

Congress of the FIAF in Stockholm

September 1959

REPORT OF THE YUGOSLAV FILM ARCHIVE

Belgrade



The most important event in the activity of our Film Archive about which we want to inform the Congress is the completion of our vaults for the storage of films. As to the time limit of this completion, our hopes, expressed in the previous yearly Report, have not been fulfilled, so that this work was brought to its end only last month, and in the course of this month we are moving away our film fund to the new depots.

The complementing of our archives was continued also last year. Our film fund was enriched by 200 prints, the library received 265 books, exchanged about 650 copies of periodicals with other film archives and was permanently subscribed on (and exchanged) about 100 periodicals from various countries. The collection of stills was increased by 5.121 photos. We want especially to emphasize the extension of our collaboration in the exchange of stills, which was very fruitful last year. We want to continue with it with all the members of the FIAF. The exchange was practised with the film archives of the following countries: Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Poland, USSR. The total number of exchanged stills was about 4.200.

Our programme in the museums was unusually rich and manifold, thanks to the collaboration and participation of other film archives. All the programmes and the performances of other archives represented



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a first-class cultural event and met an extraordinary big interest from our audiences. The programme of the Scandinavian retrospective would never have been realized without the cordial support and the delivery of films from the part of Filmhistoriska Samlingarna and Det Danske Filmmuseum. The projection of classic Scandinavian films represented a true discovery for our film people, critics and film students in general. Another most important programme was the retrospective of the Czechoslovak film, which enabled us to get a complete view of the development of the Czechoslovak production. Illustrated with a big exposition, this retrospective was one of the most complete and largest programmes shown in our museums. The third programme, the Week of the Polish Film, though short in duration, found also an unusually wide echo and interest among our public.

Our experience has shown that such series with the participation of foreign film archives are very useful for the widening of our public activities and we would like to develop even further, in the future, such a cooperation on this field with the members of the FIAF.

Last season, we have introduced in our museum in Belgrade public conferences held by film critics and directors (with illustrations) on various subjects which were well received and attended by, so that we want to develop this form of activity even more.

The exchange and loan of films was carried on between our Film Archive and those of the following



countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, Sweden, USSR.

Due to the rise of printing costs, our monthly publication "Film danas" was published this year as a three-monthly periodical in a reduced size. We also mimeographed a thesis presented to the Faculty of the Department of Cinema at the University of Southern California: "An Investigation of the Principles, Technique and Significance of 'Montage' in Motion Pictures" by Ramakantha Sarma.

During the last year our Film Archive was visited by Mr. Erik Ulrichsen of the Danish Film Archive, who held a conference on Dreyer, Mr. Wladislaw Banaszkiwicz of the Centralne Archiwum Filmowe and by Mr. Jacques Ledoux of the Belgian Film Archive.

The National Committee BIRHC has held one meeting. For the future development of the research work the main hindrance will be the lack of budgetary funds for the work of historians in some federal republics. We shall try to include this item in the next year budget.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the foundation of our Film Archive. We want to celebrate this occasion with a special programme in our museums in Belgrade and Zagreb, composed of important films loaned from various film archives. This celebration shall represent a real manifestation of the FIAF principles. We are convinced that the members of the FIAF will help us with films. We express our special thanks to the Directors' Committee of the FIAF for taking the patronage over this manifestation.