

## 2021 FIAF Annual Report: Korean Film Archive (KOFA)

### 1. Annual Acquisitions

| Format                                      | Quantity |
|---------------------------------------------|----------|
| Film                                        | 206      |
| Digital Cinema                              | 1,454    |
| Videos                                      | 2,552    |
| Textual materials (incl. books and scripts) | 672      |
| Images (incl. posters and still photos)     | 6,840    |
| Archival and other materials                | 7,667    |

In Korea, once a film is given a rating, its original and a copy must be submitted to the Korean Film Archive (KOFA) within 60 days of the date of classification by law. By this submission system, KOFA collected 1,021 titles of Korean films in 2021 in the format of digital cinema.

31 fiction and 2 non-fiction films were newly discovered and collected. A total of 2,397 still images of filmmakers and film shoot locations were digitally scanned and collected, and 9 stills in glass disk which were produced in the Japanese colonial era were acquired. As for international acquisitions, a research project of a North Korean movie *Lady of the Kumgang Mountains* stored in the New York university library was worked on. Moreover, several research projects were committed to the discovery of Korean films in Europe, North America, and South America. Furthermore, 135 titles of Korean independent films were newly collected through the Independent Film Archive Project.

### 2. Progress and Issues in the Field of Preservation

| Inspection & Preservation per Category      |       | Quantity |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|----------|
| Film                                        |       | 1,878    |
| Digital Cinema                              | DSM   | 922      |
|                                             | DCP   | 678      |
|                                             | Sound | 392      |
| Video · Audio data                          |       | 4,239    |
| Paper materials (texts, posters, flyers)    |       | 7,680    |
| Photo materials (still photos, still films) |       | 155,251  |
| Archival materials (props, costumes, etc.)  |       | 663      |

KOFA inspected and preserved a total of 1,878 in 2021, which involved regular inspection of registered cultural assets and film submissions, inspection and repair of collected films, inspection of incoming and outgoing films and preservation of films affected by the vinegar syndrome. Based on the results of vinegar syndrome tests (using AD-strips), 799 films (5,089 rolls) with the highest level (Level 1) of acetification were treated with molecular sieves. Moreover, photographic activity tests were conducted to inspect the suitability of items and equipment generally used in preservation and restoration. As of 2021, KOFA holds a total of 12,712 titles (25,822 films).

### 3. Cataloguing, Documentation and Research

KOFA catalogued a total of 54,549 pieces of data (including 2,236 audio-visual materials, 48,914 images, 3,057 documents, and 342 archival materials). The list of data and the digitized materials are available on the Korean Movie Database (KMDb) ([www.kmdb.or.kr](http://www.kmdb.or.kr)) and also via the KOFA library's digital information service system. Since 2020 KOFA has provided the multiple collections categorized by the subjects or donors. In 2021, five collections were newly released online ([www.kmdb.or.kr/collectionlist/collectionGroup](http://www.kmdb.or.kr/collectionlist/collectionGroup)).

| Collection                                 | Content                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Korean Films in 1961                       | Introduction to the films released in 1961 that opened the era of the Korean cinema Renaissance in the 1960s   |
| Off Screen, 1961                           | Collection of still images taken at film shooting in 1961                                                      |
| Lee Man-hui and Censorship                 | Introduction to works of Lee Man-hui who debuted in 1961 and administrative documents related to his films     |
| Taehung Production                         | Films collected and donated by the Taehung Production, a representative film production company in South Korea |
| Fiction films under Japanese Colonial Rule | Introduction to films produced during the Japanese colonial era                                                |

#### 4. Film Screenings, Exhibitions, Publications & Educational Programmes

##### a) Key Screenings & Programmes

KOFA screened decent Korean and foreign movies, and in-house restored films both online and offline. A total of 550 screenings were conducted in KOFA's two theatres (321 and 150 seats) for 276 days— attracting 27,370 viewers (A capacity was restricted to 30% due to the COVID-19). KOFA also provided online screenings via KMDb, YouTube and Naver TV resulted in 14,221 views. The audio-visual project *Round and Around* which made use of footage of Korea's modern and contemporary history was screened 13 times at home and abroad. We also presented unique performances 16 times last year, which were produced based on *Turning Point of the Youngsters* and *Love with an Alien* that had collected and restored by KOFA.

