

Association for Recorded Sound Collections

*TWELFTH ANNUAL MEETING
Washington, D.C.*

February 22-25, 1978

Program



Wednesday, February 22

Library of Congress, Whittall Pavilion

- 8:30 AM Registration and Coffee
- 9:30 AM Welcoming Remarks
- 9:40 AM **LIFE AND WORK OF EMILE BERLINER**
Chairman: Gerald Gibson, Library of Congress
Speakers:
Ray Wile, Queens College
"Etching the Human Voice: The Invention of the Gramophone"
Mrs. Maurice H. Friedman, La Jolla, California
"Emile Berliner—The Man"
James Smart, Library of Congress
"Collecting and Identifying Berliner Records"
- 1:30 PM Tour of the Recorded Sound Section, Music Division, Library of Congress
- 2:30 PM Broadcast Rarities: Michael Biel, Morehead State University "Presenting Original Discs of the Earliest and Most Unusual Broadcast Recordings"
- 3:30 PM **STATUS REPORT AND DISCUSSION ON UNION CATALOG OF PRE-LP SOUND RECORDINGS GRANT PROJECT**
Chairman: Garrett H. Bowles, Stanford University
Panel:
James Creighton, University of Toronto
Gerald Gibson, Library of Congress
David Hall, New York Public Library
Donald Seibert, Syracuse University
Richard Warren, Jr., Yale University
- National Archives, Room 105
- 7:00 PM Wine and Cheese Reception (host, National Archives)
- National Archives, 5th Floor Theater
- 8:00 PM **SPECIAL FILM SESSION PART I:**
"Thomas Edison" (1931) 7 min.
"Berliner Family" (ca. 1905) 1 min.
"Telephone Memories" (1931) 15 min.
"Metropolitan Opera" (1935) 8 min.
"Is Everybody Listening?" (1917) 19 min.
"Yesterday and Today" (1936) 8 min.
"It's in the Groove" (1949) 19 min.

Thursday, February 23

National Archives, 5th Floor Theater

8:15 AM Registration and Coffee

9:00 AM John Hickman, WAMU-FM, American University
"Gunsmoke—Anatomy of a Radio Series"

10:00 AM **IMPLICATIONS OF THE NEW COPYRIGHT
LAW FOR SOUND RECORDINGS**

Speakers:

Mildred Henninger, Music Section, Examining
Division, U.S. Copyright Office

Fulton Brylawski, Copyright Attorney, Brylawski
& Cleary, Washington, D.C.

1:30 PM **STATUS AND FUTURE OF BROADCAST
ARCHIVES**

Chairman: Les Waffin, National Archives

Panel:

Maurice Crane, G. Robert Vincent Voice Library,
Michigan State University

Erik Barnouw, American Television and Radio
Archive, Library of Congress

Robert Saudek, Museum of Broadcasting

Donald Godfrey, Milo Ryan Phonoarchive,
University of Washington

Martin Werber, CBS News Audio Archive

3:30 PM Tour of Motion Picture and Sound Recording
Branch, National Archives

Hotel Commodore, Dubliner Restaurant

5:30 PM Cocktail Hour

6:30 PM Dinner and Social Evening (Speaker: Jim Walsh)

Friday, February 24

Library of Congress, Whittall Pavilion

8:30 AM Registration and Coffee

9:00 AM **EVALUATION AND APPRAISAL OF SOUND
RECORDINGS: STANDARDS AND GUIDE-
LINES**

Speakers:

Steve Smolian, Kingston, New York (chairman)

Dan Morgenstern, Institute of Jazz Studies,

Rutgers University

Tom Hartnett, Appraisal Section, Internal
Revenue Service

11:00 AM Business Meeting

Smithsonian Institution, Museum of History & Technology
Auditorium, 1st Floor

2:30 PM Phonograph and Sound Recording Collections of
the National Museum of History and Technology
(Carl Scheele, Curator of Community Life; Elliott
Sivowitch, Museum Specialist, Division of
Electricity)

3:30 PM Richard Bebb, London "Colonel G. E. Gouraud
and the 1888 Wax Cylinders"

National Archives, 5th Floor Theater

7:30 PM **SPECIAL FILM SESSION PART II:**

"The Father of Screenland" (1929) 5 min.

"Upbeat in Music" (1943) 18 min.

"The Voice from the Screen" (1926) 32 min.

"Orson Welles Press Conference" (1938) 7 min.

"Toscanini: Hymn of Nations" (1945) 30 min.

Saturday, February 25

Library of Congress, Whittall Pavilion

8:30 AM Registration

9:00 AM **TECHNIQUES AND DEMONSTRATIONS IN
THE TRANSFER OF CYLINDERS AND 78's**

Chairman: Michael Gray, Voice of America

Speakers:

Robert Carnal, Library of Congress

Wilfried Zahn, Deutsches Rundfunk Archiv, Frank-
furt

Anthony Griffith, EMI Records, London

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 301 A Street, S.E. (one block from
Library of Congress)

1:30 PM **ANNUAL COLLECTORS' SWAP**

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT:

Les Wallen

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS:

Michael Gray, Gerald Gibson, Les Wallen

SPECIAL EVENING FILM SESSIONS
National Archives, 5th Floor Theater

PART I—Wednesday Evening, February 22

(Total: 80 min.)

