

Biography of Richard J. Meyer

Richard J. Meyer teaches film at Seattle University. In 2012 and 2013, he was Visiting Scholar at the New Zealand Film Archive. He became the Distinguished Fellow of Film and Media Studies at Arizona State University in 2007 and the Distinguished Fulbright Professor at l'Universita' del Piemonte Orientale Amedeo Avogadro in Italy for the spring 2005 trimester. Dr Meyer is Edmund F. and Virginia B. Ball Professor of Telecommunications Emeritus at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana and Visiting Professor at the Center for Journalism and Media Studies at the University of Hong Kong.

In 2001, he was a Fellow of the Asian Cultural Council in Hong Kong. Prior to his appointment to the endowed chair, he was Fulbright Scholar at National Chengchi University in Taiwan where he studied Chinese Silent Films at the Beijing, Taipei, and Hong Kong Film Archives. Dr. Meyer received his BA and MA Degrees from Stanford University and his Ph.D. from New York University. His post-doctoral fellowships were at Columbia University and the East-West Center in Honolulu.

While pursuing a career in public broadcasting as a producer and executive with WNET, New York and CEO at KCTS Seattle and KERA/KDTN Dallas, he maintained a passion for film by experimenting with the medium as noted by TV Guide in April of 1969. He has been published in Public Opinion Quarterly, Journal of Broadcasting, Educational Broadcasting Review, Film Comment, NEA Journal, Time (Asia) and other periodicals and books. His chapter "Blacks and Broadcasting" appears in the book Broadcasting and Bargaining published by the University of Wisconsin Press. His section on "The Films of David Wark Griffith" is featured in Focus on D.W. Griffith, published by Prentice-Hall. His piece "Reaction to the 'Blue Book' " is presented in American Broadcasting published by Hastings House.

Dr. Meyer has written about the Pordenone International Silent Film Festival for American Way Magazine, the Dallas Morning News and other publications. In addition, he has produced two CDs, "Piano Themes From the Silent Screen" and "Piano Portraits of the Goddess" and three DVDs, the 1934 classic Chinese film "The Goddess," the 1931 Shanghai hit "The Peach Girl" and the 1932 epic "Wild Rose." His book, "Ruan Ling-yu: The Goddess of Shanghai," was published by Hong Kong University Press in 2005. His second book, "Jin Yan: The Rudolph Valentino of Shanghai," was published by Hong Kong University Press in 2009. In 2013, his latest publication, "Wang Renmei: The Wild Cat of Shanghai," will be released by Hong Kong University Press.

Throughout the United States, Asia, Southern Africa, and Europe, Dr. Meyer has been a broadcasting consultant, technical and media advisor to public and private schools, cultural groups, the State University of New York, UNESCO, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the United States Information Agency, and various radio and television institutions. He has worked in all phases of film and educational television production.

The series "Communications and Education", on which he served as Executive Producer, won the Ohio State Award in 1968. His film "The Garden of Eden" was responsible, in part, for saving the Garden of Eden in Lucas, Kansas. He has been a speaker at the Buster Keaton Celebration, the Taiwan International Symposium on Public Media, the International Film Studies Conference, the International Federation of Film Archives (FIAF) Congress, and numerous venues about film and broadcasting.

Dr. Meyer was a member of the President's Communications Council at Howard University, an associate of the Columbia University's seminar on public communications, and an adjunct professor at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia, the University of Texas at Dallas and the University of North Texas. He was a member of the board of directors of the National Association of Educational Broadcasters, the board of managers of the Public Broadcasting Service, the board of directors of the Public Broadcasting Service, and the president of the Washington Educational Network. He served on the Executive Committee of the American Program Service, the Executive Board of the Meadows School of the Arts at Southern Methodist University, and as a member of the National Advisory Council of the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition and a Director of the National Museum of Communications.

Presently Dr. Meyer is President Emeritus of The San Francisco Silent Film Festival and a member of the Board of Directors of the Seattle International Film Festival. He produces and introduces restored silent films accompanied by music at various "LIVE CINEMA" presentations. He is a certified scuba instructor of the National Association of Underwater Instructors. His underwater photographs and articles about diving have appeared in various magazines.