Hannu Salmi:

Nordic Cinema Studies. Now!

The Finnish Society for Cinema Studies, together with the Finnish Centre of South-Western Finland, arranged the first Nordic meeting for film scholars August 13-16, 1987. Film Scholars from all Nordic countries were invited to discuss theoretical as well as practical problems concerning cinema studies and to plan further co-operation in the field.

Nearly 50 scholars from Denmark, Faroe Islands, Finland, Norway and Sweden gathered to Turku. The meeting was divided into general sessions and thematic sessions. The general sessions were Cinema and Mass Media, The Situation of Cinema Studies - USA, FRG, Nordic Countries and Nordic Cinema Studies Tomorrow. The thematic sessions were Film History and Films in History, Cinema, Television, Video: Relationship between Sound and Image, Film Analysis and Close Reading and Narration in Film.

Including the participants, some invited lecturers also visited Turku. They were Julianne Burton (USA), Soren Kjorup (Denmark), Tarmo Malmberg (Finland), Bill Nichols (USA) and Bjorn Sorensen (Norway).

Because the meeting proved to be fruitful and inspiring, the Finnish Society for Cinema Studies, the Film Centre of South-Western Finland and Turku Film Club decided to publish the lectures of the meeting. In fact, these papers show the whole spectrum of the present state of cinema studies in the Nordic countries. We hope that this spectrum would give birth to new ideas and new directions.

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