

Uncovering CUNY TV's Audiovisual Heritage

Report for 2021 February

Kelly Haydon (kelly.haydon@tv.cuny.edu)

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

- Digitization for *Cinema Then*, *Cinema Now* is fully underway, with dedicated intern, Eric Silberberg, onboarded in the areas of captioning, quality control, and ingest.
- Social media posts have begun on CunyTV Archives accounts Twitter and Instagram.
- The Lillie & Nathan Ackerman lecture Series in Racial and Social Sustice of Baruch College Special has been selected for the next round of uploads. There are 18 total in the series total that will hopefully be fully captioned and uploaded by the the end of March.
- Digitization was at its slowest without multiple formats available to transfer simultaneously.
- We have received a signed donor agreement from the new president of City Club, which allows us to grant access to the material online.

Digitization

- Twenty-eight tapes were digitized in February from the Baruch and *Cinema Then*, *Cinema Now* collections. Five are on hold due to extensive conservation treatment (baking) and several more will not be digitized as we do not have the rights to do so (these are full films screened as part of *Cinema Then*, *Cinema Now*). This brings the total to 329 videos digitized to day, less than 1000 to go!
- The digitization of Umatic tapes from the *City Club* and *Cinema Then*, *Cinema Now* collections has begun although due to issues with the City Club agreement, which was only just signed last week, the two projects have been swapped on the timeline.
- We are running low on cleaning supplies!
- Flip fixed both Umatic decks and they are HUMMING. Thanks Flip!

Captions

- To date, 27 videos have been captioned. At this rate, I'm thinking only about 25% of the videos will be captioned in this artisanal way, meaning only that many cannot go online until a compromise regarding the captioning guidelines can be met.
- There has been no movement on issue of auto-captioning vs CUNY accessibility guidelines. We are continuing to reach out to various staff members for guidance.

Access

- Began social media and instagram campaigns, posting once-a-week at least until the end of the project.
- Hashtags: #UncoveryCuny and #UmaticFanatic are t-shirt ready.
- Proposing the possibility of playlists to the media team - otherwise we have still been slow to get things on the web due to....captions!

Outreach

- A HootSuite account has been set up to schedule and prepare posts for CUNY TV's Twitter and Instagram account. Two campaigns have been set up for Baruch College:
 - Lillie and Nathan Ackerman Series
 - Lindsay Years Series

Internship

- We'll be posting a summer internship soon, likely!

Roadblocks

- Collection managers have been operating full throttle during the Spring semester. How can we help foster better communication?
- Umatic deck busted for most of the month, but working now
- Where should we put all these tapes? Currently they are in the equipment room at CUNY TV
- Need more firewire cables!