

Archipelago Network ————— Press Release

Press release #07

May 14, 2024

APEX 2024: GREECE

International Collaboration Between New York University's MIAP Program and Archipelago Network for Audiovisual Heritage Preservation

Archipelago Network partners with New York University's Moving Image Archiving and Preservation (MIAP) program to host the 2024 edition of the Audiovisual Preservation Exchange (APEX) in Greece. From May 22 to May 31, 2024, selected archivists and MIAP students, alongside participants from Athens and Syros, Greece, undertake cataloging and preservation of the "Of the Anonymous" amateur film archive, and organization and digitization of the Aigaiio Radio & TV station archive.

Before cell phones and digital cameras, and long before TikTok, Instagram and selfies, various forms of amateur and community-scale media-making narrated decades of everyday history. Home movies captured fleeting moments of public and private life, while public access television and radio provided a platform for local news, events and creative expression. The film reels, audio tapes and VHS cassettes that will be organized and digitized during this project constitute a simultaneously essential and vulnerable record of local memory and culture.

ATHENS, 22-25 MAY

Cataloging amateur film collections with "Of the Anonymous - Amateur Audiovisual Material Archive"

This project centers on cataloging and access policies for "Of the Anonymous - Amateur Audiovisual Material Archive." The collection, dedicated to Greek and international amateur cinema, holds an idiosyncratic survey of Super 8 and 16mm films. Participants will collaborate on strategies to enhance cataloging methods and improve accessibility to this invaluable collection of amateur cinematic treasures.

Working group: Kim Tarr, Juliana Principe, Julia Delgadillo, Clara Sanchez, Nikos Mitrogiannopoulos, and Orfeas Anastasiadis.

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SYROS, 22-31 MAY

Digitization and documentation of public access television with "Aigaio Radio & TV"

This project focuses on cataloging, partial digitization, and storage management setup of the audiovisual archive of Aigaio Radio-TV, a public-access radio and television station located in the historic settlement of Ano Syros. Established in 1988, the station maintains a collection of thousands of regional TV and radio broadcasts, providing insights into breaking news, local culture and significant events in Syros and the Cyclades over the past three decades.

Working group: Shahed Dowlatshahi, Mona Jimenez, Charlie Norbury, Matt Yang, Neil Brydon, Syrina Nuemah, Fin Hatfield, Petros Freris, Xenia Kottaki and Thodoris Panagos.

Public Program

In Syros, a public program including a workshop and screening event will be held with the participation of the Athens working group, which joins the Syros team for the final phase of APEX 2024.

SUN 26 MAY, 11:00-13:00, Ano Syros Cultural Center

"Preserving Magnetic Media: Crash Course"

Workshop held in the context of the 2nd Documenting Heritage Festival
Participants: up to 12 persons

Held at the headquarters of the Aigaio Radio & TV station, this workshop provides an introduction to the work of APEX 2024: Greece, including an overview of digitization and organization techniques for magnetic media (VHS) held in the station's archive.

If interested, sign up by Wednesday, May 22 by completing the registration form [here](#). The workshop will be held in English. Registrations are confirmed on a first come, first served basis.

FRI 31 MAY, 18:00, Cultural Center of Ermoupolis

"Preserving the Audiovisual Archive of Aigaio Radio & TV"

Presentation & Screening in collaboration with the Syros International Film Festival (SIFF)

Celebrating the history of Aigaio Radio & TV's television programming, this event includes a presentation of the methodology and results of cataloging and digitization of the station's VHS archive completed during APEX 2024: Greece, as well as a screening of selected television broadcasts from the mid and late 1990s including local community events and news.

You can pre-book by filling out the form [here](#) or register in person on the day of the event.

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APEX strives to create long-standing partnerships, activate local knowledge, and facilitate resources and networking that makes its projects sustainable in the long run. To this end, both teams aim to enhance local capacity for these activities in Syros and Athens, as well as to raise awareness for the endangered status of amateur cinema and regional public access audiovisual heritage. Digitized assets resulting from the workshops will be preserved in Archipelago Network's digital repository and provided in hard copy to each local partner.

APEX 2024: Greece is realized in collaboration with: NYU Tisch MIAP, NYU Martin Scorsese Department of Cinema Studies, Elías Querejeta Zine Eskola, Of the Anonymous - Amateur Audiovisual Material Archive, Aigaio Radio & TV, AVP, Urbanski, Image Permanence Institute, and the Municipality of Syros-Ermoupolis.

ABOUT APEX

The Audiovisual Preservation Exchange originates from the Moving Image Archiving and Preservation program (MIAP) at New York University, one of the two MAs offered by the Martin Scorsese Department of Cinema Studies at New York University, Tisch School of the Arts. APEX promotes international collaboration and academic dialogue on film and media preservation in order to safeguard the world's audiovisual heritage, providing an opportunity for members of the international audiovisual archival community to exchange knowledge and skills in areas such as inspection and care of audiovisual materials, cataloging, metadata management, digitization, digital preservation, and access to collections.

ABOUT ARCHIPELAGO NETWORK

The Aegean islands are havens of diasporic culture, traditional knowledge and biodiversity. Yet today, accelerating forces such as overtourism and the global climate crisis exert local pressures on these coastal communities, threatening knowledge systems and environmental equilibriums. In this context, Archipelago Network takes up the Cyclades islands as laboratories for field research, residencies, publications, online projects and public programs. The initiative works at the intersection of visual practices, cultural life, and the natural environment, providing open access to its digital collections while contributing to the development of local and regional memory through documentation and outreach activities.

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To stay updated with the latest news from the field and upcoming events, follow the social networks of the Archipelago Network or visit archipelagonetwork.org.

Social Media:

Instagram: [@archipelago_net](https://www.instagram.com/archipelago_net)

Facebook: [@archipelagonet](https://www.facebook.com/archipelagonet)

LinkedIn: [Archipelago Network](https://www.linkedin.com/company/Archipelago_Network)

Vimeo: [@archipelagonetwork](https://www.vimeo.com/archipelagonetwork)

Mixcloud: [@archipelagonetwork](https://www.mixcloud.com/archipelagonetwork)

For all media inquiries, please contact Archipelago Network at comms@archipelagonetwork.org.