Report

on the Activities of the OSA Archivum between January 2009 and December 2009

Budapest
May 2010

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2009 – A YEAR OF CONSOLIDATED PROGRESS

OSA's advances in the year of 2009 were firm and secure in terms of its archival and research work, in its outreach programs and, above all, in its endeavors to create a new function for the recent history archive. This steady progress, the fruit of the work of many years, was recognized several times throughout the year. In 2009 OSA received the status of Research Center within the University, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic honored OSA with a personal visit, and the Executive Director of the International Visegrad Fund invited OSA to take part in a joint scholarship program. The year ended with the Romanian Cultural Institute awarding the Prize for Cultural Excellence to Professor István Rév and the Open Society Archive for exemplary moral conduct and unceasing work to strengthen Eastern and Central European democracies.

True to its goal to transform itself into a laboratory, experimenting with new ways of collecting, processing, representing information, documents and objects, and making them publicly available and usable, OSA continued its efforts to create a new type and function for the archive in recent history by participating in public affairs without losing its profile and abandoning its mission. Overstepping barriers between the various fields of its activity OSA organized programs where historical reconstruction and art met with the archival profession on an open, public platform. Such an event, for example, was the reconstruction of a classical music concert on the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin wall or, with a slight shift towards the archival profession, the commemoration of 1956 by presenting unique sound documents on 16th June 2009 or the Hungarian Question on October 22, when the Archivum invited the public interested in recent history to attend an unusual program. During the day, the work and archival legacy of the UN Special Committee set up in January 1957 to investigate the Hungarian revolution was presented in a variety of forms. The purpose of the program was to give historical records, often thought boring and dusty, be they documents audio and film recordings or a theater play script, a fresh, vivid, and sometimes surprising interpretation. Programs of this kind not only brought OSA excellent press coverage but helped it define and target certain audiences as well as to reflect on its manifold activities and the way these can be drawn together in a joint effort.

OSA did not abandon its traditional, more homogenous programs, either. It installed art exhibitions, hosted workshops around cultural-historical questions, organized public debates on historical events, copyright and open access, presented its own film collection to the public and invited the international community of documentary film makers to contest and present their works at the annual VERZIO film festival, which reached its 6th edition this year.

In response to the challenges of a new knowledge environment OSA's professional work centered around digitization and handling electronic documents. OSA's Parallel Archive (PA), the on-line file sharing digital archive and the Archivum's growing expertise in the legality and legitimacy of digital documentation in an international framework made OSA a much-sought partner in several grand scale international archival and research infrastructure projects. These international partnerships increased OSA's visibility in the international scene as well as helping it gain knew knowledge and experience in a broader, international context.

In figures: in 2009 acquired 297 tapes, 345 films, 2,400 photos, 46,431 digitized pages of the Office of the High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina, published 32,798 pages of the Héderváry collection as a result of a previous digitization project, published online 14,000 photos of the approximately 60,000 piece photo collection of the magazine of the Hungarian Police and the 59 piece film collection of the Hungarian Civil Defense available online, in the course of its 1989 project it published relevant documents on a daily basis throughout the year, that is 365 days, on its 1989-dedicated website, implemented a total of 47 public programs, partnered in three large-scale EU application projects, cooperated with over 50 partners locally and internationally, welcomed 7 interns (Lise Hermann, Krisztina Fedor, Cynthia Thickpenny, Bernadett Ball, Zsuzsa Kövér, Alison Littman, Haixn Dang), OSA/CEU's first PostDoc Fellow, Ioana Toma, and a Polish student, Mihał Sliwinski within the framework of the *Grasz o Staz* Polish Competition for Internship, welcomed 14 groups and many individual visitors from all over the world including Justice Richard Goldstone, Chief Prosecutor of the UN ICTY and Jan Kohout, the Czech Foreign Minister, hosted 286 newly registered researchers in the Reading Room and provided the venue for EU Presidency meetings for the EU Ambassadors based in Budapest.

A major challenge in 2009 was to keep control over the ever-broadening range of activities, the growing number of projects which naturally increased the number of cooperating partners and in several cases resulted in extended working hours for many staff members, and at the same time to keep abreast of new knowledge and new technologies, which had been developing at an incredibly fast pace.

This called for the further development of our operational and project management practices along team-work lines, for better planning and for substantial improvement in internal communication. These are long-standing goals for OSA but there is still a long way to go until the new system firms up.

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2009 was also a year of consolidated progress for OSA's home, the Goldberger building. In this respect the most memorable event was the Day of Cultural Heritage, when the building itself was the focus of interest for groups coming to visit and admire it.

Apart from the new windows in the second floor Meeting Room, which finally solved the long-standing ventilation problem, no other new features were introduced. In its fourth year of functioning as an archive the building was not in need of major maintenance works, and its occupants could use it to its maximum capacity. New shelves were bought to complement the existing shelving system, offices were moved, a new and more solid Vault Room was created for the sensitive collections and some new furniture arrived to replace the old, used pieces.

The most important development, however, was outside the building, in OSA's external storage area in the Kerepesi Conference Center, where the majority of OSA's periodical collection is stored. For over fifteen years water seepage endangered the periodicals and finally, in 2009 the walls received the insulation they had been lacking. This meant that the entire collection, weighing 84 tons, had to be moved out, placed in temporary storage and then moved back, shelved and inventoried again. With financial and actual, hands-on help from the CEU Conference Center Maintenance and the CEU Management and with long extra working hours on the part of OSA colleagues the operation was completed in a record time of 2 months, although inventorying is still ongoing.

In such a substantial building serving OSA's multifaceted activities there are, inevitably, problems that cannot be solved all at once, like the long standing problem of acoustics in the Galeria, the lack of a closed studio, ventilation through the double-glazed glass roof in summer and the fine tuning of the security system by installing a simple access control system.

OSA is pleased and proud to share its ground floor with the Fruccola Bistro, a wonderful example of what hard work, good leadership and high quality service maintained over the years can achieve. Co-habitation with the friendly Bistro in the Goldberger building is not without problems, as the very limited space at the disposal of the Bistro is not really sufficient for its constantly growing circle of patrons. Certain improvements were made which eased the problem, but the solution is not yet at hand.

2. Budget

In 2009, after half a decade of streamlining, OSA's core budget started to grow and was only 5 per cent short of its ideal. This five per cent, missing from OSA's operational costs, where it was felt the most keenly, was made up by OSA's major external source of support from OSI NY, in the form of a grant against appropriate application and on condition of regular reporting. In 2009 the grant covered all Soros Network related activities, OSA's processing and digitization work, collection extension, made possible travel, technical upgrades, and short-term temporary employment contracts; however, its major focus was the development of the Parallel Archive, where 33 per cent of the total support was concentrated.

The three project grants OSA received in 2008 were closed, reported and the reports accepted in 2009. In 2009, however, only one new grant was awarded to OSA, a 5,000 Euro grant from CEU to support application for the Large Scale Framework 7 EU project led by the University of York.

By the end of 2009 the direction of growth clearly indicated that OSA's core problem in 2010 will be to meet its obligations – financially as well as in labor, towards the large scale European Union project grants it was invited to participate in 2009, and to maintain its manifold activity in archival professional work, public programs, and educational and research work. The solution is only partly financial, where the main focus is on complying with the strict European Union grants administration rules and on attracting smaller external funding to support public programs. Institutional cultural development, careful logistics planning, improved internal communication and good marketing strategy are also key elements here.

3. Staff

In 2009, after a few years of streamlining the staff of OSA grew in employment numbers, although several of the "newcomers" had been with us for a longer time. OSA's Senior Audio-visual Archivist, Zsuzsa Zádori except for a short break lasting a few months, extended her challenging and professionally productive temporary contract in the Judicial Records and Archives Unit of the Court Management Section at the UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. Anikó Kövecsi, her earlier replacement, became a permanent employee of OSA. In the Records Management section Milos Pavlovic joined OSA after many years of working on fixed-term contracts.

During her maternity leave OSA's Office Manager, Susie Kerekes is replaced by Marta Jombach, who had been with the Soros Foundation in Hungary from the start, then for two years worked for OSA externally. OSA Receptionist Sándor Pelsőczi left OSA

in September to take up a full time position in his original field, applied graphics. He was replaced by Zsolt Dávid, who soon learnt the tricks of the trade and in a very short time became a useful and reliable member of the community.

Tasks that the staff of OSA could not pick up, and which could not be handled by the technological development that was intended to bridge the shortage of labor, were covered by externally contracted service providers, interns and CEU students on fixed- term employment contracts. OSA's long term CEU PhD and alumni student archival assistants, Ms Éva Deák and Olga Zubkovskaya continued working in OSA.

By the end of 2009 OSA had 25 full-time and 3 part-time employees and 3 colleagues working under externally funded fixed-term contracts. In 2009 the staff of OSA comes from a total of 8 countries.

HISTORICAL AND CURRENT HOLDINGS

1. Acquisition Policy

Over the years the acquisition policy of OSA has been gradually transformed into a general framework for building digital libraries/ digital archives, licensing digital content from other donors, pro-actively capturing records at the creation or dissemination phase, building up collaborative projects when shared data is created or content is shared. It is also important to note that acquired digital copies from other sources cannot become an integral part of OSA holdings unless the accession is accompanied by appropriate donation procedures.

