



AES

SWISS SECTION NEWSLETTER

88th Issue

INFORMATION ON NEXT MEETING

Sound Design for Film: Barbara Flückiger
(Joint meeting with SGA/SSA)

Thursday, 22nd of May 2003, 16:45h at the Auditorium of SUVA,
Rösslimattstrasse 39, 6005 Luzern

SPEAKER: Dr. phil. Barbara Flückiger

ORGANIZERS: Beat Hohmann/SGA and Attila Karamustafaoglu

LANGUAGE: German

The use of sound in modern film is becoming more and more important in enhancing the whole cinema experience for the public. Sounds are no longer just an addition to the picture but give directors more possibilities to address the spectator's senses. Early pioneers like Francis Ford Coppola or George Lucas were almost obsessed by sound, and knew already in the 70's how to use this medium to produce some of the best films in the history of cinema. Since then, the industry has come up with standards (Dolby, SDDS, THX etc.) to guarantee a defined audio reproduction in licensed theatres thus enabling producers even more freedom to use multi-channel, very low frequency or moving sounds in a defined environment. Music synthesizers

further opened up a wider experimental field for the creation of sounds.

Barbara Flückiger has done much work in analysing a large number of films with outstanding soundtracks. The results of her findings are published in her 1999 book "Sound Design" which is also her Ph.D. thesis. In this meeting she will make a presentation about her past and current work. The presentation will be complemented by audio-visual examples. An appropriate viewing and listening environment will be provided.

Schedule

16:45 Welcome and introduction
17:00 Speech of Barbara Flückiger with film examples, including a short break
18:40 Discussion
19:00 Transfer to optional dinner

Biography of Dr. phil. Barbara Flückiger

Mrs. Flückiger was a freelance film sound engineer with her own technical infrastructure from 1980 until 1992. She studied German language, film science, philosophy and journalism at the University of Zurich and the “Freie Universität Berlin”. From 1997-1999 she participated in a national research project on the topic of sound design in the American mainstream film and was promoted in 1999. Now she is a scientist at the “Hochschule für Gestaltung und Kunst in Zürich” and working on the project “Digital Cinema” together with Swiss Effects, Sony, the University Basel and the EPFL. Her book “Sound Design” has become a standard work.

REPORT ON PREVIOUS MEETING

Audio File Format

Thursday, 13th of March 2003, 17h30 at the Radio Suisse Romande,
40 av. du Temple, Lausanne

SPEAKER: Dominique Bruhlart, Merging Technologies

ORGANIZER: Patrick Boehm, TSR

LANGUAGE: French

More than 45 participants gathered together in the “Radio Suisse Romande” premises in Lausanne in order to follow the Dominique Bruhlart’s presentation entitled “Audio File Format”.

Firstly, Dominique talked to us about “disk file system” and differences between owner formats, FAT 32, HFS/HFS1, as well as about their special features. Secondly, he spoke about audio file, data coding, content description, metadata, as well as about the various ways of writing on hard disc. The last part dealt with the composition interchangeabilities, and of course with all the problems attached to this subject. Finally, the participants met together around a glass to share an aperitif bought by the “Radio Suisse Romande”, which ended this meeting.