



### To All FIAF Affiliates

This is the third and final Newsletter of the FIAF2000 Congress, which will take place in LONDON from 3 to 9 June 2000 under the aegis of the BFI's National Film and Television Archive (NFTVA), in collaboration with the Film and Video Archive of the Imperial War Museum (IWM).

We are very pleased to announce that Lord Attenborough has accepted an invitation to be Patron of FIAF2000, and we hope very much that he will be present to welcome delegates and guests at the Opening Reception on 3 June.

At the end of this Newsletter you will find an expanded and updated schedule of events, including the evening nitrate screenings at the NFT, which we strongly advise you to study. Attached you will also find a form asking you to confirm your attendance at certain key events. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT ALL DELEGATES COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM TO LAURA TUTT (FAX: +44 207 537 2754) by 1 May, even though you may already have notified her directly (for which she is nevertheless grateful).

PLEASE NOTE ESPECIALLY that the performance of NAPOLEON begins at 14.30 on Saturday 3 June, and WE CANNOT HOLD SEATS OR TICKETS BEYOND THAT TIME: so if you are arriving on that day, you must ensure that your travel arrangements enable you to arrive at the Royal Festival Hall and collect your ticket(s) in time.

### CONGRESS VENUE

The symposia, workshop and General Assembly will, as previously stated, take place in the main auditorium of the BFI's National Film Theatre (NFT1) on the South Bank, near Waterloo main and underground stations (follow signs to the South Bank and NFT). Local maps will be supplied.

The meetings of the Executive Committee (on 1,2,3 & 9 June) will also be held at the NFT, in the Delegates' Centre. Regional Meetings and any ad hoc groupings have been scheduled for the morning of Wednesday 7 June, again at the NFT, space permitting.

Translation into English/Spanish will be provided at the EC; English/Spanish/French at the General Assembly, symposia and workshop.

### ADMINISTRATION

The FIAF/Congress Secretariat, office facilities, pigeonholes, video viewing equipment and sitting-out area will be located in the NFT's Delegates' Centre throughout the Congress. Formal registration of delegates will take place on the mornings of Saturday 3 June and Sunday 4 June at the NFT (see Schedule for times), after which the office will remain open daily for late registrations. Please remember to wear the badges you will be given in order

to move freely within the NFT; they are also necessary for collection of cinema tickets and concessions in local cafés and restaurants.

Congress Co-ordinators and FIAF and NFT staff will be on hand at all times to help with enquiries and problems and to give advice on local transport, eating out and tourism.

## **HOTELS**

We can no longer guarantee to find hotel rooms, especially at favourable rates. However, if any delegate still requires a hotel room and needs our assistance to book it, please fax a completed Hotel Booking Form to Laura Tutt with all urgency, not forgetting to supply credit card details. We shall confirm all hotel bookings in due course, together with your hotel's address and contact numbers, but if you have not heard from us by 15 May, please contact Laura. Please note that the Bedford Hotel is now full.

All our recommended hotels are within easy reach of the NFT, either by bus, taxi or on foot (25 minutes from the Russell Square hotels, 10 minutes from the Strand Palace). In all cases you can get to the NFT via steps which lead down from the southern end of Waterloo Bridge. The walk over Waterloo Bridge gives you the best ground-level view of London. The hotels and NFT are also close to Covent Garden, Soho, the West End and the theatre district, and the new Eye ferris wheel.

## **VISAS AND GRANTS**

We gave detailed information in Newsletter No. 2 about countries where visas are needed to enter the UK. Anyone still seeking help on this matter, or requiring letters of invitation, should contact the Secretary-General, Roger Smither, at the Imperial War Museum. Please give him the full address and fax number of your local British Embassy or Consulate.

Similarly, anyone still in need of financial assistance with travel or accommodation is advised to contact the British Council office in his or her country if there is one. Again, we can supply letters of support if required.