2. Acquisitions

In 2009, as in previous years, OSA acquired rather homogeneous types of records, including mixed media and digital content as well. The overwhelming majority of the new records were in the form of digital content: either the end product of in-house digitization projects, or digital copies from external sources.

This year's major project, *"1989: was there?"* launched an on-line day-to-day diary of the year by publishing relevant historical documents (text, image, and sound) from 1989. This included large scale in-house digitization of OSA documents as well as documents from external sources.

2009's other major project focused on the Héderváry Collections, that is the donation of Claire de Héderváry, the owner of the UN Committee No 5 documents relating to the events of 1956 which also yielded a substantial amount of digitized documents,

namely 8,633 documents, 32,798 pages, of which 2,275 selected documents (12,386 pages) were placed online.

The Office of the High Representative (OHR) in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in an act of trust and honor, donated its digital archive to OSA. OSA worked out the method of digitization and has been overseeing the process. By the end of 2009 112 archival boxes (18,700 documents, 46,431 pages) had been digitized and transferred to OSA.

The SNAP (Soros Network Archival Portal) records were growing with collections from the Baltic-American Partnership, the Arts & Culture Program, Beka Vuco donation, the LGI Publications

Online access was created for already existing collections, which were converted from legacy format and put online for direct access, like the OMRI Publications Department and the Index on Censorship collections.

Acquisitions in 2009 were also of the traditional genres: audio tapes, films, paper-based documents, books and periodicals.

Beka Vuco, OSI Regional Director donated 2,400 photos to OSA. Also from OSI, this time from its Communication Department, 297 tapes were transferred to OSA. The number of films in OSA's Film Library has also been increasing. By the end of 2009 it contained 1,720 titles.

On the most traditional, paper based documents side, OSA's holdings were enriched with a most valuable, 3 boxes of Mr Soros' manuscripts. In 2009 OSA was donated a sizable and very precious collection relating to the Period of Transition from Jelenkor Alapítvány (Present day Foundation) including documents from Iván Pető, MP, founding member of the Alliance of Free Democrats and one of the most prominent political figures of the transition period. By the end of the year the total number had reached 270 archival and oversized boxes, and the acquisition continues throughout next year.

In 2009 books and periodicals did not exactly flood into OSA, however the donation of Gábor Bikich, former RFE editor, and the selected publications and AV materials from the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe are worth mentioning here.

OSA's digital content was enriched on the audio-visual side, too. The short, English voice-overed "Civil Defense" films digitized under the ERSTE Foundation supported Paranoia project went online in 2009. Chachipe, an online photo contest run jointly with OSI under the aegis of the Roma Decade, yielded a vast collection of photos, while the Verzio Film Festival brought in 215 films to complement OSA's steadily

growing film library. Even if not exclusively OSA's own project, digitizing the photo collection of the Magyar Rendőr (Hungarian Policeman) journal and making it accessible in installments on a website hosted by OSA gave OSA access to a major digital photo collection.

3. Processing, cataloging, indexing

These processes form part of OSA's daily archival routine, but involve research into the latest trends in the archival profession and also thorough understanding and application of the latest IT technology.

Enhancing OSA's present archival management system involved two major moves: the creation of second language structure and online interface for the Finding Aids, which makes it possible to put online relevant collection descriptions in Hungarian and the assessment of the existing system, which was done with the help of external evaluators: these highly professional reports unanimously recommended moving to another platform which complies with EAD, ISADG and ISAAR in a more modern way.

Equally important is research into and constant development of the open source d-space software which supports the SNAP.

The majority of textual processing work relates to the Soros Network as these records reached their "retirement age" and a growing number of research requests concerning their content and use has been registered. Among others the documents of the International Science Foundation, the Ann Lonsdale, OSI NY Publications, OSI Board Records and the OSI Program Files have been processed and described. The documents transferred from the CEU Political Science and History Departments were also processed together with the fonds of the documents of the late CEU Professor, Tóth István György and the RFE/RL Yugoslav Background Reports. On the audio-visual side completely processed fonds are the MÁS-KÉP Creative Community, films from the period of transition and 581 records of the International Monitor Institute.

Space management and inventorying took up much of the capacity of the Library section, together with consolidating the OSA library with the CEU Library. As a result OSA titles can be browsed through the CEU Library catalogue.

4. Records Management at the Soros Network

Apart from storing, maintaining and retrieving records for CEU and OSI and the traditional and web-based processing and digitizing work, in 2009 the Records

Management Section was engaged in developing and shaping a comprehensive records management system in the Soros Foundations Network, which is both a result and proof of their growing reputation within the Soros Network.

Among others, the RM section – with the support of OSI Budapest – developed a new, web-based database for the OSI Records Center, and started training OSI staff to use this new online system, prepared procedures and forms for OSI staff who were departing and moving or closing programs, did counseling with OSI staff members on the usage of SNAP and KARL, advised the EU Monitoring and Advocacy Program on archiving before closing, created retention schedules for the Think Tank Fund and for HESP and drafted archival policies for the Soros Network.

Locally, the OSA RM staff prepared an Editorial Style Guide based on the OSI Editorial Style Guide and on the CEU Editorial Style Guide with the help of the Chicago Manual of Style to provide the bases for OSA printed material and publication on the OSA website.

Space is one of the constant problems in archiving as well as in records management. In 2009 in the OSI Records Center 387 boxes were disposed of, freeing shelf space for incoming documents, while in OSA's Kerepesi storage room approximately 2,800 duplicates were sorted out, discarded and offered to be taken away free.

The development of the SNAP policy framework continued in 2009: draft privacy clauses were written by the Legal Counsel in NY; a SNAP collection policy, an access policy, community naming guidelines, batch upload procedures, the new version of the SNAP manual were completed in 2009. A draft bilateral agreement was also created to replace the current outdated deed of gift templates, to address more efficiently privacy, IPR and ownership issues in case of digital records.

OSA RM teams continued to provide regular training sessions, services for both the local OSI Budapest and CEU community and information management projects at the Network.

REFERENCE SERVICES

References services figures reflect changes that take place in the local, national and international environment. OSA's projects and public programs took a slight "domestic turn", targeting and attracting a larger section of the Hungarian public in 2009. This change was immediately reflected in the composition of visitors to the Research Room, where the balance was slightly shifting towards a Hungarian majority coming from different Hungarian universities and academic institutions.

The growth in the number of newly registered visitors grew considerably, however the number of visits declined, leaving the per day average visit number unchanged. These numbers translate into a growing genuine interest in OSA's Research Room and the formation of a circle of core researchers. Figures for requests also support this assumption: while the number of requests decreased slightly, the number of requested documents increased, a proof of more extensive and more absorbed research done by individual researchers.

To sum up, OSA's Reading Room scored as good results in 2009 as in 2008, so for the Research Room too, 2009 was a year of consolidated progress.

1. Research on-site

The Research Room staff did its best to keep pace with the progress of the digital era by refurbishing the Research Room with equipment which replaced Xeroxing, but thanks to the rapid pace of progress other changes, such as the installation of more DVD players and the replacement of the microfilm scanners to serve the needs of several CEU Departments as well as OSA's own processing work, became imperative but could not be resolved in 2009.

The fixed camera installed in the Research Room was extensively used, as were the researchers' own cameras, which they are encouraged to use. This is why the number of images taken can only be estimated, to about 50,000 in 2009. This, together with the slight decrease in textual requests and a shift in requests towards audio-visual materials, is consistent with the universal tendency of digital materials gaining ground.

2. Research on-line

OSA's annual on-line visits and on-line requests reflect the same trends. The estimated number of on-line requests slightly decreased as compared to last year's figures, a possible consequence of the increased number of on-line available digital documents. What remained unchanged is that the proportion of requests for moving images was gradually growing throughout the year, with peaks around the Verzió Film Festival and film screening programs, as in previous years.

It was an innovation in 2008 to offer an online research suite to potential researchers at OSA which allows storing, organizing, managing, sharing, indexing and citing archival primary sources. In 2008 the Parallel Archive (www.parallelarchive.org) suite went through serious user-testing and redevelopment; in 2009 the broader community – CEU and OSA scholars - could benefit from its use.

3. Publicity campaigns for OSA's Reference Services

Reference Services is the bridge between OSA and the users of its collections both on-site and off-site. The work-load being distributed between two Research Room Coordinators and one Archives Assistant, the Reference Service staff, besides their day-to day activities in the Research Room, can be involved in various other activities such as archival processing and scanning, library indexing, or in the provision of content for the OSA web site about Reference Services, depending on the priorities of the Management. The Reference Service staff also took part in promoting OSA within CEU and in outreach campaigns. In 2009 OSA's Reference Services staff ran its already traditional campaigns at ELTE, Corvinus and Pázmány Universities in Budapest. Besides the tour of the building scheduled for every CEU student in the orientation week of their freshman year, the staff of OSA Reference Services gave presentations on OSA and organized tours for several interested groups from different universities and other institutions, for example for a group of Roma students from the Roma Access Program or for a group of students from the Northeast University of Boston, MA, USA.