| Type    | Programme                                                                        | Dates       | Co-organized by        |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Offline | 2020 My Private Film List                                                        | 01.24~01.30 |                        |
|         | The 9th Japan Foundation Movie Festival                                          | 01.31~02.25 | Japan Foundation Seoul |
|         | Hilarious! Is It Just Me? Frat Pack's Films                                      | 03.03~03.09 |                        |
|         | Trends of Asian Sci-Fi Films                                                     | 04.27~05.06 |                        |
|         | Challenging Journey of Youn Yuh-jung                                             | 05.07~05.18 |                        |
|         | Game X Cinema                                                                    | 05.19~06.09 |                        |
|         | KOFA Restored Works                                                              | 06.10~07.04 |                        |
|         | 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Cinematographer Report                                  | 07.06~08.06 |                        |
|         | Jacques Audiard Retrospective                                                    | 10.05~11.09 |                        |
|         | 2021 Independent Film                                                            | 12.22~12.31 |                        |
| Online  | Searching for Hidden Queer Cinema                                                | 02.01~02.15 |                        |
|         | The 7th Anniversary of the Sewol Ferry Disaster Commemorative Program            | 04.12~04.19 |                        |
|         | Alice Guy-Blaché                                                                 | 07.01~07.15 |                        |
|         | Witnessing 1946: Life Recorded in Newsreel Footage after Korea's 1945 Liberation | 08.12~08.26 |                        |
|         | Russian Film Archive's Restored Works                                            | 10.26~11.09 |                        |
|         | Korean Short Films about Winter                                                  | 12.01~12.12 |                        |

Korean classic films and KOFA collections are available online. A total of 377 films were provided via KMDb attracting 59,408 viewers, and on KOFA's YouTube channel, 95 movies with English subtitles resulted in 78,455,840 views. 8 films were also subtitled in Indonesian, Thai, Vietnamese, Malaysian, and Arabic. On Naver TV, a total of 190 films had 32,517 hits(KMDb [www.kmdb.or.kr](http://www.kmdb.or.kr) / YouTube [www.youtube.com/user/KoreanFilm](http://www.youtube.com/user/KoreanFilm) / NaverTV [tv.naver.com/koreanfilm](http://tv.naver.com/koreanfilm)).

##### b) Exhibitions

KOFA's exhibitions ran for 280 days, attracting a total of 11,073 audiences. Two special exhibitions were

held—available to watch via the VR online exhibition hall: [www.koreafilm.or.kr/museum/exhibition/now](http://www.koreafilm.or.kr/museum/exhibition/now)  
 KOFA launched service AI robots offering film information and artwork descriptions with self-driving.

| Exhibition                                                       | Dates                   | Content                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Korean Cinema: Times of Well-Made Films | 2021.2.26. ~ 2021.8.29. | The exhibition focused on the Korean cinema Renaissance over the last two decades in which quantitative and qualitative growth, independent film base expansion, and international fame were achieved. |
| Jung Hoon's Cartoon: Hanging out with Cinema for 25 years        | 2021.9.14. ~ 2022.3.20  | The exhibition reflected a 25-year history of Jung Hoon's Movie Cartoon published serially in the <i>Cine21</i> .                                                                                      |

#### c) DVD & Blu-ray

3 titles of Blu-ray discs were produced and sold in South Korea. Moreover, a set of DVDs was produced to distribute to international research institutes, colleges, and researchers for free.

| Category | No. of Titles (Subtitles)                                                                                                                        | Films                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Blu-ray  | 3 titles<br>-subtitled in English, Japanese                                                                                                      | <i>Whale Hunting</i> (Bae Chang-Ho, 1984)<br><i>The Coachman</i> (Kang Dae-Jin, 1961)<br><i>The Road to Sampo</i> (Lee Man-hui, 1975)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| DVD      | 1 set, 6 titles<br>-subtitles available in Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese, French, Spanish, and Russian<br>-guide book in Korean and English | Topic: Contact on Screen: Understanding Cultural Contact through Films<br>Films:<br><i>Spring of Korean Peninsula</i> (Lee Byung-il, 1941)<br><i>The Body Confession</i> (Jo Geung-ha, 1964)<br><i>Sunset in the Salween River</i> (Jung Chang-hwa, 1965)<br><i>The Homeless Wanderer</i> (Shin Sang-ok, 1968)<br><i>That Which Falls Has Wings</i> (Jang Gil-soo, 1989)<br><i>Dooman River</i> (Zhang Lu, 2009) |

