

Moviemakers and the Audio-Visual Competition.

The CEMRIAC Audio-Visual Competition seems to be going from strength to strength. I know many movie making enthusiasts may not be very interested but don't write it off. It is another genre. An alternative way creating something on screen and if you take the trouble to visit an A.V. event I am sure you would be surprised at what can be achieved. In fact we are now getting entries from moviemakers and if you are thinking of having a go it is important to produce your sequence correctly.

You can, of course, produce a sequence in Premiere (or any other video editing software) burning the result to DVD as usual. This is in fact a video-sequence. It is good but it could be much better! It also does not comply with the rules and so cannot be entered into the CEMRIAC Competition!

A.V. sequences are now usually made in 1024 x 768 resolution and the difference is startling. A video-sequence burned to DVD is low resolution and is not 'self-executable' required by the rules of the competition. Play a DVD on a computer and you will see what I mean. It will open in Windows Media Player or whatever you have on your system. It needs a program to run. Self-executable files don't need a program. They simply open in Windows. Files are much smaller than video and can easily fit on to a CD.

So, how do you go about producing a self-executable high-resolution sequence? The answer is to use the right software. There are many programs available but the most popular two are "Pictures to Exe" and "Pro-Show Gold". Unfortunately you will not find either of these at your local computer store. They are available 'on line' usually by downloading them and they will only run on a PC. (Sorry, I am not aware of similar software for the Mac.) The good news is they are inexpensive especially in comparison with most video editing software.

"Pictures to Exe" can be obtained from **www.wnsoft.com** It can also be obtained on a disc along with a selection of tutorials from **www.beckhamdigital.co.uk** (Nothing to do with football !)

"Pro-Show Gold" and the more expensive "Pro-Show Producer" can be obtained from **www.photodex.com**