4. Electronic services

The task list of OSA's small IT Support Unit keeps growing day by day as the archival profession is going digital at an amazing pace. As in previous years they often had to jump from one project to another to modify, convert or update databases, draft technological upgrades, help out with public programs or simply fix hardware and software problems on staff computers.

Partly because of the unsatisfactory level of the current infrastructure at OSA, but mostly in terms of development and applications, the IT unit went through a serious capacity crisis. Despite the decreasing number of support requests but with the emergence of more challenging tasks related to system integration, harvesting and liaising with the open source community, both the IT staff and OSA users realized that more research on technology related topics was to be done: trend watching, learning from best practices and relying on open standards all require time investment and budget.

In 2009 the launch of the new OSA web site radically reshaped not only OSA's public profile, but also meant the fine-tuning of the content management system and empowering content contributors. The dynamic solution served the needs of the 1989 digital collection well; however, the underlying infrastructure was not ready to handle a huge amount of digital content on the site.

Although the development of the Parallel Archive was the main focus in 2008, there was still much work to be done to complete the PA technical documentation, project web site, collection policies and procedures.

The development of the OSI Records Center database was carried out with the involvement of an external company under the guidance of the OSA IT team,; user training remained to be carried out in 2010.

IN FOCUS 2009 – "WAS THERE A 1989?"

What was 1989? How did it look from above and from below –from the perspective of official news outlets and of ordinary citizens?

In order to help rethink the relevance of the *annus mirabilis*, OSA teamed up with local archives, news agencies, and online journals in a year-long project dedicated to publishing documents and materials related to the regime changes, most of which had been previously unavailable to the wider public. We selected, scanned, and put online transcripts of radio broadcasts from both sides of the Iron Curtain, transcripts of telephone calls to the Hungarian television in Budapest and the Hungarian desk of Radio Free Europe in Munich, a chronology of events from the Hungarian News Agency (MTI), daily operative information reports of the Hungarian secret police, television news items, photographs, as well as the minutes of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party Politburo meetings – day by day, from January 1 to December 31, 1989.

In early 2010, the site was expanded to include the Dunagate Dossier, which, by the help of transcripts of radio broadcasts, press surveys, news agency reports, and excerpts from documentary films, reconstructs the most important events of the political scandal involving the continued surveillance of the newly formed opposition parties, as well as the systematic shredding of state security documents.

OSA RESEARCH

At the end of 2009 OSA received the status of Research Center, for combining its professional archival activities with research and educational work. By then OSA had a long history in teaching archival courses for the CEU Legal Department, and several members of its staff had been requested to run courses in their own special fields for CEU departments the History, Gender Studies and Environmental Sciences among them. In 2009 OSA offered its assistance with MA thesis writing seminars addressing the issue of media literacy, research methods on the use of primary sources and archival finding aids, too. Workshops in alternative culture or on politics of memory contributed to disseminating research results and marking out new research areas, while conferences such as Beyond East and West or presentations on Radio Free

Europe and the CIA summarized research results, in the same way as publications, the most important of which in 2009 was The House of the Freedom of Speech project.

1. Archives, Evidence and Human Rights course

The same way as in every year since 2002 OSA colleagues taught a course on archival science for the students of the CEU Legal Studies Department. The number of participants, has not changed over the years, while the composition of the students' home countries has. This year the course was attended by students from Azerbaijan, Nigeria, Mongolia, Cameron, Slovenia and the US.
The title list of the essays submitted this year shows the broad spectrum of subjects the course covers.

1. Archives, evidence and human rights.

2. Usual suspects: collecting evidence for a war crime case in the former Yugoslavia.

3. Building the case: Argue for/against using photographs or moving images to corroborate/deny human rights violations.

4. War crime or restoring order: analysis of the witness testimonies in the Héderváry-files in the light of the international law.

5. Information Technology and its impact on Human Rights.

6. Arguments for and against disclosing documents containing personal data in archival holdings.

7. Tools for NGOs: Martus and its application strategies.

8. Following the paper trail: Reconstruct a human rights violation case based on documents from OSA Archivum's relevant holdings.

2. Research Projects

OSA's most comprehensive research project in 2009 was The House of the Freedom of Speech, combining genuine research into the history of information rights, scientific discussion of research results, in-house publication of the study, exhibition and public debate on the proposed function of the Táncsics Prison, the building where the hero of the 1848 Hungarian revolution was incarcerated, to be devoted to one of the basic values of democratic states and a fundamental demand of the 1848 revolution: the freedom of speech and the rights and liberties that are closely related to it.

3. Workshops

OSA hosts, organizes and co-organizes workshops and public debates with the aim of helping research to progress and develop, to promote the dissemination of research results and to help connect research with current social and political issues. Workshops held in 2009 range over a wide field, from an attempt to retell the history of the Romanian revolution (Did It Happen At All?) through issues related to alternative art (The raw, the cooked and the packaged and the archive of perestroika art)and the question of the relation between memory and history (Politics of Memory in Conflict(ual) Areas or Beyond Cold War Linearities: Entangled Histories and Interactive Ideas) to one of the most burning issues of the digital era, free software, the free flow of knowledge and for community use (Copyright vs. Community in the age of network Computing).

4. Publications

OSA colleagues who hold teaching positions or do research in the archival profession regularly publish their findings. 2009's most influential piece was Professor Rév's contribution in *the Metris Report* of the European Commission Research Policy issue, a collective reflection on emerging trends in social sciences and humanities across the board. Other publications deal with history, local and universal (István Rév: *Ethics and the Limits of History Writing* in *Memory, Humanity and Meaning*), freedom of information (Iván Székely: *Freedom of Information versus Privacy: Friends or Foes?* in *Reinventing Data Protection?*) or on open access (*Gabriella Ivacs: Open Access and the issues of electronic records; Ivan Székely: Access to Archives, Access to Information: The European Framework.)* On a smaller scale, but vital for the OSA community, was the publication of the new OSA leaflet created by Csaba Szilágyi and the OSA team.

OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Undoubtedly the *1989 digital archives* was OSA's most important achievement of 2009. Its size and complexity made it an important step forward towards OSA's ambition to create a new type and function for archives of recent history in the digital world, where an archive actively participates in public affairs. To be able to do this it has to present and handle records not only in the most technologically advanced manner but also in a way which reflects and attracts the interest of the public. By presenting the audio records of the Hungarian Politburo on the 20th anniversary of the reburial of Imre Nagy OSA extended the genre of real time reconstruction of historical events. The 'spin-off': the digitization of these unique records, is also a long term and fundamental achievement. The events organized

around the presentation of the Héderváry digital collection provoked interest from many sides and were widely covered by the media.

In 2009's most popular public event archival materials played an important role, although the focus of attention was the talented young cellist, Ditta Rohmann, who gave a perfect and most moving recital of the selection of music by Bach that was played by Mstislav Rostropovich exactly 20 years earlier, as he sat on a borrowed chair at the foot of the already dismantled Berlin wall.

Exhibitions, film screenings, book launches, press conferences and participation in nationwide cultural events also form part of OSA's outreach activities. Although exhibitions in 2009 fell mostly into the artistic category they all carried weighty social-historical messages, like the already traditional Chachipe photo exhibition or Lászlo Hegedűs's *The Great Fehérvár Flood*, a tragically playful artistic photo-series related to memory. In 2009 OSA held its annual, already six-year-old Verzio International Human Rights Documentary Film festival, but throughout the year it offered more film screenings than before on a number on different aspects of recent history, including *40 films about Socialism*, a series on the *Marshall Plan*, or the film reconstruction of the *Romanian Revolution* which, after a successful two day screening event and roundtable discussion continued, with a night screening for the people in the street.

In 2009 OSA saw the book launch of Vera and the Ambassador: Escape and return by Vera and Donald Blinken and that of Iván Yoltán Dénes. OSA also organized press conferences on audio-visual presentation or on the occasion of the launch of the *Magyar Rendőr (Hungarian Policeman)* website, participated in the nationwide events of the *Night of the Museums* and the *Cultural Heritage Days* organized by the Hungarian Ministry of Education and Culture and welcomed a large number of visitors, among them all the EU Ambassadors who gathered in OSA on the occasion of the new presidencies.

All these events were very well covered in the press and this went a long way towards making OSA's programs more visible. Even if OSA's outreach programs were often very sophisticated in nature, they always found their audience. The latter was not always very numerous, but there is no doubt that by the end of 2009 a community of regular visitors had been formed.

1. Verzió – OSA's largest public event

The *6th Verzio International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival* was organized by Verzio Film Foundation and OSA Archivum. It took place in Budapest between

November 3–8, 2009.The main Festival venues were Toldi Cinema and Cirko-gejzír Cinema.

Verzio 6 was opened by George Soros following the noble line of extraordinary personalities who honored the festival opening: film director Béla Tarr, 2008; founding president of the Hungarian Helsinki Committee, Ferenc Kőszeg, 2007; film director Miklós Jancsó in 2006; film director Gyula Gazdag in 2005, and Árpád Göncz, former president of Hungary in 2004.

More than 3300 interested viewers joined the festival during the 5 days of the festival to watch challenging, creative documentaries in Budapest. One of the most popular films this year was the festival opening film, *Carmen Meets Borat* directed by Mercedes Stalenhoef while Gyula Gazdag's *Hungarian Chronicles* attracted the most viewers from the Hungarian film selection.