#### d) Symposiums

Multiple seminars to research Korean films of the 1970s which were relatively less studied were worked on, and the results of the research were presented in a symposium

| Theme                                                          | Date         | Notes                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| The Era of B-movies: Korean films and the society of the 1970s | 2021. 11. 27 | Livestreamed on YouTube |

#### e) Educational Programmes

28 educational programmes suited for age groups from children to adults were conducted 132 times. The programmes were flexibly run on/offline under the COVID-19 guidelines.

| Target   | Title                    | Dates     | Sessions | Contents                                                                                                   | Venue   |
|----------|--------------------------|-----------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Children | KOFA Live Kids' Club     | Feb.-Dec. | 49       | Storytelling and creative activities related to film                                                       | Online  |
|          | KOFA Fun during Lockdown | May       | 1        | Understanding the principles of moving image with afterimage effect experience kits and educational videos |         |
|          | Light + Shadow           | Aug.-Sep. | 2        | Visual play programme using light and shadow                                                               |         |
|          | Little Cinema Workroom   | May-Nov.  | 10       | Creative activities with fine art, theatre, Korean language, cartoon, and sound                            | Offline |

|                        |                                                                            |               |    |                                                                                                                |        |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
|                        | Little Cinema Talk<br>Talk- Gender<br>Sensitivity Education                | June          | 3  | Educational program utilizing films to<br>develop gender sensitivity                                           |        |
|                        | Korean Film Museum-<br>Exhibition Descriptions                             | Nov.          | 3  | Introduction and descriptions of the<br>permanent exhibitions                                                  |        |
| Children/<br>Teenagers | Media Lab                                                                  | Oct.-<br>Dec. | 8  | Practical workshop: design, shooting,<br>and editing of stop motion videos                                     |        |
| Children/<br>Family    | KOFA Picture Book<br>Concert                                               | Nov.          | 1  | Song, instrument playing, and story<br>adaptation of classical fairy tale                                      |        |
|                        | Step by Staff                                                              | Mar.-<br>Sep. | 7  | VFX supervisor and art director's talk on<br>working in film industry                                          |        |
| Teenagers              | Film Journalism Kit for<br>Young People                                    | Jul.-<br>Aug. | 5  | Journalists' lecture on film criticism.<br>Students' best essays were posted on<br>KMDB                        |        |
|                        | Archivists' Mind                                                           | Apr.          | 4  | Archivists' talks on their roles and<br>activities                                                             |        |
|                        | Two or three things I<br>want to know about<br>digital visual effects      | May-<br>June  | 2  | Introduction to digital visual effects with<br>actual cases                                                    |        |
|                        | Flick and Flip: Jane<br>Austen screen<br>adaptations                       | June          | 1  | Introduction to Jane Austen's literature<br>and film adaptations                                               |        |
|                        | Cinema x Literature I,<br>II                                               | June-<br>July | 2  | Lectures about key elements of film<br>structure-camera, shot, frame, and<br>duration-and cinematic techniques | Online |
|                        | Cinema x Literature III                                                    | Jul.-<br>Sep. | 6  | Film criticism lectures and essay writing<br>workshop                                                          |        |
| Adults                 | Little Cinema Talk<br>Talk- Gender<br>Sensitivity Education<br>for parents | Sep.-<br>Oct. | 2  | Educational program utilizing films to<br>develop gender sensitivity for parents<br>and teachers               |        |
|                        | CineTalks: What<br>happened in offices in<br>the 90s                       | Sep.          | 1  | Introduction to changes in films and<br>work culture in the 1990s                                              |        |
|                        | Basic Skills for<br>Filmmaking                                             | Oct.-<br>Dec. | 15 | Introduction course in film theory                                                                             |        |
|                        | Deep Photoplay:<br>Human x AI art<br>collaboration project                 | Nov.          | 1  | Case study of AI technology based<br>music composition for silent films                                        |        |
|                        | Audio-visual critique:<br>Kevin Lee's lecture                              | Dec.          | 1  | Lecture on audio-visual critique and its<br>trends                                                             |        |

## 5. Budget

The total budget for 2021 was 13,929,000 KRW (11,628 USD). KOFA is funded entirely by the Korean Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, of which it is a subsidiary organisation.

