

GLASGOW**SCOTTISH SCREEN ARCHIVE****ANNUAL REPORT 2010****Acquisitions of the year**

With funding and support from Gaelic Media Services (GMS) the Archive continues to acquire a comprehensive collection of contemporary Gaelic language broadcasts. In 2010 a new dedicated Gaelic language channel MG ALBA came on air on FreeSat. SSA records off air reference and viewing copies of broadcasts.

SSA has commenced a new targeted acquisition programme to address a significant gap in the collection, viz productions dating from the end of the era of celluloid film and the transition to shooting on videotape. Working with an academic team at the University of Glasgow, who are researching aspects of childhood and the development of children making their own movies, the SSA acquisitions curator is appealing for productions made in the last quarter of the 20th century. The Scotland wide collecting programme will run concurrently with the research project for the next two years, and will be targeting cine and video clubs, community groups and video workshops, local organisations, schools and arts associations, as well as individuals who may have videos reflecting local community events, industries, or customs.

Items of historical interest acquired during the year include:

- Red Star Cinema, 8mm guerilla and anti-nuclear protest footage from the 1980's.
- Private family collections of five 'jute masters', Scots who worked in the jute industry in Pakistan in the 1950's.
- Quarriers orphan homes – professional films made 1950's and 1970's and home movie films of the children on summer holidays just before and after the war.
- East of Scotland College of Agriculture, Gordon More Collection. 250 reels, including Kodachrome footage of British Women's Land Army girls at work on farms ca 1943.
- Further deposit of film poet and artist Margaret Tait, including the 'missing believed lost' PALINDROMES and A PLEASANT PLACE.

Preservation

Preservation priorities continue to be directed to film stock affected by vinegar syndrome.

Using Diamant our conservation team have been working on recovering stencilled colour film from 1913 and Kinora reels ca 1906.

During 2010 work on one of three rolls of Kodachrome A reversal stock of the Cunard liner Queen Mary (March 1936) was completed and the preserved film published on the Archive's website.

Policies, procedures and workflows for implementing a digital preservation programme for obsolete video formats has been approved with a preservation programme due to commence in the spring of 2011.

Cataloguing and research

592 new titles were added to web catalogue taking the total number of titles on the web database to 5000. The online catalogue is being developed and enhanced with 277 titles now available on open public access. This is part of an ongoing programme of digitising for access.

SSA researched and curated a series of screenings on the theme of 'The Great Outdoors' for the Cromarty Film Festival, December 2010

A new curated touring programme celebrating Scotland's food and drink was researched and curated. The 80 minute programme entitled 'Meals on Reels – Scotland's Food and Drink' will initially tour rural areas, cine societies, film clubs and independent cinemas, before going on a general tour.

Film showings and access activities

The enquiry service was extremely busy with over 4000 enquiries received. The service issued 2138 titles for research and viewings.

47 outreach and education events were delivered by Archive staff. These included curated and presented screenings, schools workshops, film making projects with the over 60's, community events, reminiscence gathering, screenings in local cinemas as part of a course ran by the University of Strathclyde at Glasgow Film Theatre.

SSA worked with a number of festivals over the year. A programme of documentary films was co-curated with Edinburgh International Film Festival 2010. Curated programmes also ran at the West End Festival in Glasgow, Alchemy Festival of the Moving Image in Hawick, Moray Film Festival in Elgin and several shows in Orkney

SSA worked in partnership with the BFI National Archive on the touring programme and DVD 'Tales of the Shipyard' with three films included. Screenings will be part of Glasgow Film Festival.

Educational use

A new interactive website Scotland on Screen was launched in September 2009. Here students, teachers, parents and members of the public can search for, view, analyse and discuss footage from the Scottish Screen Archive. Users can access in users can access and download a wide variety of films to screen, add soundtracks to or edit into a new film project. Accompanying each film are educational resources created by school teachers r which are available for all to use. In 2010, a new map feature was added to the site geo-tagging the locations of the films and another 200 film based resources were added to the site, bringing the available content to around 25 hours.

<http://scotlandonscreen.org.uk/>

In partnership with Glasgow University the Archive has completed a project to bring into access the un-edited picture and audio rolls from R D Laing's 1972 US lecture tour. The material shows Laing at the height of his celebrity but against a background of waning professional credibility and will be of key value to ongoing research into Laing and his contribution to psychiatry.

A television series for BBC Scotland highlighted one of the major collections in the Archive. *Films of Scotland* attracted high audience share and was well received. A DVD release of the series is planned for 2011.

Professional development, education and training.

Archive staff contributed to tertiary level vocational courses on film production, screen studies and guest lectured on the Glasgow University M Phil in Archives and Records Management. Staff attended professional conferences and seminars, including FIAT and FIAF Congress and the Celtic Media Festival.

Budgetary matters

Scenario planning for budget cuts has been underway – with an expectation that 2011/12 may see governmental requirement for cuts over and above the 3% efficiency savings that have been implemented this year.

International

UNESCO's World Day for Audiovisual Heritage on 27th October.

SSA ran events and screenings which attracted considerable media interest across Scotland and published its digital restoration of colour footage of the Cunard liner Queen Mary in 1936. At GFT cinema in Glasgow curators presented a public première of two recently discovered early films in a programme of films entitled 'A Woman's Work is never done...' celebrating women and work reflected through a century of film.

J McBain
January 2011