

Hollywood July 2017

The meeting held on 25 July titled “Revisit Classic Movie Sound” was held at the AMPAS Linwood Dunn Theater in Hollywood, CA. Approximately 140 members and guests were present to hear a unique presentation on the Fotoplayer by Joe Rinaudo as well as a discussion of movie stereo sound of the 1950s.

SMPTE Life Fellow Dick May produced and hosted the meeting. Following a social hour, the program opened with the 1953 MGM short “Overture to the Merry Wives of Windsor.” This Oscar Award-winning 1-reeler was one of the first uses of multichannel music recording, originally using 4-track magnetic sound.

After introductions by Section Chair Jim DeFilippis and Dick May, a 30-min demonstration was given by Joe Rinaudo, founder of the Silent Cinema Society, on an American Fotoplayer (provided by the Academy of Motion Picture

Arts and Sciences). The Fotoplayer is a type of player piano used in movie theaters during the silent era to provide sound effects and music.

Motion picture archivist Bob Heiber also delivered a presentation on restoring magnetic soundtracks from the 1950s. He presented sequences from a 70 mm Todd-AO short, *The Miracle of Todd-AO*, as well as a sequence from *Oklahoma* using 70 mm 6-track stereo prints.

May then introduced two sequences from *The King and I*, which was originally photographed in Cinemascope 55, projected from a multitrack DCP as well as a clip from *Oklahoma*.

The Section thanked 20th Century Fox, Warner Bros. Classics, and the Academy Film Archive for providing these examples. Attendees enjoyed a flawless presentation from the staff of the Linwood Dunn Theater.

—Steve Wong

Secretary/Treasurer



Jim DeFilippis addresses attendees.

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