In 2009 the 1500 euro Audience Award went to Anders Østergaard's *Burma VJ-Reporting from a Closed Country.* (See Appendix 4)

2. Tiszavasvári – OSA's Christmas Charity Outreach Event

In December 2009, OSA decided to send Christmas presents to the *Pethe Ferenc grade school of Tiszavasvári*, a small town near Nyiregyháza, to support the over 500 socially disadvantageous children there. The Open Society Institute joined in the effort and as a result each and every child received a set of stationery, books and toys suited to their age for a total value 550.000 HUF

OSA – EXTERNAL RELATIONS

An archive at an English language speaking international university based in Budapest is almost by nature part of a wide network of external relations. It has to cooperate on individual and on institutional levels, locally and internationally, and officially and unofficially, sometimes within the framework of national or international projects.

1. Local cooperation

Cooperation is the closest in the workplace. In 2009 OSA welcomed three CEU students and six non-CEU colleagues working on OSA projects (*Magyar Rendőr* and *1989*, among others). The CEU student body and the CEU faculty often visited, or worked in or with OSA. It was they in the first place who constituted the core of the

audience at OSA's film screenings, whose venue was not always the Archivum itself: OSA's films were screened at CEU, in the Kino Cinema, at the nearby Gödör Klub and also at the annual summer art festival in Zsámbék, a small town near Budapest.

The first on the list of OSA's local cooperating institutions is *OSI Budapest*, a partner in OSA's Christmas Charity action and joint organizer of the annual Chachipe photo contest. Right next is the *Hungarian Széchenyi Library*, OSA's partner in the Héderváry project, *the 56 institution*, OSA's long-time partner and support in all recent history related roundtable discussions and conferences, *the Eötvös KárolyPublic Policy Institute,* with which OSA was working together on the legal framework of its SNAP project, *NAVA*, the Hungarian National Audio-Visual Archive and the *The Hungarian Open Document Format Alliance (ODFA),* which was initiated by OSA and, chaired by OSA's Chief Archivist, has been since its foundation in March 2008 one of OSA's closest professional allies in every respect. Another close working partner for years now has been the ITENT software developing business firm.

Cooperation with cultural centers and embassies based in Hungary has a long history. But 2009 was special in this respect, too: at the request of the Swedish, and later on the Spanish Ambassadors the venue for the Ambassadorial meetings on the occasion of the start of the EU Presidency term was the OSA Archivum.

2. International cooperation

Internships in OSA are often the start of a longer cooperation with the intern's home institution. 2009 brought *SciancePo* in France into close contact with OSA/CEU and cooperation with the Polish *Grasz o Staz* was also a very promising start.
By cooperating with the *Hungarian Cultural Institute in New York* OSA could join in the Pan European Picnic Redux, while participation in large-scale EU projects brought OSA shoulder to shoulder with over thirty national and international educational, archival and research institutions, and businesses, such as the *Europeana (the European Digital Library Network)*, *the University of York* and *the International Archive on Labour History.*

OSA had, as in previous years, several visitors from different institutions from all over the world, from Russia through Heidelberg and the Hague to Boston. But 2009's most unexpected visitor was *Mr Jan Kohout*, the Foreign Minister of the Czech Republic, who, on his official visit to Hungary spent a few hours in OSA, studying its collections and talking to OSA colleagues.

3. Travels

Travels, academic visits are not only instrumental to professional development but are also a very effective way of enhancing cooperation, on both individual and institutional levels. In 2009 the staff of OSA made 19 trips into 13 countries to collect new archival materials, give presentations, participate in professional development courses, conduct training or teaching sessions or prepare for EU project participation (see Appendix 3).

FUTURE PLANS

On the professional side OSA's plans for the next year focus on technological upgrades, database integration, upgrading, developing and implementing a new archival toolkit, improving its project planning and managing skills, building up its research capacity and improving the visibility of its public programs. Connecting and combining its public and archival programs OSA is determined to continue the tradition of historical reconstruction and is to carry on with its role in helping to shape public opinion. OSA will continue its work on the European research scene, hopefully as a member of an EU Research Project, and bring back home the fruits of this large scale cooperation. A somewhat less ambitious but equally important goal is to find a new, up to date and adequate web base format for the 2010 Activity Report.

Appendix 1

OSA Staff on December 31, 2009

NAME	POSITION
Bertalan Nóra	Public Programs Coordinator Rendezvény-kordinátor
Bóné Gábor József	IT Services Assistant Segéd-informatikus
Csikós Ildikó (on leave)	Executive Assistant Személyi titkár
Dani János	Exhibition Attendant and Assistant Kiállítótermi felügyelő és asszisztens
Dávid Zsolt	Receptionist Recepciós
Dobó Katalin	Senior Librarian Könyvtárvezető
Gádoros Katalin	Head of Administration, OSA Adminisztratív igazgató, OSA
Glushakov, Sergey	Chief IT Officer Vezető informatikus
Hegedűs Judit	Executive Assistant Személyi titkár
Ivacs Gabriella	Chief Archivist Főlevéltáros
Izinger Judit	Records Coordinator Irattáros
Jombach Márta	Office Manager Irodavezető
Kerekes Susie (on leave)	Office Manager Irodavezető
Kovacevic, Branko	Senior Records Officer Vezető irattáros
Kövecsi Anikó	Assistant Audio-visual Archivist Audiovizuális segédlevéltáros
Krizbai Zoltán	Audio-visual Technician Audiovizuális technikus
Ludman Katalin (on leave)	Library Assistant Segédkönyvtáros
Máthé, Kathryn	Information Officer Információs rendszerfejlesztő munkatárs

Mink András	Research Archivist Kutató levéltáros
Nemzetes Ferenc	Facilities Manager Üzemeltetési vezető
Parnica, Robert	Senior Reference Archivist Vezető levéltáros
Pavlovic, Milos	Archives Assistant Segédlevéltáros
Rév István	Director Igazgató
Sarkisova, Oksana (on leave)	Audio-visual Research Archivist Audiovizuális kutató levéltáros
Székely Iván	Chief Counsellor Főtanácsadó
Szilágyi Csaba	Senior Human Rights Archivist Vezető emberi jogi levéltáros
Szigeti Tibor	Archives Assistant Segédlevéltáros
Tamási Miklós	Creative Program Officer Kreativ vezető
Tari Örs Lehel	Reading Room Assistant Kutatótermi felügyelő
Timári Károly	Web Services Officer On-line szolgáltatás vezető
Tinó Krisztina	Administrative Assistant Adminisztratív asszisztens
Zádori Zsuzsa (on leave)	Senior Audio-visual Achivist Vezető audiovizuális levéltáros
Zaslavskaya, Olga	Senior Achivist Vezető levéltáros

Interns in 2009

- Ball, Bernadett – Canada
- Dang, Haixn – USA
- Fedor, Krisztina – Hungary
- Hermann, Lise – France
- Kövér, Zsuzsa – Hungary
- Littman, Alison – USA
- Sliwinski, Mihal – Poland
- Thickpenny, Cynthia – USA
- Toma, Ioana – Romania

Appendix 2

Acquisition, Processing, Cataloging, Content Enrichment and Records Management

Processing and Professional Priorities

Acquisition Policy

Over the years the acquisition policy of OSA has been gradually transformed into a general framework for building digital libraries/ digital archives, licensing digital content from other donors, pro-actively capturing records at the creation or dissemination phase, building up collaborative projects when shared data is created or content is shared. These changes are still not represented in the policy: it will be a task for 2010 to develop a sound, new acquisition strategy. It is also important to note that acquired digital copies from other sources cannot become an integral part of OSA holdings unless the accession is accompanied by appropriate donation procedures. The concept of digital library does partly overlap with the definition "digital archive", but not entirely. The DELOS Digital Library Reference Model defines a digital library as an organization, which might be virtual, that comprehensively collects, manages and preserves for the long term rich digital content, and offers it to its user communities. Digital Archives only contain primary sources rather than secondary sources found in libraries.

The current attempts by OSA: the 1989 or 1956 thematic collections, do not qualify either for the definition of digital library, or for that of digital archive: the present IT systems and policy infrastructure supporting these thematic collections do not provide the guarantee for measurable quality in the long run.

It is a promising sign that the project related to the Héderváry collection was planned on the basis of the trusted digital repository concept, and we are moving ahead with implementing the crucial components to reach that goal.

SNAP also represents a highly professional approach to access and preservation practices, both policy/procedure-wise and work flow-wise it provides a solid and trustworthy solution which can ensure long term access to permanent Network records. The constantly growing digital collections in SNAP, along with the ever-wider user group and its preliminary integration with the KARL knowledge management system of the Network along with future data mining techniques on other existing OSI systems such as GMS or Grant Tracker could lay the foundations for a highly professional standard at OSA.

Acquisition

In 2009, as in previous years, OSA acquired rather homogeneous types of records, including mixed media and digital content as well. The overwhelming majority of the new records were in the form of digital content: either the end product of in-house digitization projects, or digital copies from external sources.

One of our major projects in 2009 focused on the Héderváry Collections: the donation of Claire de Héderváry, the owner of the UN Committee No 5 documents relating to the events of 1956, which also yielded a substantial quantity of digitized documents, namely 3,633

documents, 32,798 pages, of which 2,275 selected documents (12,386 pages) were placed online.

