

## **AgX Meeting - July 23, 2016 at 3pm**

### **members present**

Matt, Gen, Janeann, Stefan, Brittany, Morgan, Susan, Anto, Christie, Ernesto

### **website**

Matt will be launching site to public next meeting. Meanwhile, on the development site (<http://dev.agxfilm.org>), he is asking all members to enter their info and update their film pages. This will be helpful in working out kinks and getting more content on site. (Phone number, etc. will always be private.) First time you log in, it will ask you for a password. Inventory system is up so Matt can give permissions to add equipment to list. Site will be used to track members and payments too.

Matt will be moving data from GoogleCal to the website one (there will be a feed on frontpage). Finally, Matt also needs some additional language on site ie. donate/support page. Many mentioned the possibility of selling AgX items via the page as well.

### **member listserv**

MailChimp is now set up to send to both members or nonmembers. Monthly dues reminders will continue to go out via Brittany toward the end of the month. Right now, we have about 41 committed, dues-paying members. Regular AgX listserv is 92 members. We need to see how many of the 41 are actually paying – ideally before or at finance meeting (Doug, Stefan, Rob and/or Matt to work on). We're pulling partly from our fundraising money, which we want to avoid.

Some new member interest: Gen will send out forms to them. Stefan and Gen are investigating whether there is an automatic way to know when new members fill out the form, like an email alert to certain parties.

### **fundraiser perk delivery**

Everything delivered aside from the shirts and totes, which have all been screenprinted by Ethan. Anto suggested that we could keep some on hand at screenings too.

### **filmmaker potluck dinner review**

The first one which was held at AgX was well attended with about 20 or so people present. Rob led the discussion and the notes were sent out to the listserv. (*Eric Gulliver was asked to write about the first one on the blog of John Campopiano (WGBH/Frontline).*) The idea is to keep the momentum of crosscutting, informal conversations and brainstorming going with little effort every month. There will be a Facebook group where the person hosting can give all the details for the next one.

The last potluck was held at a studio space in east Boston run by Tripp Clemens who runs Windy Films, a commercial freelance production company. He is offering the space up for other events, but there are steep fees attached.

Matt is setting up an aggregated, shared calendar that all film organizations and groups can enter meetings, screenings, etc. He is currently finding those who already have existing event calendars to see if their events can simply auto populate the aggregate calendar. Jesse Epstein from Film Fatales will host next one Thursday August 11 at her place in JP. So far, all are held on the 11<sup>th</sup> of each month. AgX, Non-fiction Cartel, New Day Films, Film Fatales among the parties involved. Gen also reached out to the Roxbury Film Festival and Monica Navarro at NALIP.

### **filmlabs meeting report**

Stefan reported on the big artist-run film lab conference in Nantes which he, Ethan and Doug attended. Every day from 10am to 6pm, there were discussions, workshops and open & curated screenings and other events. It was attended by over 150 people from more than 50 film labs from every continent with a pretty sizeable North American contingent. The Re-Imagining Moving Image wiki is available at: <http://www.re-mi.eu/wiki/> Notes from the film labs meeting are going up under the "Bains Argentiques" section.

They discussed lab structure and sustainability as well as many practical issues and even held workshops on topics such as, cleaning guillotine splicers, contact printing (MIRE's printer is very different from ours: a step printer, not continuous) and DIY innovations. Richard Tuohy developed a way to control the Model C in manual override mode so you don't have to use that punched tape for color timing. It is programmed through a computer setup. He is also running an optical printer through a computer as well. Also discussed: Matt McWilliams' work.

Kevin Rice proposed that there be another kind of seminar focused just on DIY film innovation of a single project, ie. hand processing tanks. There was already a seminar on work developing a handmade panchromatic film emulsion. Sandy Ding from Beijing built his own processing tank – a spiral you load from the top, 200 feet adaptable to 400 feet and can have it made in China for less than \$300. )Gen will be going to Beijing later this summer and hopefully meeting with him.) Also people in Beijing are making Xenon 16mm film projectors and working on digital sound syncing to 16mm projectors – using flicker to determine the rate to sync sound to it. (More on syncing digital audio to analog projectors (and flatbed editors) is available here: <http://www.zachpoff.com/diy-resources/steenbeck-with-synced-digital-audio/> )

Developing with punchy developer like D19 or D11 was recommended for print stocks, such as ORWO PF2. A lower contrast developer like D76 is still preferable for negatives.

As for North America, there were two people from Echo Park in LA, Laura from Colorlab, Steve from Mono No Aware, Negativeland, Black Hole Cinema in Berkeley, Canadian lab Iris, Daichi Saito from Double Negative, Carl from LIFT, Elena from

Mexico City, Craig from Big Momma Cinematheque, Robert Shaller, Kevin Rice and other Process Reversal people. Kevin set up a listserv for North American film labs.

There will be another international lab meeting but no date has been set – either in Europe or North America. Stefan impressed by Crater Lab in Barcelona and thinks maybe they should host it.

They decided that there needs to be a meeting of North American labs probably next summer in some hub city. Boston, the Bay area and Montreal were all thrown out as ideas. They discussed including microcinemas as well (some labs are cinemas; there is a lot of crossover) and focusing on meeting aspect over holding a lot of events and screenings. More discussion is to come. There might even be a northeast labs meeting as well.

