

2019 FIAF Annual Report_Korean Film Archive (KOFA)

1. Annual Acquisitions

Format	Quantity
Film	95 films
Digital Cinema	846 titles
Videos	1,109
Textual materials (incl. books and scripts)	1,984
Images (incl. posters and still photos)	78,425
Archival and other materials	886

In Korea, once a film is given a rating, its original or 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 731 titles of Korean films in 2019—either in the format of video or digital cinema. In addition, 16 fiction and 7 non-fiction films were discovered and acquired. A total of 5,201 still images from films produced in 1930s~1960s were digitally scanned, and further 57,126 still films from the 1990s were acquired. As for international acquisitions, 7 titles including early motion pictures related to Korea—believed to have been produced in the 1930s—were acquired from Canada. Thanks to the Gosfilmofond of Russia, 2 titles are currently collecting from Russia. Through the Independent Cinema Archive Project, 159 Korean independent films were added to KOFA's acquisitions.

2. Progress and Issues in the Field of Preservation

Category	Quantity (films)	Notes
Film holdings (as of 2019)	24,211	12,305 titles
Inspection and preservation treatment	2,210	
Management of films affected by the Vinegar Syndrome	800 (5,628 rolls)	Molecular sieves

KOFA inspected a total of 2,210 films in 2019. Based on the results of the vinegar syndrome tests (using AD-strips) in 2016~2017, 800 films (5,628 rolls) with the highest levels of acetification were treated with molecular sieves. Furthermore, 5,799 pieces of film-related video and audio data, 10,368 textual materials (including books, posters and flyers), 161,031 items of photographic materials (including still photos and films), and 381 archival items (including props and costumes) underwent inspection and preservation treatment, in addition to digital cinema archiving of 730 DSM, 456 DCP and 471 sound items.

3. Cataloguing and Documentation

Thanks to the large-scale outsourced cataloguing service and specialized in-house personnel, KOFA

catalogued a total of 56,341 pieces of data (including 2,091 audio-visual materials, 21,986 images, 1,582 documents, and 303 archival materials), and digitized 15,325 still photos to create a database of 15,054. Another database of 17,138 film titles and 2,031 filmmakers was established. The list of data and the digitized materials are available on the online Korean Movie Database (KMDb) (www.kmdb.or.kr/index.asp) and also via the KOFA library's digital information service system.

4. Film Screenings, Exhibitions, Publications & Educational Programmes

A total of 727 film screenings were conducted in KOFA's three theaters (321, 150 and 30 seats respectively), attracting 82,051 viewers. A number of special programmes were held in celebration of the centenary of Korean cinema with focus on such themes as film technology, woman filmmakers and independent films.

a) Key Screening Programmes

Programme	Dates
Cinematheque KOFA's 10 Best Movies of 2018	2.16~2.28
Special Screening to Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of March 1. Independence Movement Day	3.1~3.13
The 7th Japan Foundation Movie Festival (with Japan Foundation)	3.22~3.31
Projection, Adventure for Movies and Cinemas	4.02~4.18
Special Screening: The Little Drummer Girl	5.04~5.05
Celebrating 100 Years of Korean Cinema 'Discovery, Restoration & Re-creation'	5.02~5.31
Celebrating 100 Years of Korean Cinema 'Korean Cinema in World, World Cinema in Korea'	6.01~6.23
Cities on Film: Tokyo (with Japan Foundation)	7.02~7.21
Korea's Liberation Day 'Resistance & Solidarity'	8.15
Celebrating 100 Years of Korean Cinema 'The Bad Women, The Weird Women, The Dope Women'	8.06~8.18
The personal is political: German Female Filmmakers (with Goethe Institut & Deutsche Kinemathek)	8.20~9.01
Celebrating 100 Years of Korean Cinema 'The Era of Film: Emotional Journey of Korean Cinema'	9.03~10.06
Celebrating 100 Years of Korean Cinema 'My Beloved Korean Cinema'	10.27~11.02
Indie Docu: Voice of Documentary - History with Interview	11.08~11.14
Hidden Gems from MoMA: ROSITA & the FOX titles (with MoMA)	12.03~12.15
My Own Private Top 10 Films of 2019	12.24~12.31