## **SYMPOSIA AND SPECIAL EVENTS**

*NAPOLEON* : The 56th Annual Congress will begin in style on Saturday 3 June with a gala presentation of the new and definitive restoration of Abel Gance's *NAPOLEON* – a collaboration between the BFI's NFTVA and Photoplay Productions. This will be screened during the afternoon and evening of 3 June at the Royal Festival Hall (RFH), adjacent to the NFT, starting at 14.30 prompt. The Opening Reception of the Congress will take place during the extended intermission of *NAPOLEON* – in the RFH's Waterloo Foyer, appropriately enough - generously hosted by the Film Council, Britain's new national film funding organisation. All FIAF delegates are, of course, invited, but as this will be a public performance, it is vital for us to know in advance who will or will not be attending – so please do not forget to fill in and return the attached form. Tickets will be issued at the Royal Festival Hall up to fifteen minutes before the performance begins at 14.30, but any uncollected tickets will be sold to the public. Any registered delegate or invited guest who cannot make it to *NAPOLEON* but wishes to attend the Opening Reception is, naturally, welcome to do so.

*The Last Nitrate Picture Show* : This, the main symposium, will take place in NFT1 on 4 & 5 June, and is intended as a celebration of cellulose nitrate in all its aspects: its history, technology, chemistry and archaeology; its loss; its rescue, conservation and restoration; its impact on the art of cinema; its vices and virtues; and the role it has played in the evolution of film archives. It will be copiously illustrated with screened examples, presented by expert speakers – many from FIAF archives - and complemented by evening screenings at the NFT of the best surviving nitrate prints (18 programmes in all).

Thanks to the generosity of J Paul Getty, we shall also publish, as promised, an accompanying book telling the story of nitrate, edited by Roger Smither.

*Speaking for the Record*: Scheduled for the morning of 6 June in NFT1, this important half-day workshop, organised by Janet McBain of the Scottish Film & TV Archive and Iola Baines of the Wales Film & TV Archive, will focus on collecting, preserving and presenting non-standard, ancillary evidence and information to support specialist film collections (eg folk memory, oral testimony).

*The Future of Film Archiving*: Scheduled for the afternoon of 6 June in NFT1, this will be a state-of-the-art demonstration, led by Paul Read and Michael Friend, of the revolutionary effect of digital technology on the production and projection of moving images. Will this extend to preservation and what will film archives look like and become in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century? Discussion will follow - don't miss it!

[Full details of the symposia and workshop will appear in the Congress Programme which delegates will receive upon Registration.]

*20<sup>th</sup> Century Clips* : A reminder that 30 April is the deadline for Elaine Burrows to receive FIAF archives' selections of brief extracts of newsfilm or non-fiction film symbolising a dramatic or iconic moment in their country's history in the film era. Contributions can be on film or Beta SP videotape and should be no longer than one or two minutes' running time. If you intend to participate, please contact Elaine by email (elaine.burrows@bfi.org.uk) or by fax (+44 1442 876619). We hope to show the resulting compilation at the Closing Party in the Museum of London on 9 June (see below), together with historic films about London.

*Evening Screenings of nitrate films at the NFT*: From 1-10 June there will be two screenings of nitrate film programmes every evening in NFT1 (with the exception of 3 June): the first screening at 18:30, and the second at 20:45 (for details, please see schedule). As these performances are open to the public, delegates who wish to secure a complimentary ticket must book in advance or risk not getting a seat. Procedures for doing this will be described in full when you arrive.

## VISITS AND HOSPITALITY

*Excursion to J Paul Getty Conservation Centre, Berkhamsted*: This tour of the NFTVA's preservation facilities and laboratory will take place on the afternoon of 7 June, ending with an evening barbecue in the Centre's attractive grounds, arranged and hosted by BFI Collections. Coaches will depart from the NFT at 13:30 and leave Berkhamsted finally at 21:30. The JPGCC is easily accessible by public transport for anyone wishing to arrive later or leave earlier than these times. Once again, it is essential that you let us know if you wish to book a place on this visit by ticking the appropriate box on the attached form.

