FILMMAKING UNDER UNCERTAINTY

**Research for Development Program SNF
‚Social Conflicts'; Script Writing Workshop on
A Documentary Synthesis Project: ‚Inequalities'
18. – 20. April 2018**

Jeanine Reutemann

Science Videos
RedMorpheus GmbH

Research
Centre for Innovation
Leiden University, The Netherlands

The Plum Pudding
Model of an Atom

Area of Positive
Charge

Negatively Charged
Particles (Electrons)

TRANSFORMATION OF CONTENT THROUGH (AUDIOVISUAL) LANGUAGE

VISUAL

1. Standard Moving Images
2. Slow-Motion / Time Lapse / Macro
3. (Moving) Photographs
4. Animations: Stop-Motion, Drawings, 3D, Motion Tracking, Deepfakes ...
5. Written Text: In the image / Part of the image / Overlay / Subtitles

AUDIO

1. Voices: On-Screen, Off-Screen, Voice-over
2. Sound Elements: Foley, Sound Elements,
3. Atmosphere: Surroundings Spaces
4. The Power of Music

IMAGE-SOUND RELATION

Synchrese:
«forging of an immediate and necessary relationship
between something one sees
and something one hears at the same time.»

MICHEL CHION: AUDIO-VISION: SOUND ON SCREEN, 1994.

IMAGE-SOUND RELATION

**»We never see the same thing when we also hear;
we don't hear the same thing when we see as well.«**

MICHEL CHION: «AUDIO-VISION: SOUND ON SCREEN», COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS, 1994.

FIVE MEDIA PRINCIPLES FOR RESEARCH DOCUMENTARIES

1. Body of Knowledge

**Re-formatting written texts;
condense; interweave; contextualize;
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**Structure of moving images;
characteristics; epistemic power;
multimodality;**

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3. (Audiovisual) Rhetorics

Performance; characters; surrounding spaces; image-sound rhetorics; visual argumentation; but also ambiguity of images;

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4. Arc of Suspense

Storytelling; narration; time-space element; rhythm; film = conflict;

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5. Playful Approach
Filmmaking is such an intense work; you have to enjoy it!

DOCUMENTARY FILM & EXPERT INTERVIEWS

talking head (eng. trans.)

Rather ironic term for the dominance of the "talking heads" of interviewees, who appear primarily in television documentaries and are usually recorded in semi-near to close setting sizes (whether against a scenic background - bookcases for humanists, laboratories for chemists, archive shelves for historians, etc. - or in front of a neutralized, mostly monochrome black surface). The staging appears static, is visually unattractive, shifts attention entirely to the spoken word.

talking head
dt. „sprechender

Eher ironische Bezeichnung für die Dominanz der vor allem in Fernsehdokumentationen auftretenden „sprechenden Köpfe" von Interviewten, die meist in halbnaher bis naher Einstellungsgröße aufgenommen werden (sei es, vor einem szenisch-sprechenden Hintergrund – Bücherwände für Geisteswissenschaftler, Labore für Chemiker, Archivregale für Historiker etc. –, sei es vor einer neutralisierten, meist monochrom schwarzen Fläche). Die Inszenierung wirkt statisch, ist visuell wenig ansprechend, verlagert die Aufmerksamkeit ganz auf das Gesprochene.

http://filmlexikon.uni-kiel.de/index.php?action=lexikon&tag=det&id=7777

Principles of Electrical Circuits

L18 ... plifier

Operational Amplifier
Op Amp

Principles of Electric Circuits by Tsinghua University

presented by Guip...
dubbed by Xinjie ...