Program:

"Thomas Edison"

(1931) 7 minutes

Shows Edison sitting in outdoor setting and describing his inventions. Switches to group of men in San Francisco who are listening to a radio broadcast of Edison speaking in West Orange, New Jersey. Edison discusses his inventions and those who are now working with them.

"Berliner Family"

(ca. 1905) 1 minute

Rare motion picture footage showing the Berliners in a family outing in their backyard. One of the earliest "home movies" known to exist.

"Telephone Memories: The Story of the Birth of the Telephone"

(1931) 15 minutes

Thomas A. Watson recalls experiences from his work on the invention of the telephone, 1875-1915, and shows instruments and replicas of instruments from the early days of telephony. Watson relates episodes of the work and personality of Alexander Graham Bell and describes events of March 10, 1876 when Bell's call for help after an accident was heard by Watson over a receiver they had been testing.

"Metropolitan Opera"

(February 1, 1935) 8 minutes

A segment from the first issue of the *March of Time* newsreel series. In the first sound pictures ever taken of the Metropolitan Opera, Giulio Gatti-Casazza, director of the Met for 25 years, announces his resignation, and views his last opening-night "Aida"

from the manager's peep-hole. Later, sitting in his office, he reviews his memories of the great.

"Is Everybody Listening?"

(1947) 19 minutes

Discusses radio programs and shows how they are conceived, sponsored, and licensed. Claude Hooper supervises research on program popularity. Jack Benny, Phil Harris, Fibber McGee and Molly, Bob Hope, Edgar Bergen, and Fred Allen stage radio shows. Explains licensing operations by the FCC. Lee DeForest denounces lengthy radio commercials. William L. Shirer, Carl Sandburg, Serge Koussevitsky and the Boston Symphony, and Arturo Toscanini and the New York Philharmonic appear on programs. John Crosby criticizes quiz programs and soap operas. Samples are shown.

"Yesterday and Today: A Film Story of Sound Progress"

(1936) 8 minutes

Thomas Watson speaks about and demonstrates early phonographic reproduction apparatus, comparing recordings made in 1905, 1924, 1926, 1931, and 1936.

"It's in the Groove"

(1949) 19 minutes

Documents the revival of records after the Depression of 1932 and the growth of major recording companies. Shows Lenny Tristano and performances by the Korn Kobblers, Paul Whitman, Eddie Condon, Jascha Heifetz. Describes the activities of James C. Petrillo in forbidding the American Federation of Musicians to make records in 1942 and discusses problems resulting from the development of long-playing records. Personages: Eddy Arnold, Martin Block, Guy Lombardo, Peter Goldmark, Fran Warren, Perry Como, Lawrence Tibbett, Marilyn Cotlow, Jan Peerce, Thomas Hayward, Eddie Duchin, and Ella Fitzgerald.

PART II—Friday Evening, February 24

(Total: 95 min.)

Program:

"The Father of Screenland"

(1929) 5 minutes

Thomas Armat, inventor of the first motion picture projector (1895) discusses his early machines, problems in obtaining film for his projector, problems in getting the machine accepted by Edison and other producers, and the first public showing of a motion picture on a screen in New York City's Koster and Bial's music hall on April 23, 1896. Shows Armat's early machines.

"Upbeat in Music"

(1943) 18 minutes

Documents the effects of war and the unions on the U.S. music industry. Glenn Miller directs the Army-Air Force Band. Mischa Elman records a violin concerto. Benny Goodman, Fred Waring, Tommy Dorsey, and Paul Whiteman help Army personnel select records for distribution to servicemen. Goodman, Art Tatum, and Duke Ellington perform in New York city nightclubs. Marion Anderson sings an aria. Shows scenes from "Aida". Serge Koussevitsky rehearses Boston Symphony Orchestra. James C. Petrillo, President of American Federation of Musicians demands and receives a royalty on records sold. ASCAP members, including President Deems Taylor, meet. Perry Como and Bonnie Baker sing hit songs.

"The Voice from the Screen"

(1926) 32 minutes

Edward B. Craft, Executive Vice-President of Bell Telephone Lab. Inc. describes the processes and equipment used in the Vitaphone method of synchronizing sound recording discs with motion picture film. The lecture is presented to the New York Electrical Society, October 27, 1926.

"Orson Welles 'War of the Worlds' Press Conference"

(1938) 7 minutes

Unedited camera footage of portions of an Universal Newsreel

interview with Orson Welles shortly after the broadcast of his controversial *Mercury Theater* program "The War of the Worlds" on CBS, October 30, 1938.

"Toscanini: Hymn of the Nations"

(1945) 30 minutes

Produced by Irving Lerner. Directed by Alexander Hammid. Photographed by Peter Glushanok. The music of Verdi, interpreted by Arturo Toscanini and the NBC Symphony Orchestra, hailing the liberation of Italy by Allied troops. Includes a charmingly informal and intimate interview with Toscanini in his home. Brilliantly photographed and recorded, this film was the most famous and popular of the Office of War Information (OWI) overseas propaganda films.