



2015 AMIA Archival Screening Night

Northwest Film Center
Whitsell Auditorium
November 19, 2015
Portland, OR



2015 Archival Screening Night

- Title:** *In the Life – excerpts*
Format: Apple ProRes 4:2:2, 24-bit audio
Original Format: Broadcast video masters (various formats: 1", BetaSP, DigiBeta, etc.)
Institution: UCLA Film & Television Archive and Outfest UCLA Legacy Project

For twenty years, the landmark PBS series *In The Life* delivered enlightened journalism and advocacy for LGBT people at a time when the queer community was often invisible in mainstream mass media. The show also often used humor and parodies to goose its audience, as evident in this clip selection.

In addition to archival conservation, the Archive has been actively digitizing *In the Life* analog broadcast masters for online access.

- Title:** *Bailiwick: Feminists in Hard Hats (1975)*
Format: Apple ProRes 4:2:2, 24-bit audio
Original Format: ¾ inch U-Matic
Institution: Seattle Municipal Archives

Roundtable interview discussion broadcast from KUAC-TV, Fairbanks, Alaska, 1975. Pipeline workers in Alaska candidly discuss their experiences as pioneering female workers in a mostly-male environment.

Original U-Matic tape digitized using Blackmagic Media Express. From Seattle City Light (Seattle's electric power utility) Collection at Seattle Municipal Archives.

- 3. Title:** *Philadelphia Special Investigation Commission Collection (MOVE) footage -- excerpt*
Format: Apple ProRes 4:2:2, 24-bit audio
Original Format: 2" Quad
Institution: Special Collections Research Center, Temple University Libraries

The Philadelphia Special Investigation Commission Collection contains news footage covering a 1985 conflict between MOVE, a Philadelphia based political organization and the Philadelphia Police Department. This excerpt is of the most noteworthy moment of the conflicts escalation where the City of Philadelphia dropped an explosive device on the MOVE headquarters.

This tape is one of dozens of digitized 1" and 2" video reels documenting both the conflict and subsequent hearings.

- 4. Title:** *Khesht va Ayeneh/The Brick and the Mirror*
Format: Apple ProRes 4:2:2, 24-bit audio
Original Format: 35mm
Institution: Film Studies Center, University of Chicago

Directed by Ebrahim Golestan, Iran, 1965. A taxi driver journeys through Tehran's city streets, nightclubs & orphanages after he discovers an abandoned infant in his cab. Considered a classic of Iranian new wave cinema this was the first feature in Golestan's filmography. Farsi with English subtitles, 125 minutes.

2K digital preservation from a subtitled 35mm b/w US release print.

5. **Title:** *Junior (Gus Van Sant, 1988)*
Format: 16mm
Original Format: 16mm
Institution: Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences

Before cat videos, there was the film "Junior" by Gus Van Sant.
From the Gus Van Sant Collection at the Academy Film Archive.

6. **Title:** *Excerpt from A Firing Line Debate: Resolved: That Women in the Military Should Be Excluded from Combat*
Format: Apple ProRes 4:2:2, 24-bit audio
Original Format: 1" videotape
Institution: Hoover Institution

An excerpt from a 1993 2-hour debate episode of Firing Line in which the issue stated in the title is examined and debated by affirming and opposing sides. Featured guests include David Horowitz, Heather A. Wilson, and Ira Glasser. Taping location: George Washington University, Washington DC.

Preserved by DC Video in Burbank, CA, in May 2013 from a 1" videotape source.

7. **Title:** *Butterfly of the Border*
Format: DCP
Original Format: Digital Photos
Institution: EYE Filmmuseum, Netherlands

Marco Pando, 2006, Netherlands. This artist uses a unique process: "Found" filmstrips are glued together into a panel. He then scratches through the emulsion layers to reveal colors, and paints to create the image. This film tells the story of his uncle crossing the border from Mexico to the US.

EYE holds some of the original filmstrip drawings, the TIFF sequence and the master DPXes. We chose this film to highlight our digital-born film collection, with over 400 films to date.

8. Title: *1919 World Series Footage - Black Sox scandal
(British Canadian Pathé Newsreel)*

Format: Apple ProRes 4:2:2, 24-bit audio

Original Format: B&W 35mm Nitrate

Institution: Library and Archives Canada

Rare footage from the infamous 1919 World Series between the Chicago White Sox and the Cincinnati Reds, the Black Sox scandal, discovered buried in the permafrost in 1978, Dawson City, Yukon. Part of a British Canadian Pathé Newsreel.

Original nitrate film rewashed after it was recovered from a filled-in swimming pool frozen in the permafrost; cement splices replaced, best frames used for title cards, freezing and filming. Nitrate copied to safety stock. Video masters and a Digital Betacam, made. Digital file made.

