Country Report 2023 – Dramatikerförbundet (Writers' Guild of Sweden)

The Writers' Guild of Sweden organizes screenwriters, playwrights and translators working in areas ranging from film and television to theatre, radio and games. The Guild has over 750 members who represent 95% of the professional screenwriters in Sweden.

Our work in 2022/2023

This last year has been an interesting year for Dramatikerförbundet. There is a lot of change happening in Sweden as well as in the World and we are noticing how the industry is rapidly changing, not only by the tremendous impact by AI. In Sweden we are currently going through a recession, which has impacted a lot of our members.

The Credit Guide

In the beginning of 2023, we launched a credit guide for the Swedish film and Tv-industry. Through the guide we have supplied the industry with directions on how to properly credit screenwriters, based on their contribution to the work. We have supplied all the production companies of Sweden with a copy of the guide, as well as our members, agencies and others who have expressed interest in receiving a copy. The guidelines are based on the international standard of crediting and are in line with both the FSE guidelines as well as the ones of WGA.

3 minutes of silence

In the early fall of 2023, we organized a manifestation called 3 minutes of silence where different theaters went silent for 3 minutes, during performances, as an act of showing how empty and quiet Sweden would be without culture.

Manifestation in solidarity with WGA

The 14th of June we held a manifestation in solidarity with the then ongoing WGA-strike. During the manifestation a lot of our members showed up to show their support for the critical questions being fought for in the USA and the manifestation got a lot of traction in Swedish media. The national broadcasting service, SVT, covered the manifestation and reported on it.

Artificial intelligence (AI)

We have started to lobby for regulation of AI in our framework agreements with the producing companies, theaters and our public service company. We are trying to employ the regulations that are available in the WGA-agreement in a Swedish context.

Bonus remuneration based on success

As well as the AI-regulation we are trying to transfer the regulation that WGA got with the producing companies on a bonus-model that allows screenwriters to receive additional remuneration if their works are deemed a success to our framework agreements.

Additional, appropriate and fair remuneration – article 20 DSM

We are investigating the possibility to, through case law, set a precedent for when and how a screenwriter is able to get additional, appropriate and fair remuneration in accordance with article 20 DSM. We are currently working together with other copyright organizations in Sweden in trying to find a case which can benefit us all.