

## **ESTONIA: CONTENT DESCRIPTION OF OLD AND UNKNOWN FILMS ABOUT ESTONIA**

Elementary training in making a minimum data list

### INTRODUCTION

The aims of my presentation are to initiate talks with you about content description of three old films about Estonia and to set up a minimum data list for the films presented.

Let us view the films and then we start to evaluate the products.

The first film is about the life on a so-called "Rudø-gård" – "A Rudø-farm"

The title of the film is short: Estland.

We are viewing an old and unknown film to most of you. The year of the production is 1920- made about 87 years ago. The site is Swedish islands close to Estonia. The film was produced for educational reasons. We are viewing the life of the so-called Swedish Rudø-farm. For years the majority of the population was Swedish. It is important to view the film critically and you have to make up your mind about the information about the film stored later in your catalogue. Let us set up a list of facts about the content of the film. Key words are: Boat, sailing boat, old farm buildings made by timber. What about the roof of the house? What would you call the work done to make the roof? We get to know a lot of different animals too. Do you want to put that kind of information in your catalogue? What about the work done by the men and the ladies? Do you see any difference between men and women when it comes to work or are they all doing the same kind of work? It is also important to look after buildings like schools, churches, official departments, offices, plants and historical buildings. The new church on Rudø is a gift from Sweden. The tradition of dancing in front of the church is interesting. In Norway we do not dance in front of the churches. Dancing was not regarded as an activity recommended by the priests in Norway.

On Rudø it is accepted to dance on Sunday afternoon. What kind of dance are we facing?

Many of the shots deal with farming. Men and women are working out in the field. The equipments for farming presented in the film is history in year 2007.

How are people dressed for work and for party and for a visit to the church? I think you should add information about men and women's hats and clothes in your catalogue for cultural and historical reasons too.

.

### MINIMUM DATA OF THE FILM PRESENTED: ESTONIA

We need to agree on the official title of the film/product. If the film has been given you without any information, you have to decide what to do about the following information or facts about the product:

TITLE ( Denomination given to a production by its producer), GIVEN TITLE ( Denomination given by the archivists when the proper title is missing), SUBTITLE ( Secondary title in the case of an unique

production . Title of each part of a series production. Title of each item within a production consisting of several subjects),

WORKING TITLE ( The title used during the production. Working title is often used in television productions),

DATE OF TRANSMISSION ( This is important for television and radio productions. The date of the first transmission of the programme)

DATE OF THE PRODUCTION/ SHOOTING ( Include several dates of shooting of the film over a period of time)

PRODUCER ( Person who organizes and directs the operations necessary to make the programme)

PRODUCTION NUMBER ( Unique number given to a programme for administrative purposes. Production number is important for tv productions)

ARCHIVE NUMBER ( Unique number given by the archive. The number is important for the storage of the film or the tape for reuse of the programme)

CONTENT ( The description of the content of the programme )

PLACE OF SHOOTING ( The site or the name of the city/ country/ where the production took place)

RUNNING TIME( Duration of the transmission period used for a production or the running time for showing a film)

LANGUAGE( Language used in a production)

MEDIUM ( Nature of the carrier on which the production is made: Film, videotape, DVD, what kind of videotape is used? )

FORMAT( Gauge of film, what type of film is used, tapes with and line standard, analogue or digital standard, the correct name of the tape used)

We could add more facts to the list like the name of the journalist and cameraman. We also should find out who has the copyright to product in case of using the film in a new production.

We are going to view another film called: " ESTLAND, TALLINN"

The film is made in 1929.

If we had no information about the film, we had to start asking a lot of questions like:

What is the name of the Swedish battleship presented? What is the purpose for paying Tallinn a visit in the year 1929? Who are the persons presented on the film? The name of the different buildings in Tallinn?

Due to the fact that this film has been documented well by the Swedish Televisions film and video archive, we can answer the questions quickly. What might be of interest for those of you who are living in the city is the shots of the buildings. Do we still find the buildings in Tallinn and what is the official names of the houses presented? We must also add the the story the political events about the official Swedish visit to Estonia made the King Gustav V (1858-1950) President August Rei ( 1889-1963) is welcoming the Swedish king and his men.

The king is met by 9 aircrafts in the air and by private sailing boats. The Estonia airforce of 1929. How was the standard of the aircrafts? The king is also welcomed by a group of students. Do the students represent a society for the students and what about the hats they are wearing?

The Swedish battleship is called: "HMS Sverige". The ship was build in 1915 and was used by the Swedish navy till about 1958.

The third film viewed is called : "Strandhugg på Rågø". The film is made by Per Söderback in 1934.

We are informed about the islands of Rågø (Ruhnu). Shots of sailing boats. Shots of the nature of the islands. The daily life of the islands. Farming activities. Women working.

## CONCLUSION

We have viewed three old films from the Swedish Television Archive in Stockholm. The content description is made by foreigners not by Estonians. It is important to approach the films- made in 1920, 1929 and 1934- with an attitude dominated by the cultural interests of Estonians. What do you think is important of the shots?

You have to think about reusing the films in new television productions. Are you all familiar with the events, the sites and the official persons presented in the films?

Take a look at the minimum data list produced by FIAT/IFTA once more and see if you want more facts about the films than listed. Compare the list with your own catalogue to see if you can improve the standard of the registration of the facts of the films and of the content description.

*Tedd Urnes*