

2015 Annual Report for the AMIA Education Committee



An AMIA-McGill member inspects a film copier at Library and Archives Canada. February, 2015.

2014/2015 Executives

President: Manda Haligowski Vice President: Alyssa Bruijns

Treasurer: Caitlin Aber

Secretary: Alexandra Di Perna

Mandate

The Association of Moving Image Archivists' student chapter at McGill University, based in the McGill School of Information Studies, joins an emerging dialogue with scholars, students, and other enthusiasts called together to help address some of the most urgent issues of conservation, preservation, and access in the field.

In lieu of a dedicated audiovisual archiving and preservation component in the SIS program, the goal of the AMIA student chapter at McGill University is to create opportunities for SIS students to participate in the

study and preservation of moving images by actively participating in year-round events, symposia, screenings, and other engaging forms of programming. The city of Montreal is well-known worldwide as a haven for cinema, with numerous film festivals and productions taking place throughout the year. The AMIA student chapter intends to partner with various organizations in the city to organize field trips, lectures, and various projects.

2014/2015 Ongoing Projects and Plans

In our second year as an AMIA student chapter, AMIA-McGill focused on providing structure and definition to the new chapter, while further establishing ourselves within McGill University and the greater Montreal area. We worked to provide opportunities for McGill students to learn about and participate in audiovisual archival practices.

Screenings

Continued from the previous year's programming, our weekly screenings gave students an opportunity to view a wide variety of films, new and old, in the Moving Image Research Lab's (MIRL) private screening room at McGill. On Wednesday nights, one short and one feature-length film were projected for our members, and though attendance varied from week to week based on school schedules, these screenings were greatly enjoyed and will be continued in future years.

MIRL Film Archives Preservation Plan and Cataloguing Project

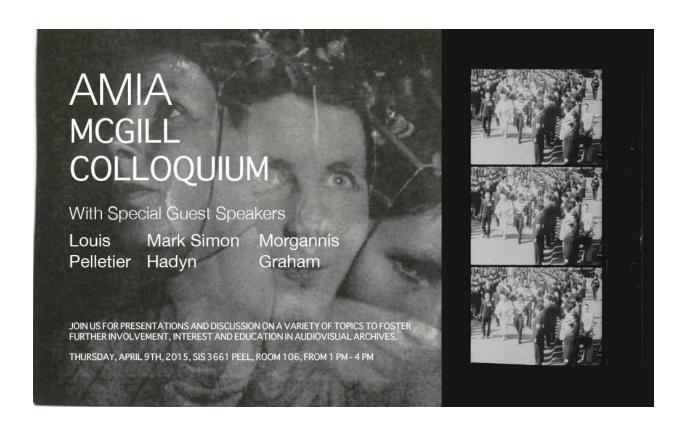
Since 2013, AMIA-McGill has been collaborating with MIRL to help preserve and catalogue all the films held in their collection. These include donated prints from the National Film Board of Canada and the Goethe Institute and educational films previously held by McGill's McLennan Library. We began entering each film into a database with an accompanying accession number and created a preservation plan for future student members to enact in the years to come. The goal for the year was to establish standards for future description and physical preservation work.

Tour of Library and Archives Canada's Audiovisual Department

In March 2015, our members travelled from Montreal to Ottawa in order to take a two hour tour of the audiovisual department at the Preservation Centre of Library and Archives Canada (LAC). The twelve students who joined us for the trip were able to witness all stages of the audiovisual archival process, learn about state-of-the-art equipment, and ask professionals in the field about their work. We hope this tour will become an annual March event for AMIA-McGill and that the number of participants will continue to rise.

AMIA-McGill Annual Spring Colloquium

In April 2015, AMIA-McGill hosted a colloquium at the School of Information Studies. Our professional and student presenters addressed a variety of issues in audiovisual archiving and shared their insights and experiences in the field. The colloquium was well attended given the small venue, and we hope to bring in many more interesting speakers in years to come.



2015 Featured Guest Speakers

Louis Pelletier, SSHRC postdoctoral fellow, Université de Montréal / Media History Research Centre, Concordia University

Between Education and Archives: Useful Cinema and University Libraries.

Pelletier spoke about the digitization of the Canadian Educational, Sponsored, and Industrial Film Archive (CESIF).

Morgannis Graham, City of Westmount Archivist

Budgets, Lies, and Videotape.

Graham spoke about working with film archives in different archival institutions and discussed balancing best practices with institutional realities of time and budget.

Mark Simon Hadyn, McGill SIS Class of 2014

Hadyn spoke about his post-MLIS job search and work experience, including working at the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF).

SIS Student Speakers

Jesse David Dinneen, *Understanding the Personal Moving Image Archive*.

Tristan Dahn, *Parroting Pirates: BitTorrent Communities as Model Moving Image Digital Libraries*.

Future Plans for 2015/2016

With a new executive team elected for the 2015-2016 year, AMIA-McGill plans to continue weekly screenings, the MIRL cataloging project, and the annual colloquium while introducing student-organized workshops and expanding the focus of the chapter to include audio preservation practices and processes, as this type of preservation is overlooked to a degree in the current curriculum.

Further, our collaboration with Louis Pelletier, a guest speaker at our 2015 Colloquium, has proven fruitful, as he has reached out to AMIA-McGill to participate in Journée du film de famille: Home Movie Day Montréal 2015, taking place October 24th, 2015. AMIA-McGill has been asked to provide volunteers interested in inspecting and performing basic repairs on donated films and/or participate in a round table dealing with collecting, preservation work, and the exhibition of home movies and amateur films. AMIA-McGill has also been offered a booth to promote our group and activities.