

THE RECOVERY OF THE CHANNEL 10 NEWS ARCHIVE FROM NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF CORDOBA, ARGENTINE:

A space for the memory and the knowledge

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The program

The program for the Recovery and Analysis of Information of Documental Filmic Archive (News from Channel 10 of the decades of the '60 and '70) was born in 1994 as an interdisciplinary project guided to: to rescue and to preserve a part of our cultural patrimony and memory in images and sounds; to systematize that material and to generate an audio-visual documentation centre in the University environment; to promote and to develop investigations and audio-visual productions; to form human resources; to transfer results to the community.

The News Archive of Channel 10 is constituted for more than 1.500 hours of filmic material in 16 mm, produced and received by the Informative of the Services of Radio and Television of the National University of Cordoba between 1962 and 1980. That material testifies diverse aspects of the political, social and cultural life of Cordoba, of the country and of the international environment of the period. From there that it constitutes a valuable one and, in certain unique way, source of information in images and sounds that it can serve as base for the investigation in Social and Human Sciences, the elaboration of new audio-visual messages, their use in educational environments and in extension to the community.

The institutional and interdisciplinary space

The plan of systematizing that filmic documental material was gestated in 1993 as answer to the proposal carried out by the SRT to the Department of Cinema and TV of the School of Philosophy and Humanities to recover news from the Archive by means of its transcription to support video and its cataloguing in database.

The project acquired an institutional dimension when being assumed and developed by the classes Argentinean and Latin American Cinema and TV; Argentinean Social and Economic History; and Theory and Technical of the Social Investigation classes, in the frame of successive established agreements among the Department of Cinema and TV, the School of Arts and the School of Philosophy with the SRT of the University. In this context the transfer took place from the Archive to the environment of the School to face the works and reasons of its protection and definitive custody.



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Works

The interdisciplinary team constituted by teachers and students from the Department of Cinema and TV started a pioneer work of knowledge integration, creative and experimental, that established the procedures, instruments and sequences dedicated to the systematizing of the material keeping in mind the necessary conditions for its appropriate treatment and preservation.

This way, the group of activities and operations that are carried out define what we also understand as archive recovery in the frame of the program. This embraces the classification, cleaning, inventoried; the makeup, transfer to video the filmic material and the storage of the rolls; the analysis, description and the summarize of the informative content of the news transfered to video and their registration in database.

The design of a database for that object (software application Micro-Isis) was carried out in collaboration with the computer area of the Centre of Investigations of the School of Philosophy and Humanides (CIFYH) at the same time that it was elaborated a listing of categories and instructions for the classification and cataloguing of the information in PC.

In the setting on of this interdisciplinary project contributed also with their contribution of knowledge: the SRT (instrumentation in the handling of the Telecine Team to transfer film to video); the classes of Assembly and of Picture of the Cinema Department; Teachers of Chemical Sciences of the UNC, personal of the Antorchas Fund, Rio de Janeiro's Cinemateca, etc. in the relative thing to the treatment and conservation of the filmic material.

New supports, new products

In the lapsed period you advanced in diverse aspects linked to the processes of systematizing of the material and the development of the documentation centre. So far it has been possible to order, to clean and to inventory 30.000 news approximately, of which 13.000 have been paged, transferred to video, analyzed and classified in database; being stored the film in new appropriate containers to their conservation. The transfered material is equal to more than 350 hs/news in support video (VHS and SVHS) and the automated informative content, to 13.000 registrations (units of information with 28 fields each one). The processed documentation corresponds to the period 1965/75 and includes mainly the one taken place in the local environment. At the moment there are in transfer process and analysis other 3.000 news (70 hours aprox.) corresponding in their biggest part to the period 1976/80.

The availability of the material this way systematized in new supports and their organization in a public environment are essential conditions for the access to the documentation on



the part of the university community and other possible ones interested. At the same time, having other supports for the consultation and the one copy of the material it is a key requirement for the protection of the original source.

