

EMTC NEWSLETTER

Dear EMTC Country Representatives,

The time since the last EMTC newsletter has been stormy and turbulent in Europe. We hope with the New Year that the situation will change. As Albert Berman suggested after the attacks in Paris, quoting Leonard Bernstein: "This will be our reply to violence, to make music more intensely, more beautifully, more devotedly than ever before".

On November 15, Albert Berman and the Dutch Association for Music Therapy (NVvMT) initiated for the second time, the European Music Therapy Day. This year there was an increasing number of announced activities in the following 21 countries: Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom. From this link you can see performance of the *Let's Play* song and other musical events: <http://www.europeanmusictherapyday.com/let-s-play>.

In Italy, the Music therapy Day 2015 was also a great success with 18 symposia, workshops and concerts organized by professional music therapist everywhere in Italy. As a conclusion to all these events, AIM organized a Symposium in Bologna on November 21st in collaboration with the Department of Psychology of University of Bologna, where the English colleague Jaqueline Z. Robarts gave a keynote lecture in front of 100 music therapists. At the opening of the Symposium, the President Ferdinando Suvini and Core Board member Elide Scarlata performed the Aria "Lascia ch'io pianga" by Handel in memory of the victims of terrorist attacks in Paris. During the Symposium, Vice President Marinella Maggiori and Core Board member Mariagrazia Baroni performed some musical pieces which highlighted the importance of musical skills for all professional music therapists.



New country representative

In Belgium, a new president for the professional music therapy association BMT, has been elected. As this function is combined with the function of country representative for the EMTC, Rozemarijn Claes is replacing Freya Drossaert. We are happy to welcome Rozemarijn Claes, and also very grateful for the compassion, hard work and long commitment we saw with Freya Drossaert. Warm thanks to you, Freya.

EMTC fee 2016

We would like to remind you that the deadline for paying the 2016 EMTC membership fee is January 31, 2016 by international bank transfer. As in the past, the membership fee for 2016 is one Euro (1€) per professional member of each Association, which gives us the precise number of therapists to post on the website: <http://emtc-eu.com/member-associations/>. Please ensure that your country fees are paid promptly and by bank transfer. You will receive a separate mail from our treasurer, Ferdinando Suvini, with bank information to be forwarded to your member associations.

The 10th European MT conference

We are counting down to the [EMTC2016](#). The Call for Abstracts closed in November and the scientific committee received 384 abstracts from 42 countries worldwide! Authors will be notified of acceptance or rejection of their submission by the end of January 2016.

Approaches

We also inform you that the journal Approaches: Music Therapy & Special Music Education has changed its name and now is called **Approaches: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Music Therapy**. Approaches has now launched its new website: www.approaches.gr where each of the papers from the special issue of professional development of the music therapy profession in Europe is accessible from <http://approaches.gr/special-issue-7-1-2015/>.

Our warmest wishes

With this December newsletter, we send you our wishes that the joys of the Christmas season bring light and warmth to you and those around you. We look forward to continuing our prosperous work together with you in the upcoming new year and until we meet in Vienna in July.

Warmly,

Hanne Mette, Adrienne, and Ferdinando

Suvini and Scarlata performing
"Lascia ch'io pianga" by Handel

