

Annual Work Report of The National Film Archive of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the year 2010.

The public institution National Film Archive of Bosnia and Herzegovina is an institution established in the area of culture and is one of the valuable cultural contributions to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Its legal status is, however, questionable at best. The National Film Archive was founded by the Parliament of BiH via decree regarding the National Film Archive, which was published in the legal newspapers number 13 from June 9th 1994. Post the Dayton Agreement and „downgrading“ areas regarding culture to a cantonal level, this and similar institutions (Natural History Museum, History Museum, Literature Museum, Galleries, National and University Library, Library for blind persons and persons with impaired sight) gained the so called „unsolved status“, and thus, unsolved financing.

Every year, the first six months passes in expectation and hope that money necessary for survival will come from some level of authority. This year, 2010, situation was even more dramatic, since it was an election year, because until the legal authority becomes constitutional, we cannot expect any budget money. So, from the month of November, we had to „switch“ to payment of guaranteed personal income of 429,00 BAM monthly for all employees. It is questionable whether we'll secure the funding necessary to pay that said income in the months to come.

As the costs of maintaining the institution heighten each year, the situation in which the National Film Archive of BiH is becomes more dire. We have to secure the funding for maintaining the same preservation conditions, for protection of film material, especially such national heritage as our collection of home made feature movies, documentaries, shorts, animated movies etc. These difficult conditions under which we have been operating for years limit our development plans. So far, our successes weren't connected to a development plan, but were each a separate project that requests a lot of effort, enthusiasm and sacrifice from the employees, all in the name of improving preservation environment, preservation of films, improvement of technical equipment needed for better, more comfortable screenings.

Our plans are big and, we hope, possible, because they are all going in the direction of protecting our grand national heritage which makes us all proud, and toward widening the horizons of film culture in general.

Ministry of Civil Affairs BiH supported us so far in securing the conditions for survival of this crucial institution. With that money, we've managed to maintain a working operation and we have managed to pay our employees their deserved income. However, in order to function constantly, without difficulties, the National Film Archive of BiH needs a more substantial financial support. We need to hire another employee who would monitor the film tape „cleaning“ process. That is necessary because the films in our archive have been fighting time long enough, without the possibility of tackling these tasks due to lack of modern equipment needed for such projects. We have, as of late, managed to procure such technology during the realization of

the project „Preservation and protection of BiH Films“, in collaboration with Ministry of Culture and Sports and Sarajevo County.

We believe that the question of storage will be solved in the best possible way- by securing an appropriate large facility (perhaps ex military barracks as it was done in Macedonia) or in a newly built purposeful depo. For now, all materials are stored in two locations: One in Street Alipasina 19 (which is the ownership of BiH Sindicat which is currently suing the National Film Archive BiH and requesting „It's“ facility back, even though the National Film Archive exists on this location since 1963.) which was renovated several times, but even now contains a lot of moisture and generally lacks conditions necessary to properly secure and preserve delicate film materials. Second facility is located in Street Nikole Kasikovica 4a and used to be a bakery , which we got from local authorities for the set period of five years. The facility was adapted with the help of SO Center, Fondation fo Cinematography, Federation BiH , and Ministry of Culture and Sports of County Sarajevo, and is now a suitable and good storage space for preservation of films.

In such complicated working conditions , Public Institution National Film Archive of Bosnia and Herzegovina realized during the year 2010 its planned activities. Out of over 1.000 shorts, feature length, documentary and animated films , the National Film Archive of BiH owns 132, and this year, the collection was enriched by the 35mm film tape version of STABLO GIZELA I KLINCI, and out of 119 feature movies, the National Film Archive of BiH owns 80 , and in the year 2010, we admitted two audio copies of the movie SNIJEG, directed by Aida Begic. Poster holding facility, which has an extensive collection of posters, gained 12 new additions in the year 2010. Movie stills, and working stills form a collection of 743 pieces, 20 of which were added in year 2010.

Foreign film collection was enriched with 93 new audio copies, so that the total now sums to 844 films, that is to say 5.184 reels, that is to say 2.622.502 meters of film tape from foreign movies.

The total collection of home made, foreign , short length, documentary and animated films on VHS is 2.138 films, and 641 movie on DVD. All of these are films of cultural and historical significance and artistic value which gained a list of awards and commendations all around the world.

Along with the movies, we have a collection of propaganda material such as posters, which total to 60.000 pieces. Stills were made as propaganda material before, and we have a collection of foreign film stills which totals to 1.347 archived pieces.

We regularly follow the press and store texts that relate to cinematography. So, in the year 2010, we managed to procure 285 texts , with the total number of various press clippings amounting to 15.086 archived pieces.

Library was improved with 152 new books or magazines, and this special library has books which relate to film art, and as such has a lot of users. The problem is that the books are mostly unique , and can be handled only on the premises of the Archive.

During the working year , The National Film Archive opens the possibility of using films and film materials for various educational needs and age groups.

For the youngest ones, we organized special children film screenings, in cooperation with teachers, and for the rest of the screenings which related to specific subjects such as history , english etc. , we screened film adaptations of valuable literature works in cooperation , again , with the teachers of elementary and high school. For the pregraduate students, postgraduate students, and doctoral theses students, we supplied various valuable information related to film industry, and opened up our collections to them on several occasions.

The Public Institution, National Film Archive of Bosnia and Herzegovina is an active member of FIAF and a representative of the Archive attends each Congress , which secures faster involvment in new, modern streams in this area.

Each year, we mark UNESCO WORLD DAY FOR AUDIOVISUAL HERITAGE, and this year we screened the movie „STRASILO“ (Scarecrow) .

We have established a cooperation with „SLAVIKA-SLAVENSKA IDEJA KULTURE association , and for the needs of the association, we screened films from their area of interest.

Each year, we mark the DAYS OF COUNTY SARAJEVO with a suitable film programmé. In cooperation with Open Society Fond , and French Embassy in Sarajevo, a FRENCH FILM WEEK was organized. Tha National Film Archive of BiH was also a host to WEEK OF EUROPEAN FILM 2010.

A round table forum was organized in cooperation with Goethe Institute Sarajevo on the subject : ANALYSIS OF STATUS OF THE NATIONAL FILM ARCHIVE OF BIH. PRESERVE FILM HERITAGE- IMPROVE FILM CULTURE.

With the association for visual arts FENIX ART from Banja Luka, an ANIMATED FILM 2010 was presented to the audience. In cooperation with Open Center and Slovenian Embassy, a WEEK OF SLOVENIAN FILM was organized, and after that DAYS OF EUROPEAN DOCUMENTARY FILM- SARAJEVO.

REGULAR PROGRAMME OF THE NATIONAL FILM ARCHIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA FOR THE YEAR 2010 was screened each working day, hosting a total of 1608 people.

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