

# Toward a People's AV Archive: In Keeping Ordinary People's Memory Alive

Manila, Philippines

3-8 April 2017

21st SEAPAVVA Conference

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# Paradigm

- 1. Most contemporary national audiovisual archives in the world today collect and safeguard mainstream audiovisual heritage.
- 2. Ordinary people, communities, locals, as well as aboriginals are neglected and under-represented in mainstream media, let alone in national audiovisual archives.
- 3. As the consequences, the national histories were usually written only from the official angle.

# Paradigm Shift

- 1. I propose an alternative audiovisual archive with which collects and safeguards film heritage of under-represented.
- 2. From time to time, I organize media workshops in communities to help people deal with their own audio visual materials.

# 20TH SEAPAVAA CONFERENCE

6-11 June 2016

Guam

## **Caring for Collections, Video Tape Preservation,** SEAPAVVA 20th Conference Training Workshop

Curator, Presenter: Ray Jiing

Instructor: Hsuan Yi, Yongyi, Wu

Taiwan Newsreel and Documentary Film Archive,  
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Under the Auspices of SEAPAVVA Executive Committee

## SEAPAVVA 20th Conference Training Workshop

- The workshop provided hands on experience in cleaning, transferring, and digitization of analogue tapes. Workshop participants were encouraged to bring samples from their video collection and to have hands-on experience in conserving them.
- Mostly, they were home videos; they weren't national productions.
- The workshop was well received.

# 照片

















## My professional background:

- 1. documentary filmmaker,
- 2. educator,
- 3. film archivist

There were three roles I have to play.

Sometimes there were divided and split, but after all when I became older and experienced, the three roles are unified and became one.

- proposing a People's AV Archive is an embodiment of this unification which was evolved from many years of my three aspect of working experiences.



## In documentary filmmaking

- 1. I proposed a community-based documentary filmmaking, through collective effort the process of making a documentary together became a learning method for adults with respect to the critical understanding of the media - critical media literacy.
- 2. I focused on the process of making documentary, reflect on everyone's growth and transformation, not so much on the result, or the artistic value of the film they have made. This is a paradigm shift in documentary filmmaking.





















## The dilemma of community filmmaker: problem of alienation

- They cannot make a living ; and decide not go back to the community where they were originally from, they, instead, decide to pursuit a career in the mainstream commercial film industry. It is a total break away and alienation of the community-based filmmaking.

# Our Viewpoint and Solution:

- 1. Community-based documentary filmmaking should create a new set of rules, with a different type of ideology, distribute and circulate their works among themselves. We should help them to deal with their livelihood.

## Our Viewpoint and Solution:

- 2. We proposed a system what I called, “Petty Workshop Economy,” filmmaker is the shop owner, freelancer, so they can support themselves, to help people deal with audio visual materials; we train this type of media person, and my university served as a base for their operation. We even supply a server space for keeping community audio visual material.
- 3. More or less, this person can be called media technician.

- Their work starting from taking photos and portraits for families, making home movies, weddings, birthday parties, restore home videos and transfer to DVDs, making documentaries about people's intangible cultural assets and tell stories about themselves etc., combining everything together, and this family media person is like a family audio visual doctor, family archivist.
- Government, public, academic communities pay little attention to, or does not recognize, the importance of these type of works.

# Multiple-system Transferring Set



# Betamax, VHS, U-matic





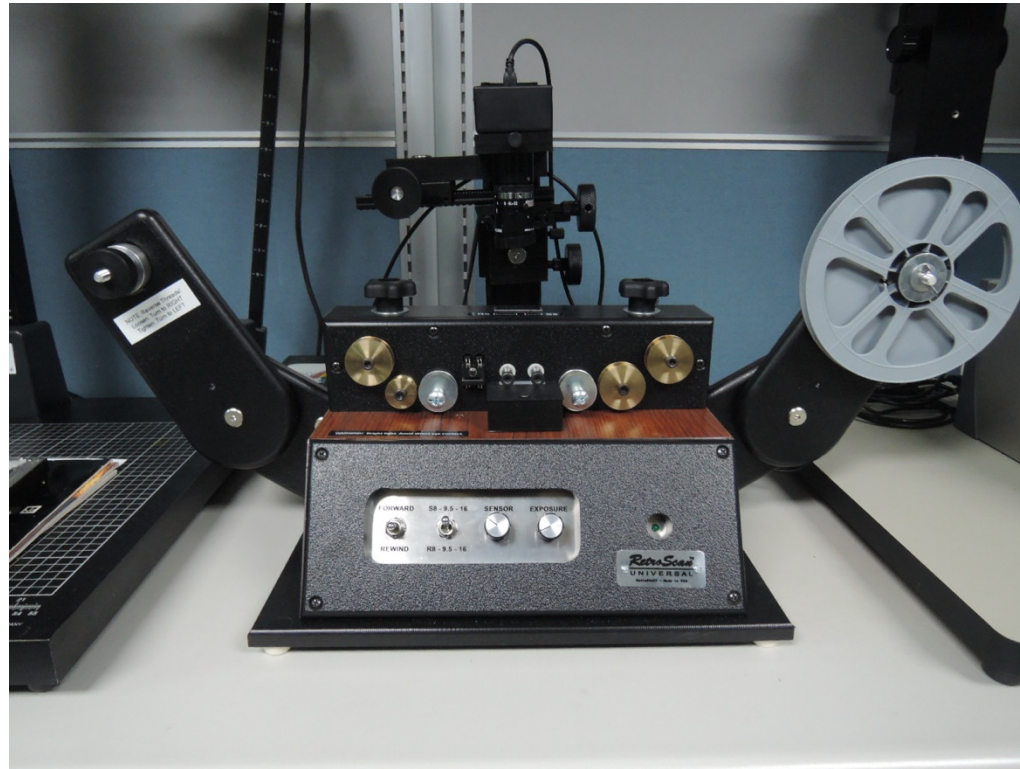
# Scanner (negatives, slides)



# 16mm Tele-cine



# 8mm Scanner



## Our Viewpoint and Solution:

- The archive is not “art for art sake” type of archive, instead, establish people’s documentation, the image may be very mundane and ordinary, the most important thing is that the continuity and vivid record of the people’s life.

## Our Viewpoint and Solution:

- 3. The service is subjected to a minimum charge so that the operation can be continued. In the process of doing this, certain agreement and authorization has to be made, **in exchange for media services**, in order to build a people's audiovisual archive.

# Conclusion

- We are experimenting the system right now, in collecting community materials, in the long run, will keep ordinary people's memory alive, and this type of alternative audiovisual archive would supply balanced view in the writing of national histories in the future.
- Would contribute to the formation of subjectivity of the people.

- Thank you