*Reception aboard HMS Belfast*: This famous warship moored on the River Thames will be the venue for an evening reception on 6 June hosted by the Imperial War Museum, the Scottish Film & TV Archive, and the Wales Film & TV Archive.

*Closing Reception*: The Congress will end on the evening of 9 June with a fully-catered reception at the award-winning Museum of London. This will kick off with a short film show in the Museum's lecture theatre. Once again, please let us know on the enclosed form whether you plan to be there.

*BFI Education Event*: The BFI's Education Department has invited FIAF delegates to a dramatised presentation in NFT1 on 8 June - 'Entertaining the Nation' - aimed at young schoolchildren and designed to show how education can work in partnership with archives and use collections. A hosted lunch will follow.

*Granada Television/NWFA*: FIAF member archives will be invited to a special lunch in the London Weekend Television building on the Thames Embankment (spectacular views!) on 9 June, hosted by the North West Film Archive and Granada Television.

[Please note that there will no longer be an organised tourist excursion on Saturday 10 June because of limited interest, but we are happy to give guidance to anyone wishing to make their own tourism arrangements. Please note also that the BFI's Museum of the Moving Image (MOMI) has closed down pending reconstruction.]

## INFORMATION AND ORIENTATION

### TRANSPORT

*Heathrow Airport to Central London:* The Piccadilly Line on the London Underground takes approximately one hour and goes direct to Russell Square, which is the nearest tube station for the Bedford, Imperial, President and Royal National hotels. Tickets cost just under £4. There is also the Heathrow Express train service to Paddington Station, which takes 15 minutes, but necessitates a change on to the London Underground to reach the hotels. Tickets cost £12 single, £22 return. There is an airport bus service, but it is less convenient. We advise strongly against taking black taxicabs simply because the cost is absurdly high (£45-£50 at least). We can recommend some low-cost minicabs for the (post-shopping) return journey to Heathrow.

*Gatwick Airport to Central London:* The very efficient Gatwick Express train service runs every 15 minutes and takes 30 minutes to reach Victoria Station. From there you can choose between a London taxi and the London Underground. Train tickets from Gatwick (which can be bought on the train) cost £10.20 single, £20.40 return. Gatwick is a long way from London, and there is no other quicker or more convenient mode of transport.

[If you are flying into any other UK airport, eg Stansted or Luton, and need advice on how to get into London, please contact the FIAF2000 co-ordinators.]

*Eurostar to Waterloo:* Take either the London Underground or a taxi to your hotel.

*Transport in London:* Buses and the London Underground are the best, cheapest and quickest way to get around, although they stop soon after midnight. We will advise on local journeys (eg to the NFT) when you arrive, and supply transport information leaflets. Buying a daily or weekly travel card saves significantly on fares, and gives a flexible choice of transport. Walking in Central London is often easier still. Black taxicabs are dependable but not cheap; a tip of at least 10% is normal. There are a number of good and less expensive minicab services, but avoid drivers who solicit on the street. Your hotels, the NFT and restaurants will all help with ordering cabs, especially late in the evening. Don't hire a car for use in London!

### EATING OUT

London has a huge range of excellent restaurants offering every conceivable type of cuisine at reasonable prices. Especially recommended for quality and value are Indian, Chinese, Italian and Indonesian restaurants, particularly in Soho and Chinatown. We will provide as comprehensive a guide as possible to recommended restaurants and cafés, including those convenient for lunch in the NFT area (some of which we hope will offer price concessions), when you register. Tipping: if service is not added or stated as included, a tip of 10-15% is usual. Do not tip if service is included on the bill. If in doubt, don't be afraid to ask. England is famous for its pub culture, and most pubs now provide meals - but many still close at 11pm. However, London has an increasing number of bars which stay open late. Pubs are there to explore and find your own favourite - but again, we can advise.

### MONEY

Sadly for visitors to the UK, the pound sterling (£) is very strong at present and exchange rates are not in your favour. There are numerous banks and cash exchange locations in London, not least at the airport and at your hotel, as well as cash machines on the street. As in all busy cities, it is imperative that you protect your bags and pockets from thieves, especially in crowded places and when sitting in restaurants and bars. Use the hotel safes and don't carry too much cash around. London is generally safe, even late at night, but take sensible precautions (and, if in doubt, a taxi).

