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IMAP Preservation Symposium: From Legacy to Frontier

Friday, May 1st 2009
Guggenheim Museum
News Corporation New Media Theater
Entrance on East 89th Street off Fifth Avenue

This all-day symposium is intended as a guided discussion on current trends and issues in collecting, preserving, and providing access to independent media and digital art. Panelists include artists, conservators, curators, distributors and archivists representing the museum, not-for-profit alternative art, commercial distribution and academic research domains. While the panelists will offer initial presentations, the symposium structure invites audience members to interact with the panelists during the discussion period so a lively dialogue ensues.

Introductory Remarks

9:30-10 a.m.

Dara Meyers-Kingsley
Executive Director, IMAP

Carol Stringari
Chief Conservator, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum

Discussion 1

10- 11:45 a.m.

Moderator: Ann Butler

Director of Library and Archives, Center for Curatorial Studies
Bard College

Collection as Context: repository types and institutional identities

Missions, mandates, and collection management practices differ within museums, archives, and libraries, and yet they are all part of the cultural heritage domain. In collecting and preserving cultural materials, does repository type affect the overall character and context of a collection? Does institutional identity affect the collection management practices and institutional context in which these cultural materials are preserved and made accessible? How does that context shape the interpretation of works that comprise the collection? What types of repositories have traditionally included independent media and digital art as part of their collections? Have these

repository contexts contributed to the safeguarding of these materials or placed them at risk?

This discussion includes participants from the museum, academic library and archives, and not-for-profit alternative art domains who will discuss the effects of institutional identity and contextual aspects of collections on the cultural interpretation and long-term preservation of independent media and digital art.

Presenters:

Glenn R. Phillips

Senior Project Specialist and Consulting Curator Department of Contemporary Programs and Research, Getty Research Institute

Joanna Phillips

Associate Conservator of Contemporary Art, Guggenheim Museum

Carolyn Tennant

Media Arts Director, Hallwalls

LUNCH break

12-1:30

Discussion 2

2 - 4 pm

Moderator: Linda Tadic

Adjunct Professor, Moving Image Archiving and Preservation
New York University

Access and Distribution

Art and media works are created to be seen, used, studied, and sometimes even generate revenue. This panel's focus is on the diverse ways that time-based and digital art can be discovered and accessed. Collecting institutions might offer exhibitions and on-site use. Independent distributors work with creators they represent to promote and sell works through catalogs and other means of outreach. Some creators prefer the do-it-yourself approach and self-distribute; others stream their works online through public user-generated content sites. A new distribution model involves public-private partnerships between distributors and corporations. The current economic environment and how it has impacted the ability of creators, institutions, and distributors to provide access to content will be discussed. The audience is expected to participate in brainstorming on how distribution models can be adapted for the immediate times and the future.

Presenters:

Cory Arcangel

Media artist

Kelly DeVine

Manager, Acquisitions and Partnerships, Reframe

Lori Zippay
Executive Director, Electronic Arts Intermix

Reception

4 - 5 p.m.

Registration fees:

SPECIAL OFFER: \$55 IMAP individual membership (through 2010) and Symposium

\$30 students and IMAP members

\$60 non-members

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