

This is the City: Preserving Moving Images of Los Angeles **Symposium**

November 13 – 14, 2015 | Billy Wilder Theater

Preliminary Schedule

Friday, November 13, 7:30 p.m.

Welcome: Jan-Christopher Horak, UCLA Film & Television Archive

Keynote speaker: Harry Gamboa Jr., CalArts

Introduction: Chon Noriega, UCLA; Rani Singh, Getty Research Institute

Screening: *Smog* (1962, Italy)

Director Franco Rossi offers an atmospheric meditation on the pervasive alienation and class systems inherent to American life in the sprawling City of Angels, as seen through the outsider perspectives of a visiting Italian attorney (Enrico Maria Salerno) and a small circle of Italian expats. Notable sequences prominently feature midcentury modern landmarks, including Los Angeles International Airport and the Pierre Koenig-designed Stahl Residence.

Production: Titanus, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Director: Franco Rossi. Screenwriter: Franco Rossi, Pasquale Festa Campanile, Massimo Franciosa, Ugo Guerra. Cinematographer: Ted McCord. Editor: Aldo Capuano. Composer: Piero Umiliani. With: Enrico Maria Salerno, Annie Girardot, Renato Salvatori, Max Showalter, Susan Mueller. 35mm, b/w, in Italian with English subtitles, 88 min.

Preceded by:

News of the Day, Vol. 27, No. 207 – Excerpt: “Los Angeles Seeks Remedy as Record Smog Covers City” (1955)

Motorcyclists don gas masks and city workers prepare emergency road barricades for possible street closures as air pollution in Los Angeles reaches extreme danger levels.

Preserved by UCLA Film & Television Archive. Digital Video, b/w, 2 min.

Saturday, November 14, 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Coffee and refreshments

Welcome: Jan-Christopher Horak, UCLA

Screening: **Unedited footage: “Los Angeles, 1920”**

Includes images of Echo Park, Broadway, Olive Street, Rosslyn Hotel, Mack Sennett Studios, First National Exhibitors', Consolidated Film Corporation, Fox Film Corporation, Film Row, film distributors, street scenes. Footage preserved by UCLA Film & Television Archive. Live musical accompaniment provided by Cliff Retallick.

Session 1: Lost Angeles: Preserving the City on Non-Theatrical Film

Local moving image archivists will discuss and present examples of ephemeral works that document the city in unexpected ways. Context to include the long-term preservation issues and priorities associated with non-studio footage.

Presenters: Lynne Kirste, Academy Film Archive; Todd Wiener, UCLA Film & Television Archive; Dino Everett, USC Hugh M. Hefner Moving Image Archive. Moderator: Dan Streible, NYU, Moving Image Archiving and Preservation.

11:25 – 11:40 a.m.

Break: Coffee and refreshments

Session 2: Unexpected Travelogues

Academics will illuminate the city and its spaces from various perspectives derived from disparate sources of archival motion pictures, television programs, and ephemeral films.

Presenters: Janet Bergstrom, UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television; Mark Shiel, Kings College; Lynn Spigel, Northwestern University. Moderator: John Caldwell, UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television.

1 – 2:30 p.m.

Lunch break (on your own)

Introduction: Dan Einstein, UCLA Film & Television Archive

Clip screening: “Ralph Story’s Los Angeles”

A look at the Jewish community in Boyle Heights.

Session 3: In Plain Sight – Hidden Los Angeles Through the Archive

Obscure moving images reveal the Los Angeles that Hollywood ignores; the importance of preserving marginalized communities is examined through archival footage.

Presenters: Jacqueline Najuma Stewart, University of Chicago; Lane Ryo Hirabayashi, UCLA Department of Asian American Studies; Marsha Goodman, filmmaker; Allyson Nadia Field, UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television. Moderator: Jacqueline Najuma Stewart.

3:45 – 4 p.m.

Break: Coffee and refreshments

Introduction: Jan-Christopher Horak, UCLA.

Short screening: “Los Angeles: Wonder City of the West” (1935)

James A. FitzPatrick’s *Traveltalk* visits Olvera Street and numerous motion picture studios, with an appearance by Walt Disney.

Session 4: Framing the Shortfalls of the City in the Frame

Activists utilize moving images to reveal the realities of the city, in direct contrast to Hollywood depictions.