We look forward to seeing you all in London. [A full Schedule of the Congress follows]..



## DRAFT SCHEDULE OF THE CONGRESS

### • Thursday 1 June

09:30	Executive Committee Meeting	Delegates' Centre NFT
12:30	Lunch Break	
14:30	EC Meeting continued	Delegates' Centre NFT
17:30	Close	
Evening	EC Dinner hosted by Jon Teckman, Director BFI	

#### Screenings NFT1:

18:30	RIO ESCONDIDO (Hidden River) Mexico 1947/Dir Emilio Fernandez 96mins (UNAM)
20:45	CHANG US 1927/Dir Merian C Cooper, Ernest B Schoedsack 75mins (NFTVA) <i>Plus:</i> SCENIC SWEDEN 1947 10mins (SFI, Stockholm)

[Meetings of the Technical Commission and Cataloguing & Documentation Commission are likely to run concurrently with the Executive Committee on 1, 2 & 3 June]

### • Friday 2 June

09:30	EC Meeting continued	Delegates' Centre NFT
12:30	Lunch Break	
14:30	EC meeting continued	Delegates' Centre NFT
17:30	Close	

#### Screenings NFT1:

18:30	SWAMP WATER US 1941/Dir Jean Renoir 90mins (MOMA) <i>Plus:</i> THE OLD GREY HARE 1944 7mins (MOMA) and SWOONER CROONER 1944 7mins (MOMA)
20:45	THE PRIVATE LIFE OF HENRY VIII UK 1933/Dir Alexander Korda 96mins (NFTVA) <i>Plus:</i> LOOKING AT LONDON 1946 10mins (LoC)

[Meetings of the Technical Commission and Cataloguing & Documentation Commission are likely to run concurrently with the Executive Committee on 1, 2 & 3 June]

### • Saturday 3 June

09:30 – 12:30	EC Meeting concluded	Delegates' Centre NFT
10:00 – 13:00	Registration of Delegates (see also Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> June)	NFT
14:30 – 17:49	NAPOLEON (Gala Screening) Acts I & II	Royal Festival Hall
17:50 – 19:30	Opening Reception (buffet & drinks) hosted by Film Council	Waterloo Foyer RFH
19:30 – 22:24	NAPOLEON Acts III & IV	RFH

[Meetings of the Technical Commission and Cataloguing & Documentation Commission are likely to run concurrently with the Executive Committee on 1, 2 & 3 June]

DRAFT SCHEDULE OF THE CONGRESS cont.

● **Sunday 4 June**

08:30 – 09:30 Registration of Delegates (see also Saturday 3 June) NFT  
09:30 Symposium 1: *The Last Nitrate Picture Show* NFT1  
12:30 Lunch Break  
14:30 *The Last Nitrate Picture Show* continued NFT1  
17:30 Close

*Screenings* NFT1:

18:30 FOUR SONS  
US 1928/Dir John Ford 97mins (CP, Lisbon)  
20:45 LA VALIGIA DEI SOGNI (Portmanteau of Dreams)  
Italy 1953/Dir Luigi Comencini 96mins (FCI, Milan)  
*Plus:* FRANCESCA DA RIMINI 1911 12mins (LoC)

● **Monday 5 June**

09:30 *The Last Nitrate Picture Show* continued NFT1  
12:30 Lunch Break  
14:30 *The Last Nitrate Picture Show* concluded NFT1  
17:30 Close

*Screenings* NFT1:

18:30 THE RED SHOES  
UK 1948/Dir Michael Powell, Emeric Pressburger 136mins  
(NFTVA)  
20:45 THE CITY  
US 1939/Dir Ralph Steiner, Willard Van Dyke 46mins  
*Plus:* THE ROMANCE OF CELLULOID 1937 10mins,  
BREWSTER CORPORATION TWO-COLOR TEST  
DEMONSTRATION 1921 12mins and THE FLUTE OF  
KRISHNA 1926 9mins ( all GEH)

