

Inquiry ...in search of projects to engage with.

Fields of Experience

- Preservationist for Heritage AudioVisual Systems – content and hardware
- Research Historian for Motion Picture – film, sound and film lab technologies
- Film Festival Curator – programmer and administrator
- Film Meta Data Curator and Editor – imdb.com
- Lecturer and Teacher in Film History
- Journalist in Popular Film History Discourse – historical film talk podcast
- Digital Conversion Projects in Television and Telecommunications

Current Focus

Face and master the major preservation ethics challenge of today:
Artificial Intelligence and the protection of artifact integrity.
How to protect audiovisual heritage integrity in times of attacks
and threats of retrospective artifact transformation originating
from trajectories of negative timeline activity into the past
by Artificial Intelligence (A.I.) technologies. Protecting history and truth.

Preservation

Exemplary audiovisual preservation project | 2004 – 2010
TED Bildplatte
first commercial video disk system (analogue) worldwide
from TELEFUNKEN – Decca – Teldec (Germany)
TED Bildplatte was active between approx. 1969 – 1976.
Program repertoire research and preservation, content database setup,
technical hardware and system research, spare part acquisition, repair work,
hardware modifications for digitization purposes, setup of digitization workspace,
digitization process of entire remaining repertoire content.
Doctoral Degree: Ph.D. in Film and Media History, at FAMU Prague.
Ph.D. project at FAMU International Prague (Czech Republic) in English language,
under supervision of Mr. Michael Bregant Ph.D., then Dean of FAMU and later
head of FAMU International department, now director of National Film Archive
(Národního Filmového Archivu, NFA), Czech Republic, Prague, member of FIAF.

Research Historian

Research Historian for Motion Picture
Film, Sound and Film Lab Technologies
book publisher and publication series editor,
book series planner.

Exemplary research and publication project | 1995 – 2012
WELTWUNDER DER KINEMATOGRAFIE
towards a cultural history of film and sound technology
print book series, German with English contributions,
12 volumes

Topics covered, so far:

- Motion Picture Color Film Technologies: Agfacolor, Technicolor, Eastmancolor
- History of Sound Film Production
- History of Optical, Magnetic und Digital Sound on Film Technologies
- History of Magnetic Tape Recording in Audio, Video and Data
- History of the Film Lab
- History of Film Editing Technologies: film editing tables
- History of Video Recording Technologies (VTR/VCR)
- History of Wide Screen Systems in cinema presentation (70mm, cinerama)
- DVD-Video edition of early optical sound films and x-ray movies

Film Festival Curator

Film Festival Curator – Founder, Concept, Programmer and Administrator

Exemplary film festival project | 2005 – 2014
GLOBIANS DOC FEST BERLIN
world and culture documentaries
approx. 5,000 documentary entries in total reviewed in selection rounds.
approx. 750 documentaries screened to festival screens in total.

- cooperation partner for worldwide submission process: Withoutabox / imdb.com
- cooperation partner for doc online access and archiving: Internet Archive, SF, Ca.
- cooperation partners / cinemas and auditoria: Kino Toni Berlin (owners then: Michael Verhoeven and Senta Berger), Babylon Kino Berlin-Mitte, Altes Rathaus auditorium Potsdam, Orpheus cinema Schönberg, Zazie arthouse cinema Halle.

Meta Data Curator

Film Meta Data Curator and Editor

Exemplary data curation project

Internet Movie DataBase Ltd. (imdb.com)

currently active project

Volunteer collaborator and database section manager,
conception and set-up of database sections for technical meta data of film titles
and for secondary literature listings on film titles or for person database entries,
since 1993.

co-founder of corporate registered UK Movie Database Ltd. entity,
in 1996 (as share holder, in group of 26 share holders, then)
Separation from involvement at imdb.com in 1998,
after Amazon.com Inc, Seattle, WA., took entire company and project over.

