

ENGLISH SUMMARIES

Outi Nieminen

The 1924 *Filmiaitta* film star competition, film magazine readers and Finnish film stardom

In 1924 the Finnish film magazine *Filmiaitta* organized a photograph competition in order to find a new national film actress. The magazine widely promoted the competition and its lavish prizes: test shootings, and promises of a grand film career. The competition winners were, however, hardly seen onscreen.

This article maps how the competition was presented in *Filmiaitta* during the 1920s, and analyses its cultural contexts and the meanings attached to acting, actresses and stardom. How were film stars and actresses represented in the 1920s, and how were Finnish actresses compared with international film stars?

Nieminen argues that despite ending without visible results, the film star competition can be seen as significant. It constructed Finnish film stardom as well as fan culture long before the golden years of Finnish film production.

Veikko Pietilä

A moralizing crusade? The Payne Fund research project on movies

A recurring theme in media history has been the fear of the harmful effects of any given new media. The prime example of harmful media is cinema, and especially the impact movies have on children and adolescence has caused concern. In the United States this concern led to a series of research studies financed by the Payne Fund in the 1920s.

In later research and discussions these effect studies have commonly been labeled as moral crusades against film production. But is this a too narrow view on the Payne Fund studies? Veikko Pietilä argues that the research project can also be seen as research material that still provides fruitful insight to present day discussions.