

British Universities Film & Video Council Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Access to thousands of TV clips from across Europe now available following UK launch of online portal

London, 13 December 2011: More than **10,000 items** of archived TV footage from **17 European countries** are now available via the **EUScreen** online portal. EUScreen – the result of a groundbreaking collaboration with 36 partners across Europe – provides a uniquely rich and exciting insight into **Europe’s television heritage** with content dating from the 1920s until today.

The portal includes a range of audiovisual content, including rare footage, such as an interview with *EASY RIDER* (1969) stars Peter Fonda and Dennis Hopper, and news footage and commentary on key events in history, including an interview with Martin Luther King (1962) about racial discrimination in the US. By the end of September 2012, there will be around **30,000 items of digital content freely available** on the portal as the European providers continue to add carefully selected material.

The EUScreen portal will be valuable to a wide range of cultural, educational and recreational users and will be of particular significance to those interested in European cultural, social or broadcast history. The expansive footage has also proved popular as a learning aid for foreign language students, with clips available in 15 languages.

The portal provides a wide variety of user-tested standardised functionalities and a simple navigation system to allow users to easily search and browse the expanding collection.

Explore the EUScreen portal here: <http://www.euscreen.eu/>

The British Universities Film & Video Council and Royal Holloway, University of London, two of the UK partners in the project, are pleased to launch the new online EUScreen portal in the UK. The UK partners have worked together to deliver a content selection strategy and organised user-testing to ensure the development of a innovatively simple and standardised web portal.

The EUScreen project began in October 2009 and is a three-year project, funded by the European Commission. The project aims to standardise and provide a framework to the heterogeneous collections held throughout Europe and encourages the exploration of Europe’s rich and diverse history.

John Ellis, Professor of Media Arts at Royal Holloway and principal investigator on the EUScreen project, said:

‘This is a valuable resource for anyone interested in social history or indeed TV history, as it brings together tens of thousands of clips from across Europe. The portal is available to anyone (not only academics) and it is very easy to get absorbed and spend hours browsing all of the footage’.

Access the EUScreen portal here: <http://www.euscreen.eu/>

- Ends -

Note to Editors:

Promotional video associated with EUscreen:

The promotional video provides a short extract about EUscreen, including what it can be used for and why users should explore the rich archival content available. It can be embedded within online news items.

Link to EUscreen promotional video: <http://vimeo.com/31778916>



British Universities Film & Video Council

The [British Universities Film & Video Council \(BUFVC\)](http://www.bufvc.ac.uk) is a charity and membership organisation focused on promoting the production, study, use and knowledge of moving image, sound and related media within higher education, further education and research. The BUFVC aims to enhance the teaching and learning experience of students and researchers by improving the access to and knowledge of film, television and radio content in education. It does this primarily through its comprehensive provision of databases, information (including copyright advice), publications, the off-air recordings back-up service and research.

The Council was founded in 1948 and has 258 members, representing 86% of all higher education institutions in the UK (2009-2010 statistics). <http://bufvc.ac.uk/>

Department of Media Arts, Royal Holloway, University of London

The Media Arts Department at Royal Holloway, University of London has been rated joint sixth in the UK for its research in the most recent Research Assessment Exercise. It is one of the largest, top-rated departments in the country, offering a unique mix of media production and media theory and analysis. Departmental staff are internationally recognised experts in the fields of European and world cinema and, especially, British and American film and television. Our practice-based research benefits from close links with senior figures working in the media and creative industries. Our resources, both in equipment and material for study and research are among the best in the UK.

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