

Our 2003 Congress

by Olivier Cahen, Congress Manager (o_cahen@club-internet.fr)

You can now register for the 2003 ISU Congress. As announced, the Congress will take place in the "Kursaal" of Besançon, in the East of France, from May 28th 2.00 pm to June 2nd, 11.00 pm. You are free to think that we chose this city because its name is the most difficult to pronounce for native English-speaking people, however you will have a great Congress.

Travel to Besançon

Besançon has no international airport, but is not far (150 km) from Geneva or Basel-Mulhouse international airports. It is easy to reach from Paris by fast trains in two and half hours, some of them direct from the Paris-CDG airport. From central Europe it is easy to reach by car, less than 500 km from Brussels, Düsseldorf, Nürnberg, München, Innsbrück, Verona, Genova, Marseille.

The venue

The "Kursaal" is an old (1892) building in the core of the historical city. It belongs to the city and is currently used for public shows by cultural societies.

There is an auditorium downstairs with 300 seats, this one will be used for new technology 3-D demonstrations such as cinema, video, computer animation... In the gallery around this auditorium, 3D images such as SIRDS, holograms, anaglyphs, lenticulars, can be displayed.

The stereo projections will be held in the upper large and finely decorated room with 19th century paintings on the ceiling. The projectors will be installed on the second floor, as high as the top of the projection screen, so that the viewers will not interfere with the technical staff.

Three other large rooms (over 1000 sq. ft each) will host trade tables for equipment and images, and two smaller ones (600 sq. ft each) will host workshops and meetings.

Lodging and meals

There are many hotels within walking distance from the Kursaal (over 300 rooms in the 2 and 3 star range). Other hotels (500 more rooms in the 2 and 3 star range) are located in the suburbs but all of them are linked to the Kursaal by public bus lines, also operating late in the evening. Cheaper accommodation such as lower-price hotels, youth hostels or camping is also available. Instead of searching for hotels by yourself, our tour operator **Sylver-Tours** will manage hotel reservations for you. Please use the hotel reservation form.

Parking in the narrow streets of the historic city is difficult. For those who want to go to the Kursaal every day with their car, you can book a weekly parking card (€ 15), in a public underground car park, located 500 m from the Kursaal.

There are also many small or larger restaurants with tasty regional cuisine all over the old city, two of them at the park in front of the Kursaal. The food supplier of the cafeteria located in the Kursaal sells cold and hot drinks, sandwiches, and simple take-away cold meals for those who cannot leave the building, such as the technical staff and the exhibitors.

The dinner at the end of the congress will take place on the last evening on Monday June 2nd after the full day excursion, in the large projection hall of the Kursaal.

Touring in the city

Take some time to make your own tour and shoot splendid new stereo pictures by simply walking around the history city from the Kursaal. Some other stereo exhibits will take place in a few other places, one or two blocks from the Kursaal. The National Museum (with the model of the city as it was in the 17th century) and many other historic monuments are less than one kilometer from the Kursaal.

Do not forget to visit the brand new Museum of Time, situated in an old palace right across the Kursaal, devoted to the traditional and modern clock industry of the area.

Guided excursions through the city (Friday morning, May 30th) and around it (Saturday afternoon and Monday all day) will be described in the other document.

A raffle at the congress

You are invited to purchase your tickets at the registration, ten at the price of eight. At the congress, you will pay €1 each. The raffle will be drawn during the banquet.

Stereo shows at the congress

The stereo shows are yours. It is up to each of you to offer your best production.

The "normal format" (twin 5 x 5 cm and 41 x 101 mm) slide shows will be projected in the largest room (26 m diameter) of the Kursaal. The large screen (5.3 x 3.5 m) of the Stéréo-Club Français will be installed on the stage and the projectors at the second floor, 22 m from the screen. We will use a set of 400 w RBT projectors (thanks to RBT for lending them), the 400 W Simda projectors of the SCF (only for glass-mounted 2x2" slides) and four Kodak Ektapro 300 W projectors with improved illumination. For dissolve programs with a sound track, we will use Baessgen, Stumpfl and Simda synchronisers, and for non-dissolve simple 1000 Hz trigger on the fourth track.

Only glass-mounted slides will be accepted : non-glass could pop out due to the high power of the projectors and, even with an autofocus feature, your slides could suddenly become fuzzy. No adhesive tags as slide marks will be accepted, as they could escape and stick to another part of the projector.

We are expecting to receive more slide show offers than we actually can afford within the limited time of the Congress. If we are short of time to present all the offered shows, we could limit to one 15 minute show per author, except one selected 20 minute show for each club member of the ISU. Shows already projected in a prior ISU Congress may be rejected.

All other shows (vertical or large format, panoramic, video, cinema...) will be presented in the auditorium downstairs, with 300 comfortable seats, but not all of them in a convenient location for good stereo viewing: about a hundred viewers at once, depending on the focal length of the projectors. These shows will be given several times, so that all congressmen can attend. The authors of these proposed "special" shows are required to write or email to the head of the technical staff, Daniel Chailloux, dchaillo@club-internet.fr, in order to arrange their shows. The authors may be required to carry their own equipment and operate it by themselves.

Trade tables on the congress

The trade tables for equipment and images will be dispersed amongst several rooms, in which you can reserve one, two or three small tables (70 or 80 x 120 cm), vertical grid boards, connection to the mains. All exhibition rooms can be locked for safety when the congress is closed.

If you wish your equipment to be covered by the Club's insurance, you will be required to fill a form with the list and value of your equipment.

Registration forms

You will find enclosed four pages of registration forms. Please fill all these pages, then send them to **Sylver-Tours**, 28 avenue Pasteur, 39600 Arbois, France, or fax +33 (3) 84 37 49 62. Please also send a copy of the last page, concerning the slide shows, with a shorter deadline, to Daniel Chailloux, 17 rue Gabrielle d'Estrées, 91830 Le Coudray-Montceaux, France, or fax +33 (1) 64 93 85 86.

The registration forms can also be found on the website of the ISU, www.stereoscopy.com/isu-2003

Do not miss the deadlines, otherwise your show will not be scheduled, you will not get your printed badge, you will not be on the attendance list, you will not find a convenient hotel and if we receive too many registrations you will not be admitted to the Congress.