CALL FOR PAPERS
CFP: Heresy is in the Eye of the Beholder: Film Exhibition and Distribution

An area of multiple panels for the 2016 Film & History Conference:
Gods and Heretics: Figures of Power and Subversion in Film and Television
October 26-October 30, 2016
The Milwaukee Hilton
Milwaukee, WI (USA)

DEADLINE for abstracts: June 1, 2016

AREA: Heresy is in the Eye of the Beholder: Film Exhibition and Distribution

Film exhibitors and distributors, situated between movie audiences and moviemakers, navigate the shifting tides of economy and public taste. This area looks at the role of film exhibitors and film distributors in bringing movies into theaters, homes, and other venues.

During the studio era, exhibitors and distributors were primarily controlled by decisions made in Hollywood or New York, but in small towns outside metropolitan theater districts independent theater owners might reign as community gods or be pilloried for promoting moral depravity. Today, independent theatre owners must find creative ways to revitalize moviegoing, connecting the local theater once again to other community organizations and resources.

This area invites abstracts for 20-minute papers on aspects of film exhibition and distribution pertaining to the conference theme “Gods and Heretics.” Possible topics for papers include:

- Film exhibition business practices: past, present, and future
- Promotions and Public Services: Dish nights and charity screenings
- Blind-booking and Block-booking: The devil was in the detail
- Film distribution from drummers to streaming video services
- Censorship and censure championed by civic groups and clergy
- Drive-Ins and double features
- The rise and decline of XXX movie theaters
- Redbox consumers and product placement
- Films in the air, films on the road – planes, trains, and automobiles screening films
- Screening and distributing industrial films
- Finding homes for orphan films

Proposals for complete panels (three related presentations) are also welcome, but they must include an abstract and contact information, including an e-mail address, for each presenter. For updates and registration information about the upcoming meeting, see the Film & History website (www.filmandhistory.org).

Please e-mail your 200-word proposal by 1 June 2016 to:

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