Teacher

Lecturer and Teacher in Film History and Media Technology

classes, workshops and lectures given at, e.g.:

- ZKM Center for Art and Media Technology,
- EKKK European Cinema Film Institute (under head: Edgar Reitz, film director),
- Hochschule für Gestaltung, HfG, all of three at city of Karlsruhe, Germany.
- USC University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, USA – „Film Orphans“ – international symposium on sound and film
- Hochschule für Technik und Wirtschaft, HTW, Berlin
- Kunstakademie Stuttgart
- FAMU film academy, Prague, Czech Republic (part of Ph.D. project)

Current Projects

Preservation and digitizing photographic film artifacts | 2023 –2026

Digitizing projects for obsolete photo film formats: Instamatic and Pocket, 1970s.
Digitizing projects for nitrate photo negatives, medium format, from 1940s,
hardware and process adaptations conducted for digitizing processes.

Popular Film History

Historical Film Talk Podcast

akiwiwa

als Kino wichtig war – when cinema mattered

current project | 2014 – 2026

recent topics, e.g.: Film Noir, Dystopian Cinema, Alan Parker, Aviation and Airport movies, Ingmar Bergman movies, Orson Welles and Carol Reed

podcast series | live audio stream www.akiwiwa.radio

series inventor, co-editor, co-host together with Mr. Kilian Mutschke,

podcast cooperation partner: Kinomuseum Berlin e.V.

Journalist & Docs

Radio work as journalist für German Public Broadcasters

at several stations (e.g. DLF, WDR, SFB, ORB, RBB) | 1995 – 2005

Work as documentary film maker and photographer | 1983 – 2005

practice in 16mm, Super 16mm, Super 8 film production and 35mm blow-ups,
including lab work handling, editing table use, analogue mag. perf. audio mixing,
several short and medium length films as director, cameraman and editor.

Photo project at „Eylau’5“ Berlin art gallery: „Friends“, 1984, solo exhibition.

Television & Telecoms

Digital Projects in Radio, Television and Telecommunications

Project coordinator, project collaborator and project worker

on several and diverse digital projects, mostly under NDA,

current projects | 2002 – 2026

Radio archive audio mass digitization for WDR and RIAS Berlin radio archives,
conducted at WDR Ossendorf studios, Cologne, 2002 – 2004;

other digital projects at:

SKY TELEVISION GERMANY cable, satellite and streaming Pay TV | 2015 – 2019

VODAFONE GERMANY cable telecommunications | 2020 – 2022

TELÉFONICA GERMANY (brands, e.g., o2, o2 TV, Movistar) | 2023 – 2026

Education

Educational Qualifications, Vocational Skills, Family Background

Ph.D., 2010
in Film and Media History Preservation
in English,
at FAMU Prague, Czech Republic

M.A., 1995
in film and theater studies
at Freie Universität Berlin (FUB), Germany

College Degree, 1990
Abitur/Matura
at Berlin Kolleg, Germany

Photo Film Lab Technician, 1983
vocational education, photographer's school,
at Lette Verein Berlin

Administration Apprenticeship Graduation, 1981
as specialist for Business Administration in Advertising
Duale Ausbildung/Berufsschule
at DSV Publishing Group
Deutscher Sparkassenverlag GmbH Stuttgart;
thereafter: professional experience at advertising agencies during the 1980s.

Upbringing in a photographer's family:
Both father and grandfather had been professional photographers since 1923.
Grandfather started studying photography in 1919, in Hamburg.

Language

Language Skills:

German: native speaker

English: business and academic levels

Spanish: strong learner, currently B-level

Swedish: A-level

Dutch: A-level

Attachments

Local Attachments:

Born 1962
in the city of Stuttgart, Germany

extensive travel to London, the UK and to Ireland
1978 – 1984

moved to Berlin (West), Germany
in 1981

moved to Karlsruhe, Germany
in 1995

moved to San Francisco, Ca., USA
in 1998

moved to Potsdam, Germany
in 2000