



Administrative Offices: 6040 Vilas Hall, 821 University Avenue  
(608) 262-9706

Film and Photo Archive: 412 Historical Society, 816 State Street  
(608) 262-0585

Manuscripts Archive: 418 Historical Society, 816 State Street  
(608) 262-3338

MADISON, WISCONSIN 53706

July 1987

WISCONSIN CENTER FOR FILM AND THEATER RESEARCH  
University of Wisconsin-Madison 53706

Report of 1986 Activities

1. ACQUISITIONS OF THE YEAR

In 1986, the WCFTR Film Archive received many new collections and additions to existing collections, including the following:

--twenty-six 35mm feature films from Aquarius Releasing Company via the American Film Institute.

--two 35mm films from an independent production company based in Ohio, April Fools Distributing Company.

--prints and printing elements for the collected works of filmmaker/choreographer/sculptor Doris Chase.

--fourteen cartons of video additions to the collection of Shirley Clarke.

--thirty cartons of additions to the collection of Emile de Antonio, with extensive visual documentation on IN THE KING OF PRUSSIA.

--two 35mm films from Kirk Douglas.

--additions to the Isaac Kleinerman Collection, including many 16mm episodes from Twentieth Century.

--video additions to the collection of Jerry McNeely.

--four 35mm films from the independent distribution company, Imageworks.

--one hundred fifty two cans of additions to the Lionel Rogosin Collection.

## 2. PROGRESS IN THE FIELD OF PRESERVATION

Although no preservation activities took place on-site, we located severely early nitrate films in the midwest and arranged for them to be preserved through the help of the Museum of Modern Art and the American Film Institute.

## 3. CATALOGUING-DOCUMENTATION-RESEARCH

Cataloguing of films, still photos and related manuscripts collections continued at a steady pace. The WCFTR received a large collection of film posters from the 1940s through the 1960s and funding to purchase proper storage/access equipment. A grant for poster preservation, cataloguing, and access through color transparencies has been submitted to the National Endowment for the Humanities. The NHPRC-funded Photo Archivist was able to catalogue 75 cubic feet of photos and promotional graphics, although an even larger backlog remains. Feature films from all collections are now available by title, production company, country of origin, and date. A data base which is searchable in all these fields has been created, and additions are being made on a regular basis. Nine hundred and thirty nine individual researchers watched almost two thousand films in our viewing room, and over five hundred photo researchers were served on site. Another five hundred research requests were answered by phone or mail. Stills usage over the year was high. Over fifty thousand photos were pulled and made available to researchers. Stills from our collections were published or broadcast on more than sixty occasions during 1986. The first Rockefeller Resident Fellow, Professor Charles Wolfe from the University of California at Santa Barbara, worked on the Film Archive from August through December utilizing the collection of 1,500 Vitaphone short subjects.

## 4. FILM SHOWINGS

Although the WCFTR does not have an on-going exhibition program at this time, seventy films were loaned for public exhibition. WCFTR films were shown at the Cinemateca Portuguesa, the Osterreichisches Film Archiv, the International Museum of Photography at George Eastman House, and the Museum of Modern Art.

5. EXHIBITIONS-PUBLICATIONS

Research and selection for the forthcoming exhibit of glamour photos from the WCFTR collections continues. The opening for the exhibit is scheduled for 29 August 1987. A seventy-page catalogue will accompany the exhibition, which will travel to four states.

6. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

See #4 above.

8. SPECIAL EVENTS-MISCELLANEOUS

The Film Archivist and the Photo Archivist attended the fiftieth annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists in Chicago, and the Film Archivist delivered a paper on appraisal and selection criteria for moving image material. The Film Archivist also attended the Los Angeles meeting of the Film/Television Archives Advisory Committee.

Since the film vault is rapidly approaching its capacity of fifty thousand cubic feet, a search for off-site storage is presently being conducted.

--Maxine Fleckner Ducey  
Madison, Wisconsin  
June 30, 1987