

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY FOR FILM ARCHIVES A PROGRAM OF SYMPOSIA FOR ARCHIVISTS JULY 2008 – JUNE 2009

As part of its efforts in the EDCINE research project, the Cinémathèque Royale de Belgique organises a series of symposia specifically addressed to archivists and professionals responsible for the archiving, digitizing and distribution of archival materials.

The symposia will take place in different locations in Europe in collaboration with local Archives and Institutions.

The program is organised with the support and contribution of EDCine/Archives partners: *Fraunhofer-Institut für Integrierte Schaltungen IIS* (Erlangen, Germany), and *MOG Solutions* (Oporto, Portugal).

The program is divided in two parts: *Part One* is designed as an in-depth introduction to the fundamental issues related to archiving and accessing film content in a digital environment, and it is addressed to all archivists and cinema professionals concerned with the application of digital technology to cinema archiving. *Part Two symposia* will focus on a practical demonstration of the results of the EDCine Project, as concrete applications for storing, managing and distributing digitized archival films.

Although at this time (September 2008), the complete program of events is being finalised, some appointments can already be announced. The following list is not yet complete, and we hope that other locations will be added in the coming weeks.

EDCine Training Part One:

Bologna, July 3rd & 4th, 2008, in collaboration with the Cineteca di Bologna, the Festival Il Cinema Ritrovato, Mostra Internazionale del Cinema Libero.

London, November 24th & 25th, 2008, in collaboration with BFI Southbank

Copenhagen, January 22nd and 23rd, 2009, in collaboration with the Danish Film Institute

Valencia, March 5th and 6th, 2009, in collaboration with the Valencia Film Archive

EDCine Training Part Two:

London, May 28th, 2009, in collaboration with BFI Southbank

Brussels, June 2009 (*date to be confirmed*) – **EDCine/Archives closing event**

Further information will be available on the websites of the Cinémathèque Royale, and of the hosting Institutions, or by writing to Nicola Mazzanti (nicola.mazzanti.95@virgilio.it).

The precise content of the training program will be published for each of the locations, but its general structure is described as follows.

EDCine Training Program for Film Archivists

Part One: DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY FOR MOVING IMAGE ARCHIVES in digital ingest, storage, access and distribution

CONTENT

A preparatory level that covers all the background and introductory understanding needed for archivists, technicians and technologists to appreciate the choices, alternatives and possibilities available in this area. The programme will be structured around D-Cinema distribution routes but will include the many lower bit-rates, formats and quality versions relevant to TV, internet, home movie etc.

AUDIENCE

The training program will be beneficial to:

- Directors and managers of moving image archives, who have, or plan to have, digital projects.
- Film and TV Archive technical staff concerned with cinema display and digital preservation and access.
- Technical and management staff of digital facility and post houses intending to provide film and digital services to archives.
- First and second degree students of film and TV archive programmes.
- Industry: exhibitors, distributors, producers, post-houses

DURATION

Two days (12-14 hours) of presentations and information content: lectures, demonstrations, discussion and tutorials.

LANGUAGE

The teaching language will be English.

TOPICS COVERED IN THE INITIAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES

The challenges

Archives and cinémathèques facing advent of Digital in preservation and exhibition

Film for digital cinema today

Cinema film becomes digital film becomes digital cinema. Explaining cinema archives to film makers, and modern film making to archivists.

Digital formats for moving images and audio for access.

An archival perspective on of digital file formats and media, hardware and software current and medium term overview

Digital technology, DCI, SMPTE and Digital Cinema Packages,

The proposed digital cinema systems and the need for simplified creation of digital projection formats.

Digital Dilemma for Archives and The objectives for EDCine.

A two-need system: access and preservation. Maintaining a filmic image from film originals in the cinema and fast, simple, easy access to lower qualities.

JPEG2000

An introduction to JPEG2000, its application in D-Cinema and its advantages in the context of digital preservation of moving image content (film, video)

MXF, JPEG2000 and EDCine.

An introduction to MXF from the perspective of its application in the archival workflow, and in Edcine/Archives proposed architecture

The film (and video) archive and its digital policy

Policies and strategies for digital preservation of film collections; EDCine proposed system in a real archival environment; the areas needing further research.

Looking ahead another hundred years.

A look into the future from the perspective of film archives.

Open forum**Part Two: THE EDCine ARCHIVE PROJECT – RESEARCH, PROPOSALS AND PRACTICE.**

Open standards solutions for conserving and distributing born digital and digitized moving image collections.

CONTENT

A final deliverable of the project will be a demonstration of the use of JPEG2000 and MXF, and of open standards as means to provide film (and other moving image) archives with methods of ingesting, storing, providing access, creating versions in various format and qualities to both content and its associated metadata. The session will be provided in context, with real archive content and at a real scale.

AUDIENCE

The training program will be beneficial to:

- Archivists, technicians, technologists, and students that have attended Part One of the programme.
- Technology managers from archives and digital facility houses familiar with film archive requirements.
- Senior management of film and TV archives.
- University academic staff, influential movers within the archive world and the entertainment industry.

DURATION:

One full day – 7hrs approx.

LANGUAGE:

The presentation language will be English.

EDCINE is a project supported by the *IST 6th Framework Program of the European Commission* for research and development in the field of D-Cinema applications.

One of its three main area of research concerns solutions for digitally storing and distributing born digital and digitized film content from archival collections.