9. Title: *EDISON KINETOSCOPIC RECORD OF A SNEEZE,
JAN. 9, 1894, taken & copyrighted by W.K.L.
Dickson, Orange, N.J.*

Format: 35mm

Original Format: Paper prints from 35mm

Institution: NYU Orphan Film Symposium

FRED OTT'S SNEEZE was seen only as stills on paper until reanimated on 16mm in 1953. That version used only the first 45 of the surviving 81 frames. Now the Library of Congress has added the extra 36 frames published in HARPER'S WEEKLY in 1894. Fred Ott sneezes twice!

Preserved in 35mm (LOC, 2013) from a copyright deposit photograph (45 frames) and a photomechanical print (halftone, 36 frames).

- 10. Title:** *Transmagnifican Dambamuality*
Format: Apple ProRes 4:2:2, 24-bit audio
Original Format: 16mm combination fine grain master with optical soundtrack
Institution: Milestone Film & Video

Black filmmaker Ronald Gray (LOSING GROUND with Kathleen Collins) created this wonderful/hilarious student film at CUNY in 1976. The youngest in the family tries to find his own space in their crowded apartment. The film was lost until IndieCollect/DuArt records showed it was at NYU as "unclaimed" material.

Working with the director Ronald Gray, the 16mm combination fine grain print was scanned to 2K at Metropolis Post in New York. The colorist was Jason Crump.

- 11. Title:** *INSTITUTIONAL QUALITY (1969) by Owen Land (formerly known as George Landow)*
Format: 16mm
Original Format: 16mm
Institution: Anthology Film Archives

With Meredith Monk. Editing technical assistance by Masako Takahashi. This film was withdrawn from distribution in 1976 and replaced with the equally-curious "remake", NEW IMPROVED INSTITUTIONAL QUALITY: IN THE ENVIRONMENT OF LIQUIDS AND NASALS A PARASITIC VOWEL SOMETIMES DEVELOPS. "This began with a found object too, the soundtrack, which was an audiotape I had inherited from a former school teacher. But none of the visuals are found, it was filmed by me" -Owen Land, 2004

Preservation at Colorlab in 2015 from the 16mm color reversal A+B roll originals. Preserved by Anthology Film Archives through the National Film Preservation Foundation's Avant-Garde Masters Grant program and The Film Foundation. Funding provided by the George Lucas Family Foundation.

- 12. Title:** *My Cat, My Garden and 9/11 (2001)*
Format: DigiBeta
Original Format: Super 8mm Sound
Institution: Harvard Film Archive

Anne Charlotte Robertson (1949-2012) was a Boston area Super 8 experimental filmmaker. Her main work is the FIVE YEAR DIARY (1981-1997, approx. 37 hours), which was usually presented as a performance involving multiple layers of audio including live narration. This short film echoes several themes found in the DIARY.

Original Super 8 sound film digitized by Brodsky & Treadway, presented on DigiBeta tape.

- 13. Title:** *The Little Baker (Lew Cook, ca. 1925-1927)*
Format: 35mm
Original Format: 35mm Nitrate
Institution: Oregon Historical Society

The Little Baker is a humorous example of clay animation made in Oregon by a young Lew Cook. In her essay for the International Animated Film Association (IAFA) on early forms of animation, Rose Bond writes: "Any discussion of the roots of Portland animation must reach back to the 1920's when a young newsreel filmmaker named Lew Cook created a film with clay characters called "The Little Baker"...[about] a piece of dough coming 'alive.'

35mm blow up from a 16mm reduction print – optically printed by Lew himself – from the deteriorated original nitrate. Preserved via 2014 NFPF grant at Color Lab.

- 14. Title:** *Star Power: The Evolution of Celebrity Faces in Commercial Advertising*
Format: 16mm
Original Format: 16mm
Institution: David Stern Collection

These works by award-winning director and cinematographer David Stern exemplify the dynamism of television commercial preservation. Through Stern's lens we view a pre-fame Farrah Fawcett and Todd Bridges, respectively, selling goods to the audience. We also see beloved character actors Claude Akins and George Kennedy doing the same. These advertisements and the ability to "know now what we didn't know then" allow modern audiences a wholly new experience of star consumption.

- 15. Title:** *A Double Life*
Format: Apple ProRes 4:2:2, 24-bit audio
Original Format: 35mm
Institution: Paramount Pictures

The love between people of the theatre is an adventure fraught with infinite perils. Especially when an actor takes his role as "Othello" seriously. On the eve of Shakespeare's 400th, this often overlooked film is part noir, part psycho thriller has been restored to its beautiful black and white glory by the Paramount Archives. Directed by George Cukor, starring Ronald Colman and Shelly Winters.

