



**Newsletter No. 2  
2000**

**January**

### **To All FIAF Affiliates**

Welcome to the new Millennium! This is the second Newsletter of the 56th Annual Congress of FIAF which, as confirmed at the FIAF Executive Committee in Toulouse in November 1999, will take place in LONDON from 3 to 9 June 2000 under the aegis of the BFI National Film and Television Archive (NFTVA), in collaboration with the Film and Video Archive of the Imperial War Museum (IWM). (Please note some minor changes to the dates, schedule and venues from those reported in Newsletter No. 1 - these mainly affect the Executive Committee.) You are now invited to register.

### **VENUE**

The symposia, workshop and General Assembly will, as previously stated, take place in the main auditorium of the BFI's National Film Theatre (NFT1) on the South Bank, near Waterloo. The NFT has full facilities for film, video and slide projection, translation, catering, and office needs, and receptions and smaller meetings can also be arranged on the premises.

The meetings of the Executive Committee (on 1,2,3 & 9 June) will now also be held at the NFT, and not as formerly planned. This is more convenient and will save costs. Similarly, there will be scope for Regional Meetings and any ad hoc groupings to take place at the NFT. The morning of 7 June has been set aside for this purpose.

Translation into English and French and/or Spanish will be provided at the EC, General Assembly, symposia and workshop.

### **ADMINISTRATION**

We are pleased to announce the appointment, since 5 January, of **Laura Tutt** as Associate Co-Ordinator of FIAF2000. She will work closely with the Co-Ordinator, Clyde Jeavons, in organising all aspects of the Congress, and is a main contact for enquiries and any form of assistance to do with the Congress.

The mailing address for FIAF2000 from now on is c/o BFI Collections at the Stephen Street offices. You will find all necessary addresses and contact details at the end of this Newsletter. You will also find enclosed a **delegates' Registration Form**, which should be filled in and

returned as soon as possible by everyone wishing to attend FIAF2000 (the form can be photocopied for multiple use).

## **HOTELS**

**(Please refer to the Hotel Booking Form enclosed)**

Uniglobe – the agency engaged to handle hotel bookings – has re-confirmed the list of hotels on offer and the scale of prices: these range from the Imperial Hotels group in the Bloomsbury/Russell Square area, with single rooms at £65/70 (\$104/112), to a trio of higher-tariff hotels nearby: St Giles in Tottenham Court Road (£99/\$158), Strand Palace in the Strand (£115/\$184), and the brand-new Kingsway Hall at the Aldwych (£130/\$208). All are both central and convenient for the NFT. The St Giles has very small rooms, but has been totally modernised, is superbly located, and guests have access to a sub-Olympic swimming-pool, gymnasium and health club. The Hotel Booking Form enclosed with this Newsletter gives hotel names and room prices. Please note the reply deadline of 3 March, necessary in order to retain an adequate number of rooms. We will do our best to find lower-cost accommodation for those who cannot afford standard London prices (relatively modest though these are): please contact the FIAF2000 Co-Ordinators. Do not forget to make a copy of your completed booking form for your own records. Please also ensure to arrange your own travel insurance.

## **VISAS AND GRANTS**

The UK has quite strict and unpredictable visa regulations outside the European Union, and our advice is to check with your travel agent or the British Embassy in your country as to whether or not you will need a visa (do this in plenty of time before your travel date). We will try to help anyone who encounters problems or needs a letter of invitation or endorsement. You can also consult the following website, which gives up-to-date information on visa requirements and how to apply:

<[http://www.fco.gov.uk/travel/imm\\_visas.asp](http://www.fco.gov.uk/travel/imm_visas.asp)>

This will tell you that “if you are a national of one of the countries or territorial entities” indicated, “or if you are stateless or hold a non-national travel document or passport issued by an authority not recognised by the UK, you must have a valid UK visa on each occasion that you enter the UK”. The countries quoted are:

