Leverage the power of our network

The Leading Network of Audiovisual Archives Worldwide

• Connect
• Network
• Exchange
• Leverage

Learn about current and future evolutions through our network of broadcast audiovisual archives worldwide

FIAT/IFTA
45c Avenue Keanu
85020 Condé-sur-l’Escaut
France

Email: office@fiatifta.org
Web: www.fiatifta.org

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FIAT/IFTA
Fédération Internationale des Archives de Télévision
International Federation of Television Archives
About FIAT/IFTA

FIAT/IFTA is the world’s leading association for the professional broadcast media audiovisual archiving sector.

Founded in 1977 as the Fédération Internationale des Archives de Télévision / International Federation of Television Archives, FIAT/IFTA has an unbroken and unrivalled record in the development of a continually expanding professional network of connected audiovisual archiving leaders, experts and influencers around the globe.

With over 250 organisational members worldwide its reach and reach is unparalleled.

The association’s strengths is in its members who are leaders in their domains as professional, executive, expert, standards drivers and policy influencers who come together with industry partners and colleagues to create a unique, actively engaged and connected community.

FIAT/IFTA’s primary focus is to promote the exchange of knowledge, expertise and co-operation within the industry for all those engaged in the preservation, exploitation and management of moving image and recorded sound materials and associated documentation.

Activities include local as well as region specific seminars on topics of interest to members, peer-to-peer and virtual forums, targeted incentivised training initiatives and all supported by regular communication on our website, in newsletters and on social media.

Our calendar year culminates in the annual World Conference, hosted every year by a different member of FIAT/IFTA. It brings together over 300 delegates from around the world to share, debate and exchange knowledge and expertise with colleagues and industry partners.

Become a member of our network to show your support, and to influence the shape and future of audiovisual archiving now!
The work of FIAT/IFTA as an international forum of experts for modern media and audiovisual archiving organisations has led to a significant improvement in the co-operation between national media and broadcasting archives, heritage institutions, researchers and industry.

Which are our key activities?

**World Conference**
A highlight of our working year, the World Conference, is hosted every year by one of our members. Around 300 delegates from all over the world gather to share, debate and exchange knowledge and expertise with colleagues and industry partners. The conference features workshops, keynotes, case studies, discussion tables, a vendor market and plenty of networking opportunities.

**Specialist Seminars and Workshops**
Seminars such as the biennial Media Management Seminar and the Media Studies Seminar are somewhat smaller than the World Conference. They bring together 100 to 150 participants around particular topics of interest to our members. In two intensive days they give an overview of state-of-the-art projects and thus help our members to quickly make large strides forward in the seminar’s particular domain. Some seminars also focus on the particular needs of a region or involve specialist workshops in partnership with local organisations or institutions.

**Publications**
FIAT/IFTA regularly publishes the proceedings of conferences and seminars. On the website and social media channels the presentations are shared, often translated into more elaborate articles and brought together in a book. Responding to requests from a large number of the members, FIAT/IFTA also maintains its tradition of publishing guiding documents for audiovisual archives, for example about the dos and don’ts of tendering for mass digitisation.

**Awards Programme**
The FIAT/IFTA Archive Achievement Awards offer an excellent opportunity to showcase the best the audiovisual archives world has to offer. Excellence in several categories of the profession showcasing the most effective, innovative and creative projects and applications are rewarded with one of the prestigious FIAT/IFTA Cubes. Running for more than 20 years, this initiative rewards excellence and enhances the value of the archive.

**Save your Archive**
Launched in 2012, Save Your Archive is a special Programme designed by FIAT/IFTA to support endangered archives worldwide. It has contributed, in kind or in financial support, to a range of archive projects: coping with financial difficulties, fragile media, lack of appreciation and awareness, difficult climatic conditions and other challenging circumstances. The Programme specifically aims to empower local archivists, raising awareness and supporting advocacy with policy makers and works with partners and other Organisations wherever possible.
Surveys

Surveys are an ideal way for FIAT/IFTA to know where exactly the needs and challenges of its member base are and to adapt the subjects tackled at its events accordingly. In the annual Timeline Survey the situation of audiovisual archives worldwide is measured via a limited number of key questions. The results, presented at the World Conference, also offer our members the opportunity to compare their situations, to draw meaningful conclusions and to use these hard figures as part of their own lobbying. Similarly the Media Asset Management Surveys provide useful comparative insights, exchanges and recommendations for archives and software vendors.

