

Bibliodiversity

Newsletter of the Alliance of Independent Publishers

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Editorial

The exchanges between the various linguistic networks of the Alliance are working well. Novels are circulating from one linguistic zone and another. To prove it, this month's issue includes two publications that originated within the French-speaking network and have now been translated and co-edited by the Portuguese- and Arabic-speaking networks respectively (see Just out). Particularly outstanding is the Arabic co-edition of *Batailles de l'eau* by Larbi Bouguerra: this is in fact the first achievement of its kind for our Algerian, Lebanese, Moroccan, Libyan, Tunisian and Jordanian publishers. Congratulations to all on this remarkable piece of cooperation – other projects are already underway. Equally noteworthy is that Portuguese-speaking readers have the opportunity to become acquainted with the ideas of the great Burkina Faso historian, Joseph Ki-Zerbo: *Para quando Africa?* is the result of work by members of the Portuguese-speaking network.

Cooperation can also be encouraged by public powers – by states, of course, but also by regions and local authorities. The Events section, for example, introduces a remarkable cultural cooperation project between the Île-de-France region (France's largest) and the Municipality of São Paulo (Brazil); the book is described at length. The Alliance and LIBRE (the Brazilian League of Publishers) have been asked to carry out a small survey and produce a summary which will undoubtedly influence the decisions made by public powers.

This month's Portrait section reveals one of the pillars of the Portuguese-speaking network, a publisher who is remarkable in many ways. We invite you to become better acquainted with Jacques Arlindo dos Santos, head of the publishing house, Cha de Caxinde.



Etienne Galliard

Just out

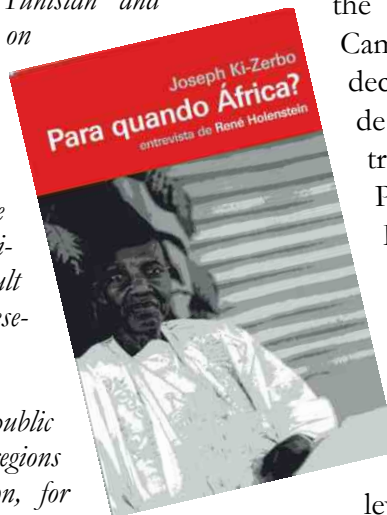
Para quando Africa ?

Authors : Joseph Ki-Zerbo, René Holenstein.
Countries of publication : Angola, Brazil, Portugal, Guinea Bissau
Languages: Portuguese (original language: French).

Some of the Portuguese-speaking publishers of the Alliance (Cha de Caxinde, Pallas, Campo das Letras and Ku Si Mon) decided at the network meeting in Rio de Janeiro in September 2004 to translate into and co-edit in Portuguese the book by the Burkina Faso historian, Joseph Ki-Zerbo, which has already been published in French by eight publishers of the French-speaking network.

By analysing the destructive effects of globalisation on an economic, political and cultural level, Joseph Ki-Zerbo describes the emergence of an African civil society which seeks to “infrastructure” its cultures by fighting “for fair cultural exchange”. He saw in this an alternative development model adapted to the issues of his time.

The French language version of *A quand l'Afrique ?* was awarded the RFI-Témoin du monde prize in 2003.



Les Batailles de l'eau in arabic

Auteur : Mohamed Larbi Bouguerra
Countries of publication: Lebanon, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Jordan.
Collection : Global Issues
Languages: Arabic (original language: French).

Following the French, Spanish and Portuguese versions, the Alliance of Independent Publishers is proud to announce the publication of this text in Arabic, in the form of a co-edition. A major title of the Enjeux Planète collection, Les batailles de l'eau is now available in over 20 countries.

Water has become a major political and geo-strategic issue which is on the agenda of global summits and alternative forums. In fact, this vital resource dictates the development of human society. For some, it is a commonplace commodity that must generate profit. For others, it is one of humanity's shared assets, highly symbolic in all cultures and religions. Does water have a price? Is water a right or a necessity? Is there enough water to go round in the face of demographic growth? Is there a water crisis? Will there be water wars in the future? Will technological solutions be enough to put a stop to water pollution? This work shows that that water management and use poses a number of fundamental questions about our way of life, our ethics and our relationship with nature and the biosphere. It argues for a society which uses water sparingly and for solidary global water management.



Events

The book cooperation programme

As part of the development of a cooperation agreement, with a cultural section on books and reading, the Île-de-France region and São Paulo City Council have entrusted the Alliance of Independent Publishers and the Brazilian League of Editors (LIBRE) with a study on the stakeholders of the book supply chain who are active in their territories. This consultation process should make it possible to come up with a programme which encourages independent publishing; the sharing of experience and the training of publishing professionals; the creation and circulation of novels and works; the accessibility of books and the promotion of reading.

