

J a h r e s b e r i c h t

des Staatlichen Filmarchivs der
Deutschen Demokratischen Republik

für das Jahrbuch der FIAF

I. DATEN

1. Staatliches Filmarchiv der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik
2. Direktion: Berlin W 8, Kronenstraße 10
3. gegründet: November 1955
4. als: Institution der Regierung
5. Direktor: Herbert Volkmann
Leitung der wissenschaftlichen Abteilung und des Bereichs Spielfilm: Wolfgang Klau e
Leitung des Bereichs Nichtspielfilm: Elisabeth Manthey
Leitung des Bereichs Sammlung: Herbert Wiemer
Leitung der Abteilung Technik: Herbert Merkel
Leitung der Propagierung durch das Archivfilmtheater und Filmclubs: Rudolf Freund

II. Report about the activities of the Government Film Archives of the GDR in the year 1963

Within the national compass, the activities of the Government Film Archives concentrated, above all, on the following salient points:

1. Technical problems

In 1963 the project of a new film depot to be executed according to the last scientific notions about the storage of films was completed, and a decision has been brought about as to starting the construction in the year 1964.

The new buildings will comprise air-conditioned storehouses for 800 t of films, one printing department, chemical laboratory equipment for examining and restoring films, and facilities for the projection. The first storehouses are going to be occupied at the end of 1965, and the whole project will be completed in 1966.

The technical equipment of the archives has been perfected by completing the construction of a film cleaning machine using supersonic waves in our own machine shop. At present it is subjected to running-in tests.

This machine will substantially improve the cleaning of the film material, especially by excluding the possibility of mechanical injuries of the coating during the processing operation.

Most of the rewinders, man-operated up to now, have been rebuilt for electric drive. Another depot of the Government Film Archives has been equipped with a central air-conditioning installation. This installation has been put into operation already.

For preserving the stocks of films, about 7 million meters of films have been examined as to their physical condition; about 580.000 meters of films were copied in order to safeguard their preservation, and about 520.000 meters of films were washed and cleaned.

2. Enlargement and systematization of the inventory

The film collection of the archives has been enlarged constantly by taking over the national production, and by exchange with other archives.

Substantially enlarged has been the collection of photographs by the generous cession of film-photos of German production by the Jugoslovenska Kinoteka.

Joris IVERS transferred to the Government Film Archives his private archives consisting of documents, critiques, documents concerning his films, etc. for keeping and continual enlargement. In compliance with his wish two complete collections consisting partly of originals, partly of copies, will be created, one of them for the Government Archives of the GDR, and the other for the Stichting Nederlands Filmmuseum at Amsterdam.

Although being continued systematically, the incorporation of the collections has not been completed finally on account of the large quantity of the film material at hand.

3. The spreading of film culture

At the beginning of the year 1963, the moving picture theater "CAMERA" has been opened in the centre of Berlin as Archives' Cinema. This theater has 250 seats and is giving daily three performances. Admission is granted only to the members of a visitors organization. In 1963 we have counted about 100,000 visitors, and the total number of films projected was 245.

Together with the archives in Warsaw, Prague, and Copenhagen we have carried through Weeks of the Polish, Czechoslovenian, and Danish Film.

A monthly programme is issued for the theater.

Up to now we have

published: 39 printed introductions containing comments
on more than 70 films, and
recorded on sound tape: 30 introductions to films.

In the first year of its existence the theater has developed into a centre for the promulgation of film culture in the capital of the GDR.

The cooperation with the 180 film clubs in the GDR has been continued. Archives' films were supplied for 1878 club performances. In order to raise the level of the work done by the film clubs, a first central work conference has been carried through on the initiative of the archives, which elected a central management for the film club movement.

In 1963 the Government Film Archives have participated at Dresden in a great exhibition about the topic "Film, radio, photo, television". Within the scope of this exhibition the Archives have shaped the entire Film Department, with an exhibition area of about 1000 m², and within the limits of this exhibition Archives' films were projected daily. The exhibition had about 75 000 visitors.

In addition the Government Film Archives have carried through several smaller exhibitions.

4. International activities

Under the sponsorship of the FIAP the Government Film Archives of the GDR carried through a retrospect on the work of Joris Ivens on the occasion of the 65th return of his birthday during the VI. International Week of the Documentary and Short Film at Leipzig. The performance concluded with the bestowal of a number of state honours upon JORIS IVENS.

In connection with the retrospect has been published a book containing an abundance of contemporary documents relating to the films of Ivens as well as 45 original contributions of his fellow-workers and distinguished histo-

riens of the film in addition to theoretical treatises by IVERNS, a filmography, and a biography.

Within the compass of the retrospect took place an international colloquy about the work of Ivens, in which, besides the president of the FIAPF, Prof. dr. Jerzy TOSPLITZ, spoke, among others:

Jay LEYDA	Jan de VAAL
Prof. Sergij JUTKEWITSCH	Marion MICHELL
Catherine DUNCAN	Prof. Lubomir LINHARD
Henri STORCK	Abraham ZALMAN

On the occasion of the retrospect the Government Film Archives had invited the members of the Commission of Historians to come to Leipzig for a meeting. The Commission has held a work session.

The book on Film Preservation has been published by order of the Preservation Committee of the FIAPF and distributed to the archives in the german version. This work summarizes the scientific-theoretical knowledge as it stands today as well as practical experiences in the work of the archivists.

Co-workers of the archives have visited in 1963 the archives in

Beograd	Prague
Budapest	Sofia
Moscow	Warsaw
Belgium	Canada
Brazil	Poland
Bulgaria	Roumania
CSSR	USSR
England	Sweden
France	Switzerland
Netherlands	South Africa
Israel	Hungary
Italy	USA

We are hoping that this very lively communication and interchange of views will also continue in the future.

III. STATISTICAL DATA

A. Material in your collection

- 1) What is the total number of films in your collection? till now about 26 000 titles
- How many films did you acquire in 1963? 250 featurefilms
200 nonfeature films
- 2) Total number of photographs in your collection? 89 323
- Number acquired in 1963? 61 212
- 3) Total number of books in your collection 1 370
- Number acquired in 1963? 76
- 4) Total number of posters in your collection 6 053
- Number acquired in 1963? 1 476
- 5) Other objects of which you have an important collection, apparatus, music scores, etc. apparatus of all kinds

B. Exchanges, Projections & Publications 1963

- 1) Number of films exchanged with other members:
- a. Temporary Loan - Borrowed 57 Loaned 81
- b. Indefinite Loan- Borrowed 18 Loaned 13
- 2) Number of films furnished to Film Clubs or other institutions in your country
- (schools, universities): 1 878
- Approximate number of projections 2 443
- Approx. total of spectators 120 000
- 3) Number of projections you organized in your own theatre or under direct supervision of your archive:
- about 1.500
- Approximate number of spectators ca. 120 000

4) Number of conferences, seminars
(where film projections are secondary): 2

Plus the total number of participants 250

5) Number of publications edited by your archive:

a. Books and booklets 2 Explanatory notes 51

b. Posters 30
