



Comité Internacional para la Museología
Consejo Internacional de Museos



MUSEO DE LA ESTANCIA
JESUITICA DE ALTA GRACIA
- CASA DEL VIRREY LINIERS -

29th ICOFOM ANNUAL MEETING
15th ICOFOM LAM REGIONAL MEETING
MUSEOLOGY AND HISTORY

Cordoba and Alta Gracia, October 5 - 11, 2006

The ICOM International Committee for Museology (ICOFOM) and the ICOFOM Regional Subcommittee for Latin America and the Caribbean (ICOFOM LAM) will jointly hold their Annual Conferences in the cities of Cordoba and Alta Gracia, Argentina, from October 5 to October 11, 2006.

During the ICOFOM Annual Conference held in Calgary (Canada) in June/July 2005, Cordoba, Argentina, was chosen the headquarters of this meeting, as it was considered an appropriate place to carry out the discussions on *Museology and History*. In this province, certain historical events took place which left a deep impression in the Argentine and South American social and cultural development. Its museums point out the rich aboriginal past, the Spanish influence, the foundings of one of the first American Universities, the establishment of the first industries and the resulting social and labor movements of the 20th. century. Due to its university and to its industrial conditions, Cordoba is considered in Argentina and in Latin America, a place of high intellectual level where, during the past century, important and revolutionary movements took place.

The academic programme will include debates, conferences, thematic visits to the most important museums of Cordoba City, as well as a tour to the UNESCO World Heritage Jesuit *Estancias*. The visit to these heritage sites will include a series of lectures offered by specialists to widen and enrich the scope of the discussions. The National University of Cordoba has gently offered the *Hall of Grades* of this prestigious house of study to attend the Opening Ceremony.

The scientific debates will be held at the *Estancia Jesuítica de Alta Gracia National Museum*, declared World Heritage in recognition of its historical influence (www.museoliniers.org.ar). The main topic will deal with *Museology and History* and the working programme will explore the complex relationships between museology, a science that studies the relations between man and a specific reality -that of a *musealized* heritage- and history as a science, including its aesthetic and political representations related to the transmission of memory and social legitimation.

We understand that the topic *Museology and History* goes further than the simple relationship between museology and historical museums. Among the proposed subjects, we consider it important to explore the relationship of museology with historiographical reasoning, present in museums of any typology. We hope that the working documents will truly reflect the way in which museology and museums have influenced the historical and social development of the different peoples, the way in which they have presented the events, the social history and the micro-history.

Museums, whatever their typology, confront us with tangible and intangible signs of the past. It is well-known that they have given historical value to different types of sciences, according to the viewpoint of each age. For some reason, we have seen at the end of the 20th. and the beginning of the 21st. centuries, the development of museums that centre their concerns on social history and in the use of the past as a forecast of the future.

Cordoba is an Argentine province not only rich in history but also in beautiful landscapes. The soft and quiet mountains, plowed with lakes, rivers and streams, are ready to welcome the members of ICOFOM and ICOFOM LAM. An Organizing Committee, supervised by the ICOFOM LAM President, is adjusting all the details in order to receive important visitors from all over the world and planning the appropriate places to carry out the academic and social activities as well as the services of simultaneous translation and a series of guided visits to places of historical interest, accompanied by well-known experts. The post-conference trip through the *Quebrada de Humahuaca*, panoramic corridor running by the Andes mountain range, will finally allow the participants to be connected with the very heart of the Latin American history.

We especially invite you to start thinking on the proposed subject in order to send your contributions without delay. At an early date we shall be sending the provocative papers.

Cordoba awaits you in 2006!