■ **Tuesday 6 June**

09:30 Workshop: *Speaking for the Record* NFT1  
12:30 Lunch Break  
14:30 Symposium 2: *The Future of Film Archiving* NFT1  
17:30 Close  
Evening: Reception (buffet & drinks) hosted by Imperial War  
Museum, Scottish Film & TV Archive, and Wales Film & TV  
Archive HMS Belfast

*Screenings* NFT1:

18:30 REDSKIN  
US 1929/Dir Victor Schertzinger 82mins (LoC)  
*Plus:* TULIPS SHALL GROW 1942 7mins (LoC)  
20:45 THE SONG OF SONGS  
US 1933/Dir Rouben Mamoulian 90mins (UCLA)

**DRAFT SCHEDULE OF THE CONGRESS cont.**

● **Wednesday 7 June**

- 09:30 – 13:30 Regional Meetings NFT (or to be arranged)  
 13:30 Coaches leave NFT for excursion to J Paul Getty Conservation Centre, Berkhamsted – Tour & Evening BBQ hosted by bfi Collections
- 21:30 Last coach leaves Berkhamsted
- Screenings NFT1:*  
 18:30 PINOCCHIO  
 Italy 1911/Dir Julio Antamoro 50mins (CN, Rome & FCI, Milan)  
*Plus:* FLYTENDE UTSTILLING (Floating Exhibition) 29mins (NFI, Oslo)
- 20:45 ELISO  
 USSR 1928/Dir Nikolaj Sengelaja 83mins  
*Plus:* THE LIGHT PENETRATES THE DARK 1930 4mins,  
 ZWEI MINUTEN VON BEDEUTUNG 1937 3mins, and  
 FANTAISIE EROTIQUE 1936 2mins (all NFA, Prague)

● **Thursday 8 June**

- 09:30 General Assembly NFT1  
 12:30 BFI Education Event & Hosted Lunch NFT1, & TV Studio  
 14:30 General Assembly continued NFT1  
 17:30 Close
- Screenings NFT1:*  
 18:30 DUEL IN THE SUN  
 US 1946/Dir King Vidor 138mins (LoC)  
 MAUDITE SOIT LA GUERRE (War Be Damned)  
 France/Belgium 1913-14/Dir Alfred Machin 47mins  
*Plus:* WINDMILLS THAT CHEER & WEEP 1912 7mins;  
 'Cinéma Perdu' 1897-1903 12mins; and 'The Magic Album'  
 1905-1906 20mins (all FM, Amsterdam)

● **Friday 9 June**

- 09:30 General Assembly continued NFT1  
 12:30 Lunch (by invitation) hosted by Granada TV and North West Film Archive LWT Building
- 14:30 General Assembly: Open Forum NFT1  
 17:30 Close of GA  
 17:30-19:00 EC Meeting Delegates' Centre NFT  
 19:00- 22:30 Closing Reception hosted by Andersen Consulting at the Museum of London

**DRAFT SCHEDULE OF THE CONGRESS cont.**

**Friday 9 June cont.**

*Screenings NFT1:*

18:30

THE FLYING DOCTOR

Australia 1936/Dir Miles Mander 70mins (SA, Canberra)

*Plus:* THE KING WITH THE TERRIBLE HICCUPS 1937 6mins (NFTVA) and JERUSALEM MY CITY 1950 14mins (SSJFA, Jerusalem)

20:45

THE DEVIL IS A WOMAN

US 1935/Dir Josef von Sternberg 83mins (UCLA)

*Plus:* THE KING WITH A TERRIBLE TEMPER 1937 6mins (NFTVA)

● **Saturday 10 June**

*Screenings NFT1:*

18:30

THE SPANISH MAIN

US 1945/Dir Frank Borzage 100mins (CS, Lausanne)

20:45

SPELLBOUND

US 1945/Dir Alfred Hitchcock 111mins (LoC)

**END OF CONGRESS**

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