

REPORT FROM THE DOCUMENTATION COMMISSION
FIAF CONGRESS - MAY 1978 - BRIGHTON

The commission met in Copenhagen, August 12-14, 1977, in the days prior to the Summer School on Documentation, in which all members participated as instructors. The sub-groups working on the International Index to Film Periodicals, the Classification of Film Literature, and The International Directory of Set and Costume Designers also held meetings during the year.

The following projects are underway:

1. The International Index to Film Periodicals. The 1976 volume, completed more than a year ago, has been delayed in publication to June 1978. The work for the 1977 volume has been delivered to the publishers and is scheduled for publication in October 1978. The former publisher, Bowker, is ceasing the sale of the first two volumes (1972 and 1973). A portion of the remaining stock will be purchased by the present publishers in order that these volumes will still be available for some time to come. The P.I.P. itself, however, is in grave danger of not surviving beyond this year. The FIAF Executive Committee came to the conclusion that FIAF could not afford to continue to support it indefinitely at its current rate of expenses, and has asked the Documentation Commission to find ways either to reduce the expenses or increase the income, or to end the project in 1979. The sub-group for the P.I.P. will meet in London just prior to this Congress, and is expected to present some proposals to the general meeting.
2. The Classification of Film Literature. The commission has accepted the classification scheme developed by Michael Moulds, and decided to make it a recommendation. The scheme was studied in the Summer School on Documentation, and is now in the final stages of preparation to send it out to all FIAF members. The commission wishes to express its thanks to Michael Moulds for all his work, especially as he continued to work on the project long after he left the commission as member, and no longer had any connection with FIAF.
3. The International Directory of Set and Costume Designers. Volume I of this project has been published and sent out to all FIAF members. Work is nearly completed on Volume II, to cover the designers of France and Finland, and is continuing on Volume III, to cover the designers of Germany until 1945 and Austria up to the present.
4. Coordinated List of Unpublished Script Holdings. A questionnaire was sent to all members during the year, and a substantial number of them agreed to participate in this project. The work already received in Wiesbaden is now being evaluated. We wish to remind any members that have not yet supplied their materials that they should do so at as early a date as possible. However, if for some reason some archives were not able to participate this year, the commission would be glad to receive additional materials even at a later date.
5. FIAF Directory of Film and TV Documentation Sources. The first printing of this publication is no longer available. The commission has undertaken to provide a new, revised edition, which will include sources outside of FIAF and will be available to the public at large, as a service to film scholarship.

The following projects have been discussed:

1. Guidelines for collecting, cataloguing, filing and preserving film posters. Some preliminary work has been done on this project, which is intended to be a

a revision and expansion of the former publication on posters by the Nederlands Filmmuseum.

2. The international index to books on cinema proposed to the commission by the last Congress was examined in detail by the commission, but we have been unable to find the practical means for carrying this out at the present time.

3. The international index to dissertations on cinema, proposed at the Congress in Mexico, was discussed, but further research is needed by the commission before any decision can be taken on this project.

4. The commission is working on plans for an exchange and possible compilation of libraries' special subject bibliographies in cinema.

No plans have been made for a full commission meeting in 1978.

- Eileen Bowser

Members of the Documentation Commission:

Eileen Bowser, Department of Film, The Museum of Modern Art (President)
Brenda Davies, Documentation Department, British Film Institute (for the
National Film Archive)
Karen Jones, Det Danske Filmmuseum (Vice-President)
Alfred Krautz, Staatliches Filmarchiv der DDR
John Luijckx, Nederlands Filmmuseum
Aura Puran, Arhiva Nationale de Filme
Eberhard Spiess, Deutsches Institut für Filmkunde
Milka Staykova, Bulgarska Nacionalna Filmoteka
Frances Thorpe, Editor, International Index to Film Periodicals