Empathies Conference 2017 European Society for Literature, Science and the Arts, University of Basel

Chair of Ecosystem
Management, ETH Zurich
Prof. Dr. Jaboury Ghazou

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**WWF, COOP &
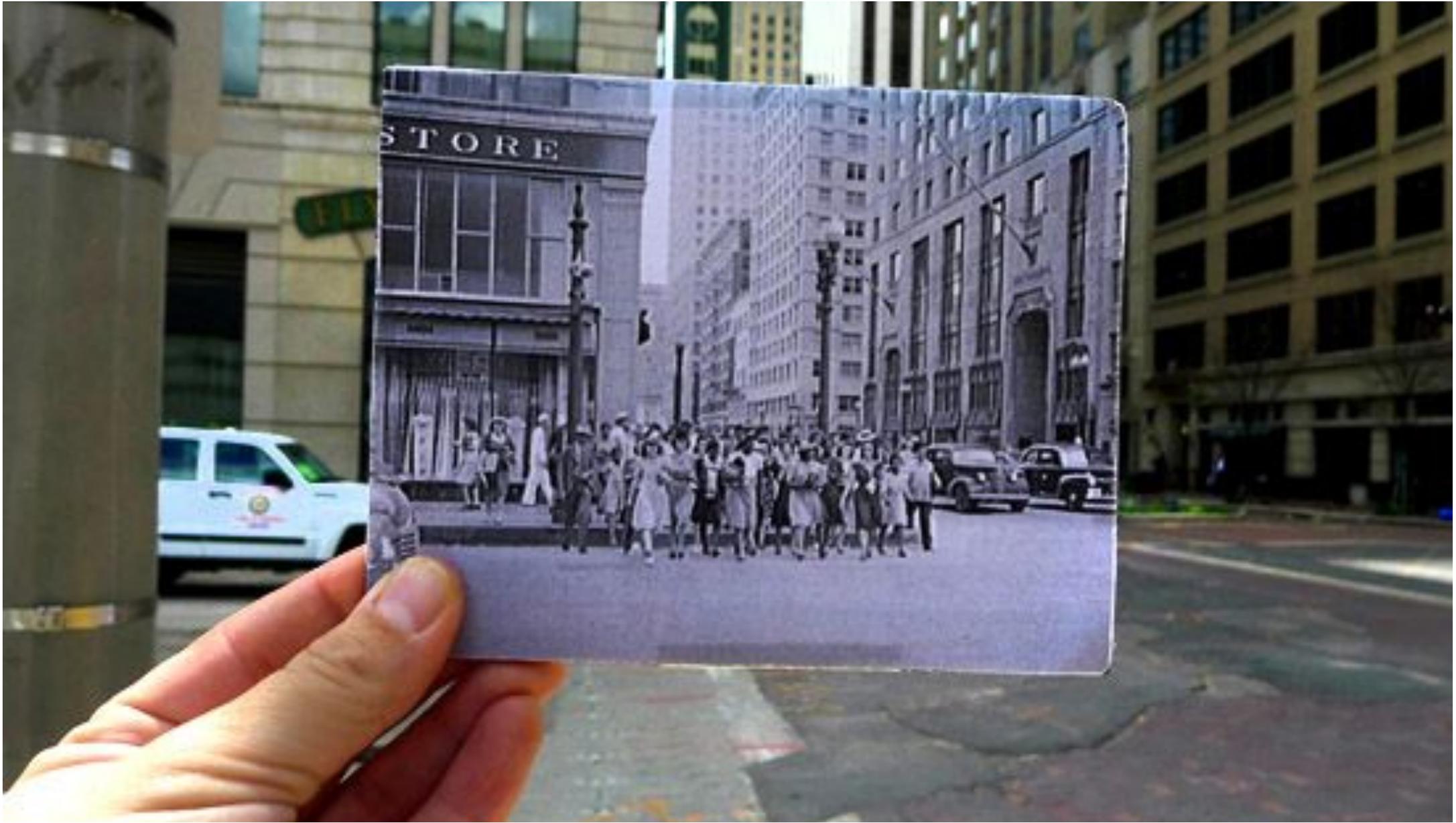Southpole Carbon**
Maasai Women, Cookstoves
And Fairtrade Flowers

