

Uncovering CUNY TV's Audiovisual Heritage

Report for 2021 March

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Project Dashboard: <https://github.com/cunytv/uncoveringcunytv>

Note: This report may reference previous reports, all of which can be accessed by following this link (<https://github.com/cunytv/UncoveringCUNYTV/tree/main/MonthlyReports>) or by contacting library@tv.cuny.edu with an access request.

Overall Progress

- The first collection from Centro, *Politics con Sabor*, was retrieved. Digitizing of the MiniDVs in the collection is underway.
- Seven Baruch tapes were added to the Lillie & Nathan Ackerman lecture Series in Racial and Social Justice:
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLRqOW3sjwjhN4ma2iXphBCodDuRBwls6M>.
- Sixty tapes were digitized, making this the most productive month of digitization to date. Unfortunately, the two newly maintained decks blew a fuse, we are down to one Umatic deck.
- Migrating metadata into multiple different systems (Filemaker, Internet Archive, Youtube) from Airtable is a new work in progress that is seeing some bottlenecks.
- Ten episodes of Cinema Then, Cinema Now were captioned and nearly 60 ingested and prepped for longterm storage on LTO.

Digitization

- Sixty assets were digitized in March from the *Cinema Then*, *Cinema Now* and *Politics con Sabor* collections. Most of the tapes from *Cinema Then*, *Cinema Now* that needed additional conservation have been treated and digitized. One tape, the episode for Personae, remains a problem. It is on hold until another deck is mounted in the rack.
- We are up to 357 tapes digitized in addition to the 89 tapes digitized prior to the project, bringing us to a total of 446 tapes complete.

Captions

- To date, 35 videos have been captioned out of a possible 1200. The rate of video captioning slows dramatically when the tapes are an hour long or more. Moving forward, we'll make progress estimates based on hours instead of number of tapes. To date, 23 hours of content has been captioned.

Access

- With nearly 300 assets available for access, but only 10% accessible online because of captioning protocols, how can we make metadata on the objects discoverable? We will be working with the Web team over the next couple of months on this question.
- CTCN outreach is in the works but pushed back to May to finish up transfers and ingests for the collection.

Metadata

- Politics con Sabor is the first collection to come directly from a participating network archive. The raw footage was entered into the PBCore database as instantions and grouped as assets based on how the creator organized the interviews and the tapes. How to log and package the assets may require more discussion with the collection managers to suit their own systems for retrieving content.

Internship

- Summer internship was posted to the RFCUNY website on March 23rd. The intern is expected to begin in mid-June.
<https://www.rfcuny.org/careers/postings?pvnID=VU-2103-003933>