

[Mc Coffrey to take minutes or new secretary just for business meeting
[Remember to announce/post NO need for P.D.S. prod.]

MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR CINEMA STUDIES
NATIONAL FILM BOARD, MONTREAL, 1971

Preliminary Program

Wednesday, March 24

- 9:00 - 9:30 Welcome to the National Film Board
- 9:30 -10:30 Arthur Lennig, "Griffith's First Two Years at Biograph"
- 10:30 -11:00 Break
- 11:00 -12:00 Thomas Cripps, "Two Black Responses to Birth of a Nation: The Birth of a Race Company and the Lincoln Motion Picture Company"
- 12:00 - 1:00 Lunch
- 1:00 - 2:00 Russell Merritt, "Nickelodeons and their Audiences (1905-1912)"
- 2:00 - 3:00 Kenneth Munden, "Sinclair Lewis and the Movies"
- 3:00 - 3:30 Break
- 3:30 - 4:30 *Terry Ryan and Thurs. P.M.* Richard Kahlenberg, "The Development and Operations of the National Film Theatre and its Regional Affiliates in Britain"
- 4:30 - 5:00 Ernest Rose, "Developments in International Cooperation among Film Training Institutes Abroad"

[8:30 p.m. Wed/Thurs. - Council meeting - no quorum]

Thursday, March 25

- 9:00 -10:00 *Theater?* Elmer Oettinger, "Student Directors for Government Films?"
- 10:00 -10:30 Break
- 10:30 -11:30 Walter Korte, "Marxism and the Scenographic Baroque in the Films of Luchino Visconti"
- 11:30 -12:30 Robert Hammond, "Changes in Cocteau's Orphée, from Play through Script to Film"
- 12:30 - 1:30 *Calvin Jahiel, "Constants in French Film"*
Lunch
- 1:30 - 5:00 Tour of the National Film Board

8:00

Theater 5 Mont Royal

~~move to theater?~~

Preliminary Program

Friday, March 26

9:00 -10:00

Gerald Noxon, "The Narrative Approach to Film Studies"

10:00 -10:30

Break

10:30 -11:30

Mojmir Drvota, "Art, Science and Cinema"

11:30 -12:30

~~Howard Suber, "The Actor as Auteur"~~

12:30 - 1:30

Lunch

1:30 - 5:00

~~(If present: Annette Michelson, "Structuralism and the New Academicism" or "Bunuel and the Topology of Narrative"; Donald Skoller, "The Relationship between Theory and Practice in the Development of Film Maker, Film Critic, and Film Art: The Emergence of Cinematic Consciousness")~~

Business Meeting

- Election of Officers
- Discussion of Journal distribution
- Appropriate response of SCS to recent events at the American Film Institute

Location of 1972 meeting (midwest) / N.Y.

~~Approach minutes~~
~~Agree on the business report~~
~~take minutes?~~

N.B. Papers to be 20/30 minutes, discussion 40/30 minutes.

Bylaws - raise dues to \$2 student membership

Mauden to report on Search Committee

Ask people to send papers to RDM/C

Ask NU Press re handling Cinema Journal

Ask all members to investigate University

✓ Treasurer report
✓ 2- AFI material
✓ Felding re dissertation survey
✓ NU F&D film production

all in
within amount
slamton
m. Gray

Kahlebach of
R. wheel
Munden

the SOCIETY FOR CINEMA STUDIES

A report on Procedures in Special, Council and General meetings; Special Activities and Actions of the Society.

The Twelfth Annual Meeting -- National Film Board of Canada, Montreal, 24-26 March, 1971.