The Office of the High Representative (OHR) in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in an act of trust and honor, donated its public digital archive to OSA. OSA worked out the method of digitization and has been overseeing the process. By the end of 2009 112 archival boxes (18,700 documents, 46,431 pages) had been digitized and transferred to OSA.

The SNAP (Soros Network Archival Portal) repository acquired digital copies from the Baltic-American Partnership, the Arts & Culture Program, Beka Vuco donation, and LGI Publications

This year's major thematic digital collection called "Was there a 1989?" resulted in an on-line day-to-day diary of the year via the publication of relevant historical documents (text, image, and sound) from 1989. This included large scale in-house digitization of OSA records as well as documents from external sources, due to the time constraints the public web site was constructed to serve the short-term need of highlighting the subject rather than building a robust digital library system behind the scenes. The coming year will force us to complete this project ensuring professional standards and building the final version of the site.

Beka Vuco, Network Regional director, donated digital copies of 2,400 photos to OSA.

Acquisitions in 2009 also included the traditional genres: audio tapes, films, paper-based documents, books and periodicals. From OSI, this time from its Communication Department, 297 tapes were transferred to OSA. The number of films in OSA's Film Library has also been increasing. By the end of 2009 it contained 1,720 titles.

On the most traditional, paper-based documents side, OSA's holdings were enriched with a most valuable acquisition: 3 boxes of Mr Soros' manuscripts. This year OSA was given a sizable and very precious collection relating to the Period of Transition in Hungary from Jelenkor Alapítvány (Present Day Foundation) including the personal papers of Iván Pető, MP, founding member of the Alliance of Free Democrats and one of the most prominent political figures of the transition period. By the end of the year the total number had reached 270 archival and oversized boxes, and the acquisition continues throughout next year.

In 2009 books and periodicals did not exactly flood into OSA, however the donation of Gábor Bikich, former RFE editor, and the selected publications and AV materials from the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe are worth mentioning here.

Miscellanous accessions included digital copies of English voice-overed "Civil Defense" films digitized under the ERSTE Foundation; the supported Paranoia project went online in 2009. Chachipe, an online photo contest run jointly with OSI under the aegis of the Roma Decade, yielded a vast collection of 3,000 photos, while the Verzio Film Festival brought in 215 films to complement OSA's steadily growing film library. Even if not exclusively OSA's own project, digitizing the photo collection of the Magyar Rendőr (Hungarian Policeman) journal and making it accessible in installments on a website hosted by OSA gave OSA access to a major digital photo collection.

Processing, cataloging, indexing

These processes form part of OSA's daily archival routine, but involve research into the latest trends in the archival profession and also thorough understanding and application of the latest IT technology.

Enhancing our present archival management system involved of two major moves: the creation of second language structure and online interface for the Finding Aids, which makes it possible to put online relevant collection descriptions in Hungarian. However, it remains a task for 2010 to start replacing the current system with a more standardized, not stand-alone solution. The assessment of the existing system was done with the help of external evaluators: these highly professional reports unanimously recommended moving to another platform which complies with EAD, ISADG and ISAAR in a more modern way. Equally important is research into and constant development of the open source d-space software which supports the SNAP repository.

It was partly a processing task to provide access to already-processed archival units like the OMRI Publications Department (HU OSA 205) series and the Index on Censorship fonds. Creating alternative access to OSA holdings has always been a priority for the processing work, therefore the indexing project continued with the RFE/RL Yugoslav Background Reports (HU OSA 300-85-5). This particular project aroused the interest of other European institutions specialized in semantic annotations: it will be used as a case study for a huge EU funded project.)

The majority of textual processing work relates to the Soros Network as these records reached their "retirement age" and a growing number of research requests concerning their content and use has been registered. Among others, the documents of the International Science Foundation, the Ann Lonsdale files from the early period of CEU (HU OSA 203), OSI NY Publications, OSI Board Records and the OSI Program (HU OSA 208) files have been processed and described. A major collection from the CEU Political Science and History Department, and the personal papers of the late CEU Professor, Tóth István György (HU OSA 404). On the audio-visual side HU OSA 339 Fonds comprise records of the MÁS-KÉP Creative Community, audiovisual materials include raw and edited footage from the period of Transition in Hungary. Additional video tapes - precisely 581in number - have been processed from the impressive collection of the International Monitoring Institute(HU OSA 350), the newly published series covers Cambodia, the Middle East and Burma.

The newly acquired records of the Period of the Transition Archive (HU OSA 66) required active OSA participation in transferring, inventorying and boxing the materials. The preparatory work was done at several locations – Lajosmizse, the House of Representatives, several Budapest storage facilities –, preliminary finding aids were created as the result of the cooperation between OSA staff and volunteers. In early 2010 the deposit agreement will be signed, and the bulk of the records will also arrive in the first half of the year.

Due to the reconstruction works at Kerepesi, emptying the storage space and restoring the locations, including the start of an in-depth location inventory, took up much of the capacity of the Library section (280 pallets of bound periodicals were removed and returned to the location after the work). Another task for 2009 was to provide access to the OSA books collections through the CEU library catalogue: this required data normalization and standardization. For future development, there is an enormous need for an integrated library solution which can better support the cataloguing process. 2,800 books were discarded and

offered to other Hungary-based libraries and the CEU Community; duplicate FBIS reports were also selected and discarded.

Records Management at the Soros Network

Apart from storing, maintaining and retrieving records for CEU and OSI and the traditional and web-based processing and digitizing work, in 2009 the Records Management Section was engaged in developing and shaping a comprehensive records management system in the Soros Foundations Network, which is both a result and proof of their growing reputation within the Soros Network.

Among others, the RM section - with the support of OSI Budapest - developed a new, web-based database for the OSI Records Center, and started training OSI staff to use this new online system, prepared procedures and forms for OSI staff who were departing and moving or closing programs, did counseling with OSI staff members on the usage of SNAP and KARL, advised the EU Monitoring and Advocacy Program on archiving before closing, created retention schedules for the Think Tank Fund and for HESP and drafted archival policies for the Soros Network.

Locally, the OSA RM staff prepared an Editorial Style Guide based on the OSI Editorial Style Guide and on the CEU Editorial Style Guide with the help of the Chicago Manual of Style to provide the bases for OSA printed material and publications on the OSA website.

Space is one of the constant problems in archiving as well as in records management. In 2009 in the OSI Records Center 387 boxes were disposed of, freeing shelf space for incoming documents, while in OSA's Kerepesi storage room approximately 2,000 duplicates were sorted out, discarded and offered to be taken away free.

The development of the SNAP policy framework continued in 2009: draft privacy clauses were written by the Legal Counsel in NY; our task next year is to introduce them locally and integrate them into the local contracts and procedures. A draft bilateral agreement was also created to replace the current outdated deed of gift templates, to address more efficiently privacy, IPR and ownership issues in case of digital records. We took the first step towards revising Network archival policy and complying with a wise Network information strategy, although the latter depends on OSI NY. In addition to the already mentioned policies, we created a SNAP collection policy, an access policy, community naming guidelines, batch upload procedures and the new version of the SNAP manual.

OSA RM teams continued to provide regular training sessions, services for both the local OSI Budapest and CEU community and information management projects at the Network.

Information Technology Services

The task list of OSA's small IT Support Unit grows day by day as the archival profession continues to go digital at an amazing pace. Partly because of the unsatisfactory level of the current infrastructure at OSA, but mostly in terms of development and applications, the IT unit went through a serious capacity crisis. Despite the decreasing number of support requests but with the emergence of more challenging tasks related to system integration, harvesting and liaising with the open source community, both the IT staff and OSA users realized that we need to do more research on technology related topics: trend watching,

learning from best practices and relying on open standards all require time investment and budget. Lack of planning and assessment of the resources leads to IT project failure, outsourcing decisions need to be well-thought through, and seemingly cheap in-house development also needs to be re-evaluated.

In 2009 the launch of the new OSA web site radically reshaped not only our public profile, but also meant the fine-tuning of the content management system and empowering content contributors. The dynamic solution served the needs of the 1989 digital collection well; however, the underlying infrastructure was not ready to handle a huge amount of digital content on the site. This problem will remain a task for 2010.

Because of the 1989 project the upgrade and customizing of the SNAP repository was substantially delayed compared to the original plans.

Although the development of the Parallel Archive was the main focus in 2008, there was still much work to be done to complete the PA technical documentation, project web site, collection policies and procedures.

The development of the OSI Records Center database was carried out with the involvement of an external company under the guidance of the OSA IT team; user training remained to be carried out in 2010.

The assessment of the OSA Finding Aids system only started in the fall of 2009; the planning work continues in 2010 with the hope of starting work on implementation by the end of the same year. The OSADIR (OSA Digital Repository) solution should also be among next year's top priorities, along with finalizing OSA preservation procedures. The HOPE project will start in May 2010, and we envisage joining in a consortium effort to build a common repository for digital content.

Future Plans

Building up OSA research capacity: offering grants to researchers and enhancing OSA scholarship by encouraging publications, research and post-graduate degrees by OSA staff. Participating in large-scale European research projects: submission of Isthmus on the spatio-temporal integration of archival resources and Nausicaa about the semantic annotation of cultural heritage artifacts . Both research projects would support the OSA integration into large scale networks.

