GRN IN EUROPA

In politics we not only speak about the Netherlands, but often about Europe. So we thought why not tell you something about GRN in Europe? Even though we do not (yet) have an agency in Greece or Cyprus and our European office is not located in Brussels. Not so long ago this was situated in Halver, a small village in Germany but that is history now. Probably it is a known fact that Global Recordings Network of which Gospel Recordings Netherlands is a part, consists of more than 35 Centers, because it can be read on the international website.

Centers are responsible for agencies in other countries, like Flanders, Spain, Surinam and Alaska for the Netherlands. There is also a distribution point in Norway. These agencies are being coached from our office. That is why we write about them in our Newsletters.

The French-Swiss Center not only has a large and active agency in France for which they are responsible, but also in other French speaking countries like Wallon, Haiti, Quebec (and till recently many African French speaking countries). GRN Germany has an agency in Austria, while GRN England is responsible for a distribution point in Kosovo.

Each Center operates independently, and because of cultural differences and individual differences in very different manners. Some give priority to PR and distribution; others are more active in making new recordings. But all with the same goal to share the saving love of Jesus by means of our audio materials. To whatever tribe, nation or people they may belong to!

Once a year the Directors of the four main Centers meet together to pray and discuss the possibilities of working together, like closer cooperation between the English and Dutch recordists in making new recordings within Europe. The British recordist so far has made no less than 170 recordings worldwide.

If you are interested in more news about GRN within Europe or worldwide, please visit our website www.globalrecordings.net. In the next issue we will inform you about the European Script Committee.

Our motto:
TELLING THE STORY OF JESUS
IN EVERY LANGUAGE!
FROM THE ALASKAN TEAM

The long awaited summer is about to begin. But nonetheless I would like to give you an impression of the CD distribution in cold Alaska last February/March during the yearly events that are held by Eskimos and Indians from all over the country. The top winter event is the sledge dog race Iditarod, which is also a yearly reunion of family and friends who live in this vast country. And as you know from former publications, the Christians meet each other during the yearly ‘Native Musical’ with Music groups from the different tribes who speak their individual languages.

We were pleased to be able to distribute the recently recorded Good News CD in the Eskimo Inupiat language of the most northern city of Barrow. This was the first time during the 5 years of GRN Alaska.

Furthermore, the Alaskan team was reinforced with two new team members. These are brothers who have helped us in making the new recording of that language. After a training in California, they will be even more effective in serving us. For next year we intend to make recordings in 10 different languages, which we hope to distribute at the next Iditarod.

We will also make DVD’s from these recordings with English subtitles, so these may function as learning materials for the younger generation and both young and old can listen to the Gospel.

With thanks to the Lord for these developments.
NEW CD OF REBECCA STEENBERGEN

Our ambassador Rebecca Steenbergen is becoming more and more known as a Dutch Gospel artist. She is a tutor for singing and a coach for two Kids Crew children’s Choirs. She also regularly lends her voice for voice-overs, commercial videos and advertisement spots. At the end of 2010 her first album *World Unknown* was released, an album with different styles with both English and Dutch lyrics in which she declares God to be the most important person in her life.

After this she was present at different locations and festivals like ‘Opwekking’, New Wine, the Xnoizz festival, Holland sings and the TV program ‘Turn-Over’ from the EO (Evangelical Broadcasting Company).

Now, after two years, Rebecca has released her second album *This time around*, with mainstream pop songs about the life with God. The Album contains both Dutch and English songs and has been partly written by Rebecca herself.

If you want to support the work of Gospel Recordings Netherlands as a contributor with a regular gift each month or quarter of a year, we may send you this album for free! You only have to cut off the coupon, fill it in and return it to us. If you receive our digital Newsletter, please mail the data to info@gospelrecordings.nl and we will take care of the rest.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Are you active on Facebook or Twitter? We send regular tweets (our address is @GospelRecNL). You can read the tweets on Facebook as well. It would like you to follow us on Twitter and Facebook and retweet the messages on either platform. We be pleased if you could help us in promoting GRN in this way.

This would be a great service to us, and it will result in a greater awareness of the existence of Gospel Recordings Netherlands as an organization. Actual information, news and activities are becoming known in this way. And most important, we hope to spread the News about the Gospel even more.

Thanks for your cooperation!

A WORD FROM CAROLA,
ONE OF THE VOLUNTEERS

In 2011 I have become a volunteer for GRN. I had contact with Jaap Westerink who is also active in the Gospel scene and loves to sing. He told me about the work of GRN and I felt attracted to it. It is my passion to help building God’s Kingdom in different ways.

I like going to various locations and to meet interesting people. I have had many special conversations and I am thankful for the opportunity to be able to encourage people or to listen to them. I like working together and travelling with the other colleagues and we have much fun together!

I hope that the work of GRN may continue for a long time!
WHEN FACING SHIPWRECK

In Acts 27 we read about the apostle Paul’s trip to Rome. We know that the Lord God wanted Paul in Rome. He had a task for him there (Acts 23:11). But Paul was not travelling as a free man: he was among the prisoners on the ship. Sometimes we do not have the degree of freedom we would like. Perhaps you are young and dependent on your parents. Perhaps you are advanced in years and a number of decisions are taken for you by others. Some unwanted limitations may be caused by working arrangements, church circumstances, health conditions or family responsibilities.

We doubt and fear

Against Paul’s will and better judgment, the boat in which he travelled “weighed anchor and sailed along the shore of Crete” (v.13). Soon a wind of hurricane force swept down from the island, and it persisted for a number of days. The future did not look good. The professional sailors begun to despair, throwing the cargo and even the ship’s tackle overboard. Shipwreck now looked inevitable. Paul, like all the others, got wet, cold, hungry and afraid. The Lord God saw what was happening and was not unconcerned. He sent and angel with the message, “Do not be afraid, Paul” (v.23) and remind him that there was work to be done in Rome. Echoing this thought, missionary Jim Elliot wrote in his journal, “As your life is in His hands, so are the days of your life. Remember, you are immortal until your work is done.” He was killed by Auca Indians in Ecuador, age 28. He was called home. He’s work was done.

A firm base for confidence

With renewed courage, Paul stood up and addressed his fellow travelers. In his short address we can discern three convictions that formed the foundation of his confidence:

(a) Ownership: “God whose I am” (v.23). He considered himself God’s property. If we belong to God, so does our family, our property, our investments, our ministry, our future.

(b) Purpose: “God… whom I serve” (v.23). He considered himself as fulfilling God’s plan. He was not driven by the approval of men, neither by signs of success. His passion was to serve his good and gracious Master. Who or what do you seek to serve?

(c) Trust: “I have faith in God” (v.25). He considered God and His word worthy of his trust. Has God spoken in your situation? Are there relevant promises you can lean on?

Conclusion

Sometimes the ship of our life takes us through tranquil waters, where we enjoy the gentle breeze and sunny skies. But sometimes, like the apostle, we may enter periods of hard winds and turbulent waters. Our God does not always calm the storm, but He does provide what His servants need to “keep up your courage” (v.25) even when facing shipwreck. These three apostolic convictions can also be ours.

Philip Nunn