

PREFACE & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Finnish Society for Cinema Studies (SETS) arranged the first "Nordic Film Studies" conference in Turku, Finland in 1987. The proceedings of that conference were published during the following year in a special issue of **Lähikuva** ("Nordic Cinema Studies"; ed. Hannu Salmi, **Lähikuva** 1-2, 1988). **Lähikuva** (in English "Close-Up") was transformed from a film society magazine into a scientific journal in 1987. It is a scholarly journal published quarterly in Finland by SETS, the department of Cinema and Television Studies at the University of Turku, and some other local film societies.

The editorial board of the journal decided to publish an another English language issue of **Lähikuva** because (i) so much time has passed since the first attempt; (ii) so much has happened in the field of Nordic cinema studies during the past years; (iii) it was time to show more broadly what kind of work was done in this field in Nordic countries; (iv) one could recognize that scholars working at different universities in Scandinavia needed a forum of their own to get their work published also in English. The result of these efforts is now in your hands.

The Finnish Society for Cinema Studies was established in 1985 to promote the study and research of audiovisual culture in Finland. However, already from the beginning these interests have not focused only on domestic

research and scholarly activities. Since 1991 the Society has organized an annual summer school hosted by the University of Turku. In recent years the participants of these summer schools have had an opportunity to enjoy teaching by wellknown film and television scholars such as Margaret Morse, Marcia Landy, Steve Neale, Christine Holmlund, and Richard Dyer. Another international happening arranged by the Society will take place next year in Punkaharju: the second Popular European Cinema conference (see the announcement elsewhere in this magazine).

The editorial board of **Lähikuva** wants to acknowledge their gratitude to Anu Koivunen, who worked with the writers, spending a lot of time and energy in gathering and editing the material published in this issue. We also want to thank Paul Hayes who is responsible for checking the language, and the writers for giving their texts to be published in this **Lähikuva**. While entering the darkest time of the year (called "kaamos"), we hope that in few years time another English language issue will again "see a new daylight".

On the Finnish Independence Day
(6th of December) 1995
Turku, Finland
The Editorial Board of **Lähikuva**