Starting HOPE: OSA will be heavily involved in the preparatory work and research on the future social history portal a nd repository.

Becoming an information access point to the ICTY digital archive: lobby work started more than a year ago. The Srebrenica exhibition and the launch of the Balkan Digital Collection relates to this effort.

Participating in the development of the Soros Network Information Strategy, making sure that archives and records management are well integrated into the general framework, adequite fundings is dedicated etc. Setting up a digital repository at OSI NY ensuring long-term access to their premananet records, integrating the solution with SNAP.

Replacing the current OSA archival management system and library system with available open source solutions or develop a stand alone system with new functions compatible with OSA's CMS

Improving project planning: to make sure the projects are completed, resources are not underestimated, staff time is efficiently used and invested in any types of projects from professional to public programs.

Improving the visibility of OSA public programs, making OSA web site more functional and standard looking with interesting and fresh content. Focusing on marketing and advertisement to get more visitors.

Appendix 3

OSA Staff Travel 2009

- *January 20–21,* Visit to the Radio Free Europe, Prague, Czech Republic; Katalin Dobó and Gabriella Ivacs. All costs covered by OSI

- *February 25–28,* Human Rights Council and the International Criminal Court: The New challenges for Human Rights Communications Conference in Geneva, Switzerland; Csaba Szilágyi. All costs covered by OSI

- *March 14–17,* One World Film Festival, Prague, Czech Republic; Anikó Kövecsi. All costs covered by inviting organization.

- *May 20,* RISE Meeting, CEU representation; London, UK; Katalin Gadoros. All costs covered by CEU

- *May 18–21,* Open Repositories 09 Conference Atlanta, Georgia, US; Kathryn Máthé. All costs covered by OSI

- *May 28 – June 1,* Conference on the 20th Anniversary of the Collapse of the Berlin Wall, organized by Humboldt University; Robert Parnica. Costs covered jointly by host and OSA

- *June 3–8,* Memory, Archives and Human Rights Conference Copenhagen, Denmark & Malmö, Sweden; Zsuzsa Zádori. All costs covered by inviting institution.

- *June 30,* RISE Meeting, CEU representation, Brussels, Belgium; Katalin Gádoros. All costs covered by CEU.

- *July 8–12,* OSI Network Finance Meeting, Istanbul, Turkey; Gabriella Ivacs. All costs covered by OSI.

- *August 10–23,* Alternative Culture Beyond Borders, ReSET session, Parnu, Estonia; Olga Zaslavskaya. All costs covered by inviting institution.

- *September 17–19,* IALHI Meeting, HOPE kick-off, Barcelona, Spain; Katalin Gádoros. All costs covered by OSA.

- *September 15–19,* Tools and Services for Digital Preservation Conference, Sofia, Bulgaria; Gabriella Ivacs. All costs covered by the inviting institution.

- *October 8–9,* EU Isthmus Project Meeting, Luxemburg, Luxemburg; Katalin Gádoros. All costs covered by CEU.

- *October 13–16,* DSpace User Group Meeting, Gothenburg, Sweden; József Gábor Bóné and Branislav Kovačević. All costs covered by OSI.

- *October 13–17,* PA Presentation, Luxemburg, Luxemburg; Éva Deák. All costs covered by OSA.

- *November 20–25,* Records Management Meeting, OSI New York, USA; Judit Izinger, Gabriella Ivacs. All costs covered by OSI.

- *November 26–27,* Isthmus Project Consortium Meeting, Brussels, Belgium; Katalin Gádoros and Gabriella Ivacs. All costs covered by CEU.

- *December 4–11,* Ministry of Interior film screening event organized by the Deutche Historische Museum and the Hungarian Cultural Center in Berlin, Germany, Miklós Tamási. All costs covered by the inviting institution.

Appendix 4

Verzió 6

The 6th *Verzio International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival* was organized by Verzio Film Foundation and OSA Archivum. The 6th Verzio 6 took place in Budapest between *November 3-8, 2009.* The main Festival venues were *Toldi Cinema* and *Cirko-gejzír Cinema.*

More than 3300 interested viewers joined us during the 5 days of the festival to watch challenging, creative documentaries in Budapest. One of the most popular films this year was the festival opening film, *Carmen Meets Borat* directed by Mercedes Stalenhoef. Gyula Gazdag's *Hungarian Chronicles* attracted the most viewers from the Hungarian film selection.

Film program of Verzio6 festival

The 6th Verzio festival featured a variety of interesting programs. The International Panorama presented 29 excellent contemporary documentaries. The harsh realities of the North Korean labor camps reworked in a musical (Yodok Stories), the road to capitalism in Poland through an insight into dubious funeral dealings (Necrobusiness), a look at 20th century history through the perspective of military cooks (Cooking History), or a portrait of post-apartheid South Africa as a promenade at the Cape Town waterfront (Sea Point Days) – these are but a few examples of the original, perceptive, and concerned films that made up this year's International Panorama. The Hungarian Panorama presented 9 outstanding Hungarian works produced in 2008-2009.

Two important additional programs extended the contemporary international and Hungarian documentary panorama. Our traditional "Festival Crossroad" section presented a collaborative program entitled 20 Years Democracy in Film, on which Verzio cooperated with 4 partner festivals: One World Prague, One World Bratislava, Watch Docs (Warsaw) and DOK Leipzig. As a result of the cooperation, a representative selection of films, reflecting the complex transformations in the region since 1989, became available on-line, the highlights of which were screened on the movie screens as well.

A unique chance to revisit the first wave of de-Stalinization in documentary cinema was offered by a panorama of short Polish films produced in 1956-1959. Branded the black series, these films are pioneering critical social documentaries in the context of imposed conventions of socialist realism and strict state censorship. Supplemented by special screenings for high-school students, as well as discussions and debates with the filmmakers open to all, Verzio 6 managed to create a forum welcoming provocative themes, fresh looks, and ingenious thoughts.

Verzio 6 was opened by *George Soros* following the noble line of extraordinary personalities who honored our festival opening: film director Bela Tarr, 2008; founding president of the Hungarian Helsinki Committee, Ferenc Kőszeg, 2007; film director Miklós Jancsó in 2006; film director Gyula Gazdag in 2005, and Árpád Göncz, former president of Hungary in 2004.

Educational programs at Verzio6 – Student Verzio

Student Verzio invited students to watch, discuss and challenge contemporary issues via documentaries. 4 recent releases were offered for special morning screenings with follow-up debates. This year's selection of films put forth complex issues that provided an excellent floor for discussions and debates: plastic addiction, minorities, music rebels, and warrior cooks.

Audience Award

In 2009 the 1,500 euro Audience Award went to Anders Østergaard's *Burma VJ-Reporting from a Closed Country*, Norway & Sweden & Denmark & England, 2008, 85' The Democratic Voice of Burma (DVB) consists of a group of about 30 Burmese reporters who secretly film the abuses taking place in their country. The footage is then smuggled across the border and broadcast via satellite from the headquarters in Oslo. These are the images that could be seen across the globe when a revolution was about to erupt in the late summer of 2007. Led by Buddhist monks, more than 100,000 people took to the streets to march peacefully against the military dictatorship that has held the country in an iron grip for 40 years. Burma VJ - Reporting From a Closed Country was compiled almost exclusively from footage shot by DVB reporters. One of them supplies the voiceover. From his hiding place in Thailand, he uses the telephone or Internet to stay in touch with colleagues who report on the uprising: shaky hand-held images of emergency deliberations by protesters, of the crowd being dispersed, of monks and civilians getting knocked down. Their cameras hidden in bags or clenched under their armpits, the DVB reporters risk their lives to take the viewer right into the heat of the turmoil.

Staff and contributors

program director, Oksana Sarkisova
festival coordinator, Anikó Kövecsi
Hungarian program curator, György Báron
Polish "Black Series" retrospective curator, Vera Surányi
guest services, Márta Jombach, Anikó Kövecsi
finances, Katalin Gádoros, Márta Jombach
communication, marketing & press, Mariann Seres
Student Verzio, festival center coordinator, print traffic Tamás Teszler
video technician, Zoltán Krizbai
trailer, Zoltán Krizbai, Miklós Tamási
catalogue editors, Erzsébet Bori, Anikó Kövecsi, Oksana Sarkisova
catalogue manuscript pre-editor, Zsuzsa Kövér, Anikó Kövecsi, Tamás Teszler
English text editor and proofreader, Christopher Ryan
Hungarian text editor and proofreader, Katalin Dobó
catalogue, flyer, and poster design, Hanga Mathé
web design, Károly Timári
logo, Miklós Tamási
catalogue and brochure translators, Erzsébet Bori, Judit Hegedüs
simultaneous translation, Péter Bencze, Lajos Hinora, András Szabadfalvi, Zsuzsa Tüske,
volunteer coordination, Zsuzsa Kövér, Anikó Kövecsi
interns, Berandett Ball, Zsuzsa Kövér

Guests at Verzio6

- *Mercedes Stalenhoef* – director, *Carmen Meets Borat,* The Netherlands

- *Lukas Pribyl* – director, *Forgotten Transports to Latvia,* Czech Republic

- *Monika Sieradzka* – director, *Necrobusiness,* Poland

- *Andrey Gryazev* – director, *Sanya and Sparrow,* Russia

- *Szalay Péter* - director – *Nomad Market,* Hungary

- *Vécsei Márton* – director, *Far Away,* Hungary

- *Somogyvári Gergő, Feszt Judit* – directors, *Tile Mail,* Hungary

- *Papp Gábor Zsigmond* – director, *Spy in a One Horse Town,* Hungary

- *Jeles András* – director, *Parallel Death Patterns,* Hungary

- *Tószegi Edit* – director, *Three Sisters,* Hungary

- *Tischler Tamas* – historian, introduction to the *Polish Retrospective*

The main supporters of the 6th edition of Verzio FF have been the OSA Archivum and Open Society Institute. Other supporters in 2009 were: Embassy of the United States, Embassy of Switzerland and the Royal Netherlands Embassy as well as several cultural centers like the Czech Center, The Polish Institute and the Goethe Institut.