## 6. International Relations

KOFA attended the general online meeting and symposium of FIAF and SEAPAVAA as a member, and published the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of *Archive Prism* "Archive Today" with interviews of 8 members of FIAF in Korean and English. ([www.koreafilm.or.kr/kofa/publication/magazine](http://www.koreafilm.or.kr/kofa/publication/magazine))

For the Cinematheque KOFA's screenings, KOFA lent the screening materials of 17 films including *Black Silk* from Thai Film Archive, National Film Archive of Japan, Fondazione Cineteca di Bologna,

and Filmmuseum Munchen.

## 7. Film Restoration

### a) Printing and Developing Films for Preservation Purposes

| Media                                                                                              | Quantity (titles) | Notes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Film reproduction of master positives from original 35mm color negatives for preservation purposes | 28                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KOFA runs the only film processing lab in Korea.</li> <li>- 25 titles with contact printing, 3 titles with wet gate optical printing</li> <li>- Including 3 titles having severe vinegar syndrome (above level 3)</li> </ul> |

Blow-up tests from 16mm to 35mm were conducted to improve KOFA's own technical abilities

### b) Film Digitization

| Media             | Quantity (titles) | Notes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Film Digitization | 58                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 4K digitization and sound restoration of 48 titles including <i>A Bonanza</i> (Jeong Chang-Hwa, 1961)</li> <li>- 2K digitization and sound restoration of 10 titles including <i>A Wanted Man</i> (Kim Muk, 1961)</li> <li>- Sound reconstruction via 16mm magnetic sound restoration of <i>The Ritual for a Soldier</i> (Ha Gil-jong, 1969)</li> </ul> |

With the introduction of PICTOR PRO 8mm film scanner of FILMBROEK, KOFA conducted digitization of 3 titles of 8mm film including *Jipsin* (Kim Hong-joon, Hwang Joo-ho, 1977).

### c) Digital Restoration

| Title (Director)                                                                                   | Original Source    | Screening Format | Restoration Partner |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Tuition</i> (Choi In-Gyu, Bang Han-Jun, 1940)                                                   | 35mm/RP            | 2K/DCP           | Image Power Station |
| <i>The Coachman</i> (Kang Dae-Jin, 1961)                                                           | 35mm/ON            | 2K/DCP           |                     |
| <i>A Devilish Homicide</i> (Lee Yong-min, 1965)                                                    | 35mm/ON            | 4K/DCP           |                     |
| <i>Flame in the Valley</i> (Kim Soo-yong, 1967)                                                    | 35mm/ON            | 2K/DCP           |                     |
| <i>The Road to Sampo</i> (Lee Man-hui, 1975)                                                       | 35mm/ON, RP        | 4K/DCP           |                     |
| <i>The Hut</i> (Lee Doo-Yong, 1980)                                                                | 35mm/ON            | 4K/DCP           |                     |
| <i>A Little Dinosaur Doolie - The Adventure of Ice Planet</i> (Kim Su-jeong, Lim Gyeong-Won, 1996) | 35mm/MP, RP        | 4K/DCP           |                     |
| <i>A Story of Hong Gil-dong</i> (Shin Dong-Hun, 1967)                                              | 16mm/DN35mm/DN, SN | 4K/DCP           |                     |
| <i>Hopi and Chadol Bawi</i> (Shin Dong-Hun, 1967)                                                  | 35mm/ON, RP        | 4K/DCP           |                     |
| <i>Heungbu And Nolbu</i> (Gang Tae-ung, 1967)                                                      | 35mm/ON            | 4K/DCP           |                     |
| <i>Kongjwi and Patjwi</i> (Gang Tae-ung, 1978)                                                     | 35mm/ON            | 4K/DCP           | In-house            |
| <i>Declaration of Idiot</i> (Lee Jang-ho, 1983)                                                    | 35mm/ON            | 2K/DCP           |                     |
| <i>Whale Hunting</i> (Bae Chang-Ho 1984)                                                           | 35mm/ON            | 2K/DCP           |                     |
| <i>The Man with Three Coffins</i> (Lee Jang-ho, 1987)                                              | 35mm/ON            | 2K/DCP           |                     |
| <i>Mobius's Daughter</i> (Kim Eui-suk, 1981)                                                       | 16mm/RP            | 4K/DCP           |                     |

3 titles of severely damaged works including *Tuition* (Choi In-Gyu, Bang Han-Jun, 1940) were digitally restored. Digital restoration of 5 animation films including *A Story of Hong Gil-dong* (Shin Dong-Hun, 1967) was conducted subsidized by the Korean Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism as a project of "Creation and utilization of Animation Archive".