Presenters: David James, USC; Joshua Glick, Hendrix College. Moderator: Kathleen McHugh, UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television.

Summation: Jan-Christopher Horak, UCLA

Introduction: Stephen Parr

Screening: “Oddball Films Archive Looks at Los Angeles” (ephemera clip reel)

Saturday, November 14, 7:30 p.m.

Revisiting *Ralph Story’s Los Angeles*

Premiering in 1964, the urbane travelogue series *Ralph Story’s Los Angeles* remains one of the most fondly-remembered locally-produced programs in Los Angeles television history. Join our guest host, historian Alison Martino of Vintage Los Angeles, for a screening retrospective and panel discussion celebrating this beloved, innovative series, featuring excerpts and complete episodes documenting such iconic locales as Angels Flight, Clifton’s Cafeteria, Sunset Boulevard, and the long lost landmarks Hollywood Ranch Market and L.A.’s Kiddieland. *Ralph Story’s Los Angeles*, courtesy of KCBS-TV Los Angeles. All material preserved by UCLA Film & Television Archive.

Presenters: Dan Einstein, UCLA; Dan Gingold, executive producer/director, *Ralph Story’s Los Angeles*; Alison Martino; Joe Saltzman, producer, *Ralph Story’s Los Angeles*.

Screening:

***Ralph Story’s Los Angeles*—Excerpt: “Angels Flight Railway”** (KNXT, 3/6/66)

Executive producer: Joe Sands. Producer: Dan Gingold. Director: Dan Gingold. Writer: Jere Witter, Nate Kaplan. Digital video, b/w, 5 min.

***Ralph Story’s Los Angeles*—Excerpt: “Clifton’s Cafeteria, Downtown Los Angeles”** (KNXT, 10/22/67)

Executive producer: Dan Gingold. Producer: Joe Saltzman. Director: Jim Johnson. Writer: Jere Witter, Nate Kaplan. Digital video, color, 12 min.

***Ralph Story’s Los Angeles*—Excerpt: “Hollywood Ranch Market”** (KNXT, 2/4/68)

Executive producer: Dan Gingold. Producer: Joe Saltzman. Director: Jim Johnson. Writer: Jere Witter, Nate Kaplan. Digital video, color, 10 min.

Ralph Story's Los Angeles—Excerpt: "Beverly Park, Also Known as L.A.'s Kiddieland" (KNXT, 5/18/69)

Executive producer: Dan Gingold. Producer: Joe Saltzman. Director: Jim Johnson. Writer: Jere Witter, Nate Kaplan. Digital video, color, 8 min.

Ralph Story's Los Angeles—Episode: "A Drive Down the Entire 25-Mile Length of Sunset Boulevard" (KNXT, 9/22/68)

Executive producer: Dan Gingold. Producer: Joe Saltzman. Director: Jim Johnson. Writer: Jere Witter, Nate Kaplan. Digital video, color, 28 min.

Ralph Story's Los Angeles—Episode: "Los Angeles, Downtown, and Disneyland After Dark" (KNXT, 2/11/68)

Executive producer: Dan Gingold. Producer: Joe Saltzman. Director: Jim Johnson. Writer: Jere Witter, Nate Kaplan. Digital video, color, 28 min.

Total running time of program: approx. 120 min.

Symposium Pass

This symposium is open to the general public. A single \$15 pass grants access to all symposium events. Details and passes available at cinema.ucla.edu/thisisthecity.

Location

Billy Wilder Theater, 10899 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90024
Courtyard level, Hammer Museum

Parking

Entry to the parking lot is located on Westwood Blvd, just north of Wilshire Blvd.

Only cash and check are accepted.

Monday - Friday after 6 p.m.: \$3 flat rate

Saturday & Sunday all day: \$3 flat rate

Monday - Friday before 6 p.m.: \$3 for first 3 hours with museum validation and \$1.50 every 15 minutes thereafter. To obtain validation, show your ticket stub at the welcome desk in the museum lobby.

This is the City: Screening Series

There is a related *This is the City: Preserving Moving Images of Los Angeles* series that will screen from Sunday, November 15 – Monday, December 14 at the Billy Wilder Theater. Details and tickets available at cinema.ucla.edu/thisisthecity.