The Melbourne Camera Club - Audio Visual Group additional eNews for July's 5th Monday 'NO RULES' Show & Tell. Distributed to members and others interested in the Craft of Audio Visual production.

AUDIO VISUAL GROUP – AVG

Some Audio Visuals using motion effects - Video - Animation - Rapid Sequence Shots on the AVG YouTUBE channel see the public uploaded YouTUBE AVs listed at URL   https://www.youtube.com/user/John4MCCavGroup

A reminder for this Monday night 8pm July 31st. 2017

AVG 'Show & Tell' 5th. Monday July 31st. 2017
All are invited to bring along your AVs in production or just ideas for showing and/or just discussion with the audience.

This is an opportunity to also explore the **2017 AVG Theme of 'Street Art'.** Defined and set this year by AVG member Robert Fairweather – his explanation of the theme is that it should be more than just street art hot spots like Melbourne's Hosier lane and the graffiti walls of Fitzroy. Look at your local streetscapes, parks, and suburban shopping centers for public accessible 'art'. This could include abandoned car lots, murals, stickers, stencils as well as the traditional painted works of art.

From the July AVG Video in AVs

Here is a quick round up of the current video formats you are most likely to be using as input into your editing projects:

Standard Definition (SD)

Although standard definition has pretty much gone the way of the dinosaur these days it is worth mentioning it here because of the enormous amount of footage that still exists in this format.

Many, many video enthusiasts probably still have hours and hours of footage taken in this format lying about the place somewhere!

DV.avi

This was the video format used to record to mini DV tapes on many of the original personal camcorders.

As a format it was well loved because it was virtually uncompressed and provided the best quality in standard definition video combined with the greatest suitability for editing.

The format itself was developed specifically for this purpose which is why it was so video editor friendly.

It required the least amount of computer resources of all the various video file types.

MPEG2

MPEG2 was originally designed as a distribution video file type for the DVD standard.

It was never designed to be edited so of course as soon as it became available on the original Sony DVD camcorders… everyone wanted to edit with it!

What ensued was about three years of heartbreak and a lot of whining and moaning from the public until the video editing software engineers finally got the format sorted out and presently this is the easiest of the compressed video file formats to edit.

It is reasonably easy on resources but because of the compression involved can be a little twitchy if your computer gets stressed.

Provided you don't keep re-copying and re-compressing the files the quality will maintain pretty well.

MPEG4, H.264, H.263, .MOV, .WMV, .FLV, DivX, Xvid …etc

This group represents the rest and all fall under a general heading of highly compressed files most often used for distribution online (YouTube etc.) or for replay on a computer monitor.

They produce tiny files and considering the size of the video files they can produce some excellent quality.

The main point to remember with these files is that they were specifically designed to be video distribution formats, the final product after you have used a more video editor friendly input format.

There is nothing in their design specs that included how to edit them but these days provided you have sufficient computer resources they edit just fine.

High Definition (HD)

HD MPEG2

This format was called HDV and is kind of like MPEG2 on crack! Of all the new HD formats this one has proven to be, by far, the most conducive to video editing.

AVCHD

AVCHD is another variation on the original MP4 format using the H.264 codec.

Originally the bane of every editor's existence it has now matured and is relatively easy to use.

It requires huge processing ability from the computer.

Output Formats

DVD.
This will be in the form of MPEG2 files authored (organized and written) to DVD in standard definition.

It is possible to write a high definition video file structure to a standard DVD and have a High Definition player and HDTV handle it however compatibility is still an issue.

High Definition material written to a Blu-Ray disc or what is called a "hybrid" disc. This is an AVCHD file and file structure that can be played back on a Sony Playstation connected to a HDTV.

Finally, any of a number of very highly compressed formats for viewing on computers, hand held devices or loading on to internet services such as YouTube.

As an noted here you also need to be aware of the various sound recording and playback formats. If your particular recording device, camcorder or DVD recorder uses Dolby Stereo (AC3) or 5:1 Surround or you wish to output these audio file types check as a license for that technology is usually needed. Your user software may have included it your purchase price but could be an additional purchase as an add on.

A Note on Video Compression

The term compression when speaking of video files tends to give an incorrect impression regarding exactly what is happening to your files. You would think that what is happening is that your video file is being squashed in some way so as to occupy less space.

Nothing could be further from the truth! The truth is that the compression software is throwing away a large part of the original information and it is this point that causes the problems in video editing.

Of course if the software marketers called it video trashing, or data dumping I don't think, somehow, it would convey the hi-tech sexiness that they are trying to promote!

Good luck with your video editing from https://diyvideoeditor.com/video-file-formats/

Hope to see you at one or more of our AVG meetings. Any questions eMail or phone me. To unsubscribe to this AVG eNews send eMail to the coordinator with UN-SUBSCRIBE in the subject line

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