



The Photographic Society

OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, LIMITED
P.O. BOX 2007, JOHANNESBURG

M.P.D. NOTES AND NEWS

SOUTH AFRICAN SUCCESSES IN OVERSEAS CINE CONTESTS

M.P.D. arranged for South African amateur cine films to be entered in two overseas contests recently, and in both contests important awards were won by the M.P.D.-sponsored entries.

In the LUFTHANSA travel film competition, Arland Usher's "LAND OF SHRINES" was placed first of forty-four entries from all over the world; the rules of the competition were that the film had to be made of a country other than that in which the producer lives; this film deals in a sensitive manner with lovely Japan. Our congratulations go to Arland Usher, A.P.S.S.A., for winning this high award, and confirming that in the field of travel films, South African amateurs can hold their own with any other country. Basil Smith's "CAIRO" also did well, gaining eighth place.

M.P.D. sent two South African entries to the Vancouver International Amateur Film Festival, which has gained rapid recognition as one of the major Film Festivals in the world. Neither entry was given a major award; the top prize went to a Russian film, one of the rare Russian entries to be received in a 'Free World' cine contest. Each night the audience was asked to vote for the film they liked best; the South African entry, "Feathered Heritage" by Geoff Stirk and Wim Spronk, received the popular vote on the night it was screened, beating a number of other outstanding films for this honour. This is the second time a South African film has proved highly popular with Vancouver audiences; at their previous Festival, Graham Mowat's delightful "TOY BOAT" also won the prize given for such a film.

CANNES FILM FESTIVAL

The 17th International Amateur Film Festival takes place at Cannes from September 5th to 15th this year. The Festival enjoys the reputation of being the premier event in the world of its type. M.P.D. have full details, and entry forms are available for any members wanting to compete in this event. Films must be in Cannes by July 31st, 1964.

INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS

A letter has been received from the "Africa Club for the promotion of International Friendship with South Africa" asking for contacts with clubs or individual makers of 8 mm. or 16 mm. films in South Africa. The object is to exchange films, and thus promote better

knowledge of our country in Belgium, from where the letter comes. This is an excellent idea and it is hoped our readers will respond to the suggestion by writing to Mr. J. Broos, Julian Dillenstraat 6, Antwerpen, Belgium.

IMPORTANT ADDITION TO M.P.D. FILM LIBRARY

A copy of "FEATHERED HERITAGE" by Geoff Stirk and Wim Spronk, mentioned in the paragraph above, has been obtained for the M.P.D. Library, and is available on hire to all member clubs of P.S.S.A. This is undoubtedly one of the finest amateur cine films ever produced in South Africa, and deals with the wild bird life in and around Johannesburg. It demonstrates enormous patience on the part of the producers, who took three years to complete the film. The photography is superb, editing is excellent and the film is expertly narrated by Peter Davis. The list of trophies won by this film is growing to formidable size—a 'Silver Springbok' at the East London International Amateur Film Festival in 1963, a 'Silver Plaque' at the South African International Amateur Film Festival in 1963 (and placed top by public vote above the official prize winners), first prize in the Documentary Section of the Lusaka Film Festival and the Mashonaland Film Festival, and now the recipient of the public vote award at the Vancouver Film Festival. In the 1964 A.C.W. Ten Best, it was awarded a 'Gold Star' and not given a place in the 'Ten Best' "because it was too professional"!

Applications for the hire of this film will be dealt with in strict rotation; write immediately to M.P.D. Film Library, Box 1038, Bloemfontein, to book it for your Club. The film is 16 mm. magnetic stripe, and runs for 20-25 minutes. On account of the cost of securing this copy, the hire charge is R4 per Club; we assure you it is worth every cent of the price. The film is an example of the best in amateur film-making.

SOUTH AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR FILM FESTIVAL

Another of these important events has come and gone, and all keen amateur cinematographers will thank the Johannesburg Photographic Society for the trouble they go to each year to obtain, from all over the world, amateur films of the highest standard to screen at this Festival. The organisation involved in this event is probably not appreciated by the large audience which fills the University Great Hall when the selected films are screened. The public were well satisfied with the variety of films and thoroughly enjoyed them.