VISUAL
SYNTHESIS

POSSIBLE VISUAL CONCEPT FOR OUR SYNTHESIS PROJECT
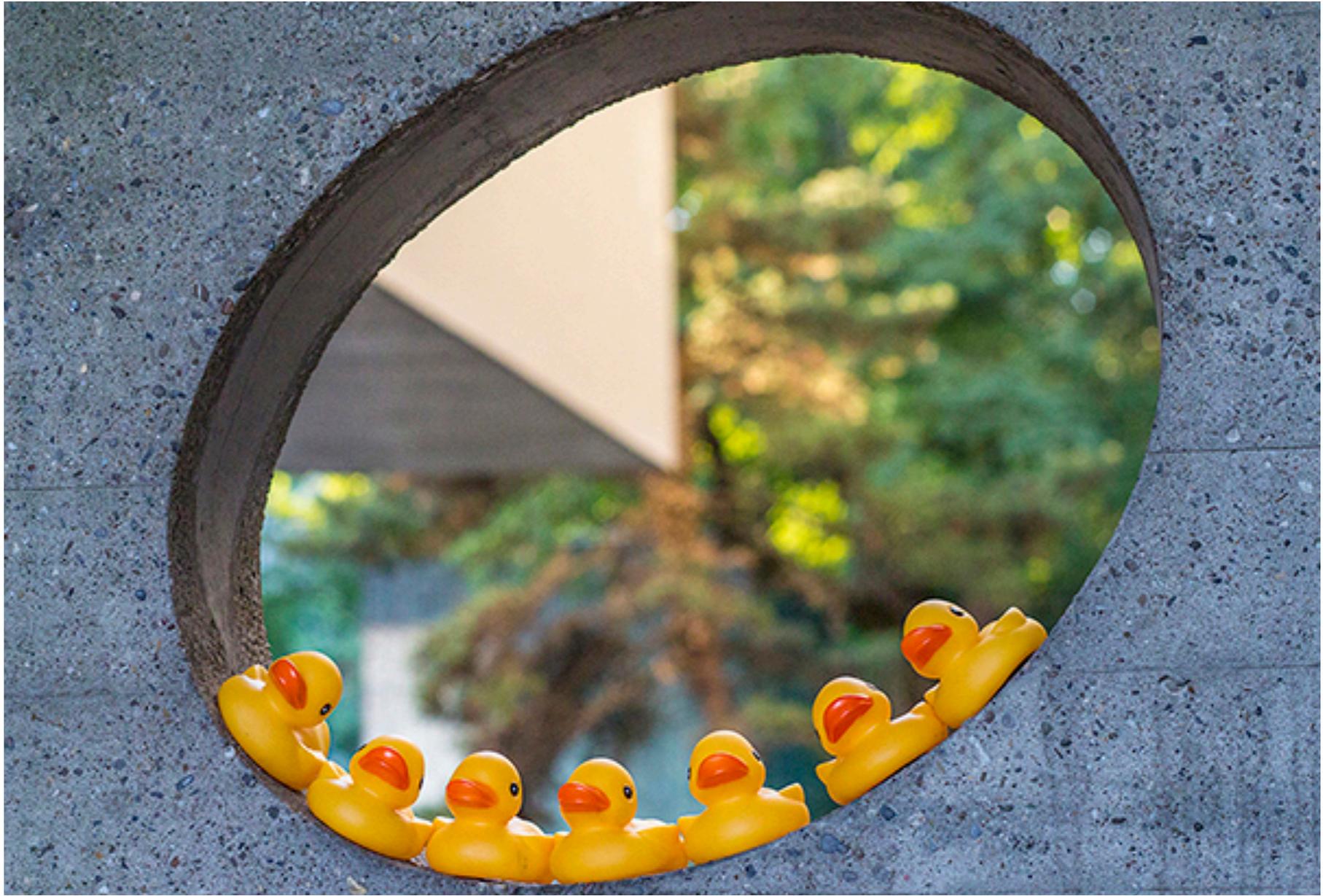
1. Historic Material 'Slider'

