

December 3rd, 1962

Mr. A. J. ROLAND
Cinemateca Argentina
Corrientes 1296 Esc. 97
Buenos Aires

Dear Mr. Roland,

At our last meeting of the Executive Committee in Geneva we have discussed again the situation of film archives in Latin America. It has been established that the Latin American Section of F.I.A.F. has practically ceased to exist for the last few years, and there is no point in pretending any longer that this body is functioning. We find it essential to analyse carefully the situation in Latin America and to establish a system of help for the Latin American archives which will bring real and effective results.

Naturally such an analysis and such discussions cannot take place in your absence and in writing you I address all the four important Latin American archives, i.e. Cinemateca Argentina, Cinemateca Brasileira, Cinemateca Uruguay and S.O.D.R.E. It would also be extremely useful to have at this discussion three other Latin American members - Colombia, Chili and Venezuela. And in addition, a representative from the F.I.A.F. Executive Committee fully authorized by us should take part in the conference.

I regret very much that during my Latin American visit two years ago, I could not meet in Mar del Plata the representatives of other film archives and also that my suggestions about submitting to us in Europe a plan for the revival of the Latin American Section did not produce any practical results. I regret also that neither at our Amsterdam or Budapest Congresses, nor in Rome, did we have among us Mr. Hintz, Mr. Sales Gomes, Mr. Trelles or yourself.

I am of the opinion that to tolerate any longer the unclear and inconvenient situation for both "sides", F.I.A.F. Headquarters in Europe and the Archives in Latin America would be harmful. Therefore I turn towards you to help me in organizing during the next Festival in Mar del Plata the meeting of Latin American archives with a delegate from the Executive Committee of F.I.A.F.

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President Jerzy TOEPLITZ to Mr. ROLAND - 2

I ma taking this liberty because I believe that you are able, being in close contact with the direction of the Festival, to arrange for one of the members of the Executive Committee (I leave the choice to you) to be a member of the official Jury or the Jury of the Critics and in this way to have his traveling expenses paid. Moreover, in one of your reports sent to the Congress of F.I.A.F. you spoke about your intention or organizing in Argentine a F.I.A.F. conference of film archives.

I hope you will be successful in arranging this conference, even on a limited scale, with the representatives of the 7 Latin American Archives plus one person from Europe.

Looking forward to have your reply soon,

and with best regards,

Yours very sincerely,

The President
of the International Federation
of Film Archives

(signed)

Jerzy T O E P L I T Z

P.S. I allow myself to send a copy of
this letter to Messrs Hintz, Sales Gomes
and Trelles.