Afghanistan; Albania; Algeria; Angola; Armenia; Azerbaijan; Bangladesh; Bahrain; Belarus; Benin; Bhutan; Bosnia-Herzegovina; Bulgaria; Burkina; Burundi; Cambodia; Cameroon; Cape Verde; Central African Republic; Chad; China; Colombia; Comoros; Congo (Republic); Congo (Democratic Republic); Cuba; documents issued by the so-called 'Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus'; Djibouti; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; Equatorial Guinea; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Fiji; Gabon; The Gambia; Georgia; Ghana; Guinea; Guinea Bissau; Guyana; Haiti; India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Ivory Coast; Jordan; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Kirgizstan; Korea (North); Kuwait; Laos; Lebanon; Liberia; Libya; Macedonia; Malagasy (Madagascar); Maldives; Mali; Mauritania; Mauritius; Moldova; Mongolia; Morocco; Mozambique; Myanmar; Nepal; Niger; Nigeria; Oman; Pakistan; Papua New Guinea; Peru; Philippines; Qatar; Romania; Russia; Rwanda; Sao Tome & Principe; Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Sierra Leone; Slovak Republic; Somalia; Sri Lanka; Sudan; Surinam; Syria; Taiwan; Tajikistan; Tanzania; Thailand; Togo; Tunisia; Turkey; Turkmenistan; Uganda; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; Uzbekistan; Vietnam; Yemen; Yugoslavia (Documents issued by former SFR of Yugoslavia or by present Yugoslav Authorities); Zambia.

“If,” says the website, “you are a national of any country or territorial entity not listed or described above you do not need a UK visa for a visit or to study... [To] apply for an entry clearance you should fill in form IM2A (and related forms if applicable) which you can get free

of charge from the nearest British Mission offering an entry clearance service, or from this website. You should check with the Mission whether or not they are able to process your category of application. If they cannot, they will advise you where to apply. "

Don't forget that if you need financial assistance with travel and/or accommodation, it is worth applying to the British Council office in your country if there is one. One such FIAF application has already succeeded and another is pending. Again, we can support applications in writing if need be.

## **SYMPOSIA AND SPECIAL EVENTS**

*The Last Nitrate Picture Show* : This, the main symposium, will take place in NFT1 on 4 & 5 June, and is intended as a celebration of nitrate cellulose in all its aspects: its history, technology, chemistry and archaeology; its rescue, conservation and restoration; its impact on the art of cinema; and the role it has played in the evolution of film archives. It will be copiously illustrated with screened examples, presented by expert speakers, and complemented by evening screenings in the NFT cinemas of the best surviving nitrate prints, as well as other films linked to the theme of nitrate and film archiving (CINEMA PARADISO, LA VALIGIA DEI SOGNI, PRAGUE, THE LOVE TEST, RAGING BULL, etc – other suggestions still welcome). Anne Fleming (Curator) and Elaine Burrows (Special Projects) at the NFTVA are supervising this symposium, fuller details of which will be circulated soon. Meanwhile, we still urgently seek from appropriate FIAF archives examples of outstanding films, features and shorts, on original nitrate stock, which are still in good and projectable condition, for showing in the evening programmes. Please contact the Co-Ordinators with your suggestions.

Thanks to the generosity of J Paul Getty, we shall be able to publish, as promised, an accompanying book telling the whole story of nitrate. Its editor, Roger Smither, is now anxious to receive final contributions, especially from FIAF members with nitrate stories to tell, for which the final deadline is 15 February. The book still lacks a catchy (but translatable) title: please send your suggestions, witty or serious, direct to Roger Smither at the IWM.

*Archiving in the Future* : The second symposium – perhaps more a demonstration with discussion – will be held on the afternoon of 6 June in NFT1, and will be an attempt to gaze into the crystal ball and predict the techno-cultural future of moving-image archives, even beyond the digital revolution in production and projection: what will archives become and what will they look like in the 21st Century? Again, details will follow, but any visionary thoughts about the future will be welcomed.

*Speaking for the Record* : This ground-breaking half-day workshop on collecting, preserving and presenting non-standard, ancillary evidence and information to support specialist film collections (eg folk memory, oral testimony) is scheduled for the morning of 6 June at the NFT. Organised by Janet McBain of the Scottish Film & TV Archive in Glasgow and Iola Baines of the Wales Film & TV Archive in Aberystwyth, it is well advanced, with a full set of invited speakers from archives as diverse as Hong Kong, the IWM, the North West Film Archive (Manchester) and the Human Studies Institute in Washington. A full description and programme will follow.

