

## **WE ARE AMIA! - Music and Lyrics by John Polito © 2018**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This song is for the Association of Moving Image Archivists

Who are we?

The Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA) is a nonprofit international association dedicated to the preservation and use of moving image media. AMIA supports public and professional education and fosters cooperation and communication among the individuals and organizations concerned with the acquisition, preservation, description, exhibition, and use of moving image materials.

We ARE, an organization of individuals dedicated to preserving and promoting our global moving image heritage.

We are colleagues  
We are volunteers  
We are passionate

We are diverse  
We are equitable  
We are inclusive

We honor our past  
We celebrate our now  
We plan our future

We are... AMIA

Now, we want all of you to sing together on the chorus. So, please, join with us. Don't worry if you don't think you can sing... We can't! This isn't about singing, it's about camaraderie and spirit. I'll sing first so you get the idea, then I want you ALL to join in.

All right. Here we go...

### **CHORUS**

We are AMIA  
With Moving images and sound on the line  
We work together  
To save the world one frame at a time

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### **VERSE: PICTURE**

A frame at a time, that's the way we work  
With flatbeds, synchronizers, splicers, and perc

You got shrinkage, perf damage, scratches and dirt  
Sure you want it positive, but then we need your negative

Keep it Reel, What'll it be, an IP, Fine Grain, How 'bout a Comp?  
We can give you a CRI, but you're not gonna like it.

Give me an answer on the check print, and I'll give you a check on the Answer Print  
Sure, you got SEPS  
But there's nothing like the union of an OCN and OSTN - OG people.

Is SMPTE your leader or the ACADEMY?

You see, there's a lot that we know.  
Who knew there were 247,680 frames in The Sound of Music?

We did!

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### **VERSE: SOUND**

No frames in sound, but I'll give you a sample  
48, 96, double that is ample

Your sound's got a problem, we'll give it a fix  
Wow, hum, flutter, dropouts, distortion and hiss

*Keepin' it steady, we won't let it drift, Yeah*  
Pull it up, pull it down, we're gonna make it stick  
24 or 23.976

*Keepin' it warm, push/pull sound stays in balance*  
Area or density, either way it's variable  
Some it's single, but mostly bilateral

Bump, thump, snap, crackle and pop,  
Tic, tock, that's not the sound of a clock,  
ding, zinger, scratch, rattle, static, and nick.  
We got 27 words for the sound of a click.

We're not even getting started. Drop it off and throw it on a mag.  
Who knew that sound running at 2997 is the same as 2398?

We did!

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### **VERSE: META DATA, CATALOGING, DIGITAL ARCHIVING**

Let me frame it in a way that's not just hypothetical  
This isn't metaphysical  
it's analog and digital

Describing moving images completely comprehensible  
If I don't do this right  
it will all be inaccessible

To keep it alive, what'll it be, the ID, some IT, how 'bout a CORE?  
We can give you a CSV, but you're not gonna like it!

Give me the spreadsheet on a thumb drive, and I'll translate it right into the archive  
Sure you got your files but there's nothin' like the safety of a fully implemented Life Cycle Management plan

A Digital Prescription  
Access is the key, that's my PREMIS  
A single typo and it's lost forever

Who knew that an LTO-3 tape won't read on an LTO-6 machine and that even though the hardware is open source there are dozens of proprietary ways to store your data;  
and,  
if the data is not formatted as TAR or LTFS you might be SOL if the propriety software platform that made your tape is no longer in business? (exhale)

We did!

### **CHORUS**

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We work together  
To save the world one frame at a time

We are AMIA  
We're making sure it sounds good and looks fine.  
We are AMIA  
We fight to protect  
All you've seen, all you've heard  
Saving the world one frame at a time