



**Figure 7: What Types of Films Are Preserved with AFI-NEA Grants?**<sup>101</sup>  
(Based on grant records for titles copied, 1979-92)

The remaining titles are a diverse group. The studio sound features on nitrate were largely funded in the early years of the program, before the industry began its major retrospective preservation efforts. Roughly 2% of the total are nitrate sound features by smaller or now-defunct independent producers. Most of the post-nitrate era films are experimental or dance works. Since 1979 three specialist archives--the National Center for Jewish Film, the New York Public Library Dance Collection and Anthology Film Archives--have received roughly 10% of the total funding, thus assuring a certain threshold of preservation copying in these recipients' subject areas. All told over the last 14 years, the AFI-NEA program has funded copying of over 3,300 films.

The gray area for AFI-NEA grants is nonfiction film. The AFI-NEA grants are administratively linked with the NEA's Media Arts, a unit mandated to support works of "artistic excellence" and the AFI-NEA grants are expected to follow the general

<sup>101</sup> These estimates were provided by Susan Dalton, NCFVP Washington Office. The Washington Office supplied all grant information in this section. The categories avant garde, documentary, Yiddish-language, and dance include some silent films. Data for titles copied before 1979 were not available.