

Audio Heritage Preservation

The Survival of Recorded Sound in Folklore, Music, and Oral History Collections

North Carolina Preservation Consortium

Annual Conference

Charlotte, North Carolina

April 18, 2002

9 AM – 4 PM

The custodians of our audio heritage collections encounter many challenges in their efforts to preserve music and spoken word recordings. Topics for this one day conference will include collection priorities, media formats, audio technology, engineering standards, guidelines and best practices, preserving the artifact, digitization, and rights management. Please join us for an opportunity in audio preservation education and networking.

Preserving Audio Archives

Alan Lewis, Subject Area Expert for Audiovisual Preservation in the Special Media Archives Services Division of the National Archives and Records Administration, will present an overview of audio preservation in the National Archives. An introduction to the fundamental nature of mechanical, magnetic, and optical sound recording media will follow. Issues in conservation, preservation, and restoration of audio collections, including contracting for audio laboratory services, will also be discussed.

National Archives and Records Administration

<http://www.nara.gov/>

National Archives at College Park

http://www.nara.gov/nara/dc/Archives2_directions.html

Motion Picture Films and Sound and Video Recordings

http://www.nara.gov/research/bymedia/mo_int.html

Save Our Sounds

Michael Taft, Folklife Specialist in the Library of Congress American Folklife Center, will provide an overview of Save Our Sounds: America's Recorded Sound Heritage Project. Part of the Save America's Treasures program, the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institute are working collaboratively to preserve collections of historical recordings. This preservation project for spoken word and music collections includes restoring original recordings, producing archival copies, and digitizing recordings for online access.

Library of Congress

American Folklife Center

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/folklife/>

Smithsonian Institute
Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage
<http://www.folklife.si.edu/>

Save American's Treasures
<http://www.saveamericastreasures.org/>

Save Our Sounds
<http://www.saveoursounds.org/>

Audio Preservation Technology

Seth B. Winner, Sound Preservation Engineer at the Rodgers and Hammerstein Archives of Recorded Sound in the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts and President of Seth B. Winner Sound Studios Inc., will discuss issues in preserving wax cylinders, lacquer and aluminum discs, magnetic wire recordings, shellac pressings, acetate-based tapes, audio cassettes, compact discs and digital audio tapes. Methods of preservation reformatting used at the Archives and Mr. Winner's studio will be presented.

New York Public Library for the Performing Arts
<http://www.nypl.org/research/lpa/lpa.html>

Rodgers and Hammerstein Archives of Recorded Sound
<http://www.nypl.org/research/lpa/rha/rha.html>

Audio Preservation in the Real World

Charles J. Haddix, Sound Recording Specialist, in the University of Missouri-Kansas City Libraries' Marr Sound Archives, will give a presentation on the Marr Archives' sound preservation studio's equipment, staffing, and operations. Preservation issues for sound archives in academic libraries will be addressed. Topics include preserving the artifact, digitization, and rights management.

The University of Missouri-Kansas City Libraries
<http://www.umkc.edu/lib/index.html>

Miller Nichols Library
<http://www.umkc.edu/lib/MNL/index.html>

Marr Sound Archives
<http://www.umkc.edu/lib/spec-col/marr.html>

Location

The conference will be hosted by the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County in Charlotte, North Carolina. Presentations will be in the main library's Francis Auditorium on the lower level. The library's Robinson-Spangler Carolina Room is home to the Piedmont Music Archives. From the 1920s to the 1940s, Charlotte was one of the locations where major record companies would seek out local talent. Today, many artists from across the country continue to record in some of Charlotte's studios. The Piedmont Music Archives has one of the largest collections of music from the Carolinas; from gospel to country; bluegrass to folk; bebop to pop to hip-hop. Robert E. Cannon, Director of the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, will welcome the audience with a few words about the Piedmont Music Archives.

Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County

<http://www.plcmc.org>

Robinson-Spangler Carolina Room

<http://www.plcmc.org/carolinaroom>

Lunch

Lunch is included in the registration fee and will be provided in the Harris Hall of the Levine Museum of the New South, located one block behind the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

Levine Museum of the New South

<http://www.museumofthenewsouth.org/>

Directions

Directions to the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County are on the web.

<http://www.plcmc.org/libLoc/mainLibrary.htm>

Parking

Information about parking is also available on the web.

<http://www.plcmc.org/libLoc/mainParking.htm>

Note: The NationsBank parking deck is now called Bank of America.

Airport and Transportation

Information for the Charlotte/Douglas International Airport and local transportation is on the Charlotte Convention and Visitor's Bureau web page.

<http://www.charlottecvb.org/transportation.cfm>

Hotels and Restaurants

The Charlotte Convention and Visitor's Bureau also provides a listing of local hotels and restaurants with a searchable database.

<http://www.charlottecvb.org/>

Local Information

For additional local information, contact:

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NCPC Information

For information about the North Carolina Preservation Consortium, contact:

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Registration

The registration fee is \$35.00 for employees of NCPC member institutions and individual members and \$45.00 for non-members. Please make checks payable to the North Carolina Preservation Consortium. No refunds will be given after April 1, 2002. For additional registration information, contact :

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