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25 Years Ago in the Journal

The February 2001 *Journal* published in: “SMPTE Technology Committee on Digital Cinema—DC28: A Status Report” by R. M. Rast. “During the past year, a new SMPTE technology committee has been active, DC28, the Technology Committee on Digital Cinema. This report discusses its work and progress. — Most conclude digital cinema is the future of the consumer movie theater experience. Indeed, numerous press reports claim its imminence, and D-Cinema projection can be seen in several dozen theaters in the U.S. and abroad. However, what has been in the theaters has been in the nature of demonstrations of partial systems. DC28’s activity applies to an overall end-to-end system for theatrical release of motion pictures, replacing the existing 35mm distribution model. The entire system must be defined, designed, proven in, and standardized. The work needed extends well beyond that which any one organization, including SMPTE, can provide. However, SMPTE’s standards work is essential, and it is now well underway.” For the full article, see: <https://tinyurl.com/38km3ut6>

“ It is now possible to envision the use of holography in many unique applications such as in museums of three-dimensional images or even the simultaneous visual comparison of volumetric similarities between statuary being exhibited continents apart. ”

50 Years Ago in the Journal

The February 1976 *Journal* published in: “The Use of Holography in the Conservation, Preservation and Historical Recording of Art” by Darrell Westlake, Ralf F. Wuerker, and John F. Asmus. “It has been demonstrated that holography holds a great potential in art conservation and preservation and also as a technique for recording images of works of art. Its use in revealing damaged and deteriorating areas of both statuary and paintings has been proven elsewhere and new possibilities are being discovered

In this column we provide interesting historical briefs from the *Journal* articles of days past. The purpose of this column is primarily entertainment, but we hope it will also stimulate your thinking and reflection on the Society’s history, how far we have come in the industry, and (sometimes) how some things never change.



Photograph of another hologram of the face of Donatello's St. John the Baptist (**Fig. 5** from *SMPTE J.*, Feb. 1976, p. 86).

regularly. It is now possible to envision the use of holography in many unique applications such as in museums of three-dimensional images or even the simultaneous visual comparison of volumetric similarities between statuary being exhibited continents apart. Studies of works of Pisano, Donatello, and others are described and illustrated, and the special problems of preserving art in the environment of Venice are noted. Donatello's San Giovanni Bettista." For the full article, see: <https://tinyurl.com/56rdyjhc>

75 Years Ago in the Journal

The January 1951 *Journal* published in: "Theater Television Committee Report" by D. E. Hyndman, Committee Chairman. "During 1948 and 1949, the work of the Society's Theater Television Committee was devoted to the consideration of all engineering phases of the use of television in motion picture theaters. It reviewed the design, construction and operation of theater television equipment, from the standpoint of alterations that might be necessary within a theater, power supplies, viewing conditions, screen brightness, program distribution facilities and the like. In

June 1949, the Federal Communications Commission requested the Society, along with Paramount Pictures, Inc., and Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corp. to file a statement concerning the allocation of frequency bands for a theater television service. This request brought to an end the more or less broad general consideration that was being given to all phases of this work and forced the committee to concentrate on a statement which would outline in specific terms what the industry needed in the way of radio frequencies to establish a nationwide theater television service." For the full article, see: <https://tinyurl.com/32x4zww6>

100 Years Ago in the Journal

The September 1926 *Transactions* published in: "Progress in the Motion Picture Industry: 1924-1925 Report of the Progress Committee" by C. E. Egeler, P. R. Bassett, W. T. Braun, J. I. Crabtree, and Rowland Rogers. "The ideal motion picture has been described as one which is projected stereoscopically in natural color, is free from flicker and rain effects, and is accompanied by audible reproduction of the players' words. We are still some distance from this ideal, but it gives us some idea why developments during the past year have been carried along a few principal lines in efforts to reach this goal. They include the production of many mechanical devices, in which the Germans have been especially active, marked interest in color photography, reduction of non-visible radiation in the light beam before it reaches the film, and more attention to the theatre performance along the lines of co-ordination of the lighting effect, music, and screen picture." For the full article, see: <https://tinyurl.com/yzxdua6k>

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