b) Online Film Screenings

A total of 359 titles were made available through the Korean classical film VOD service of KMDb, which attracted 43,425 viewers. In addition, KOFA's YouTube and Naver TV channels offered 189 films with English subtitles, resulting in 85,465,311 views in total. Each month, KOFA introduced 3 'VOD Choice' and 2 'Film of the Month' titles via KMDb. In 2019, KOFA established a platform for HD streaming, whereby the new HD VOD service (101 titles in total) facilitated viewings by overseas users. KOFA's online VOD streaming service channels are as follows:

- KMDb www.kmdb.or.kr/vod/main
- YouTube www.youtube.com/user/koreanfilmarchive
- Naver TV tv.naver.com/koreanfilm
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c) DVD & Blu-ray

Category	Title(s)
Blu-ray (4 titles with English & Japanese Subtitles)	1) <i>White Badge</i> (Chung Ji-young, 1992) 2) <i>The Devil's Stairway</i> (Lee Man-hee, 1964) 3) <i>Goryeojang</i> (Kim Ki-young, 1963) 4) <i>Mother and a Guest</i> (Shin Sang-ok, 1961)
DVD (1 set / subtitles available in 7 languages incl. Korean)	<i>Movements on Screen 2</i> * 8 titles including: <i>The Past Is a Strange Country</i> (Kim Eung-su, 2007) <i>Stayed Out Overnight</i> (Kim Mirye, 2009) <i>Two Doors</i> (Kim Il-ran & Hong Ji-yu, 2013) <i>Troublers</i> (Lee Young, 2015) ** For distribution in overseas cultural institutes and other film related institutes

d) Symposiums

Category	Symposium	Partner Institute(s)
International Symposium (2019.10.09)	<i>Reception and Practice of Early Cinema in East Asia</i> *Speakers/Panelists: Jane M. Gaines (Columbia University), Rudmer Canjels (Independent media historian), Hideaki Fujiki (Nagoya University), Lee Hwa-jin (Media Art Institute of Yonsei University), Chung Chonghwa (Korean Film Archive), Xuelei Huang (University of Edinburgh), Mitsuyo Wada-Marciano (Kyoto University)	Busan International Film Festival, Busan Visual Industry Center
Domestic Symposium (2019.12.07)	<i>Boundary and Vigilance: System and Practice of Censorship against Foreign and Co-produced Films in the 1960s and 70s</i>	Institute of Media Arts Yonsei University

e) Exhibitions

KOFA opened for 299 days, attracting a total of 78,337 viewers. Three special exhibitions were held alongside 27 media education programmes (254 sessions in total).

Exhibition	Contents
The Legend of Korean Cinema, Shin Seong-il (2019.4.4.~6.30.)	This exhibition sheds light on how Shin Seong-il became the icon of eternal youth and considers his place in the history of Korean cinema.
The Bad Women, The Weird Women, The Dope Women: Seeing the Century-Old History of Korean Film Through Female Characters (2019.7.12.~10.13.)	This exhibition introduces some groundbreaking female characters in the century-old history of Korean film using six keywords.
Forbidden Imagination, Suppressed Scars: Korean Films that Overcame 100 Years of Censorship (2019.10.29.~2020.3.22)	Using censorship documents and films in KOFA's collection, this special exhibition explores the 100 years of Korean cinema under the theme of censorship.

