

May 22, 2016

Cinemateca Brasileira Largo Senador Raul Cardoso, 207 Vila Clementino São Paulo, 04021-070 BRAZIL

The Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA), an international organization comprised of individual members dedicated to the preservation and access to the world moving image heritage, and its Advocacy Committee, hereby endorse the statement released by the board of the Associação Brasileira de Preservação Audiovisual (APBA) on February 15, 2016 regarding the fire that took place at the Cinemateca Brasileira on February 3, 2016.

AMIA respects the often troubling and difficult choices that governments face with regard to the health and survival of their cultural institutions. In this instance, we recognize that the loss of so many unpreserved nitrate films is a loss to the Brazilian people and their cultural history, but also diminishes world cinema culture as well. Preventing future catastrophes of this kind is essential if the history of Brazilian cinema is to remain secure.

We hope that the long term cultural stability of Cinemateca Brasileira will be respected and supported, and that the recommendations made by the APBA will be initiated immediately.

Sincerely,

Andrea Kalas, President

Association of Moving Image Archivists

The Advocacy Committee
Association of Moving Image Archivists