Our *media partners* were: MTV, RTL Klub, Duna TV, Kossuth Radio, Civil Radio, Radio Café, Radio Q, Magyar Narancs, Népszabadsag,ES, Beszelo, Amaro Drom, Nepszava, Pesti Est, Funzine, origo.hu, port.hu, HVG.hu, Mozinet, film.hu.

The total number of visitors at Verzio festival film programs: 3600 viewers, 100 high-school students. Over 20.000 viewers over the last 6 years of the festival's existence demonstrate that Verzio's selection of recent documentary films is both appreciated and needed.

Appendix 5

Public Programs

Date	Event
January 13–14	Film Screening: Two films from the series "Balkan Express – Return to Europe" by Gerald Knaus, Open Society Fellow at CEU and Chairman of the European Stability Initiative (ESI), followed by discussion with the director. Presentation of OSA's Balkan Collection by Csaba Szilágyi
January 30, 5:30 pm	Discussion: "Their Road to the Past – View of History of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party from 1989" Participants: György Földes, Tibor Hajdu, János Rainer M., István Rév and Ignác Romsics historians. In cooperation with the 1956 Institute.
February 1, 6:30 pm	Conference Opening: "Exiled Media Forum" Organized by the OSI Media Program Hosted event.
February 4, 6 pm	Project Closing Presentation: "Paranoia Archive" War historian Miklós Horváth and historian Krisztián Ungváry presented the historical background of the films, followed by a performance and film screening by the action group Kaos Camping
February 19, 4 pm	Conference and Presentation: "Parallel archives and new type digital data repositories" Presentation by István Rév and Gabriella Ivacs. In collaboration with the FLOSS Farm, organized at Millenáris Center
February 27 – March 3	Free Book Event: About 2000 discarded library books offered to be taken away gratis. Organized at Kerepesi Center.

March 3, 10 am	Press Conference: "Permeable Archives – Free information" Presentation of OSA's new web page commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Transition in 1989. In collaboration with NAVA
March 13, 10 am	Public Discussion: "The House of the Freedom of Speech – A forum for information rights" OSA's proposal to convert the Táncsics Prison to a forum for information rights.
March 17 – April 26	Award Ceremony and Exhibition: "Chachipe Youth" Kinga Göncz, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Hungary, and Valeriu Nicolae, chair of the Chachipe Youth jury, presented the awards and opened the exhibition
March 27–28	Workshop: "Politics of Memory in Conflict(ual) Areas" – InterReSET workshop In collaboration with the History, Gender Studies and International Relations departments of CEU within the framework of the Comparative History project.
March 30, 5:30 pm	Public Lecture: "Memory and Landscape: Russia" By Margaret Paxson, Senior Associate at the Kennan Institute, and Visiting Scholar at George Washington University's Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies
March 31, 7 pm	Concert: The alternative music band NAGUAL, Belarus
April 1–30	Exhibition: "Cityscapes" Károly Timari's photo exhibition at Art Café. External event
April 1 – May 12	Film Screening Series: "RE:VERZIO Documentary Film Series" Seven outstanding documentaries screened in original language and English subtitles.

April 2–3	Conference: "Alternative Cultures and Urban Space" In cooperation with the International Alternative Culture Center (Hungary), the Urban Laboratory at European Humanities University (Lithuania), CEU Curriculum Resource Center, OSI HESP, and McMaster University (Canada)
April 17–18	Roma Project Selection Board Meeting: Selection day for Roma applicants, organized by the Orbis Institute Slovakia. Hosted event.
April 28 – May 12	Exhibition: "An alternative perspective on the Jewish quarter" Organized by the society ÓVÁS! (PROTEST!), exhibition opened by writer György Konrád Public discussion with members of ÓVÁS, architects and monument protection officials, moderated by Júlia Váradi, cultural editor, on May 12
May 3	Exhibition and related events: "PanEuropean Picnic Redux" Organized in the Hungarian Cultural Institute, New York, by Extremely Hungary and Pen World Voices Festival, in collaboration with OSA
May 22 – June 10	Exhibition and Award Ceremony: "ESSL AWARD CEE 2009 – Nominees' Night" Exhibition of the works of 10 nominees for the ESSL AWARD CEE Award Ceremony on May 22, 6 pm
May25–29	Film Screening Series: "40 Films about Socialism" More than 40 films screened in a thematic-chronological order.
June 7, 6 pm	Film Screening: "Pretty Dyana" by Boris Mitić Screened in Gödör Klub, at the Burek Party, organized by the Hungarian Association for Migrants

June 16, 7 pm	<u>Presentation of Sound Documents and Public Discussion</u>: "Our Party is a good Party" Excerpts form the sound recordings of the 1989 sessions of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party's Political Committee on the revolution and the reburial of Imre Nagy in 1989.
June 17, 4 pm	<u>Book Launch</u>: "Vera and the Ambassador: Escape and Return" by Vera and Donald Blinken Introduction by Andras Simonyi, former Hungarian ambassador to the United States In cooperation with Bestsellers Bookstore.
June 20	<u>Open House</u>: "Night of the Museums" Open house for the general public with guided tours.
June 25, 6 pm	<u>Conference Opening</u>: "Beyond East and West" Two decades of media transformation after the fall of communism. Organized by the Center for Media and Communication Studies (CMCS) at CEU, the COST A30 Action "East of West: Setting a New Central Eastern European Research Agenda" and the International Communication Association (ICA). Hosted event.
June 26–27	<u>Film Screening Series</u>: "Selling Democracy – The Lost Films of the Marshall Plan 1948–1953" Presentation by Sandra Schulberg, award-winning movie producer and Adjunct Professor in Columbia University's Graduate Film Division, on 26 June
July 2	<u>Opening of the Swedish EU Presidency in Budapest</u>: Opening speech by Ambassador Cecilia Björner, followed by a reception and a concert of Swedish folk music by the Kraja Group Organized by the Embassy of Sweden, Budapest. Hosted event.
July 8–29	<u>Film Screening Series</u>: "Pride Film Nights at OSA Archivum", a film series examining the lives of gays and lesbians in the world today; followed by discussions In cooperation with the Rainbow Mission Foundation.

Aug 1–16	<u>Film Screening Series</u>: "Forró emlékezet" [Hot Memories] Documentaries about the formation of extremist ideologies. In cooperation with Zsámbék Theatre Base, Babylon International Workshop and Kompánia Theatre Studio. External event
Aug 31, 10:30 am	<u>Press Conference</u>: Whoopi Goldberg's Video Message in Support of Budapest Pride.
September 19–20	<u>Open House</u>: "Cultural Heritage Days" Guided tours in the Goldberger House including the basement archival repository.
September 21	<u>Book Launch</u>: "Conservative Ideology in the Making" by Iván Zoltán Dénes. Presented by Károly Kecskeméti, moderator: László Kontler. Organized by the István Bibó Center for Advanced Studies of the Humanities and Social Sciences. Hosted event
October 21–22	<u>Press Conference and Series of Events</u>: "The Hungarian Question" – presentation of the Hedervary Collection Press conference; exhibition, film screenings, discussion with university students, with the participation of Claire de Hedervary and Mihály Zichy; András Nagy publicly interviewed Per Bang-Jensen; Alinda Veiszer talked with János Horváth, Pál Márer, Claire de Hedervary and András Mink; Tamás Fodor read excerpts of archival documents; The audio recording of the testimony given by György Heltai was played, introduction by János Kenedi.
November 2, 5 pm	<u>Public Lecture</u>: "Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty – The CIA Years and Beyond" By A. Ross Johnson, senior executive of RFE/RL 1988–2002 Venue: CEU, Gellner Room.

November 3–8	Film Festival: "Verzio 6 International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival" International Panorama Hungarian Panorama 20Years of Democracy in Film Polish "Black Series" 1956-1958 Student Verzio Opening remarks by George Soros Venues: Toldi Cinema, Cirko-gejzir Cinema
November 5 – December 4	Exhibition: "The Great Flood in Fehérvár 2" László 2 Hegedűs' photographs with Péter Esterházy's text, supplemented with film and installation. Opened by Andrea Bordács aesthetician
November 11, 7 pm	Reconstruction, Concert and Film Screening: "IMPROMPTU, Berlin 1989.11.11." The impromptu concert given by Mstislav Rostropovich on November 11, 1989, reproduced by Ditta Rohmann. Films from OSA's collection.
November 24, 1 pm	Conference: A conference organized by the Embassy of Sweden, Budapest. Hosted event.
December 3, 11 am	Press Conference: Presentation of the project of processing and digitizing of the Magyar Rendőr (The Hungarian Policeman) photo archive and launch of the website www.magyarrendor.hu Presented by Tamás Urbán and Miklós Tamási.
December 5	Conference: "Strategic Games Day" Hosted event
December 7	Presentation and Archival Tour: Introduction of OSA for the participants of CEU CRC Session.

