

ISRAEL FILM ARCHIVE

FIAP CONGRESS BELGRADE 1963

We have devoted this year all our activities to the tracing and acquisition of films made in Palestine and Israel. By way of press advertisements and contact with all people connected with films, we managed to acquire a great deal of material beginning with a series of short films made in 1912-1914 for an English Company "THE WORLD BEFORE YOU", of invaluable documentary value.

Between others, the first feature film made in 1933 - ODED NODED- a children's film which every Israeli around forty remembers with nostalgia. The negative of the film is lost, and we made a dupe negative from the only existing working copy of the director which he donated to the archive. This gave quite a lot of favourable publicity. Messrs. W. Van Leer and Y. Malkin took part in a radio program devoted to the subject of films and the problem of their acquisition.

Other acquisitions:-

ONCE UPON A TIME	1933	ADAMAH	1945
LAND OF PROMISE	1934	HOUSE IN THE DESERT	1947
THE ILLEGALS	1948	TENT CITY	1951
OUT OF EVIL	1952	THE BIG SALE	1960
SEARCH OF THE PAST	1961	NAHALAL	1961
DEAD SEA	1961	DAY INTO NIGHT	1962
YEARS OF DESTINY	1962	ASHDOD	1962
BREAK OF DAY	1957	AS LONG AS I LIVE	1962

Most of the films demand a lot of restorative work, some of the negatives are lost and we are having dupe negatives made.

We have established excellent relations with various government departments connected with films; the Jewish Agency, the Keren Kayemeth who have given us documentary films made by them as permanent deposits, the Government Information Office who gave us a gift of 30 short films.

We have also acquired a number of films in Jidish, in very poor condition:

MENAHM MENDL DER SHADCHEN Russia 1925  
(EVREISKOE STCHASTIE ?)  
GREENE FELDER  
MIRELE EFROS  
TUVIA THE MILKMAN  
THE CANTOR FROM VILNA

These films have no generique, and we would appreciate it if any archive who knows any particulars about them would communicate with us.



We are receiving from the Nederlands Filmmuseum SABBATH, DER EWIGE JUDE, JIDL MIT'N FIDL, but regret to say that apart from the generous help of the Nederlands Filmmuseum which we acknowledge with gratitude, no other archive has answered our requests for exchange or loan, and we wish to stress again that small and out of the way archives will never be able to enrich their collections unless helped by other members. We therefore hope that the committee set up by Mr. Pogacic on the subject of exchange of films will help solve this problem.

The archive continues publication of the monthly OMANUT HAKOLNOA. The archive has commissioned the film critic Ram Evron to write the History of the Cinema in Israel and Palestine, since no such critical or reference work exists at present.

The archive still has no building of its own but rents office space and air-conditioned store space.

The archive continues its film club and lecture activities.

During the French Cinema Week in Israel, we ran a series a French films from the archive and arranged a meeting between Truffaut and René Clair with young Israeli film makers, the discussion was recorded on tape, as was the lecture of René Clair on the French Cinema.

The archive is taking part in a seminar for scriptwriters which will last three months and during which a series of films from the archive will be shown and studied.

The archive has sent the film FISHERMEN OF JAFFA (Perlov) to the FIAF Pool.

Mr. W. Van Leer as president of the archive has been elected by the Minister of Education to sit on the Arts Council of Israel.

Finally, the Director of the State Archive came to inspect our film storage facilities, activities, budgeting, administration, which he found to his satisfaction, and the Archive has been granted state recognition as the official public film archive of Israel.