

FILM RESTORATION SUMMER SCHOOL / FIAF SUMMER SCHOOL 2008

Theory Lessons on Film Restoration: distance learning, 27 May – 24 June (every Tuesday)

Introduction to and attendance at Il Cinema Ritrovato film festival: Bologna, 28 June – 5 July

Restoration practice: Bologna, 7-12 July

1. INTRODUCTION

The experience of the Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School 2007 has further confirmed the widely-assumed need for specific training in the field of film restoration. Last year we received many enrolment requests, but only 20% of them could be fulfilled.

The above figures have led us to design a two-year project enabling participants to further expand training in the field, with an increased number of enrollments.

The project of the Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School, which was started in 2007, is part of a wider training programme from Fédération Internationale des Archives du Film (FIAF), established in 1973.

Thanks to the support of FIAF, the Association des Cinémathèques Européennes (ACE), and the EU's MEDIA programme, the Cineteca del Comune di Bologna has decided to design a two-year training programme on film restoration for the years 2008 and 2009.

The main goal of the Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School consists in having participants trained in film restoration and in the preservation of film heritage through the adoption and application of analogic and digital technologies. The highly-skilled staff of L'Immagine Ritrovata laboratory would offer their long experience as well as the laboratory equipment, which is used in their daily activity, in order to provide for a wide, encompassing and thorough overview of

**FILM RESTORATION
SUMMER SCHOOL**

AIM

equipment and techniques applied in a film restoration laboratory for reconstruction and restoration. Participants will therefore experience the everyday life and activity in the laboratory while working directly with equipment and machines, starting from film repair and moving on to two parallel - analogic and digital - processes.

Participants should come duly prepared for the practical learning experience in the laboratory, and to this end a week of lectures and meetings has been designed with experts, researchers, archivists and restorers from all over the world, who will expound on their experience on specific subjects.

With the Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School, participants will acquire the thorough understanding of all the stages of film restoration, the ability to assess the condition of film conservation and to decide what is the best way to proceed in the restoration process.

1.1. FIAF SUMMER SCHOOL 2007 EXPERIENCE

The overall assessment of the 2007 course has been quite positive, as all the objectives established in the initial project have been reached.

The course was attended by 28 participants from 16 different countries, (8 member states of the European Union and 8 from other countries).

The formula tested last year consisting in organising the first week of the summer school course at the same time as the week of Il Cinema Ritrovato festival has been proven quite effective, as the festival setting offers a venue for fruitful exchanges and meetings for the training programme, as films archives from all over the world participate actively in the festival with screening of their films and restoration examples; every year the festival sees the presence of specialists in the restoration fields, engineers and archivists, as well as university lecturers, researchers and scholars.

**THEORY
LEARNING**

**FILM RESTORATION
SUMMER SCHOOL
AND IL CINEMA
RITROVATO**

The festival week was rich in events, conferences and seminars preparatory for the three weeks of intensive laboratory training, with many meetings on a wide range of topics. In the following weeks participants, subdivided in small groups, worked directly on the different stages of film restoration, with the equipment made available by the laboratory, with the supervision of specialised laboratory engineers and staff. The main areas of application have been the following:

Film repair and Cleaning Film

Film Comparing

Intertitles reconstruction

Dupe Neg print

Dupe neg editing

Grading

Desmet Color

Positive Print and quality control

Scanner

Digital Restoration

Colour Correction

Sound Restoration

1.2. TWO-YEAR PROJECT

The two-year project has a structural organisation similar to the 2007 course.

Last year experience has enabled us to understand the demand for further and thorough learning in this field, due to the lack of training opportunities, while raising the interest on the project not only of scholars and people intending to work in the field, but also of restoration practitioners.

This understanding has led us to design a two-year programme starting this year – 2008 – with a Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School for beginners followed by a course – in July 2009 – with the same structure and layout as the 2007 course.

Thus, the participants of the first year – the first level learning – could enroll in the second year course to further their training.

The 2008 edition will differ from the 2007 course both in content and duration. The course is 2-weeks long: the first week (28 June – 5 July) will focus on theory, with seminars and lectures with experts and scholars in the field; the second week (7 – 12 July) will instead focus on laboratory training and practice.

**SUMMER
SCHOOL 2008**

The 2009 edition will instead have the same layout as the 2007 course. The start of the course will coincide with the Festival week (27 June – 4 July), with conferences and seminars for theory learning, and – after the festival – with a learning-work experience in the laboratory L'Immagine Ritrovata for a couple of weeks.

**SUMMER
SCHOOL 2009**

2. FILM RESTORATION SUMMER SCHOOL / FIAF SUMMER SCHOOL TARGETS

The project's main objective is to teach and update participants on how to restore, reconstruct, and preserve a film using analog and new digital technology, and how analog systems and new digital technologies can actually coexist. Participants will have the chance to experience everyday work in a highly specialized laboratory, including all departments and every step of the process, from beginning to end. In following the Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School, participants are expected to acquire certain skills: be able to know how to operate all digital and analog equipment in an archive and a restoration laboratory; be able to follow a complete restoration

process; perform all the main necessary operations needed to restore a film; evaluate the state of conservation of a film, and decide the best practice to restore, reconstruct, and preserve it.