POSSIBLE VISUAL CONCEPT FOR OUR SYNTHESIS PROJECT

1. Historic Material 'Slider'
2. Match-Cuts between Projects (Visual & Audio)

Lines;
Shapes;
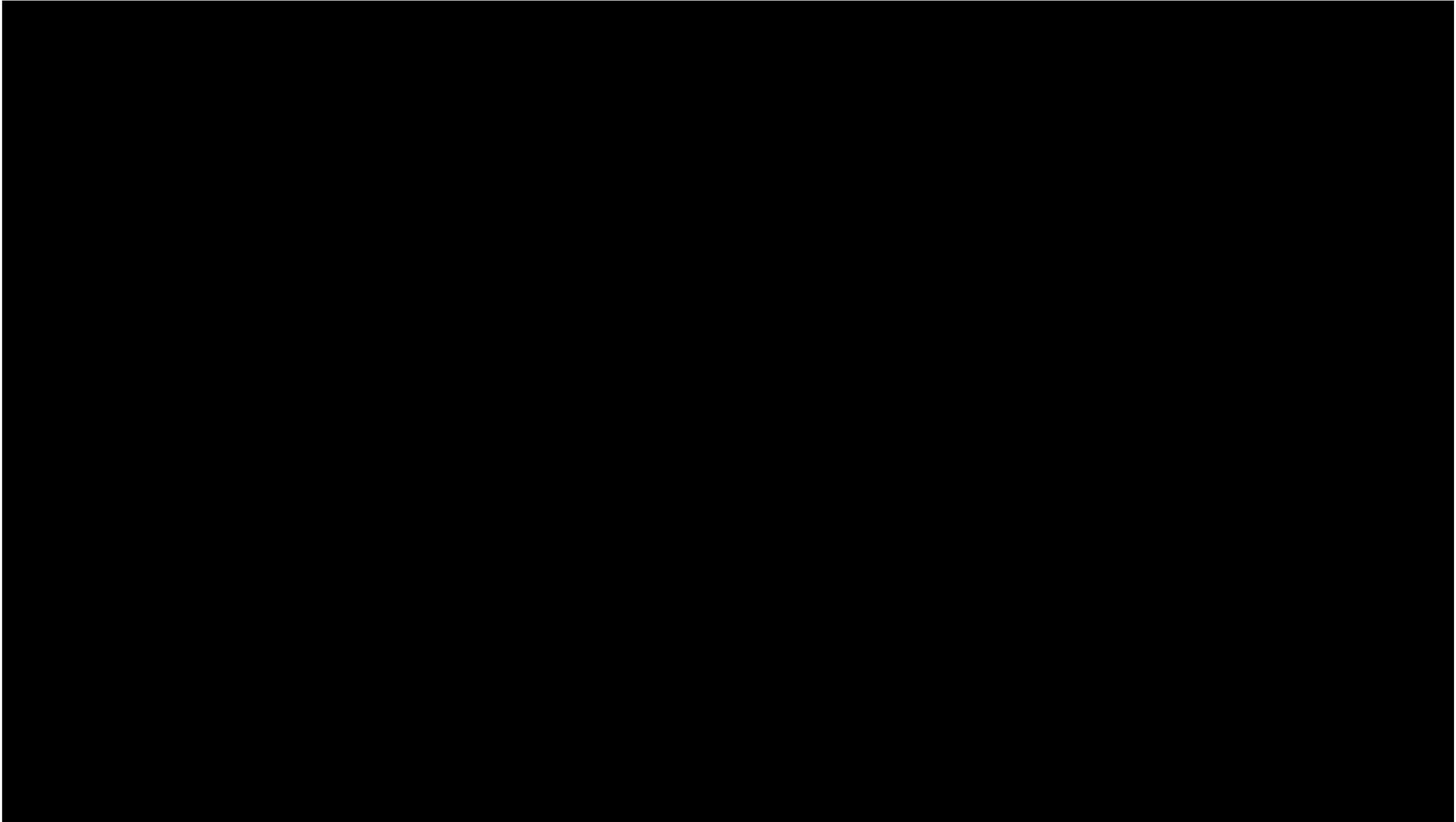Objects;
Actions;
Movements;
...;

