



**The Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA) Student Chapter at the  
University of Amsterdam**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017**

**Mission Statement**

The Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA) Student Chapter at the University of Amsterdam is dedicated to providing a space for discussion, education and interaction among its members in the moving image archival profession, and to encourage participation in these activities. The AMIA UvA Student Chapter works with the Heritage Studies: Preservation and Presentation of the Moving Image Master programme to promote cooperation and mutual understanding in supporting archival theories and practices, as well as encouraging communication and cooperation with the AMIA student chapters around the world in order to forge links between students both past and present, and the wider profession.

**Previous Executive Board**

President – Krystel Brown  
Vice President – Niamh O'Donnell  
Secretary – Jim Wraith  
Treasurer – Fatma Amer

**Faculty Advisor**

Floris Paalman

**Incoming Executive Board**

President – Benjamin Solovey  
Vice President – Rhea Srivastava  
Secretary – Hadley Kluber

**General Statement**

The 2016 Executive Board was responsible for reconstituting [or reconvening?] the AMIA UvA Student Chapter, as the previous year had seen the chapter take a hiatus. Our aim when starting was to:

hold regular social and officer meetings; facilitate educational visits to facilities and archives; promote and participate in talks with academic and industry

professionals; to organise regular social events and screenings; work towards one main event towards the end of the academic year; and to extend invitations for all gatherings to other departments of the University, as well as other interested parties. We achieved most of our aims for 2016-17 except that we did not have the opportunity to hold regular screenings or to host a main event. To explain, we were unable to hold screenings due to budgetary and academic time constraints, and our “big event” were shelved as most members were participating and assisting in the running of The Reel Thing XL held at Eye Film Museum in May 2017. Overall, our commitment to promoting archival practices and providing educational experiences for our members has made 2016-2017 a successful year for the UvA Student Chapter.

### **Projects From 2016-2017**

The projects for the 2016-2017 year focussed on ‘AMIA Talks/lectures’, ‘AMIA Visits’ and our social media profile.

#### **AMIA Talks**

Our year began with a guest lecture by Mark Toscano of the Academy Film Archive, which was held at the Eye Collection Centre. During his talk “Artist’s films in the Academy Archive” Mark discussed his working practices and the challenges that are posed. Occurring shortly in advance of a public programme at the EYE curated by Mark, this allowed the group a special insight into the preservation works undertaken at the Academy Archive.

More can be read [here](#)

Before Christmas we sat down with Film Critic and former head of the Bradford International Film Festival Neil Young and discussed his work focussing on the archival programming for the festival and Bradford’s Wide Screen Weekend.

A combined visit to the Deutsche Kinemathek in Berlin and talk with head of the archive, Martin Koerber, was of course a highlight. Martin described the ups and downs of working at the DK and advised our members on how to proceed in the industry. Of particular interest in this instance was the comparative view of divergent preservation cultures and practices within different national settings.

Our last official AMIA Lecture was with web archaeologist Tjarda de Haan. Tjarda spoke about her work recovering and reconstructing the pioneering online community, De Digitale Stad (The Digital City), that was active in the Netherlands from 1994-2001. Aside from representing a shift away from the cinematic, this talk proved illuminating in its particular discussion of “salvage preservation”, or how to preserve a complex system the preservation of which has not been considered during its useful lifespan.

#### **AMIA Visits**

AMIA Visits spawned from the varying interests of our members, representing as we did people who were interested in the technical aspects of film laboratories

and others who were interested in archival institutions and collectives. Each of our visits were to active businesses, cooperatives and institutions to fulfil this wish.

Thus AMIA Visits included: the [Super 8 Reversal Lab \(Den Haag\)](#), [Film Atelier Den Haag \(Den Haag\)](#) and Haghe Film (Amsterdam).

We also had the pleasure of travelling to Berlin for the Berlinale, the Berlin International Film Festival so that our members could see the curatorial process of the festival, attend archival and restoration talks. Our trip to Berlin also permitted us to visit the Deutsche Kinemathek (Berlin) and the artist run film laboratory and workspace Labor Berlin (Berlin). We also made time to host a networking event with the preservation students of the University of Potsdam.

Our last group travel was to Bologna for the Il Cinema Ritrovato where we once again attended in screenings, talks and events held by the archival and restoration community.

## **Other Tasks**

### **The Reel Thing XL**

This year Eye Film Museum held The Reel Thing XL hosted by Grover Crisp and Michael Friend. Our members volunteered during the conference which encouraged networking with future colleagues in the archival and restoration field.

### **Paralaxe**

One of the last remaining analogue camera equipment shops in Amsterdam closed at the end of 2016. To make ensure that the analogue film material at the shop were maintained our members raised money to obtain at least 30 films from the shops collection. These films were a variety of 8mm and 16mm films distributed in Europe. The committee is currently holding the films until an inspection of the content can be carried out.

## **Social Media**

Social Media has again been a big factor for the continuance for the chapter and we focussed on adding content to the already existing blog, Twitter and Facebook accounts. This year we added an Instagram account, as we were enjoying photographing nitrate too much not to share.

With the blog we focussed on creating an on-going series of interviews with previous P&P Alumni to help inform our members via the blog. Another highlight was our series the 'Projection Booth Diaries', conceived by Sofia Pires. The Booth Diaries went into analogue and digital film booths across Amsterdam and artistically photographed the set up and the equipment in these booths to highlight the changes in the industry.

Most of our experiences and events throughout the year can be seen on our social media pages:

Blog

<https://amiastudentsuva.wordpress.com/>

Twitter

<https://twitter.com/AMIAstudentsUvA>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/amiastudentsuva>

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/amiastudentsuva/>