The advantages that supposes to already have the documentation analyzed and classified based on categories and terms, descriptions and content summaries, environments, dates, etc. in a multiaccess computer program supposed can be appreciated in the following example: In October of 1969 a Bolivian military visited Cordoba. The reference title (original label in the filmic roll) consigned “Report to Bolivian general”; however, the viewing and analysis of the news in video allowed to discover and to recover another information of the journalistic interview. In this case, the one referred to aspects linked with the persecution and death of Ernesto “Che” Guevara, to which you can access directly by the homonymous describer that registers the automated dictionary.

The organization and the operation of the centre of documentation audio-visual demand a series of activities dedicated to the maintenance and improvement of the database (verification, correction, bring up to date and documentation of the registrations). It also contemplates the production of catalogues and other instruments to optimize the consultation, as the implementation of a recently designed page web form. The attention of the consultants requires of the endowment of personal and of appropriate infrastructure, which exceeds the area of incumbency of the program. Nevertheless, until the present, the team has taken charge of that attention.

In that mark, the systematized material has been and it’s employed for the development of several projects, besides the specific ones that carry out integral of the team. For example, on the part of investigators of the field of the history and of the communication; for students, teachers and directors of the audivisual and artistic production area, of this University and of other environments. Such it is the case of the documentary “The scream of Stone” and “Hunters of utopias.”

On the other hand, the SRT have been using the documentation in video in diverse programs, mainly in the informative one television through the micro “the past Chronicle”

New knowledge, new images

In agreement with the purpose of promote and develop historical investigations and audio-visual productions starting from the employment, treatment and interpretation of images of Archive, from 1995 diverse studies were carried out in the program. In this sense, the use of the material already systematized is carried out from different disciplinaries fields and with diverse purposes. They have an interdisciplinary vocation and the interest in common to contribute to the knowledge and to transfer it to the community.



With that perspective, a group of members developed the project that points to settle down “analysis Approaches, treatment and exploitation of audio-visual documents in the historical investigation” and at the moment it carries out an investigation for the “historical Reconstruction of the production conditions of news in Channel 10 (Cordoba, 1962/80).” Another group approached a study for the realization of an assembly documentary on “Cordoba’s labour Movement of the decades of the ‘60 and ‘70, its main currents and main characters, through the news of the Filmic Archive Channel 10”; at the present time it works on the topic “Development union and union conflicts in Cordoba (1965/76)”, also for the elaboration of a documentary. A third team studies aspects of those “human rights between 1973 and the present time” for the realization of a short film in video.

The construction of new audio-visual products by the edition of news from Archive requested by different dependences of the University, is an activity carried out in the frame of the program attending to the purpose of putting to disposition unpublished images and fragments of memory for the specific boals ends of each academic unit, contributing at the same time to its popularization. There they register, for example, the works carried out for the School of Philosophy, the Department of Cinema, the Major Library or the Superior School of Commerce Manuel Belgrano of the UNC.

Other transfer activities and of scientific popularization have been faced by publications, the participation in days, conferences and academic meetings, in the co-organization of the first ones “Days of Preservation and Conservation of the Visual Memory” carried out in Cordoba in 1996, the dictation of a post-graduate seminar in the Area of History of the CIFFyH (1997) and of a formation seminar-shop in processes of the recovery and analysis of information of television news, dedicated to advanced students and graded of Cinema and TV, Archivists, Bibliotecology, History and Sciences of the Information (Department of Cinema 1999).

A balance

The development of the program of Recovery of the Archive Channel 10 has facilitated to begin a process of formation of human resources in a field little explored in our enviroment and that has scarce antecedents in the country, at least in the university environment. That formation process is carried out so much in the activities that are carried out in the recovery and preservation of the material from Archive, like in the related investigations. At the same time, the commitment and the responsible dedication of the students and teachers who participated and participate in the development of the program they have made possible the realization of a task of considerable magnitude. That collective work has been supported and valued by the HCD of the School of



Philosophy and Humanities and the HCS of the National University of Cordoba, when declaring of interest the project of Recovery.

Program Productions

Publications

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VVAA (selección, edición y titulado de noticias Canal 10), *Discurso Autoritario, Protesta Social y Represión entre 1968 y 1970*, Video Didáctico para la Cátedra Historia Social y Económica Argentina, 1hs, Dpto. Cine y TV, UNC, 1995

Internet Web Page (URL to confirm) designed by Santiago Sein, 1999



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