f) Educational Programmes

Programme	Contents
For Young Filmmakers (March ~ July, Sept ~ Dec)	Practical filmmaking course aimed at groups of young people (43 sessions)
Preschool Children Experiential Programme (Summer (August), Winter (Nov ~ Dec))	Short animation film screenings and creative activities aimed at preschool children (38 sessions)
Senior Film Club (3.19~4.16)	Film discussion group aimed at senior citizens (5 sessions)
Film Journalism Kit (7.12~8.30)	Film criticism workshop with film Journalists aimed at adults (7 sessions)
Children's Film Academy (8.05~8.25)	Short film production workshop aimed at children (7 sessions in total)
Live Variety Show! (8.17~11.16)	Silent film making course in production and silent-film narration aimed at children (14 sessions)
Drawing on Film: Analogue Film Painting (Sept ~ Dec)	Hand-made animation workshop with drawing on film aimed at groups of young people (14 sessions)
One-day Workshop in Celebration of the 100 Years of Korean Cinema (10.26~10.27)	Creative programme for making a paper projector, a kino-drama and a camera aimed at preschool children (4 sessions)
Sunday Cinema Music with commentary (12.15)	Korean films in concert (between the 1990s and the 2000s) (1 session)
Madeline's Christmas (12.21)	Concert based on the children's picture book <i>Madeline's Christmas</i> aimed at families with children (1 session)

5. Budget

The total budget for 2019 was 12,446,000,000 KRW (10,241,936 USD). KOFA is funded entirely by the Korean Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, of which it is a subsidiary organisation.

6. International relations

Through the Asian Digitization Project 2019—an open call project aimed at Asian film archives—KOFA digitized *Pinoy Sunday* (Wi Ding Ho, 2009) and *Miss Wonton* (Meng Ong, 2001) from Singapore's Asian Film Archive, and invited two related personnel to Korea.

KOFA attended the general meetings of FIAF and SEAPAVAA, and collaborated with other members on a number of special programmes, including Early Korean Cinema (BFI, UK), The Golden Age of South Korean Cinema (Il Cinema Ritrovato, Italy), and Faces of the Korean Woman (The Asian Film Archive, Singapore).

KOFA signed an MOU with the Taiwan Film Institute (TFI) and screened *Raining in the Mountain* (King Hu, 1979)—restored by the TFI with the help of KOFA. Jerry Chiu, in charge of TFI's restoration program, discussed the restoration process.

Furthermore, Rainer Rother, director of Deutsche Kinemathek, and Dave Kehr, curator at MoMA, gave special talks.

7. Restoration

a) Film Reproduction of Master Positives for Preservation Purposes & 4K Digitization

Media	Quantity (titles)	Notes
Film reproduction of master positives from original 35mm colour negatives for preservation purposes	33	- KOFA runs the only film processing lab in Korea. - Including 11 of the 29 films with severe vinegar syndrome results (above level 3) - Contact printing - Restored 104 titles belonging to the first priority group based on the five levels outlined in the 5-year film restoration plan
Film Digitization	43	- 4K digitization and sound restoration - Digitization of 37 titles in addition to 6 titles including <i>The Magical Ship</i> (Lee Chang-Geun, 1969) - Processed from 35mm originals (except three 8mm and fourteen 16mm titles) and included frame-by-frame partial image quality enhancement

KOFA digitized the 35mm master positive and 16mm dupe negative of *The Demilitarized Zone* (Park Sang-ho, 1965)—loaned from the National Archives of Korea. With support from Seoul Independent Film Festival, three 8mm films including *Seoul 7000* (Kim Hong-joon & Hwang Juho, 1976) were scanned at Japan's IMAGICA Lab, which then underwent digital color grading and mastering at KOFA.

b)Digital Restoration

Title	Director(s)	Year of Production	Original Source
<i>Goryeojang</i>	Kim Kyoung	1963	35mm ON
<i>Memento Mori</i>	Kim Tae-yong, Min Kyu-dong	1999	35mm ON
<i>Shiri</i>	Kang Je-gyu	1999	35mm ON, DN
<i>Mother and A Guest</i>	Shin Sang-ok	1961	35mm ON
<i>Incoherence</i>	Bong Joon-ho	1994	16mm ON

The third and sixth (24 minutes in total) of the 10 rolls of the original picture negative of *Goryeojang* are missing. KOFA has produced two versions of the film—the archive version leaves the missing parts as they are and adds explanatory texts, while the film festival version includes a plot summary in the place of the deleted missing parts.