

20 years Global-Super-8-Day
55 years Super-8-Film
9 Oct. 2021
The world is there - and you?



Call for the worldwide Super 8 Generational Contract

25 million Super-8 film cameras are waiting for new filmmakers in attics, showcases etc. worldwide

Fathers & mothers put your Super8 cameras into young hands!

Basel, July 2020; *The GS8D Committee estimates that in the Basel metropolitan region, for example, up to 20,000 (!) - around 250,000 throughout Switzerland - more or less well-maintained Super 8 film cameras are lying unused in boxes in attics, or rather in showcases. With the appeal "Fathers and mothers put their cameras into young hands", these existing technical resources are to be put back into operation in an environmentally friendly way. In the 1970s, the boom years of Super-8 film, 300,000 Super-8 cameras were sold annually in Germany alone. In terms of figures, this amounts to about four million Super 8 cameras sold in Germany alone between 1965 and 1985, about 20 million each in Europe and the USA and up to 50 million worldwide. These figures are unsecured estimates and projections, but should be in the same order of magnitude. There were no mobile phones back then ... Half of these S8 cameras are probably still available and in use.*

As these mainly mechanical cameras were produced with sustainable materials at that time, there is still a good chance today - many years later - that they can be used again after more or less costly revision. Parents or even grandparents may want to make this technology available to their children and grandchildren for riding with analogue film and leave it to them.

Analogue photo and film works have been enjoying increasing popularity again for some years now, comparable to the renaissance of vinyl in the music scene. Analogue film works, mostly Super-8, are now frequently found in the production of music videos, but also in advertising and partly in cinema and feature films. Also because of the special aesthetics of Super 8.

Until the end of the 1990s, Super-8 was undisputedly considered the predestined film format for independent film work, because it was simply available and very cheap. Today, nobody claims that Super-8 is cheap. But Super-8 is alive and it is worth its price! Anyone who is prepared to invest approx. 100 € for an S8 film cassette including development will think very carefully about how and with what to expose these approx. 3 minutes of film material. This is in stark contrast to the uninhibited production of any kind of mobile phone or digital video material, which is hardly controllable and requires a lot of effort for viewing, selection and editing. Analogue photo and film work trains the concentrated handling, the eye and protects the later spectator with purposeful photographs.

The Basel GS8D Committee is in the process of setting up a Super 8 film workshop - also in preparation for the Global Super 8 Day 2021, which it is organising worldwide from Basel. The aim is to hold workshops here that will make it easier to get started with Super-8, but also to create a melting pot for all those interested in S8. The Super-8 film workshop is dependent on donations in kind, primarily Super-8 cameras, but also S8 projectors and cutting equipment. This Super 8 generation contract worked very well in Hamburg at the end of the 1990s. It supplied the Super-8 film-center in Hamburg the basis for the S-8 cameras, which could then be loaned out at low cost.

But even without a Super8 initiative in the town, the S8 generation contract works, in which parents and grandparents give their Super8 cameras, which are no longer used, directly into young hands.

Copying and sharing of this call is explicitly desired!

The world is there - and you? Le monde est là - et nous ? El mundo está ahí, ¿y tú? Die Welt ist dabei - und Du?

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