ÖSTERREICHISCHES FILMARCHE
(Archives Autrichiennes du Film - Austrian Film Archive)
1956 - 1957

Report to the 12th F.I.A.F. Congress, Antibes, October 1957

Film Projections

In the past year the Austrian Film Archive was able for the first time to offer film projections to its members. Beginning in a small way, seven shows (once a month) were planned and one extra show was added afterwards. Thus the Archive was able to show its activities to its members and to fulfill the wishes of all interested in film history. This was taken note of by an increasing number of people and commented in the press with satisfaction.

Contact with other countries.

The series of film projections in the past year were made possible only by the most helpful co-operation of member archives of the F.I.A.F. The President and the Committee of the Austrian Film Archive wish to express their sincere thanks in particular to the CINEMATHEQUE FRANCAISE, the CINETECA ITALIANA, the JUGOSLOVENSKA KINOTEKA, the NATIONAL FILM ARCHIVE, and the STATNY FILMOVY ARCHIV, who generously sent films of great value. The immediate task set by our Archive is to provide such duplicate copies as necessary for exchange. We are grateful, however, that other archives have shown so much understanding for our difficult position owing to the short time since the foundation of our archive.

Following the appeal of the F.I.A.F. to provide material for the Exhibition "6 Jahrzehnte Film" in Berlin, the Archive has sent Dokumente, Posters and other material.

Historic Research

The "ÖSTERREICHISCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR FILMWISSENSCHAFT UND FILMWIRTSCHAFT" (SOCIÉTÉ AUTRICHIENNE DES SCIENCES ET DE L'ÉCONOMIE DU CINEMA - AUSTRIAN SOCIETY FOR FILM SCIENCES AND FILM ECONOMY), one of the founding members of the Archive and charged with the management as well, has continued work on the "Small Lexicon of the Austrian Cinema". A short version has already been printed in the "FILMKUNST", Nr.22a (french) and Nr.22b (english).

Two new catalogues of Austrian films since 1946, complete till 1956, have been published as well: "VERZEICHNIS ÖSTERREICHISCHER FILME 1946-1956" ("LES FILMS AUTRICHIENS 1946-1956" - "THE AUSTRIAN FILMS 1946-1956") in a special issue of the journal "FILMKUNST".
Being the representative organisation and closely attached to the Austrian Film Archive, the "Austrian Society for Film Sciences and Film Economy" hopes to continue its work in contact with the B.I.R.H.C.

Relations to Industry

Preliminary contacts with Industry, reported last year, have been widened though no definite result can be shown this year in regard to putting a stop to unnecessary destruction of valuable films. The non-commercial, cultural activity of the archive however has been further taken note of with the result of creating a basis for realistic approach of this problem and some proof of a changed attitude towards our activities has been given.

Catalogue

Examination of existing lists of films has continued in connection with viewing of films.

Plans for the next year

Starting its third year the Austrian Film Archive will continue showing films (once a month). Additional film projections are very likely to be introduced following special demands.

Work on the Catalogue will continue on a larger scale.

As in 1956 the Archive will actively take part in the activities of the big event of film science arranged every second year by the "Austrian Society for Film Sciences and Film Economy". This, the "THIRD INTERNATIONAL FILM RESEARCH WEEK IN VIENNA" will take place in May 28th to June 3rd 1958, at the time of the "Vienna Festival Week".

Films shown by the Austrian Film Archive in the season 1956-1957:

DER TÖPPER Alto Arche, 1907
DER FARMER, 1907
(The first Austrian instructional films)
AMOR PEDESTRE, Marcel Fabre, 1913
CABIRIA, Pascoli, 1914
ASSUNTA SPINA, Gustavo Serena, 1916
SHOULDER ARMS, Charlie Chaplin, 1918
OBERST REDL, Hans Otto, 1925
FILMQUERSCHNITT, 1905-1929
REKA, Josef Rovensky, 1933
BURGTHEATER, Willi Forst, 1936
DRAWINGS THAT WALK AND TALK, Marie Seton, R.H.Frank, 1938
KLEIDER MACHER LEUTE, Helmut Käutner, 1940
FRIEDMANN BACH, Traugott Miller, 1941
CITIZEN KANE, Orson Welles, 1941