The award of the Gold Plaque of the Society to "Objective Festival" was well deserved as the film contained everything a good film should have—interest, enjoyment, superb photography and magnificent cutting. The ability to tell a story without recourse to commentary is a noticeable trend in all the better films shown, with the exception of one excellent documentary, "A Portrait in Bronze", where the commentary is spoken by Donald Gray, a South African better known to the older generation as Elred Tidbury, winner of a film star competition some thirty years ago, and who is now a television star in Britain. The portrait being cast in bronze is indeed his own.

Keep up the good work of running these Festivals, J.P.S., and let's have an even bigger and better one next year!

WHO'S WHO

Owing to the poor response from photographers, with respect to their acceptances in International Salons, we are unable to publish our usual "Who's Who". However we wish to acknowledge the returns of the following individual successes:

Otto Dose, 56 print acceptances in 19 Salons.
 Colin Marik, 33 slide acceptances in 16 Salons.
 Daniel Medzinski, 2 films accepted in 1 Salon.
 T. A. Mahon, 8 prints accepted in 6 Salons.
 J. C. du Pisani, 5 slides accepted in 3 Salons.
 Lea Oates, 12 slides accepted in 3 Salons.

P.S.S.A. CONGRESS 1964 — KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

URGENT

It is now too late to book for Congress through P.S.S.A. Any stragglers wishing to attend should contact the Parks Board, Booking Service, Sanlam Building, Corner Andries and Pretorius Streets, Pretoria, for themselves. They are, however, kindly requested to send a postcard to P.O. Box 9502, Johannesburg, letting us know they will be attending so that we may contact them further for registration and programme purposes.

Colour Division. Slides for criticism should be sent to The Colour Division of P.S.S.A. at P.O. Box 1594, Durban, NOT TO P.O. BOX 2007, JOHANNESBURG.

Camera Club Venue. Masonite C.C., first Thursday, M.O.T.H. Hall, Estcourt, J. R. C. Gonggryp, P.O. Box 57, Estcourt.

Parkhurst C.C. Meeting 'Stills' Section second Tuesday each month, 'Ciné' Section third Tuesday, Sec. N. M. Frames, No. 6 Standard Drive, Pine Park, Johannesburg (Phone 46-6691).

Competition of National Societies. Members are invited to submit one print for possible inclusion in the P.S.S.A. entry in an International Competition between National Photographic Societies organised by foto-club-biebrich. Size of prints must be 30 x 40 cms. and closing date is 1st November, 1964.

RECORDED LECTURES

Member clubs are notified that Recorded Lecture No. 7, "Let's do a Travel Talk" by Mr. Nat Cowan, A.R.P.S., has been lost in the post, and should therefore be struck off the list of lectures available.

New Tape Recorded Lectures on such subjects as Portraiture, Child Photography, Use of Colour Filters, Landscape, Nature, etc., are urgently required. P.S.S.A. will gladly refund the cost of materials used in the creation of acceptable Lectures.

Blazer Badges. Woven Blazer Badges are now available at R1.75 from the Treasurer, P.O. Box 2007, Johannesburg.

Protea Salon. Entry forms are now ready and may be obtained from: Salon Secretary, P.O. Box 2013, Pretoria. Forms will be sent to all P.S.S.A. members.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

of the

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

P.O. Box 2007, Johannesburg.

I,, hereby apply for membership of P.S.S.A. and, if admitted, agree to abide by all regulations of the Society.

My postal address is:

.....

I am a member of
 (other photographic bodies)

Qualifications Race

I enclose Cheque/Postal Order for R to cover Annual Subscription (R3.15); Blazer Badge (R1.75); Lapel Badge (75c) and commission.

Date Signature

Individual photographers may use this form, or a facsimile, when applying for ordinary membership of the Society.



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