FRANK SINATRA

JOHN COLTRANE LIVE IN STOCKHOLM 1960

FRANK SINATRA WITH COUNT BASIE

MILES DAVIS' GREATEST HITS

RELAXIN' WITH THE MILES DAVIS QUINTET

ALL KINDS OF BLUES

SECOND SACRED CONCERT DUKE ELLINGTON

ZOOT SIMS

TNL 17309

THE FANTASTIC RAY CHARLES - FESTIVAL ALBUM 103

FOX · TAILS OF ILLUSION

THE BEST OF BOOGIE WOOGIE

They Call Me MUDDY WATERS

515036

MADONNA / TRUE BLUE

GRATEFUL DEAD TERRAPIN STATION

JANIS JOPLIN / PEARL

PRESLEY SUN COLLECTION

FREDERIC CHOPIN: POLONAISES

ANIMAUX / SEPTUOR

ANTONIO VIVALDI: DIE VIER JAHRESZEITEN — I MUSICI

TRO ARMONICO

ECM-2-1064

KEITH JARRETT

THE KÖLN CONCERT

YANN TIERSEN / TABARLY

LUDOVICO EINAUDI LIVE IN BERLIN PONDEROSA LP 07

12.98

CHILLY GONZALES / SOLO PIANO

II ONAIP OLOS

GONZALES SOLO PIANO

IVORY TOWER

WOODKID — THE GOLDEN AGE

JEAN MICHEL JARRE

OXYGÈNE

CEREMONIALS

ETRY

the Machine

WARN

NOFX LP

LANA DEL REY BORN TO DIE

LANA DEL REY BORN TO DIE

SARAH JAFFE

M83. Hurry Up, We're Dreaming.

RADIOHEAD the bends

COLDPLAY · PARACHUTES 7243 5 27783 1 7. 527 7831

IN RAINBOWS / IN RAINBOWS / IN RAIN BOWS RA D IOHEA_D _RAD IO HEA D

JAKE BUGG SHANGRI LA

JUNIP

BRIGHT EYES DIGITAL ASH IN A DIGITAL URN

LIFTED or The Story is in the Soil, Keep Your Ear to the Ground

CALEXICO

garden ruin

207 822-630 DIE TOTEN HOSEN — DAMENWAHL

125 JAHRE DIE TOTEN HOSEN AUF DEM KREUZZUG INS GLÜCK

303 841 422

NINA HAGEN ANGSTLOS

K FLOYD

WISH YOU WERE HERE

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The Boxer

Original Motion Picture Score

GREASE

BILLY JOEL

SONGS IN THE ATTIC

- **Needs concrete planning of scenes;**
- **Access to previous archive material** **BEFORE** **field work;**
- **script development: identification of:**
Montage Points

Preproduction

Definition of target audience, genre, format, technical equipment, workplan (times, deadlines, work steps, tasks), roles, organization of production, script writing, production plan, research on similar films, access to existing material, search for copyright-free material and historical material.

Production

Stakeholder interviews, key locations, impressions, Field work, sleepless nights, long working hours

Postproduction

Montage, titles, translations, subtitles, 'lower thirds', (maybe) animations, visual effects, color grading, voice-over texts and recording, sound design, music, sound mix, end credits, rendering.

