

REPORT OF THE DOCUMENTATION COMMISSION

The commission met at Schaeffergarden, outside Copenhagen, 12-14 August 1977. Staying costs were provided by FIAF, and the arrangements were made by Karen Jones and Det Danske Filmmuseum. All members attended, together with two observers who formerly were members, Michael Moulds of London and Anne Schlosser of the American Film Institute, and all stayed on to help with the FIAF Summer School on Documentation.

The commission worked on the teaching plan and the program for the Summer School. The report which was made on the International Index to Film Periodicals appeared in the latest FIAF Bulletin, and as we hope to have a more up-to-date report in time for the present meeting, it is not included in this written report.

Other projects discussed:

1. The Classification of Film Literature. The completed scheme by Michael Moulds was submitted, and the commission decided to adopt it as a recommendation. It will be sent out to FIAF members in the very near future. A subcommission meeting will be held in Amsterdam in February, to complete the last details: an introduction, the integration of the television scheme, and an alternate simplified version for small libraries. Meanwhile, the scheme was presented at the Summer School as a FIAF recommendation. The commission wishes to ask the Executive Committee whether it may explore the question of publication with a commercial publisher.
2. The International Directory of Set and Costume Designers. The subcommission working on this project met in Rome in October 1976, and completed Volume I, which has been sent out and should have been received by all archives now. The commission wishes to ask the Executive Committee whether 100 copies may be made available for sale outside FIAF, and whether 30 copies may be sold in the DDR, at a price of 9 marks, the remainder to be sold from the Secretariat. Volume II, covering the set and costume designers of France and Finland, should be ready to send out to FIAF at the present time. The subcommission has been invited to meet in Vienna, by Dr. Walter Fritz, to work on the designers of Austria and Germany, for Volume III.
3. FIAF Directory of Film and TV Documentation Sources. The first printing of 100 copies was reported to be exhausted. The commission decided to prepare a new edition. It was felt that libraries specializing in film and television outside FIAF should be included, and that the publication should be available to nonFIAF members. The commission wishes to ask the Executive Committee to approve the expansion of this project outside of FIAF.

The commission also discussed the Guidelines for collecting, cataloguing, filing and preserving film posters; the draft glossary of filmographic terms (project of the Cataloguing Commission); the draft chapter on documentation for the Basic Manual; the international index to books on cinema; the coordinated list of unpublished script holdings; the international directory to dissertations on cinema; compilation of libraries' special subject bibliographies.

A further topic was discussed during the Summer School: the methods by which colleagues working in documentation departments could exchange experiences and share tasks on an international level. Two possible steps were discussed: 1) establishing a mailing list of all the colleagues which could be kept at the FIAF Secretariat: such information as acquisition lists and materials for exchange would be sent to the Secretariat for mailing to all colleagues in documentation departments; 2) using the FIAF Bulletin as a medium for exchanging specialized information, in which case it

would be essential that the Bulletin be circulated within the archive to documentation departments. The commission wishes to ask the Executive Committee whether it would be permissible to use the services of the Secretariat in this way, and also what were the possibilities of having the second copy of the Bulletin which is sent to archives mailed to the head of the documentation departments. A mailing list of colleagues working in documentation departments of FIAF is already being established by one of the participants in the Summer School.

The commission plans to hold one or two subcommission meetings during 1978, which may require some very small financial assistance from FIAF. It is probable that a full commission meeting will be held in 1979, but none is foreseen for 1978.

- Eileen Bowser