NAIR, P. K. (Paramesh Krishnan)  
(1933, India)  
Nationality: Indian  
Country of Residence: India

Education  
University of Kerala: Sciences, Trivandrum, India, 1953

Areas of Archival Specialization  
Film archiving and preservation.

Achievements in Archival Field  
Nair’s collection and preservation efforts have established a large archive of Indian film and promoted Indian film history nationally and abroad.

Career History  
• Research Assistant, Film and Television Institute of India, 1961 - ca. 1965  
• Assistant Curator, National Film Archive of India, 1965 - 1982  
• Director, National Film Archive of India, 1982 - 1991

Historical Biography  
P. K. Nair’s interest in film began in childhood, when he attended screenings at the theatre after dinner and for weekend matinees. According to the Large Short Films blog, Nair “believes that the archivist in him was born out of his habit of preserving film tickets,” initially in order to collect pictures of actors printed on the tickets. As part of his work for the National Film Archive of India (NFAI, founded in 1964), Nair was primarily responsible for the Archive’s collection and preservation work. In the years between 1965 and 1991, he collected 12,000 films, 8,000 of which were Indian. Nair shared and promoted his film discoveries through weekly NFAI public screenings introducing the Indian public to national and international masters. He also organized film screenings from tents in rural villages, and in this way brought film to remote regions of India where it otherwise would have been unavailable. He received the Satyajit Ray Memorial Award from the Asian Film Foundation in 2008.

Achievements in Other Fields  
Nair helped found the International Film Festival of Kerala in 1994; his life was made into a documentary, Celluloid Man, by Shivendra Sing Dungarpur, and premiered at the Il Cinema Ritrovato, in Bologna, Italy, in 2012.
**PARTIAL BIBLIOGRAPHY LISTING BOOKS AND THEN ARTICLES**


**AUTHOR OF BIOGRAPHICAL ENTRY/DATE OF SUBMISSION**

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**SECONDARY SOURCES FOR BIOGRAPHY**

- Shivendra Singh Dungarpur [director]. Celluloid Man [film]. 2012

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