

Anete Krūmiņa:
Report on CENL Books and Audiences Network Group

Annual General Meeting 2022

19 - 21 June 2022

National Library of Türkiye, Ankara

BANG! *CENL Books and Audiences Network Group*

Anete Krūmiņa, The National Library of Latvia
CENL Ankara, 2022



Mission

To provide an dynamic environment for discussion, dialogue the exchange of ideas and practices for bringing books and audiences together in exhibition settings, with an ambition to bring our findings to fruition.



Vision

BANG! is synonymous with excellence and creativity in bringing books and audiences together in a diverse range of exhibition contexts

Values

- Innovation
- Curiosity
- Openness
- Inclusivity
- Generosity
- Diversity



Members – CENL

British Library

Royal Library of the Netherlands (KB)

Estonian National Library

National Library of Latvia

German National Library

Royal Library of Belgium (KBR)

National Library of Scotland



Other Members

Lodret Vandret, Independent Book Publishers from Denmark

Armand de Filippo, Peter Lester University of Leicester

Susana Sanchez-Gonzalez, University of Manchester

Marsh's Library, Ireland

Suzanne Reynolds, The Fitzwilliam Museum, University of Cambridge,

Erika Delbecque, Rare Books Special Collections, University College London Library

Inga Surgunte, UNESCO Latvia

Webinars 2020

- **What to tell and how to tell it in a contemporary book exhibition?**
October 22, 2020
- **The future for book exhibitions and their audiences**
October 29, 2020



Activities 2020-2022
Webinars

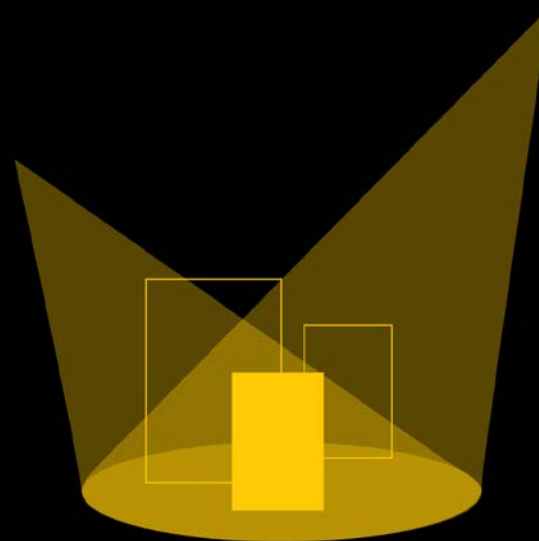
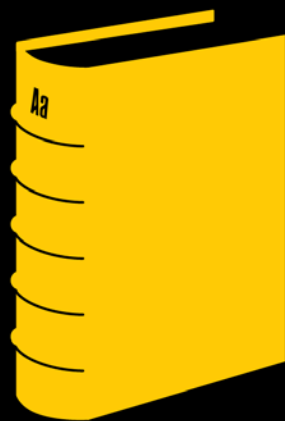
Webinars 2021 & 2022

- **Unbound: exploring accessibility in book exhibitions**
October 28, 2021
- **Well-being**
Will be held in November 2022



BANG! *GENE Books and Audiences
Network Group*

Activities 2020-2022
Sharing resources
& BANG! web page





CENL *Books and Audiences Network Group* (BANG!)
Presentation 2022

Good morning,

My name is Anete Krūmiņa, I am currently Head of Exhibitions at the National Library of Latvia. This morning, as chair of the Books and Audiences Network group, or BANG! as the abbreviation suggests, it is my honour to give an overview of what the group has done during the three year period.

1) Shortly re-visiting the base-ground for this network group

Mission of the group is to provide an dynamic environment for discussion, dialogue, the exchange of ideas and practices for bringing books and audiences together in exhibition settings, with an ambition to bring our findings to fruition.

Vision:

BANG! is synonymous with excellence and creativity in bringing books and audiences together in a diverse range of exhibition contexts

From this vision arise the groups values, which are –

Values:

- Innovation
- Curiosity
- Openness
- Inclusivity
- Generosity
- Diversity

Aims of the network group:

- Creating a thriving network of expertise in the field of ‘book exhibitions and their audiences’
- Sharing knowledge, experiences and creating opportunities to learn
- Organizing seminars and creating a shared online platform

Network members are:

CENL members:

British Library

Royal Library of the Netherlands (KB)

Estonian National Library

National Library of Latvia

German National Library

Royal Library of Belgium (KBR)

And National Library of Scotland

We also have non-CENL members who are

Other members:

Lodret Vandret - Independent Book Publishers from Denmark

Armand de Filippo, Peter Lester from University of Leicester

Susana Sanchez-Gonzalez from University of Manchester

Marsh's Library in Ireland

Representatives from –

Suzanne Reynolds from The Fitzwilliam Museum, University of Cambridge,

Erika Delbecque from Rare Books Special Collections, University College London Library

Inga Surgunte UNESCO Latvia

The core team are:

Anete Krumina (Group Chair, the National Library of Latvia)

Vanessa Braekeveld (Group Secretary, KBR)

Armand De Filippo (University of Leicester)

Susana Sanchez-Gonzalez (University on Manchester)

Inga Surgunte (UNESCO Latvia)

Work that has been done in the 3 year period from 2020 to 2022:

Webinars

The most visible activity each year has been a webinar. The original ambition was to have in person conference, but for reasons well known we could not meet in person.

During the three year period of CENL Network Group Books and Audiences has so far organised three webinars for professionals working with book and literature exhibitions and collections. The webinars gathered together 195 participants from 15 countries, keen to discover brightest examples of recent book exhibitions and projects, and to share and discuss the challenges in the sector.

Webinar *What to tell and how to tell it in a contemporary book exhibition?* – October 22, 2020

- outlining various trajectories a book exhibition can explore. From series of exhibitions on female history through contemporary feminist lens that focuses on social change in Scotland to an exhibition that explored the base collections of the National Library of Latvia and celebrated the centenary of the institution among other presentations.

Webinar *The future for book exhibitions and their audiences* – October 29, 2020

- exploring changes in our daily work brought about by the pandemic, and how libraries and book exhibitions find their way in this era of lockdowns, delays, restrictions, safety hazards etc. This webinar was particularly engaging and as you can see we held two webinars in the first year.

Webinar *Unbound: exploring accessibility in book exhibitions* – October 28, 2021

- this webinar was dedicated to Exploring accessibility in book exhibitions in various spaces and formats during the pandemic. From an outdoor art book fair at supermarket parking during the pandemic in Denmark to very practical aspects and insights of making the library space more accessible to its visitors in KBR, as well as accessibility guidelines for exhibition designers in British Library among others.

The fourth Webinar will be held later this year in *November 2022* with the overarching topic of *Well-being*

- Discovering various ways books, book exhibitions and library spaces can contribute to wellbeing and what this word even means in library related contexts.

Video series *BANG! Talking heads*

In 2021 a video series ***BANG! Talking heads*** was launched on [Youtube](#) channel of the network. Short videos of 3mins allow the network members to share ideas and thoughts on crucial questions for those involved in creating book exhibitions: *Why do we think we should create book exhibitions? What have we found to be the greatest challenge in displaying a book? What does the concept of bringing together books and people mean to us?* With the video series we aim to grow the professional community of book exhibition professionals and make the communication of the network more dynamic, engaging and appealing.

Season 2 of Talking Heads will be launched later this year in autumn 2022.

Sharing resources

BANG! invites the members and anyone interested to share research resources relevant to book exhibitions in various aspects – publications on the perception of literary exhibitions, audience development strategies in library exhibitions, etc. Resources lists will be published on the CENL pages of the network, first lists are already there.

Lists of resources, provided first of all by the researchers of the network, provide an academic and practice based foundation for the case studies and approaches to book exhibitions discussed during the webinars.

Web page

A BANG! web page is being developed with the aim of making resources accumulated during the three year period available for wider audiences of book exhibition professionals. Hopefully, it will also support the community of researchers and practitioners working with book exhibitions in the future.

And a visual identity, that you saw in this presentation, designed by in-house designers at the National Library of Latvia.

In conclusion:

We appreciate the opportunity of having been able to come together as a network group and share out thoughts, experiences and research on the quite specific topic of book exhibitions in general, subtle details and problems of displaying books and narratives they convey, as well as working with their audiences and various subjects and problems that accompany these topics.

Needless to say, we are looking forward to the next period of the network groups at CENL.

That is all from me –

Thank you and have a lovely day!