

REPORT FROM THE F.I.A.F. PROGRAMMING COMMISSION

PRESENTED IN JERUSALEM

(November 1991)

The Commission meeting held in Pordenone on October 21st and 22nd, 1991- after the celebration of the X GIORNATE DEL CINEMA MUTO- was attended by João Bénard da Costa (Chairman), Paolo Cherchi Usai, Gabrielle Claes, Catherine Gautier, Enno Patalas and Steven Ricci. Unfortunately, Manuel Martínez Carril had to leave Pordenone on 20th October. However, he did exchange some views and ideas about the Montevideo Symposium with J. Bénard da Costa and C. Gautier before the formal meeting took place. As one of the main issues of this 2nd meeting of the Commission was the preparation of the program Symposium, all the assistants deeply regretted the absence of Manuel M. Carril and did their best to take into account the draft of proposals he submitted to the E.C. in Athens. An active participation of the Commission was unanimously approved and concrete proposals were raised during the meeting. Manuel M. Carril was informed of the Commission suggestions by C. Gautier in Madrid and through the President by fax.

ACTIVITIES AND RELATED PROJECTS UNDER DISCUSSION2.- PREPARATION FOR THE MONTEVIDEO SYMPOSIUM

The main concern of the Commission was how to integrate and focus the extremely broad scope of attractive and interesting issues submitted by Manuel M. Carril into a one and a half day symposium around the programming and cultural uses of film archives. The Commission was also of the opinion that this symposium would be a good opportunity to stress the peculiarities of Latin American archives and to explore new ways of mutual comprehension and rapprochement, bringing together a variety of experiments and practices. The Commission then proposed to devote half a day to the Latin American situation, under the expertise and coordination of Manuel M. Carril. The organization of the remaining program could be left to the care of the Commission and be structured with the following issues:

a) Peculiarities of the Programming of Film Archives: a comparative study of different practices and the role of the F.I.A.F. Programming Commission (Paper introduced by Joao Bénard da Costa, President of the Commission).

b) Legal aspects related to programming activities (to be presented in a paper by Wolfgang Klaue). The Commission would encourage Manuel M. Carril's preliminary request to W. Kaue and will contact him shortly. W. Klaue's general exposition would be followed by a debate between himself and 3 other participants (if possible, David Francis, Gabrielle Claes and a Latin American colleague), leading to an open and active exchange of views among the assistants.

c) An Introduction to Access Guidelines for cultural uses, by Paolo Cherchi Usai. A draft proposal "F.I.A.F. COLLECTIONS AND THEIR USE.." was submitted by P. Cherchi Usai to the members of the Commission in Pordenone (See. Par. 3).

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d) Relationship between Programming and Preservation activities (extendable to Relationship between Access and Preservation activities).

A debate would be conducted by Gabrielle Claes and other participants (if possible, Enno Patalas, David Meeker or Elaine Burrows) to determine and stress the positive role of programming and access policies in connection with acquisition and preservation priorities.

e) Technical aspects. An introduction to technical standards for the projection and presentation of moving images by Clyde Jeavons with the participation of Peter Konlechner and Jean-Pierre Verscheure (who had been invited by Manuel M. Carril in Athens). This issue will be discussed in Jerusalem with Henning Schou, President of the Preservation Commission.

The composition of the program proposed by the Commission for Montevideo is also intended to be discussed during the E.C. meeting in Jerusalem.

2.- PUBLICATION OF A MANUAL OF TECHNICAL STANDARDS

The programming Commission is planning to work on this project with the Preservation Commission and recommends its completion for 1993. A basic chapter of the manual draft could be presented in Montevideo. The Commission accepted Clyde Jeavons' proposal of drawing up a draft of standards for correct projection. The expertise of Jean-Pierre Verscheure (sound and colour systems, gauges, etc...), Peter Konlechner (types of projection machines and equipment) and the S.M.P.E. (Society for Motion Picture Engineers) would be also requested for this project.

3.- PUBLICATION OF ACCESS POLICY GUIDELINES FOR CULTURAL USES

As for the manual of technical standards, the Commission wishes to present a basic draft of these guidelines on the occasion of the Montevideo Symposium, under the coordination of Paolo Cherchi Usai and will re-examine other members' remarks on this issue during the next meeting of the Commission (probably in February 1992).

4.- RELATIONSHIP TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

As Steven Ricci proposed to form a working group within FIAF for discussing the relationship between Film Archives and Film Schools, the Commission agreed that one member of the Programming and Cultural Uses Commission should be in charge of the project and work with outside experts.

As for the two above mentioned projects, the first meeting of the Commission's working group on Archives and Film Education could be placed within the Montevideo Symposium schedule.

5.- JOINT PROJECTS WITH THE DOCUMENTATION AND CATALOGUING COMMISSIONS

The President of the Programming Commission will formally request the expertise and advice the President of the Documentation Commission for the preparation of a selective bibliography of books and documents relevant to programming and access tasks (viewing and circulating prints catalogues, lists of "best films", archive and Festivals catalogues index, etc.), and from the President of the Cataloguing Commission for the realization of a register of "missing films".

The Programming Commission would also welcome suggestions from other F.I.A.F. Commissions for any other joint projects.

6.- SURVEY ON THE PROGRAMMING AND CULTURAL USES ACTIVITIES

A letter proposed by João Bénard da Costa will be mailed to all archives in 1991 (to each Archive's director and if possible to each head of the existing Programming and Access Depts.) - enclosing a questionnaire relating to the Commission's most pressing concerns. If necessary the 1982 Toulouse Questionnaire can be up-dated or answered by new archives.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMISSION WORK IN THE NEXT FUTURE

The Commission unanimously agreed upon the urgent need for a Secretary to coordinate the work and to improve communication among members. Catherine Gautier accepted this responsibility for one year. Steven Ricci also offered assistance to the Secretary for the presentation and printing of circulating documents.

As the main task of the Commission for the near future is the preparation of the Montevideo Symposium in April 1992, the President is considering the possibility of holding the next Commission meeting in February 92, on the occasion of the Berlin Film Festival. The non-European members pointed out that extra funds would have to be obtained for their travel expenses.

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PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION