

REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE FILMOTECA

UNAM DURING 1981.

THE YEAR'S ACQUISITIONS:

215 film titles, among which worth mentioning are:  
4 titles, retrospective of the work of the Argentinian film director Fernando Birri, with non-commercial exhibition rights.  
1,727 photo 'montages'.  
27,500 stills.  
20 important films were acquired in exchange operations from 8 foreign archives, including:  
"Tabu" by Murnau  
"Louisiana History" by Flaberty  
"From Midday to Midnight" by K.H. Martin, a film of the German Expressionist movement.

RESCUE OPERATIONS:

One silent documentary film dated 1923 made in Metepec, Puebla.  
A fragment of an animated cartoon, made by Emile Cool, one of the World's great pioneers in cartoon films.  
2 films by Miguel Contreras Torres, pioneer of Mexican sound cinema.

DONATIONS:

A film made in Mexico in 1897, made by the representatives of Lumiere. Given by the Cineteca Nazionale Roma.  
The donation of a 35 mm, 16 mm reduction Debrise Matypo printer, from the National Film Archive, of England.  
The donation of 200 photo 'montages' for advertising Mexican and foreign films, from the Film Library in Puebla, Pue.  
The Carlos Chávez Donation, including photographs concerning the life and work of this eminent Mexican musician, films, recordings, videotapes, records, recordplayers, etc.

ACQUISITIONS FOR THE MUSEUM COLLECTION:

(Antique cinematographic equipment)  
Photographic camera Kodak No. 3-A Autographic Model C. with Kodak Anastamatic Lens F. 7.7 de 170 mm.  
1 Graphoscope for stereoscopic views (Circa, 1885) made in Switzerland.  
1 Excel 16 mm. Projector.  
1 Pathe Projector post 1904.

PROGRESS IN THE FIELD OF PRESERVATION:

The Filmoteca of the UNAM has elaborated an agreement with the Centre of Computer Services attached to the University, by means of which technical records of films belonging to the Filmoteca can be processed. These records are produced by the Filmoteca Technical Department. The first 100 of these technical cards have already been delivered for processing and the following computerized data have been obtained: original title, title in Mexico, collocation.  
The Filmoteca Technical Department has also carried out the following tasks:

Laboratory Work:

The internegatives and positives of 275 titles have been obtained, plus 50 titles for the archive.

1,115 rolls of 305 metres of nitrate material were checked and cleaned, and then stored in a refrigerated storeroom, in tins of 610 metres (6,000 feet)

69 titles were checked by way of direct audiovisual revision, eliminating starts and tails and forming them into adequate modules of a standard length.

4,000 copies and 2,560,930.84 metres in 16 mm. acetate material were checked and restored where necessary (material for distribution).

TECHNICAL DATA:

647 technical record cards were made via direct vision.

151 records passed into printed forms.

55 records of film conditions.

CATALOGUING - DOCUMENTATION:

Our Department of Documentation and Information also participates in the agreement on computerization, by which method records will be processed of Mexican films shown commercially both in cinemas and on television in Mexico.

One area of this Department, the Section of Graphic Documentation, received in 1981 a strong stimulus to its development with the incorporation of specialized personnel and the establishment of a new system of cataloguing and of recording newspaper material, which will permit all those interested in national and world cinema, prompt and efficient access to all available information.

Thus, the Department of Documentation and Information continues:

...Putting in order and cataloguing national and international publications whether specialized or not, referring in any way to films.

...Analyzing and selecting from nine of the most important daily newspapers circulating in Mexico City, all reference to 'movies' -articles, essays, commentaries, criticism, notes, film advertising, etc.- to be filed according to a schedule, including Mexican and foreign films.

...Elaborating records of films available for loan and exhibition owned by the Filmoteca of the UNAM, in order to draw up a catalogue ordered in cycles.

...Elaborating the recording and synopses of the arguments of Mexican films shown commercially in cinemas and television, to amplify the documentation of the History of Cinema.

...Preparing material to be used in the elaboration of the CIDUCAL Bulletin (Centre of Information and Documentation of the Union of Cinema Institutes of Latin American), which contains any interesting information on documentation, preservation, archives and cataloguing, obtained from original and translation works.

The Fototeca Department is still working on the identification of stills in the possession of the Filmoteca, and in 1981 those stills corresponding to national and American films of 1931-1975 were classified and catalogued.

The Library of our Institution which has integrated a series of volumes and specialized magazines making up bibliographic material of great value and interest, has been offering its services to all those interested in cinema, since the end of last year.

RESEARCH:

The Filmoteca of the UNAM is sponsoring the following research progra

Also, a series of cycles was shown in INFONAVIT, SECOM and CONALEP.

EXHIBITIONS:

- "Vida y Obra del Maestro Carlos Chávez" (The life and Work of Carlos Chávez) - a photographic exhibition.
- "Testimonios Zapatistas" (Testimonies of Zapata) - a photographic exhibition.
- "El Nacimiento del Cine" (The Birth of Cinema) - an exhibition mounted on three occasions, with posters, publicity and cinema apparatus, dating from the beginnings of the film industry.
- "50 Years on from Eisentesin's stay in Mexico" - a photographic exhibition.

PUBLICATIONS:

- At the end of 1980 the Filmoteca of the UNAM published the following titles, which were distributed starting January 1981.
- The first three titles in the collection "Documents of the Filmoteca"
- ... "Notas para la Historia del Cine Mexicano" (Notes for the History of Cinema in Mexico) Volumen I and II by Helena Almoyna Fidalgo.
  - ... "Cartelera Cinematografica 1930-1939" (Cinematographic Billboards 1930-1939) by Mária Luisa Amador y Jorge Ayala Blanco.
  - ... "Cine Yucateco" (Cinema in Yucatan), by Gabriel Ramírez.

Leaflets:

- ... "Las Primeras Películas Sonoras del Cine Mexicano" (The first Sound Films of Mexican Cinema.)
- ... "La vuelta a Buñuel en sus 80 años" (The come back to Buñuel at his 80 years)
- ... "Cine Mexicano de los Treintas" (Mexican Cinema in the Thirties)
- ... "Fuera de Aquí" (Get out of here) - a booklet written by the Ukamau Group of Bolivia, referring to the film of the same name, made by the exiled Bolivian Film director, Jorge Sanjinés.

In 1981, the following titles were published:

- ... No. 1 of the Collection "Textos Breves de la Filmoteca" (Brief Texts of the Filmoteca) - "Manual de Cine Super 8", by Germán J. Carreño. ( Super 8 Cinema Manual)
- ... The CIDUCAL Bulletin No. 2 (Second Epoch)
- ... The Manual for Film Archives, which has already been edited by FIAF, and which the Filmoteca translated for its publication as CIDUCAL Bulletin No. 3
- ... The Film Library Magazine 2/3 on Scientific Films.
- ... The leaflet "North American Silent Movie Classics"
- ... The leaflet "Seven Decades of Mexican Cinema"
- ... The Leaflet "Georges Melies"
- ... Film Library pages No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
- ... The publication of 200 copies each of 12 posters

Ready for Publication:

- "A diez años de hacia un tercer cine" (Ten years after towards a third Cinema)
- ... No. 4 of the Collection "Filmoteca Documents" - "An Image around the World", by Julio García E.
  - ... No. 5 of the Collection "Filmoteca Documents" - "El Régimen Jurídico de la Industria Cinematográfica Nacional" (The legal System within the National Film Industry) by Lic. Virgilio Anduiza Valde

mmes:

- ...The Bibliography of Mexican Cinema, by Helena Almoína Fidalgo.
- ...Cinema in Puebla, by Fernando Osorio.
- ...Norman Foster and the Others, by Gabriel Ramírez.
- ...A graphic History of Mexican Cinema, by Paco Ignacio Taibo.
- ...Cinematographic Legislation in Mexico, by Erika Domínguez and Gustavo Crooker.
- ...History of Mexican Cinema, 1917-1970, by Enrique Solórzano.
- ...Mexican Documentary Cinema, by Manuel Michel.
- ...North American Silent Cinema in Mexico, by Enrique Solórzano.

EXHIBITIONS:

The Filmoteca of the UNAM offers its services of loans, distribution and programming of films to various private organisms, including university institutions in the Mexican Republic. Also, approximately 70% of the films programmed for student university film clubs and those programmed by the Department of Cinematographic Activities of the UNAM, belong to the stock of this Filmoteca.

Thus, in 1981: 3,064 copies were loaned.

601 copies were sent abroad.

341 projections were made

430 institutions included our films in their programmes.

PROJECTIONS ABROAD:

Two cycles of Mexican cinema and one of Latin American cinema were sent for projection to Extension Cultural UNAM/SRE in the City of San Antonio, Texas.

A cycle of Mexican independent films, composed by 19 feature and - short films to be projected through the Nicaragua Television.

For didactic purposes, a cycle on Cinema and the Mexican Revolution was shown in the American Universities of Boulder and Denver, Colorado; and another on Mexican Cinema in the University of Warsaw, Poland. The Press and Foreign Book Club of the Centre for the Study of Foreign Languages.

A series of short films on Mexican Art was exhibited in the Georges Pompidou Cultural Centre, as part of the Mexican Cultural Activities in Paris, France.

A cycle of Mexican Cinema is being shown alternately in Paris, Austria and Bern.

The cycles "Seven Decades of Mexican Cinema" and "The Beginnings of Mexican Sound Cinema" were projected in seven film Archives of Central and South America, presented and commented by two well-known Mexican critics, collaborators of our Institution.

PROJECTIONS IN MEXICO:

The cycle "Georges Melies" was shown in the Medical Centre of University City.

In collaboration with the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the cycle "North American Silent Movie Classics" was shown in the CADAC (Centre of Dramatic Art).

The cycle "Eisenstein in Mexico" was presented at the Radio Station of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.

The cycle "Mexican Cinema of the Thirties, 1933-1934" was shown in the University Medical Centre.

mar.

...No. 4 of the Filmoteca Magazine, dedicated to Latin American Documentary Films.

BUDGET:

In 1981 the budget of the Filmoteca of the UNAM was increased 66% in relation to the year before.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS:

Different collaborators of the Filmoteca accomplished working visits to:

- ...The London National Film Archive.
- ...The Film Department of the Imperial War Museum in London.
- ...Det Danske Filmuseum, in Denmark.
- ...Staatliches Filmarchiv der D.D.R., of East Germany.
- ...Services des Archives du Film du Centre National of the Cinematographie, in France.
- ...Film Archives in France, Colombia and Ecuador.

ATTENDANCES AND PARTICIPATIONS:

- ...FIAF Workshop on Classification and Cataloguing of Film and Television Literature, in Madrid, Spain.
- ...Meeting of World Cinema History in Varna, Bulgaria and Turin, Italy.
- ...Attendance to the Georges Melies Congress, France.
- ...Attendance to the Wild Life Makers, in Bath, England.
- ...Attendance to the Meeting of Scientific Cinema, in Berlin.
- ...Participation in the Second International Festival of Super 8 Cinema, in Montreal, Canada.
- ...Participation in the Sixth International Festival of New Cinema in Super 8, in Caracas, Venezuela.
- ...Attendance to the XXXVII General Assembly of the International Federation of Film Archives (FIAF), in Rapallo, Italy.
- ...Participation in the Seminar on the Cinema of the White Telephones (FIAF), in Rapallo, Italy.
- ...Participation as member of the jury in the Festival of Documentary and short Films in Leipzig, Germany.
- ...Attendance to the Executive Committee Meeting of CILECT, in Lausanne, Switzerland.
- ...Attendance to the General Assembly of the International Association of Scientific Films (ISFA) in Bath, England.
- ...Participation in the International Festival of Super 8 Cinema in Cali, Colombia.
- ...Meetings with Ecuadorian film-makers in Quito-Ecuador.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Among the relevant activities organized by the Filmoteca of the UNAM in 1981 related to research, teaching and diffusion of sciences, the most important is the "First International Meeting on Cinema and Education", which was effected with the aim in the first place, of finding out existing experiences in our country and abroad, of the Cinema applied to education as one of the most outstanding resources difficult to obtain through other channels which also contribute to the strengthening of culture. Secondly, to increase our film reserve created and employed for educational purposes. Thus, representatives from Sweden, England, France, Cuba, Nicaragua, Brazil, Argentina and Mexico,

participated in this event exchanging experiences of institutions or - - groups of people who have encountered the way or who are beginning to - undertake the task to succeed in diffusing knowledge at all levels, adapting cinema to education, as the ideal teachers support.

Another special event was the celebration of Scientific Film Activities of the Netherlands, accomplished by the Filmoteca of the UNAM in collaboration with the Royal Embassy of the Netherlands, the University Centre for Visiting Professors, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Coordination of Scientific Research of the UNAM. The purposes of this event were to promote and foment in our country the creation and use of films in the popularization, research and teaching of the sciences in general; to learn of the different methods used abroad for conceiving scientific cinema, the technique used, accomplishments and experiences; and above all, to enrich our own experience in the exchange of ideas and material. In this programme, Holland showed us a retrospective of Scientific Films, and their progress achieved in this direction as a country possessing a high degree in the use of this branch of cinema for teaching purposes. In this event we counted with the participation of Dr. Aart Gissold, Secretary of the International Association of Scientific Cinema (ISFA); Dr. G. Van Der Veen, Director of the Department of Audiovisual Media of the University of Utrecht, and Mr. Boud Smith, film-maker on the lines of Berth Hoanstra.

Also to be mentioned among the activities designed to promote the development and evolution of scientific film production and use in Mexico; to further its organization in a National Association; and to discover its degree of evolution in the form and measure of its use and the direction which it has taken in Mexico, is the "First National Meeting of Scientific Cinema", organized by the Filmoteca of the UNAM, with the participation of all persons, groups and institutions involved in the making and use of this type of cinema in education, research and the diffusion of the sciences in Mexico.

From 23 to 27 March, 1981, the "Second International Meeting of Super 8 Cinema" was organized, continuing the objectives of rescuing, promoting and diffusing Super 8 Cinema, made both at home and abroad, with which the Filmoteca of the UNAM has been involved since 1979. This International Meeting was useful in that it helped us to know the work from other countries compared with the work which is developing in Mexico. At this event films participated from Spain, Venezuela, Colombia, Brazil, Argentina, Puerto Rico, Canada, France, England, United States, Holland, Belgium and Mexico.

Later, in October, the "Third National Meeting of Super 8 Cinema" was celebrated in Jalapa, Veracruz, Mexico. An effort was made to keep in mind the same objectives and indeed surpass achievements made since the beginning of this promotion of a production so much on the fringe of national production, so "suigeneris" even within independent cinema, that it still does not reach the rank of professional cinema, and its diffusion is limited to film clubs.

The "Third National Seminar of Film Clubs" was another of the special events organized by the Filmoteca of the UNAM, worthy of comment. This seminar was programmed with the object of commemorating the 50th anniversary of film clubs in Mexico (1931-1981), and with the idea of uniting all those who diffuse film culture in our country, thus initiating a communication and exchange of ideas, which would allow us, first, to analyze the history trajectory and perspectives of the Film Club movement in Mexico, and secondly, to offer and obtain information on the basic technical

requirements needed for the care of film material, at the point of distribution and exhibition. Thus, at the end of this event, the Filmoteca of the UNAM proposed the need for an increased communication among film clubs in Mexico. By common consent among the participants a date for a new meeting in 1982 was made where procedures would be laid out whereby film clubs in Mexico would become capable of carrying out completely and efficiently the diffusion of real cinematographic culture, quite apart from all alienating nuances linked with commercialism and elitism. Lastly, special attention should be drawn to the fact that we have had among us Dr. Jerzy Toeplitz, President of the FIAF for more than 20 years, and who was invited by the Filmoteca of the UNAM to take charge, from 7 December, 1981 to 27 January, 1982, of the special lectureship "José Clemente Orozco", in which relevant personalities from the arts, sciences and educational faculties, both Mexican and international, also took part. Dr. Toeplitz spoke on "The History of European Cinema, from its beginnings to 1955". The participation of Dr. Toeplitz gave further interest to the activities of institution, concerned as always in increasing, fomenting and diffusing cinematographic culture in Mexico.

#### CULTURAL EXTENSION:

The Filmoteca of the UNAM offered its personnel various courses on:

- ...basic photography
- ...technical and theoretical aspects of cinema (production, editing, montage, conservation, etc).
- ...art, literature and their links with the Seventh Art.
- ...cinematographic language illustrated by talks and film projections.

The following courses were also organized:

- 1.- An intensive course offered by the critic and scriptwriter José de la Colina, on the writing of film scripts.
- 2.- A course on current Latin American cinema and the making of documentaries, given by the Cuban film-maker, Santiago Alvarez.
- 3.- A film Workshop for children (3 courses a year).
- 4.- A course on the appreciation of cinema for children from 7 to 12 years old.
- 5.- A series of talks offered by the Brazilian film-maker Abrao Berman, concerning the distribution in Brazil of films made in Super 8.
- 6.- A cycle of three lectures on the works of the famous Soviet film-maker, Serguei M. Eisenstein.
- 7.- An intensive workshop on production and film-making in Super 8, offered by the Venezuela film-maker Germán J. Carreño.
- 8.- An intensive workshop on production and film-making in Super 8, given by the personnel of the Filmoteca, in Jalapa, Veracruz, Mexico.
- 9.- The Filmoteca of the UNAM took part in a series of talks in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of Mexican Cinema, in the city of San Luis Potosí, Mexico.
- 10.- "In Hommage to the Director Luis Buñuel", a series of talks was given in Tijuana and Mexicali, Baja California, Mex.

POINTS OF INTEREST:

In 1981, the Filmoteca of the UNAM accomplished the following items of film productions:

- ...Post production was finished in the Salvadoran documentary "La Decisión de Vencer" (The Decision to Win), made in collaboration with the Filmoteca of the UNAM, and which was awarded in the Leipzig and La Havana Festivals. This film is in color, with a duration of 75 minutes, and is in 16 mm.
- ...Compañero Fernando (Comrade Fernando) - the life and work of the Argentinian film-maker Fernando Birri, creator of the documentary film - school in Santa Fé, Argentina) is in the process of editing.
- ...In the process of editing - "Santiago Alvarez" - a film on the life and work of the Cuban film-maker Santiago Alvarez, creator of a very personal style in documentary film.
- ...In sound synchronization - "Lejos de lo Cerca" (Far from Near) - a film on the life and work of the Mexican poet Elias Nandino.
- ...In process of editing and montage - "Juchitán" - a film narrating the struggle and triumph of a town in the State of Oaxaca, Mexico, in its fight for legislative rights.
- ...20% of "Redes" (Nets) has been filmed - testimonies, places, people, documents, etc., referring to the story of the filming of this important Mexican film.
- ...In process of editing and montage - "Testimonios Zapatistas" (Testimonies of Zapata) - interviews with old revolutionaries, sympathisers of Zapata, places, documents, etc. This film is a coproduction with the General Direction of Cultural Diffusion of the UNAM.
- ...Sound Synchronization - the film on the recent "International Meeting of Poets", which took place in Morelia, Michoacan, Mex.
- ...In process of editing - "El Tango" - sociological documentary on this very particular musical genre.
- ...The filming of all demonstrations concerning the worker's movement in the Republic of Mexico is continuous.
- ...The film "Regulación del Flujo Sanguíneo" (Regulation of the Blood - Flow) was made - a scientific film made in collaboration with the - Physiological Department of the UNAM Faculty of Medicine.
- ...The film "Las Libélulas" (The dragonflies) was made (a Spain version of this scientific documentary). This is a coproduction with the Laboratory of Scientific Cinema of the UNAM Sciences Faculty.
- ...The newscast UNAM No. 1 was filmed.

TELEVISION PRODUCTION:

26 television programmes were made (of 24 minutes effective time each one) for the State T.V. Channel 13, with interviews, film analysis, history of cinema, etc.

RADIO PRODUCTION:

200 radio programmes were produced (of 2 minutes effective time each one) within the series "The Filmoteca Minute" transmitted from Monday to Friday by Radio Education of Mexico. This programme seeks to present, in a light, interesting and brief format all kinds of matters related to cinema.

ADVISORY SERVICES RENDERED TO OTHER INSTITUTIONS:

- ...Academic university collaboration with the Autonomous University of - Guadalajara, Mex., presenting the Scientific Film Event from the Netherlands.

- ...Academic university collaboration with the Autonomous University of Queretaro, Mex., offering a course on film script, production, direction and the history of cinema.
- ...Three mid-semester courses were offered in different areas of the UNAM and in collaboration with the General Direction of Academic Extension of the UNAM, on "The Music of Silvestre Revueltas in the Cinema", "Seven Decades of Mexican Cinema", and "Five Intellectual Movements in International Cinema".
- ...Agreements were signed with the University of Veracruz and the University of Guerrero for the diffusion of cinematographic culture.
- ...Agreements were made with the Ministry of Education (SEP), for the projection for films in Mexico in educational institutions controlled by the SEP (500).
- ...Film projections as an academic back-up in the third 'brush-up' course for bilingual American professors.
- ...film projections as an aid in the course on the Mexican Revolution in the Universities of Boulder and Denver, Colorado.
- ...An agreement was made with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (SRE) to send films to Cultural Extension UNAM/SRE in San Antonio, Texas.
- ...Backing in the formation of new film-makers in the University Centre for Cinematographic Studies (CUEC) and the National Preparatory School (ENP).