December 9–10	<u>Conference</u>: "Beyond Cold War Linearities: Entangled Histories and Interactive Ideas" Organized by the International Alternative Culture Center in cooperation with OSA Archivum at CEU, CRC CEU, the CEU Departments of History and IRES, within the framework of the OSI-HESP ReSET "Alternative Culture Beyond Borders: the Past and Present of the Arts and Media in the Context of Globalization".
December 11	<u>Professional Meeting</u>: IS[R]A Working Meeting
December 14–19	<u>Exhibition and Charity Auction</u>: Exhibition of art works offered to Szalmaszál Foundation for the Homeless. Charity auction on December 19. Hosted event.
December 17–18	<u>Film Screening and Roundtable Discussion</u>: "Did It Happen At All?" Screening of films about the 1989 Romanian revolution. Attila Ara-Kovács talked with writer György Dragomán on the visual representation of the Romanian revolution.
December 18–31	<u>Film Screening Nights</u>: A collage of Romanian archival and amateur footage and TV programs about the 1989 Romanian revolution projected on the facade window of OSA.
December 22-27	<u>Online Presentation</u>: OSA published on the most popular Romanian news portal, HotNews the transcripts of daily programs of Radio Free Europe and Radio Bucureşti from the same period twenty years earlier, as well as some of the live programs of Radio Free Europe covering the Romanian revolution.

Appendix 6

Important visitors to OSA Archivum

Date	Visitors
FEBRUARY	
February 19	Russian Rectors and Professors, participants of the conference Economic Efficiency and Social Responsibility, Pécs
APRIL	
April 28	*Dr. Máté Szabó,* Parliamentary Commissioner for Civil Rights, and 10 colleagues from the Commissioner's office
MAY	
May 14	A group of students from the Northeast University, Boston, USA
May 21	Professors from the Heidelberg University
May 22	A group of Roma students from the Roma Access Program, CEU
JULY	
July 8	Participants of the cultural anthropology course of the CEU Summer University
July 29	*Jan Kohout,* Foreign Minister of the Czech Republic
AUGUST	
Aug 26	Participants of CARTI (Summer School and Academic Writing Workshop of the OSI Central Asia Research and Training Initiative)
SEPTEMBER	
September 12	*Mirko Klarin,* Director, Sense Agency
NOVEMBER	
November 2	*Dr. A. Ross Johnson,* Research Fellow, Hoover Institution; Senior Scholar, Woodrow Wilson Center; Senior Advisor, RFE/RL
November 4	*Justice Richard J. Goldstone,* former Chief UN Prosecutor in Yugoslavia and Rwanda
December 7–8	*Iva Vukusic,* Sense Agency

Appendix 7

Publications by or with the contribution of the OSA Staff

Gabriella Ivacs: Open access and the issues of electronic records; and
Iván Székely: Access to Archives, Access to Information: The European Framework.
Presentations held at the *Conference on Open Access to Public Information & Privacy Protection,* Croatian State Archive, Zagreb, June 17, 2008. Published on CD-ROM, *"Croatian Archives in European perspectives"*. The Hague, National Archief, 2009.

István Rév: Ethics and the Limit of History Writing. In: Mihail Neamtu and Bogdan Tataru-Cazaban (eds.): *Memory, Humanity, and Meaning. Essays in Honor of Andrei Pleşu's Sixtieth Anniversary*. Zeta Books, Bucharest, 2009, pp. 475–494.

István Rév et al.: *Emerging Trends in Socio-Economic Sciences and Humanities in Europe. The Metris Report. A report by an expert group set up by the European Commission*. Brussels, The European Commission, 2009.

István Rév: Remembering the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact. In: *Europe 70 Years After the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact*. [Conference in the European Parliament in Brussels, October 14, 2009.] Vilnius, Magri Rastai, 2009.

Iván Székely: Freedom of Information versus Privacy: Friends or Foes? In: Gutwirth, S. et al (eds.): *Reinventing Data Protection?* Springer Science+Business Media B.V., 2009. pp. 293-316.

Csaba Szilágyi: Bátor tinédzserek avagy "Vadászkutyára nem kell fék". In Hungarian, on Teenager Party, the Hungarian music on request program of Radio Free Europe. *Hamu és gyémánt,* 2009.

Appendix 8

"Was There a 1989?"
Open Society Archives at CEU project on Hungary's recent history

"Today, it is impossible to evaluate such a historically significant career, which spanned half a century and which is inseparably connected to the not always uncontroversial rise of the Hungarian nation. Ultimately, only posterity could draw the balance of the period known as the Kadar era," said the letter addressed to Janos Kadar on May 8, 1989 (just a year after he was ousted as Secretary General), in which the Central Committee (CC) of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party (HSWP) informed him of its decision to strip him, on the grounds of his deteriorating health, of the function of chairman of HSWP and of his membership in the CC. In an effort to create a context for a meaningful rethinking of the *annus mirabilis*, and thus help to define those democratic values that the regime change brought about in Hungary, thousands of similar historic (and often unpublished) documents are being brought into the public domain by the Open Society Archives at CEU (OSA).

Every single day throughout the year the project, which was launched on January 1, 2009, puts online approximately 200 pages of digitized documents originating from sources on both sides of the Iron Curtain: the archives of the Research Institute of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL), as well as MTI (the Hungarian news agency), the Historical Archives of the Hungarian State Security, and the State Archives of Hungary. Often presented in pairs, the documents mirror each other. To analyze the interaction between the Western and Soviet propaganda machines, one can easily compare the transcripts of the Hungarian national radio's daily news broadcasts, as recorded by RFE/RL in Munich, with those of the RFE/RL programs, monitored and recorded equally ardently by MTI (at the "request" of the Ministry of the Interior) in Budapest. The transcripts of voice messages sent to the Hungarian Desk of RFE/RL complement the viewers' phone calls recorded at the freshly redesigned Channel 2 of Hungarian National TV (MTV2), thus showing the everyday dimension of the fundamental political and economic changes. The massive flux of news items from domestic and international sources processed daily by MTI are in sharp contrast with the dozen or so most important daily operative information reports selected from hundreds of such reports and prepared by the state security organs for a restricted circle of high-ranking state and party officials.

The page dedicated to 1989 on OSA's website offers English language content as well. This includes the Background Reports, special studies providing perspectives on current events and trends in the communist world, and the Situation Reports, which contain summaries of current developments in Eastern Europe, both prepared by RFE/RL staff and analysts on a regular basis. These documents are invaluable sources on a variety of issues that defined Hungary's shaky transition from communism to democracy, such as the new economic situation in the light of prospective Western aid, the withdrawal of the Soviet military presence, the change in personnel and attitudes within the HSWP, the emergence and activities of new political parties, civil organizations and movements, the situation of the Hungarian minority in Romania and Hungary's edgy foreign relations with that country, and the political turmoil caused by Hungary's decision to allow East German refugees to cross over to the West. Besides the textual material, significant visual and audio documents are also being made available. A pioneering cooperation with the National Audiovisual Archive (NAVA) allows OSA to present three television news items daily, some of which were never aired. From the Monitoring Unit of Radio Liberty, a vast selection of Soviet TV recordings offers a glimpse of how *perestroika* unfolded beyond the borders of Hungary. And the "home

movies" from the archive of the Workers Militia document the last operating year of the armed wing of HSWP from a rather personal perspective.

Of particular value are the series of photographs by Tamas Urban, accompanied by his subtle recollections on the various assignments he undertook for the *Ifjúsagi Magazin* (Youth Magazine), *Stern* or on a freelance basis, covering topics which ranged from the exhumation of Imre Nagy, Prime Minister in 1956, through prison conditions in Hungary to night life in Vienna.

The sound recordings of the meetings of the HSWP's Politburo (from the State Archives of Hungary), are being digitized at OSA's sound studio and thus, quite uniquely for documents in public keeping, excerpts are and will be available first on OSA's website for the benefit of a larger audience. Testimonies of the prolonged decomposition of the communist party, these recordings are sources for a number of live events and performances to be organized throughout the year. Beginning in August, excerpts from the sound recordings of the Opposition Round Table Talks, a series of negotiations between the opposition parties and the communists that resulted in the creation of a multi-party constitutional democracy, will also be made available. Interviews and informed analyses by OSA staff, as well as a Hungarian and an international chronology, will help visitors navigate through this eventful year.

The project "Was there a 1989?" is not a commemoration. It is a public mission that makes 60,000 pages of relevant sources available online, and at the same time it is a call for a proper dialog on the nature and the lost and fulfilled opportunities of the regime change, to be based on those historic documents. Spend the rest of the year with us: read, watch or listen to these documents and get involved in the discussion.