Preservation of and Access to Audiovisual Documents in Public Archives

Kurt Deggeller, Director Memoriav
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Hidden Treasures: The UK Audiovisual Archive Strategic Framework
UK Audiovisual Strategy Steering Group, March 2004
Hidden treasures

• “The rapidly expanding audiovisual world touches virtually all aspects of our lives in one form or another providing a unique contribution to our heritage“
Hidden Treasures

• „However, despite (or perhaps, because of) the familiarity and all-pervasiveness of audiovisual culture, the status of moving images and sounds as heritage assets remains insecure.“
TAPE (Training for Audiovisual Preservation in Europe)

• Project funded under the Culture 2000 Programme of the European Union (2004-2008)

Tracking the reel world

• 374 respondents from 34 European countries
• Many responses from medium-sized or small institutions
  – Archives: 143
  – Libraries: 81
  – Museums: 42
Tracking the reel world

„many obstacles“

„The main issues hampering effective management discussed in this report are:

• Lack of expertise, of adequate storage and of playback-equipment
• Backlogs in cataloguing
• Uncertainty about digitisation“
Access – the reality

• Backlogs in cataloguing:
  Archives 45%, libraries 27%, museums 24%
• No common cataloguing standard
• Consultation via on-site facilities only
Experience in Switzerland

• Memoriav: Association for the Preservation of the Audiovisual Heritage of Switzerland

• Aim: improve the preservation of and access to photographs, sound recordings, films, and video recordings
Experience in Switzerland

Funding members:

• National Library
• Federal Archives
• National Sound Archive
• National Film Archive
• Swiss Foundation for the Restoration of Photographs
• Swiss Public Radio-and TV Society
Experience in Switzerland

Membership 2009:
AV-Archives: 16  Archives: 26
Libraries: 20  Museums: 24
Others: 60
(Universities, Service providers, Festivals, Copyright Societies, Producers etc.)
Experience in Switzerland

Projects for preservation and accessibility with partner institutions:

Photographs,
Film,
Sound recordings,
Video recordings:

€ 350,000 – 400,000 each sector per year.
## Memoriav Project Partners

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Swiss National Sound Archives

(SNSA)

The Swiss National Sound Archives is the official depository of audio records in Switzerland. Its mission is the preservation of the country's audio heritage.

The Swiss National Sound Archives collects, documents and makes available to the general public the content of all the audio documents.
MAKE AVAILABLE

- the services are available to anyone
- access to all documents
- consultation is free of charge

BUT

- can be listened **ONLY** in the User's Room of SNSA
IDEA

- Possibility to give access online to all digitised documents
  - Create a listening spot in other libraries or archives
ONLINE - ACCESS

- a safe working-place in an other institution
- documents are accessible completely and as often as you like
  - transmission encoded
  - no possibility (download or copies)

- different systems (Windows xp, Windows vista, Linux and Mac OS)
  - tested for different browsers:
    Internet explorer, Firefox, opera, safari
http://www.fonoteca.ch/index_en.htm

http://www.fonoteca.ch/green/listeningPlaces_en.htm
CCAAA Founding members

• IASA International Ass. Of Sound and Audiovisual Archives [www.iasa-web.org](http://www.iasa-web.org)
• FIAF International Federation of Film Archives [www.fiafnet.org](http://www.fiafnet.org)
• FIAT/IFTA International Federation of Television Archives [www.fiatifta.org](http://www.fiatifta.org)
• ICA, IFLA
CCAAA: Members

- ARSC Ass. Of Recorded Sound Collections [www.arsc-audio.org](http://www.arsc-audio.org)
- AMIA Ass. Of Moving Image Archivists [www.amianet.org](http://www.amianet.org)
- SEAPAVAA Southeast Asia-Pacific Audiovisual Archive Association [www.seapavaa.org](http://www.seapavaa.org)
Current activities

Publications:

• Ray Edmondson: Audiovisual Archiving: Philosophy and Principles
  Paris (UNESCO) 2004

Download in English and French from the UNESCO Website
Current activities with ICA and IFLA

• Workshops and papers during the ICA Conferences in Vienna (2004) and Kuala Lumpur (2008)
• Workshop at the IFLA Conference in Milan (2009) with the Audiovisual and Multimedia Section AVMS
Current activities: Symposia

JTS: Joint Technical Symposium
First held in 1983, 9th JTS 2010 in Oslo

The Joint Technical Symposium is the international meeting for organisations and individuals involved in the preservation and restoration of original image and sound material.
Current activities: SOIMA

In co-operation with ICCROM (International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property):

Current activities: workshops and seminars

- Numerous workshops and training seminars in South Africa, the Caribbean, Mexico etc.
- E.g.: Cuarto seminario internacional de archivos sonoros y audiovisuales: la salvaguarda del patrimonio sonoro y audiovisual: un reto mundial (Ciudad de México, 9-13 noviembre 2009)
What we need

Training for staff in different roles:
• Non-specialists
• Technicians
• Archivist / curatorial role
• Middle management
• Senior leadership
Interested?

Have a look at:
www.ccaaa.org
www.memoriav.ch

Or contact:
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Thanks for your attention