome in-person conversation.

New technologies such as AI and NFTs were high on the agenda for discussion at the Board meeting, along with current talking points around metadata and effective governance. IMPF's new Capacity Building and Network Project was formally launched. The Project is co-financed by a substantial grant from the European Creative Europe programme.

The Board meeting was followed by a dinner for publishers and guests attending the IMPF International Publishing Summit which was sponsored by Musixmatch.

At the General Assembly the following day, IMPF thanked Sheer Music's David Alexander, Mushroom Music Publishing's Ian James and Velvetica's Thomas Jamois for their service, as they retired from the Board. The entire Board stepped down after completing their two-year term. 19 of the Board stood again for election and, along with Mushroom's Linda Bosidis and Talit Muzic's Elisa Amouyal, all were voted to the Board of Directors College of 2022-2024. *(See full list of 21 Board members duly elected below)

IMPF's newly published Annual Report for 2021 was also presented at the General Assembly. The report outlines what an incredibly busy year it was for IMPF. Membership flew past the 100+ milestone and IMPF continued to engage in high-level advocacy on a broad range of critical issues from copyright to equality and inclusion to the digital music ecosystem. The level of activity the Annual Report demonstrates is impressive.

The Summit welcomed a number of high-profile industry names to speak on a range of subjects.

PopArabia founder Spek spoke to attendees about new UAE-based rights music entity, ESMAA, saying: “We spent 10 years reaching out to Government entities and advocating for the importance of music rights management organisations, but music rights are complicated. Ministries generally understood IP but not music rights specifically. We concluded that, instead of advocating for it, there was an opportunity to take the bull by its horns and build a Rights Management Entity (RME) ourselves.

“Our mission is to solve the problem in a market that has had a gap for a long time: the whole region needed someone to step up, and the music industry will benefit from this work.”

The Ivors Academy CEO, Graham Davies, spoke about the organisation’s alliance with IMPF, noting that “we have achieved a lot so far in the hardest of times”. He also paid tribute to IMPF’s involvement in the Fix Streaming campaign, saying, “We appreciate the fact that IMPF was one of the few voices that came out in support of some of the proposals, providing an exceptional submission to the Parliament’s Inquiry.” Davies also outlined the work of The Ivors on Credits Due and Buy-outs.

Nigel Elderton, Chair of PRS for Music, spoke about the prospect for growth at PRS for Music: “With streaming there’s been an exponential growth: platforms like YouTube, TikTok, and Twitch have brought in multimillion-pound deals,” he pointed out. “The business will continue to grow, but we have to get our messaging and infrastructure right from the start. If we work together with publishers, writers and composers, one united voice can achieve a lot.”

In her capacity as President of the European Composer and Songwriter Alliance (ECSA), Helienne Lindvall, in a keynote address, talked of collaborating with IMPF on the Creative Europe funding project, with a particular focus on songwriting camps that would benefit both songwriters and publishers.

Lindvall also spoke about the relationship between publishers and songwriters, suggesting that the two are partners - “The goal is to work together to build a career,” she said. “There is much appreciation from songwriters, especially for independent publishers, with whom we currently share a lot of common issues.”

More than 60 publishers and guests attended the event – a great turnout considering a number of unfortunate cancellations due to Covid. Many IMPF members expressed how exciting it was to see their peers again, and a number of attendees underlined how useful the event was from a business viewpoint, with comments ranging from “this is a mini Midem” to “fantastic speakers talking about our issues”.

IMPF would like to extend a special thanks to sponsors, Musixmatch and LyricFind.

On the event, IMPF President Annette Barrett said: “This was a much needed in-person meeting after so long apart during such difficult times, one that has brought together publishers from across Europe and North and South America. There are still many challenges facing our membership but, in Lisbon, there was a real sense of community and collective strength, and I think the benefit of the Forum was really highlighted.”

*The following 21 candidates were elected to the IMPF Board of Directors College 2022-2024

Andrei Filip	K9 Music Publishing
Annette Barrett	Reservoir/Reverb Music
Emmanuel Delétang	22D Music Group
Ender Atis	Budde Music
Elisa Amouyal	Talit MuZic Publishing
Francesca Trainini	OYEZ!
Filippo Sugar	Sugarmusic
Ichiro Asatsuma	Fujipacific Music
Jennifer Mitchell	Red Brick Songs
John Telfer	Rocking Gorillas Music
Julio Guiu Marquina	Ediciones Musicales Clipper's
John Fishlock	Active Music Publishing
Linda Bosidis	Mushroom Music
Mary Jo Mennella	Music Asset Management
Mark Chung	Freibank Music Publishing
Niclass Björlund	Edition Björlund
Paulina Golba	Golba Music
Pierre Mossiat	Strictly Confidential Music Publishing
Sean McGraw	Songtrust, a Downtown company
Simon Platz	Bucks Music Group
Teri Nelson Carpenter	Reel Muzik Werks

About IMPF

IMPF (Independent Music Publishers International Forum) is the network and meeting place for independent music publishers from around the world. IMPF wants our publishers to be able to take advantage of the incredible opportunities offered by digital; make our music available on every service; easily licensed and without borders; and with the composers and authors that our companies represent rewarded fully and fairly for our collective work. IMPF is based in Brussels, the home of the European Institutions, and with members and outreach across the globe we are the first to know, discuss and act on policy and key legislation that affects us all. www.impforum.org



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