



Italy, for the first time in the history of the International Music Council, is in the Board Executive.

To represent it, an Italian woman: Patricia Adkins Chiti, the head of the 'Women in Music' Foundation in Rome.

Patricia Adkins Chiti has been elected to the executive board of the Unesco's International Music Council.

Mrs. Chiti, **currently the head of the Women in Music Foundation** headquartered in Rome is the first Italian woman to be elected to this important international position. The musician and musicologist, Mrs. Chiti is widely considered the **top advocate** for woman composers worldwide.

The IMC met last weekend as part of the larger **World Music Forum** last weekend (Oct 1-5) at the Hotel Renaissance in Los Angeles, California. Music professionals traveled to the Forum from over 45 countries. The **International Music Council (IMC)** was founded in 1949 as an inter-cultural platform to support and broaden musical diversity around the world; it is currently **represented by 80 countries**. In electing Mrs. Chiti, the executive board has both acknowledged the rising importance of women composers and honored Mrs. Chiti for her years of dedication and leadership on this issue.

Mrs. Chiti reports, "The International Music Council of Unesco is acknowledged as the most important organization of both national, and international music. They promote every kind of music in every part of the world. IMC's mission is to broaden knowledge of musical diversity, insuring support and visibility to projects that encourage citizens to engage music into their lives. The IMC network must be protected and expanded to preserve the intangible cultural heritage created and produced by musicians in every community. We are working to nurture a new generation of artists, their education and career aspirations as we grow the organization. From the perspective of my current position in Rome, I obviously want to continue to see the promotion of women's musical creativity and help them develop their talents. It is important to me that they receive the due reward for their work. My election to the IMC board will insure that this important work may be expanded and this agenda will be given even more space and credibility for women in music."

Mrs. Chiti is recognized worldwide as a pioneer researcher in the field of Women in Music. Her previous positions have included, **Italian State Commissioner for Equal Opportunities** as well as Musicology and Performing Arts. At the moment she is a **consultant to the Vatican, the European Community and the European Music Council**. In addition she is retained by many world governments for women's cultural policies. Her current projects include **Palestine, Kenya, Cuba and the Balkans**. In 2004, the **President of the Italian Republic**, Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, honored her with the title of **"Cavaliere Ufficiale"** (Knighthood Official).