PREPRODUCTION
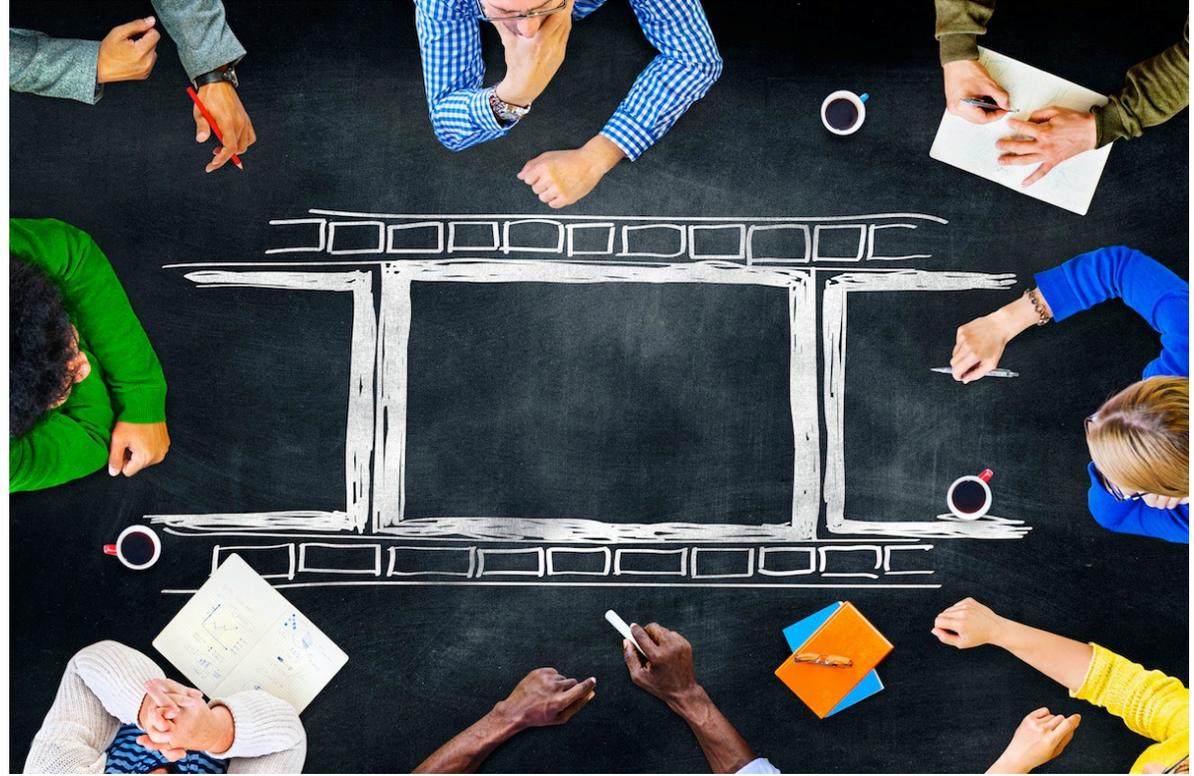
Overview:
topic of the film is;
(presentation of hypothesis)

Logline:
Brief synopsis of story in 1 or 2
sentences. Hook!

Scope of Film:
list of what issues are being examined;
limitation is important; not say
everything

Outline (script):
sketch of the film, describes
the narrative arc of story;

