

News



Irwin Young

SMPTE Executive Vice-President Irwin Young, Du Art Film Laboratories, Inc., received the Independent Feature Project's (IFP) first Lifetime Achievement Gotham Award on September 30, 1991, in New York City. He was honored for his widely known work in fostering fledgling filmmakers; he has given assistance to such directors as Spike Lee, Susan Seidelman, and Michael Moore when they were struggling with their first projects.

"He was our unanimous first choice," said Catherine Tait, executive director of IFP. "His commitment to independent filmmaking serves as an outstanding example to everyone in this business and has been critical to the survival and growth of independent voices in film."

The IFP, which is based in New York City, is one of the country's largest associations of independent filmmakers and distributors. The Gotham Awards were created to underscore New York's role as a vital filmmaking center and to honor those individuals who have excelled within the industry and demonstrated a commitment to the spirit and independence particular to filmmaking in New York.

Several SMPTE Fellows received honors and awards from the BKSTS on July 8, at a luncheon held at the Royal Garden Hotel in London. **Charles Peter Sandbank**, BBC, was presented with a fellowship for his contribution to the development of television technology. He joined BBC in 1978 as head of research and was particularly involved in digital technology, electronic graphics, and high-definition television. He became deputy director of engineering in 1983, and recently assumed special responsibilities for representing BBC's interests in EBU, EUREKA, and RACE.

Tomlinson Holman, Lucasfilm Ltd.,

was named a fellow for his contribution to the recording and reproduction of motion-picture sound. Holman, who is a consultant to Lucasfilm and an assistant professor at the University of Southern California, is the developer of the THX sound system and a theater alignment program that provides high-fidelity sound and better presentation in cinemas. He is a member of the U.S. delegation to the ISO cinematography committee, has presented many papers worldwide, and was the recipient of the Samuel L. Warner Memorial Medal of the SMPTE in 1987 and its Eastman Kodak Gold Medal in 1990.

William Shaw, Imax Corp., was presented with a fellowship for his contribution to the development and improvement of large-screen film presentation. He joined Imax in 1968 and developed a rolling-loop system of projector transportation for 70mm film with 15 perf/frame, in the horizontal axis, at 24 ft/sec. This arrangement, together with a high-power xenon lamp, provided magnificent images on some of the largest screens imaginable, which in turn led to the worldwide success of the Imax system. More recently the technique has been extended into the Omnimax format, and 3-D dual-projector Imax and Omnimax systems installed in Vancouver and Japan. He was the recipient of the SMPTE's John Grierson International Gold Medal in 1985.

SMPTE Financial Vice-President Richard K. Schafer, Eastman Kodak Co., received an honorary fellowship for his participation in the development of the machine-readable edge code, a high-definition telecine, and a high-resolution intermediate film system. He is currently the company's manager of motion-picture products and leads the teams responsible for development and introduction of all new and modified motion-picture products.

The Denis Wratten Journal Award, which is awarded annually for the best article published in the BKSTS publication, *Image Technology*, during the previous year, was presented to **Ronald E. Uhlig**, Eastman Kodak Co. His article, "Keycode™ Numbers on 35 and 16mm Film," appeared in the June 1990 issue of the publication. He described very clearly and succinctly the specifications and applications of this important new system of film bar coding, which was introduced by Eastman Kodak.

In addition, the Phil Berkeley Award, which goes to the person or persons who, during the preceding year, made an outstanding contribution to the linking of



SMPTE President Blaine Baker with BKSTS President Brian Rhodes.

film and television technologies or towards progress in this field, was presented to **Eastman Kodak's Motion Picture and Television Division**. The award recognizes the company's contribution in developing Keycode, the machine-readable edge code for motion-picture film.

SMPTE President Blaine Baker, MPL Film & Video, Inc., was the guest speaker at the luncheon.

Studer Revox AG has announced the acquisition of a majority interest in Digitec S.A. The Digitec organization has changed its name to Studer Digitec S.A. and operates as a full family member under the Studer division of SRAG. The move will allow the distribution of Digitec products worldwide through Studer's sales and service network. In addition to continuing his responsibilities as president of Studer France S.A.R.L., Oldrich Mikoska will assume the presidency of the newly formed Studer Digitec S.A.

New facilities for the film, video, and broadcasting programs of New York University's School of Continuing Education (SCE) were inaugurated on September 19. L. Jay Oliva, the university's chancellor and president-elect, formally opened the new facility and announced the launching of a fund-raising campaign to provide for the upgrading of equipment and enhancing of classroom and technical space to accommodate all qualified applicants. Each year the programs enroll approximately 3000 students, with waiting lists for many courses. The SCE has provided one of New York City's most respected professional training programs in film for 25 years.

Robert I. Knudson has been named president of ALTA Group, Dynatech Broadcast Group's San Jose-based manufacturer of integrated video production systems and the Calaway Editing line of edit controllers. He previously served as a vice-president at Ampex Corp., general manager of a West Coast post-production facility, and director of engineering at WGN-TV in Chicago.