The innovative Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School is a film school programme dedicated to teaching digital and analog techniques to restore old archival prints. While digital technologies have a well-established role in the contemporary film industry, the importance that they play in film restoration has been somewhat neglected as a teaching/learning experience.

After completing the Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School, the target group will know how a film can be restored following new digital and analog technologies in a modern, flexible work environment. Furthermore, the target group will be able to assess the best format to restore a film and have it translated from film support to broadcasting and DVD support.

3. PROGRAMME

The training is conceived for an international target group, and will be taught by an international panel of the best experts from different countries. The Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School 2008 is conceived both for beginners and students. The aim is to foster a shared knowledge in the field for current and future generations and world film archives. Special attention will be given to participants coming from countries with less developed traditions of restoration. Classes will be in English.

Training will take place at the Cineteca di Bologna's screening theatres and library, while the internship will be organized at the laboratory L'Immagine Ritrovata in Bologna. Training will last 1 week, from Monday 7 July through Saturday 12 July 2008, and will be preceded by the Il Cinema Ritrovato film festival [28 June to 5 July 2008 – 1 week], and a one-month online distance learning experience on restoration

**ANALOG AND
DIGITAL
RESTORATION**

FINAL AIMS

PARTICIPANTS

**WHERE
AND
WHEN**

technologies with a weekly update.

The L'Immagine Ritrovata laboratory's highly specialized staff will be closely involved in the intensive 1-week training programme and internship. Participants will be divided into twelve groups, and will work in each department of the laboratory:

1. **Analog restoration (part 1)**
2. **Analog restoration (part 2)**
3. **Printing and processing (part 1)**
4. **Printing and processing (part 2)**
5. **Sound restoration (part 1)**
6. **Sound restoration (part 2)**
7. **Telecine**
8. **Digital scanning (2K and 4K)**
9. **Digital colour correction**
10. **Digital restoration (part 1)**
11. **Digital restoration (part 2)**
12. **Video format**

The Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School is structured along three main lines of interest:

1. **Theory Lessons on Film Restoration** (distance learning, 1 month, 27 May – 24 June 2008)
2. **Introduction to and attendance at the Il Cinema Ritrovato festival** (1 week, Bologna, 28 June – 5 July)
3. **Restoration Practice** (1 week, Bologna, 7-12 July)

3.1. Theory Lessons on Film Restoration

For 1 month preceding the classes in Bologna, participants will be provided with theory lessons, downloadable weekly on their computer at www.immagineritrovata.it. This distance learning preparation will

**TRAINING
PROGRAMME**

**LAB
DEPARTMENTS**

**MAIN LINES OF
INTEREST**

**DISTANCE LEARNING
– 1 MONTH**

include lessons on new digital film restoration, access, and conservation. These online lessons will run from 27 May until 24 June 2008.

3.2. Introduction and attendance to the II Cinema Ritrovato film festival

The first week will be entirely devoted to the XXII edition of the II Cinema Ritrovato film festival, which is the Cineteca di Bologna's main international event. Since 1987, the festival has investigated the most obscure territories of cinema history, screening the best of "Recovered and Restored Films" from archives around the world.

Students will be free to attend the festival at their discretion. Some screenings will be compulsory.

Daily meetings of 2 hours or more with international specialists will be organized for all participants.

During the week of the festival, these meetings will analyse in detail restoration practice from a theoretical point of view, dealing in particular with film courses in a film restoration laboratory. These theoretical meetings will be an introduction and an in-depth study preceding the 1 week of internship; daily topics will therefore reflect laboratory stages.

Basically, the two main directions to be followed will consist of:

1. Analog and digital processing, for both picture and sound, will form an in-depth course in theory, supported by study cases. A brief section dedicated to fundamental principles of film restoration will introduce specific topics, such as film and its treatment in printing and processing. An extensive theoretical schedule will be proposed on digital restoration, with the presence of main experts in this field.

2. Partnership with the audio-visual industry plays a key role in the project, and will be developed through both the direct involvement of the main companies in the production of software and equipment for digital and analog restoration, and an internship at the restoration laboratory

**IL CINEMA
RITROVATO FILM
FESTIVAL – 1
WEEK**

**MEETINGS WITH
SPECIALISTS**

**TWO
DIRECTIONS:**

**1. FILM
RESTORATION**

**2. AUDIO-VISUAL
INDUSTRY**

L'Immagine Ritrovata.

During the classes, several representatives from the main companies manufacturing software and restoration equipment will be invited to present their strategies.

During the festival, the European Project EDCine will be organising two full days of training focused on digital technologies for film archives in digital ingest, storage, access and distribution. The training program is designed as a preparatory level that covers all the background and introductory understanding needed for archivists, technicians and technologists to appreciate the choices, alternatives and possibilities available in the this area. The programme will be structured around D-Cinema distribution routes but will include the many lower bit-rates, formats and quality versions relevant to TV, internet, home movie etc.