- 16. Title:** *Floods Ravage Northwest*
Format: Apple ProRes 4:2:2, 24-bit audio
Original Format: 35mm Nitrate
Institution: Sherman Grinberg Film Library

The city of Vanport was dramatically destroyed on May 30, 1948 when a section of the dike holding back the Columbia River collapsed during a flood, killing 25 people and destroying 10,000 homes.

The digital file was scanned from the original nitrate newsreel.

- 17. Title:** *Singer presents... Hawaii-Ho! (1968)*
Format: Apple ProRes 4:2:2, 24-bit audio
Original Format: 16mm
Institution: 'Ulu'ulu Archives - University of Hawaii West Oahu

"Hawaii-Ho!" is a non-stop, never ending trip to the groovy side of Hawaii. The first color TV special produced entirely on location in Hawaii and the first network television appearance of legendary entertainer Don Ho, "Hawaii-Ho!" reveals and explores the beauty, the hula, and the happiness that was 1960s Hawaii.

This is the first item digitized from six pallets of audiovisual recordings acquired from the Ho estate in September 2015.

- 18. Title:** *DUCK SOUP (1933)*
Format: DCP
Original Format: 35mm Finegrain
Institution: NBCUniversal

Excerpt from the Marx Brothers' 1933 political satire DUCK SOUP. While initially not well received due to its satirical and irreverent portrayal of government, and its commentary on the futility of war, the film is now considered one of their best. Duck Soup is one of five Marx Brothers features Universal is currently restoring via high-resolution film scans and a host of digital tools. This presentation will provide a brief look at the condition of the source film element and the result of the restorative work.

Universal stores multiple picture and sound elements in climate controlled facilities in geographically separated locations. The studio's preservation methodology includes retention of digital file masters and creation of new 35mm film elements.

- 19. Title:** *We Live in the Arctic (1947)*
Format: Blu-ray
Original Format: 16mm color/silent
Institution: Alaska Film Archives, University of Alaska Fairbanks

Arctic adventurers Harmon “Bud” and Constance Helmericks explored the far north during the 1940s and 1950s. Made with great care and artfulness under extreme living conditions, “We Live in the Arctic” captures scenes from the couple’s unique lives, as well as the rapidly-changing lives of coastal and inland Iñupiat peoples.

Only known film digitally preserved by Reflex Technologies and newly printed by Video and Film Solutions through NFPF grant funding.

- 20. Title:** *The Day After Diallo*
Format: Apple ProRes 4:2:2, 24-bit audio
Original Format: miniDV
Institution: XFR Collective and WITNESS

On February 4, 1999, Amadou Diallo, an unarmed black man, was shot 41 times in the vestibule of his apartment building by four members of the NYPD Street Crimes Unit. A jury acquitted the officers of all charges. Protests and confrontations between the police and demonstrators ensued, leading to more violence, antagonism and distrust. Narrated by recording artist Angelique Kidjo with music by Peter Gabriel, this video captures the communal outrage and political mobilization that emerged in response to racism and police brutality. Co-produced by WITNESS, New York City PoliceWatch and the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights in 2000.

This video and its raw footage were transferred from miniDV and VHS by XFR Collective in 2015.

21. Title: *Kinetic Sculpture Race*
Format: Apple ProRes 4:2:2, 24-bit audio
Original Format: ¾" U-Matic
Institution: California Audiovisual Preservation Project
(CAVPP)

A look into the weird and wonderful Northern California tradition described as the "Triathlon of the Art World". Humboldt County local news program Points of Interest covers the 8th annual Kinetic Sculpture Race, which took place over Memorial Day weekend 1981.

Part of the Points of Interest collection at Humboldt State University, digitized by the California Audiovisual Preservation Project (CAVPP).

NOTE TO PRESENTERS: Please take a seat next to an aisle, so that you don't have to disturb people when you get up to introduce your film. Please proceed to the front of the theatre while the film immediately before yours is being screened.

Archival Screening Night Group: Brittan Dunham, Rebecca Hall, Antonella Bonfanti, Douglas McLaren, Jess Daily, Janice Allen & Paul Rayton.

With special thanks to Laura Rooney, Kristina Kersels, Justin Dennis of Kinora, Morgen Ruff, all the submitters, presenters, and the staff of the Northwest Film Center for their help and support.

**PLEASE TURN YOUR
CELLPHONE OFF
BEFORE THE SHOW
STARTS!**

Images: Cover. Moore's Motion Picture Service and 16mm Rental Library. 306 SW 9th Ave at Oak Street, Portland OR - August 1, 1944. Back Cover. Ring the Fire Alarm - Portland, OR film strip.

All images provided by the Oregon Historical Society Research Library.