Characters and Storyline:
list all characters in story:
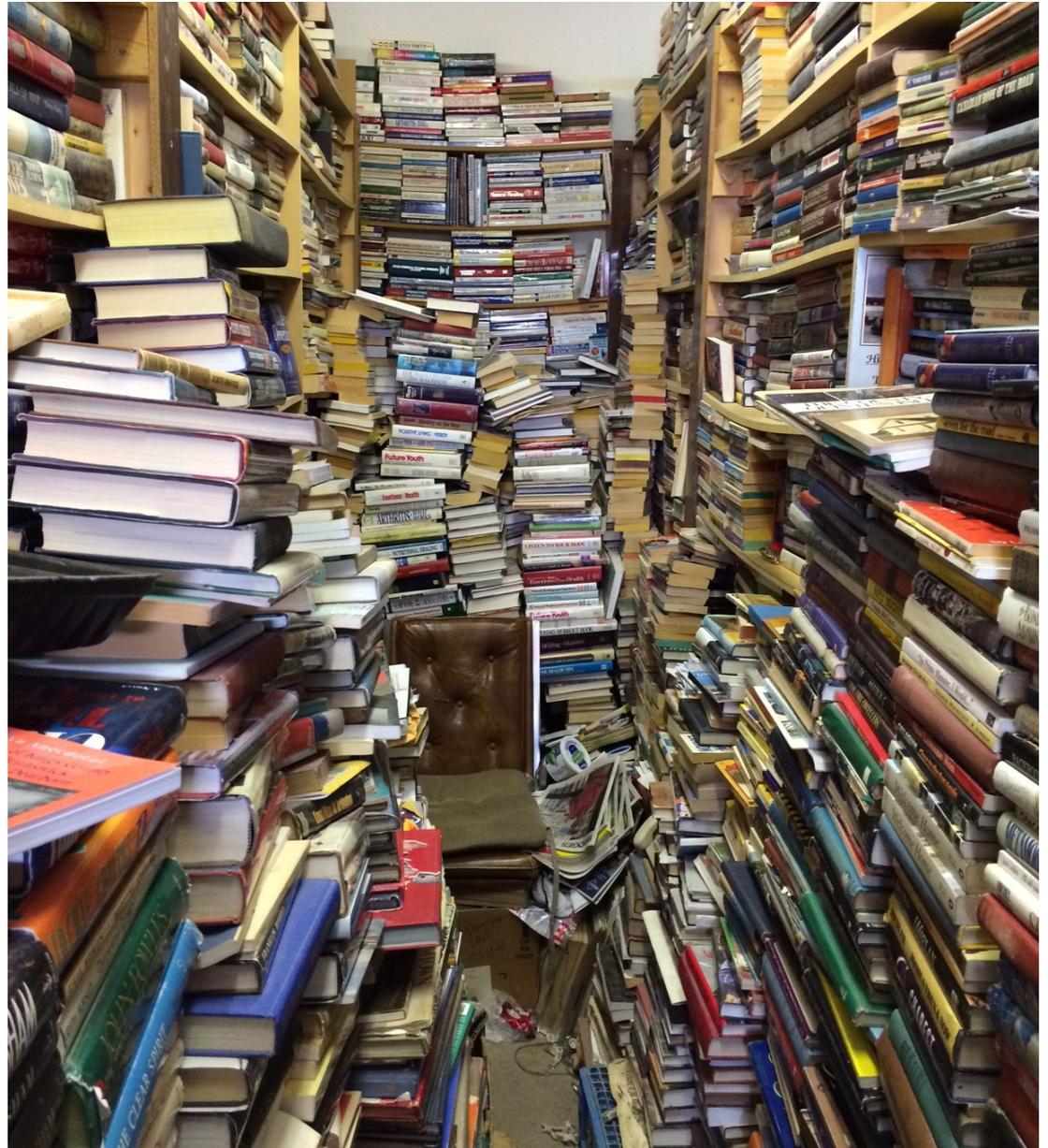what is their role in the story;
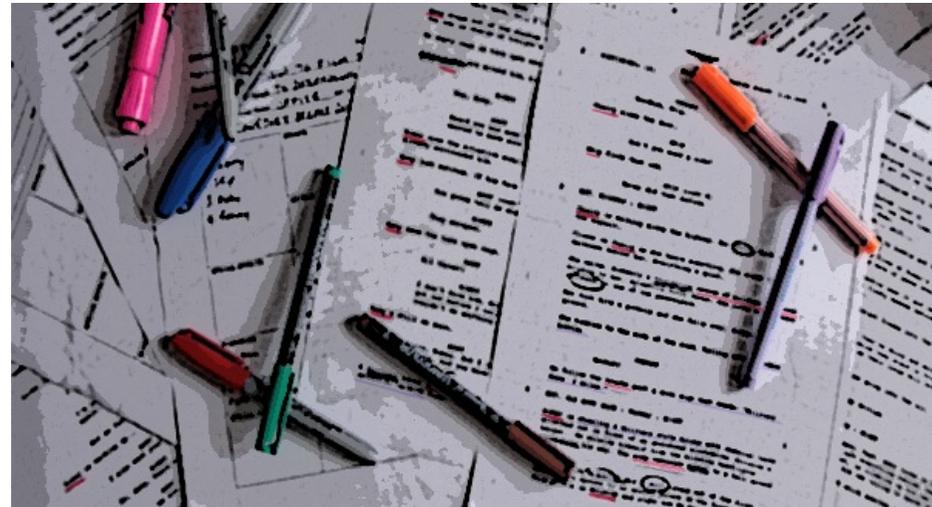
PRODUCTION

**What to expect in the production, field work?
How is it to work with us on-location?**

POSTPRODUCTION