
2017 Silver Light Award Robert Gitt

AMIA's Silver Light Award recognizes outstanding career achievement in moving image archiving. It recognizes substantial contributions to the field over an extended period, leadership in the field, preservation and restoration projects, innovations that advance the cause of preservation in archives and archival projects.

ROBERT GITT

Founder of the UCLA Film & Television Archive's Preservation Department, Robert Gitt is considered one of world's innovators in the field. His many restorations include **Becky Sharp**, **Lost Horizon**, and **The Red Shoes**. Robert Gitt is also renowned for his historical lectures including **Charles Laughton Directs** (on **The Night of the Hunter**), and **A Century of Sound**, in collaboration with Chace Audio.



Before his retirement, Gitt personally preserved or supervised the restoration of more than 360 feature films, as well as hundreds of shorts and newsreels. Notable films he worked on include the shortened and full-length versions of Orson Welles' **Macbeth** (1948); the silent comedy classics **Grandma's Boy** (1922) and **The Freshman** (1925), starring Harold Lloyd; Rouben Mamoulian's early Technicolor feature **Becky Sharp** (1935); Elia Kazan's **A Face in the Crowd** (1957); Charles Laughton's **The Night of the Hunter** (1955); Stanley Kubrick's **Paths of Glory** (1957); and many others.

Robert Gitt was born in Hanover, Pennsylvania, and attended Dartmouth College in New Hampshire. Gitt remained at Dartmouth for several years after he graduated in 1963, curating programs for Dartmouth College Films, including early tributes to directors Jean Renoir and Joseph Losey. In 1970 Gitt joined the American Film Institute

in Washington, D.C, where he established presentation standards for the AFI Theater and entered the field of film preservation in 1973.