Stefan screened a bunch of AgX members' films there and he, Doug and Ethan talked about our lab. A lot of people were already aware of us and have been impressed with our quick growth.

#### **equipment notes**

Stefan also learned that Mono No Aware made some connections with Oxberry which just closed a few months ago. Mono received a full warehouse of Oxberry parts, so anything AgX doesn't have for the optical printer or the animation stand we can now obtain from Mono, including lenses, etc.

We can also get more splicers from them. We don't have many and Handcranked owns one of them.

We still need to make a follow up date to move the platform and columns from Harvard for the animation stand, and this will probably require a Uhaul and a palette jack. Kevin Rice will have to return to work on the optical printer. John Koczera from Harvard offered to work on animation stand, but we'll need to get him to come here before fall semester starts.

#### **AgX T-stop Field Day**

Gen going to Park Street tomorrow – if people want to film outdoors or indoors. Gen likes ideas of Field Days happening on a quarterly basis, regular opportunities to shoot and connect with other people. *[Editor's note: this field trip was cancelled.]*

#### **Waterworks**

Stefan and other interested AgX members had a meeting a month ago about participating in the show at the Waterworks Museum. Stefan noted that there are a couple open dates if you want to go there and shoot. You will have full access to places in the building you

normally cannot even go, but he needs to know who wants to do this so he can notify people there (it would be off-hours). Anto is getting a DVD of archival footage from Waterworks and will put it on GoogleDrive for everyone to access. Following actual shooting, Stefan will need to set up another date in August to bring projectors there and set them up – testing power, etc. Stefan also noted that there will probably have to be a few designated projectionists for the event, which will feature work that is more loop-based and “installationy.” Asha can’t do the music anymore, so Mark & Laura Cetilia from Providence may perform in addition to Brendan Murray.

### **Waltham Film Factory at the Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation**

Matt brought us up to speed on this event. He noted that the show will consist of videos within nonlinear installation type of setting leading up to a screening. Physical space there is a bit limited, but interesting. Matt is soliciting works for the show on October 19 at 7pm. Ideally factory, mechanically based stuff, ie. watches, Waltham, but it’s open. He’ll be running a follow-up workshop on Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10 – 6pm. Participants will shoot there on Bolexes, then process and watch the films. The museum will be doing all of the primary promotion to their audience. The funds from the workshop will be diverted to AgX.

### **Ernesto note**

Ernesto finished a teaser for his film and included the AgX logo. He is sending a link to the list. Rob did the camerawork.

### **AgX West Field Day footage**

The plan is to watch it at next works-in-progress screening and include it in the October screening at Charles River. (We can also include any other workshop footage.) *Ethan needs to chime in re: next field trip at AgX*

### **Janeann experimental animation workshop**

Janeann thinks it should happen in the winter or spring so there’s time to plan and have the animation stand all ready. She would also like to include a screening of international animation either with this workshop or apart from it.

### **inventory & cataloguing schedule**

Stefan will have more time in August to work on inventorying and welcomes assistance.

### **high school workshop**

So far 5 or 6 attendees from a Brookline public school will be attending a filmmaking workshop Rob and Matt are holding Aug 1<sup>st</sup> through the 5<sup>th</sup>. From 10 - 5 each day with a screening on the last day. \$175 per person – Rob and Matt will take nominal fees and the rest will go to AgX. Gen suggested it be documented for future fundraising use. Stefan brought up the possibility of having film stock donated for purposes like this and

wondered aloud if it were Kathryn or Paul who said that Emerson might be able to donate film stock. Christie expressed skepticism of that possibility.

### **key access**

Gen noted that someone in the building complex here manages it. Ethan met with him and left a price sheet: not cheap. With this system, everyone would have their own keycode so in the event that something would happen, we would know who was last here, for example. Also easy to turn off codes if need be. \$200 for installation of each (total of four doors, including equipment room). Members could all have access to general area but perhaps monitors can only access the equipment room. Ethan will be able to fill us in more on the details.

### **electrical**

Model C can start running once we get the 220V connection.

### **film & equipment donation management**

We'll be able to off-load some still photo stuff onto lab in Lowell after we figure out what we need. Marie also requested a workshop

### **Kitsplit discount**

Gen described Kitsplit, basically the AirBNB for film equipment. If you have a piece of equipment and you want to make it available to others, you can post it on this site. Non-fiction Film Cartel has received a discount to rent on this site, and AgX could perhaps request the same.

### **Sunshine Furniture screening opportunity**

Furniture store in Davis Square – he hosts screenings sometimes. He would be open to having a pop-up screening. He'd be happy to also put an old TV in his storefront and run a reel. SG: could have Super 8 film cartridge loop thingies there.  
Somerville Open Studios in April

### **upcoming meetings/events**

*8/2 @ 7pm: fundraising meeting*

*8/6 @ 1pm: works-in-progress screening*

*8/11 @ 7pm: filmmaker potluck (284 Amory Street, JP)*

*8/21 @ 1pm: monthly meeting*