*NAPOLEON* : The 56th Annual Congress will begin in style on Saturday 3 June with a gala presentation of the new and definitive restoration of Abel Gance's *NAPOLEON* – a collaboration between the NFTVA and Photoplay Productions - complete with authentic tinted-and-toned scenes and accompanied by a full orchestra playing an updated version of Carl Davis's celebrated score. This will be screened during the afternoon and evening of 3 June at the Royal Festival Hall, with the Opening Reception of the Congress taking place in the extended intermission. All FIAF delegates are, of course, invited, but as this will be a public performance, it will be important for us to know who will or will not be attending.

*20<sup>th</sup> Century Clips* : To mark the end of the 20th Century, the first century in which human history has been recorded in the form of motion pictures, we invite all FIAF's archives to select and supply from their collections at least one moving image "moment" of their choice - an extraordinary or iconic (but actual) event of (maximum!) one or two minutes' duration captured on film with which to symbolise their country's history in the film era. Extracts can be on nitrate, but don't have to be. We will show these "surprises" throughout the Congress as opportunities occur. Please read the message enclosed with this Newsletter for more details.

## **VISITS AND HOSPITALITY**

Visits will include a tour of the NFTVA's *J Paul Getty Conservation Centre* at Berkhamsted, 35 miles from London, during the afternoon of 7 June, culminating in an evening barbecue hosted by Archive staff; and - at the invitation of the Imperial War Museum and the Scottish Film Archive - a reception on the quarter-deck of the historic wartime cruiser, HMS Belfast, moored on the River Thames, on the evening of 6 June. After the General Assembly on 9 June, the Congress will end with a Closing Party at a suitably grand venue, and it is hoped that one or more colleague organisations in the UK will wish to host a lunch or evening reception to meet FIAF's archivists. For those who plan to stay on after the Congress, on Saturday, 10 June, we will arrange an optional river trip on the Thames to an historic site if enough people are interested. And for anyone extending their trip, there is an open invitation from the recognised regional film archives in the UK to pay them a visit.

## INFORMATION AND ORIENTATION

London is, of course, a massive and complicated city, and we shall endeavour to ensure that everyone is supplied with essential tourist *matériel*, such as good maps, etc, as well as full information and advice about public transport, taxis, eating places, cinemas and theatres, and so on and so on. Once we know your method and place of arrival and departure, we will also advise on the best ways to get in and out of London and to and from your hotel. All this, and more, will accompany Newsletter No. 3. Meanwhile, do not hesitate to contact the Co-Ordinators or the FIAF Secretariat with any problems or queries.

## DRAFT SCHEDULE OF THE CONGRESS

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1, 2 & 3 JUNE                | EC meetings (3 June: morning only)   |
| 3 JUNE (afternoon & evening) | Gala Screening of NAPOLEON; Opening Reception  |
| 4 & 5 JUNE                   | Symposium: <i>The Last Nitrate Picture Show</i>  |
| 6 JUNE                       | Workshop: <i>Speaking on the Record</i> (morning)<br>Symposium: <i>Archiving in the Future</i> (afternoon)<br>Reception: HMS Belfast (IWM & SFA) (evening) |
| 7 JUNE                       | Regional Meetings (morning)<br>Visit to Conservation Centre & BBQ (afternoon)  |
| 8 & 9 JUNE                   | General Assembly   |
| 9 JUNE (evening)             | EC meeting; Closing Reception  |
| 10 JUNE                      | Excursion [optional]   |

**CJ/LT LONDON**  
**13 January 2000**

**FIAF2000, BFI Collections, 21 Stephen Street, London W1P 2LN, UK**  
Fax: +44 20 7580 7503

**CLYDE JEAVONS, Co-Ordinator**  
Tel: +44 207 226 6778 Fax: +44 207 226 4558 Email: clyde@btinternet.com

**LAURA TUTT, Associate Co-Ordinator**  
Tel: +44 7967 656 330 Email: lauratutt@ukgateway.net\_\_