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CITY of CALABASAS

The Method Fest 2010 Technical Information Sheet

This information is meant to help filmmakers navigate the technical requirements of screening at our festival. Please note your screening venues have specific format requirements:

**Regency Agoura Hills 8, Theater 1 and Theater 5--
Will play 35mm Film Prints, HDCAM (both 59.94i/29.97 and 23.98), and
Digital Betacam (NTSC).**

**Founders Hall, Calabasas Civic Center--
Plays Digital Betacam (NTSC).**

*Both venues will have DVD screening capability, but DVD screening is primarily intended for youth filmmaker screenings.

It is the filmmaker's responsibility to have their work converted to the correct format. Transfers can be made at the filmmaker's expense at a transfer facility. We recommend Modern Videofilm in Glendale, CA. If you need further advice, please contact our office.

35mm FILM:

For the 35MM film, we can screen the aspect ratios of 1:66, 1:85, and 2:39. Please make sure your prints are labeled clearly as to their sound format and aspect ratio, and that all reels and cans are correctly numbered and labeled, with HEADS OUT.

VIDEO/DIGITAL FORMATS:

HDCAM (for Regency Agoura Hills 8)

Please note we are only screening HD in the Sony HDCAM format; we cannot screen other formats of high definition video. Sorry, we cannot screen HDCAM SR. We will be using Sony J-H3 HDCAM players that are capable of screening 1080i/59.94i/29.97PsF, as well as 23.98PsF, and 24PsF.

Filmmakers will find that many festivals (such as Sundance) only allow 1080i/59.94i* for their HDCAM screenings. This frequency rate seems to be the most ideal for playback deck availability, and overall digital projection.

(*Also referred to as 59.94i/29.97PsF, or 1080i/60i, or 29.97fps)

(DIGITAL BETACAM) Digibeta
NTSC only

VIDEO/DIGITAL ASPECT RATIOS:

16x9 (1:78:1)

4x3 (1:33:1)

At the Regency Agoura Hills 8, both our projectors will be HD with HD zoom lenses; these projectors are best suited for a ratio of 16x9 full frame (1:78:1). We can make a zoom adjustment for 4x3(1:33:1). Anything larger than 16x9, such as scope and 2:39, should be letterboxed to the 16x9 frame.

*Images should appear natural in the 16x9 frame, with images neither stretched nor squeezed, or in other words -- NO anamorphic squeezes applied to the frame.

For the Founders Hall Civic Center venue:

The projector is a native 4x3 aspect, and if a film has a 16x9 aspect, it is suggested that the film be letterboxed within the 4x3 frame. The projectionist then uses the zoom lens to fill the screen, and avoids doing projector resets.

VIDEO/DIGITAL SOUND:

Lo/Ro= Left only/Right only (Stereo Sound)

Lt/Rt= Dolby Prologic Encoded Audio

Examples of sound:

Ch. 1 – Lt or Lo

Ch. 2 – Rt or Ro

Ch. 3 – Lt or Lo

Ch. 4 – Rt or Ro

We are sorry that we cannot play Dolby E at either venue at this time.

***It is recommended that tapes have the following:**

Tape should have 30 seconds of (color bars) SMPTE PLUGe bars and -20db tone at head of tape.

Bars should be followed by 30 seconds of ZERO IRE black - no tone.

Program/film should then start. The title and start time (in time code) should be indicated/printed on the case and tape labels.

One should always use color bars and tone for festival submissions. Ignore them at your own risk. Unfortunately we cannot adjust projection to accommodate specific "problems" on prints. It is advised that you screen your project (as in a full screen projection) before sending it in.