34 stakeholders in the book supply chain (14 of them Brazilian and 20 French) were consulted through interviews and questionnaires, providing an overview of past, present and future work and projects and identifying several major themes with a view to developing a cultural cooperation programme for books and reading (for example the creation of a fund to support translation and co-editions, training, and professional internships in host structures etc.).

A summary of the questionnaires submitted to the Île-de-France region and São Paulo City Council is available on request.



A new President

The association responsible for the work of the Alliance of Independent Publishers has just appointed Thierry Quinqueton as President. The successor of Michel Sauquet – who is now Vice-president – Thierry Quinqueton has excellent knowledge of the publishing world and intercultural dialogue. He was Literary Director of Desclée De Brouwer publishing (France), from 1991 to 1999, then Director of the French Cultural Centre in Khartoum from 2000 to 2004. As Literary Director he played an active role in various projects which were the forerunners of the Alliance of Independent Publishers. He is currently Head of Mission at the Books and Writing Division at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where he runs “Plan Traduire” (Project Translation) and “La revue des revues” (Review of reviews); in addition he is responsible for pursuing the literary policy for Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco. Thierry Quinqueton continues to research the overlap between the commercial economy, public policy and non-monetary aspects of the literary economy in the framework of the Interdisciplinary Laboratory for Economic Sociology (French Scientific Research Centre (CNRS) – French Conservatory of Crafts and Industries (CNAM)). We therefore extend a warm

Portrait of an MP/publisher

His speech at the “Independent Publishers from the Latin World” meeting held in Guadalajara lingers in our memories. Jacques Arlindo dos Santos travelled from Angola to Mexico to explain to us the situation of publishers in Africa, their daily struggles and their living conditions, which are often simply a question of survival. He explained all of this with force and determination, telling us how important it is for public powers to act for literature, both here and elsewhere. And he knows what he is talking about: as

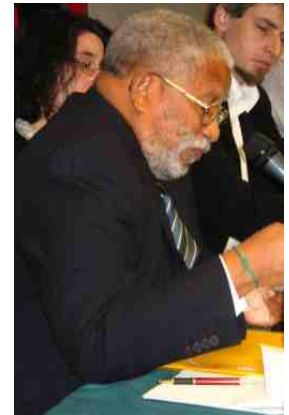


well as being a publisher, Jacques is also a Member of the Angolan Parliament.

It is hard to decide which of these two activities is the most political, in the true sense of the word. Whatever the case, his publisher’s cap suits him down to the ground.

The Cha de Caxinde publishing house and bookshop were founded in 1999 in Luanda. They aim to distribute Angolan authors as much within the country as beyond its borders, and to introduce foreign authors in Angola at an affordable price to as many people as possible.

With over 60 titles to its name, the publishing house’s catalogue is boosted by the co-editions of the Alliance’s Portuguese-speaking network – co-editions in which Jacques is always involved.



Do you know what the name of the Angolan publishing house means? Caxinde is the name of an aromatic plant used to make tea infusions, whilst cha simply means tea. We have no doubt that it is a delicious beverage.

Alliance

of independent publishers
for another globalization

38, rue Saint Sabin
75011 Paris – France
Tel. 00 33 (0)1 43 14 73 66
Fax 00 33 (0)1 43 14 73 63

A non-profit association. Tax situation inspected by the tax authorities of East Paris (France). 2004 accounts certified by an independent auditor - Cabinet SOFIDEEC, Paris (France). 2005 accounts are in the process of certification by an independent auditor - Cabinet SOFIDEEC, Paris (France). The use of data collected by the Alliance complies with the French data protection act (declared to the French data protection authority, the Commission nationale de l'informatique et des libertés). Cost accounting on class 6 and 7 accounts (revenue - expenditure) is carried out to ensure effective monitoring of fund allocation. The annual reports (corporate and financial) of the Alliance, validated by the Annual General Meeting, are available on request from the permanent team. The documents published by the Alliance for circulation are printed on recycled paper. Consumables used by the Alliance are usually of organic farming and fair trade origin. Scribus (open-source program) was used to generate this pdf document.

The Alliance would like to thank its partner organizations and institutions:
see <http://www.alliance-editeurs.org/fr/partenaires.php>

The newsletter of the Alliance of Independent Publishers is produced by the permanent team. The following participated in producing this issue: Alexandre Tiphagne (atiphagne@alliance-editeurs.org), Thomas Weiss (tweiss@alliance-editeurs.org), and Etienne Galliard (egalliard@alliance-editeurs.org).