Multilateral Consulting

A highly valued aspect of FIAT/IFTA membership is the close and direct connections members make with colleagues worldwide. This allows for easy contact and open and unbiased discussions between specialists. FIAT/IFTA members also regularly visit each other bilaterally to learn directly from trusted sources and to exchange their most valuable insights on highly specialized topics.

Media Studies Research

FIAT/IFTA offers a small annual grant to enhance collaboration between research and archive communities, and to ensure the valorization of academic knowledge for archival practice as well as to promote research into the holdings of member television archives. This Programme offers support for such research with the aim of studying archival material or archiving practices at these institutions. Priority goes to projects researching topics relevant to the history of the archive institution, and to the development of media history through archival studies.

Travel Support Grant

FIAT/IFTA enables media archivists and researchers from all over the world to attend and present at our annual World Conference via the FIAT/IFTA World Conference Travel Grant. For the successful applicants it covers some of the costs associated with attending the conference. It allows them to become an active part of the international audiovisual heritage community and it promotes the development of their professional skills and opportunities.

Would you like to join?

For institutions or individuals involved in the management of audiovisual archives FIAT/IFTA offers three membership categories:

Full

Full Members are Broadcast or Media Archive Organisations, maintaining archives of their own programmes, or those authorized by broadcast organisations or national governments to maintain archives of broadcast programmes.

Associate Individual

Associate Individual Members are members with a specialist interest in broadcast or media archives who are not part of an organisation or institution involved in broadcast or media archive services. Associate members receive the regular communications and publications issued by the association as well as having the opportunity to participate in the meetings.

Associate Organisational

Associate Organisational Members are Organisations who have an interest in or whose collections are in part audiovisual or media focused. They may include learning and academic institutions. Members receive the regular communications and publications issued by the association and have the opportunity to participate in the meetings.

More information about membership and the application procedure can be found on the FIAT/IFTA website:

www.fiatifta.org/index.php/community/become-a-member/

or by contacting the FIAT/IFTA Office:

office@fiatifta.org
In order to govern the federation and to develop and maintain its activities, FIAT/IFTA has created an internal working structure consisting of the following bodies:

**General Assembly**
The General Assembly is the highest governing body in the Federation. It is composed of full, associate, supporting and honorary members. The General Assembly meets at least once every two years, during the annual World Conference and elects the President and the Executive Council. In this election only Full Members have a right to vote.

**Executive Council**
FIAT/IFTA is managed by an Executive Council consisting of twelve members elected by the General Assembly. The Council is headed by a President. The General Secretary, Treasurer and Vice-presidents are appointed by the Executive Council from among its members.

**Commissions**
Four commissions bring together specialists affiliated with FIAT/IFTA’s members in particular domains:

- **The Media Management Commission** specialises in current and future trends in metadata and media management and in their causes and consequences when it comes to the archive the technologies used and the skills of the archivists. This is done through the organisation of seminars, focusing on particular historical topics or approaches to archival studies. The commission also awards an annual Media Studies Grant.

- **The Preservation and Migration Commission** focuses on technical challenges of analog and digital preservation, more specifically digitisation and migration plans. It consults with FIAT/IFTA members who have plans in this direction and publishes guidelines to inform and support these projects.

- **The Value, Use and Copyright Commission** provides a forum to support valorization, exploitation and opening up of audiovisual collections with a focus on the end user, e.g. general audiences, education, tourism, and other sectors. The Commission’s core objective is to gather and share experience and knowledge of all aspects in the process of making collections available in a digital environment (value assessment, copyright and Intellectual Property issues, technology, ethics, user experiences, storytelling, curation etc.) in order to increase awareness and grow the value of audiovisual archives worldwide.

**FIAT/IFTA Archive Members**

- Benefit from being part of a larger lobby group for the improvement of the international and national status of media archives.

- Hear about practical management experience of fellow professionals approaching and working in the digital domain.

- Improve the abilities of your workforce by reciprocal training opportunities with similar archives, e.g. at seminars or specific courses organised by fellow FIAT/IFTA members.

- Share challenges of funding for vital archive preservation.

- Gain partnerships for capital and resource intensive projects.

- Influence international professional standard setting.

- Gain useful comparative data on holdings, budgets, working practices, etc.

- Share the experiences of other professionals working with equipment and solution providers.

- Learn about the range of different archive public access provisions.

- Gain from professional links with other leading media organisations such as FOCAL, AMIA, IASA, FIAF, IFLA, ICA.

- Attend moderately priced local and international media archive conferences.

- Win the international acclaim of a FIAT/IFTA Archive Achievement Award.