As participants to the Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School you will be automatically registered for this event.

3.3. Internship

During the internship, participants will be supervised by international experts and laboratory staff to put into practice what they have learned during their first week of theory.

A considerable amount of time will be devoted to restoration practices. For 1 week, students will be offered hands-on experience, working in each department of the laboratory.

During the internship, the laboratory L'Immagine Ritrovata will suspend all restorations in order to follow completely all the activities scheduled by the Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School 2008, to allow participants to benefit fully from its staff and facilities.

For the 1 week of the internship, participants will occupy the premises of the laboratory L'Immagine Ritrovata for 8 hours per day for 6 days.

ED-CINE PROJECT

**TO PUT INTO
PRACTICE – 1 WEEK**

**LABORATORY
EXPERIENCE**

Participants will have access to all departments of the laboratory.

Each department will accommodate a maximum of 4 participants. This is considered the right ratio of students per piece of equipment, so that each student will be able to interact directly.

Analog Restoration 1: Film handling and inspection; repairing film to prepare it for cleaning and printing.

Analog Restoration 2: Film Comparing and intertitles reconstruction.

Printing and Processing 1: Principles of optical and contact printing; study of different printers, film sensitivity, printer loading and use. Rudiments of development and parameters analysis of mutual relations between printing and development.

Printing and Processing 2: Use of Video Colour Analyser to set printing parameters from negative to positive copy; application of Lad, Strip, and other quality-control tools to check the correct operation of printing and development. Desmet colour and its use. Quality control.

Sound Restoration 1: transfer from sound negative to digital data

Sound Restoration 2: Soundtrack Restoration, with dedicated plug-in for editing.

Telecine: film transfer from film stock to tape or data

Digital scanning: Scanning a motion picture image to a digital file (2K and 4 K).

Digital colour correction: film colour correction and color fade restoration.

**INTERNSHIP IN
TWELVE SECTIONS:**

**1. ANALOG
RESTORATION 1**

**2. ANALOG
RESTORATION 2**

**3. PRINTING AND
PROCESSING 1**

**4. PRINTING AND
PROCESSING 2**

**5. SOUND
RESTORATION 1**

**6. SOUND
RESTORATION 2**

7. TELECINE

8. DIGITAL SCANNING

**9. DIGITAL COLOUR
CORRECTION**

Digital Restoration 1: digital treatment by computer programmes in order to restore a film.

**10. DIGITAL
RESTORATION 1**

Digital Restoration 2: The computer processes data for film reconstruction and restoration. The final aim of this stage will be the transfer of data onto film base or digital support, using special software for digital restoration.

**11. DIGITAL
RESTORATION 2**

Video Format (DigitalBetacam, DVD, etc.): digitalization and data processing to make a copy of a film on digital support.

12. VIDEO FORMAT

4. ABOUT PARTICIPANTS

Participants will be selected according to their CV, commitment, and motivation. All applications will be examined by a special commission composed of representatives of FIAF, ACE, and the Cineteca di Bologna. The commission will officially release the names of the 40 selected participants via the Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School 2008 website on the middle of May 2008.

SELECTION

COMMISSION

The school will be divided into two levels, Junior and Intermediary. Skills evaluation will determine a separation into different groups on the basis of personal CV and film archive experience.

**LEVELS OF
EXPERIENCE**

Participation fee: 1,500 Euros. The participation fee includes registration, festival pass, room, and lunch for 13 days.

PARTICIPATION FEE

DEADLINE

The deadline for submitting the application form is April 30th 2008.

DEADLINE

For logistic reasons all contact must be established within and no later than **April 30th 2008.**

5. DEADLINES

| DATES | MEETING | ABOUT MATERIALS | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------|
| February 16 th 2008 | Berlin Film Festival (7-17 February) | - Definitive programme, names of international tutors, and e-learning notes to be submitted to the FIAF Managerial Committee | FEBRUARY 2008 |
| February 25 th 2008 | | - Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School website activation at www.immagineritrovata.it , with links to FIAF and ACE websites | |
| | | - Application Form downloadable from website | |
| | | - Temporary schedule downloadable from website | |
| April 17 - 26 2008 | FIAF Congress in Paris | - Formal presentation of Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School | APRIL 2008 |
| April 30 th 2008 | | - Deadline for Application Form. | |
| May 16 th 2008 | | - A special commission made up of FIAF, ACE, and Cineteca di Bologna members will examine all application forms, select the 40 participants, and release their names. - Announcement of participants' names | MAY 2008 |
| May 27 th 2008 | | - Beginning of Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School distance learning | JUNE 2008 |
| June 28 th 2008 | Bologna | - Beginning of the Il Cinema Ritrovato film festival | |
| July 7 th 2008 | Bologna | - Beginning of Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School intership | JULY 2008 |

The detailed programme of conferences and seminars will be available from June.

Partners of the Film Restoration Summer School / FIAF Summer School 2008

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