Wednesday 24 March

The twelfth annual meeting began with an official welcome from the National Film Board of Canada. Those present were members Joseph Anderson, Gordon Beck, Hubert Cohen, Thomas Cripps, Hector Currie, Mojmir Drvota, Jack Ellis, Raymond Fielding, Ronald Gottesman, Robert Hammond, Edwin Jahiel, Richard Kahlenberg, John Katz, Walter Korte, Sam Kula, Austin Lamont, Arthur Lennig, Donald McCaffery, Mary Mainwaring, Frank Manchel, Gerald Mast, Russell Merritt, Kenneth Munden, Gerald Noxon, Elmer Oettinger, Ted Perry, Ernest Rose, Bill Sloan, Donald Staples, Blair Watson, Guy Coté, Peter Harcourt, Dorothy Macpherson, Jean Mitry; and guests Robert Arn, Ronald Blumer, Gary Evans, James Goldsworthy, Gerald O'Grady, Elena Pinto, Jeri Sabo, Bill Simon, Rod Whitaker; and host Terry Ryan.

Papers presented on Wednesday were as follows: "Griffith's First Two Years at Biograph" by Arthur Lennig; "Developments in International Cooperation among Film Training Institutes Abroad" by Ernest Rose; "Two Black Responses to Birth of a Nation: The Birth of a Race Company and the Lincoln Motion Picture Company" by Thomas Cripps; "Nickelodeons and their Audiences (1905-1912)" by Russell Merritt; "Sinclair Lewis and the Movies" by Kenneth Munden; "The Development and Operations of the National Film Theatre and its Regional Affiliates in Britain".

Thursday 25 March

Papers presented on Thursday were as follows: "Student Directors for Government Films?" by Elmer Oettinger; "Marxism and the Scenographic Baroque in the Films of Luchino Visconti"; "Changes in Cocteau's Orphée, from Play through Script to Film" by Robert Hammond. In the afternoon, Sydney Newman, the Director of the National Film Board hosted a lunch for the Society, that was followed by a tour of the Film Board facilities and screening of some recent Film Board productions.

Friday 26 March

Papers presented on Friday were as follows: "Film, Science, Art & Teaching" by Mojmir Drvota; "The Narrative Approach to Film Studies" by Gerald Noxon.

The annual business meeting followed, with President Jack Ellis presiding. Election of officers for 1971-1972 was held. The results were: Jack Ellis, President; Austin Lamont, Secretary; Walter H. Stainton, Treasurer. Donald McCaffery was elected councilman, his term is to expire in 1975.

Ken Munden, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on SCS Awards presented the report of his committee (composed of Annette Michelson, Ernest Rose and Howard Suber). This report is appended.

Gerald Noxon reported that his expenses for distributing Cinema Journal are now too high for him to bear. It was agreed that a canvas of University Presses would be made by the membership to see if one of them would be interested in taking over this work.

Society for Cinema Studies - annual meeting March 1971

Discussion of AFI

President Jack Ellis opened with a statement on his actions on the AFI firings of 22 January 1971. Richard Kahlenberg, associate director of the AFI, outlined the sequence of events involved in the AFI firings. Frank Manchel introduced the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the members of the Society for Cinema studies do hereby censure George Stevens, Jr., Director of the American Film Institute, for actions and attitudes inimicable or prejudicial to the interests of the educational and critical community of this country. And do hereby resolve to abstain henceforth from any activities which would tend in any material way to assist the AFI during the time that it continues its present priorities and direction. And we do also resolve that all of the aforesaid members shall endeavor to inform and persuade all of their colleagues in the educational and critical community in this country and abroad, to accompany us in this boycott, until such time as our interests are once again represented by the American Film Institute.

Participating in the spirited discussion which followed were Messrs. Kula, Perry, Rose, Katz, Drvota, Noxon, Ellis, Lennig, Manchel, Kahlenberg, Hammond and Watson. It was finally moved by Frank Manchel and seconded by Gerald Mast that:

The Society for Cinema Studies Council draft and circulate a resolution on the AFI.

This was amended by Ray Fielding that opposing viewpoints be represented in the mailing and that it be publicized only if a majority of respondents vote for it. The motion as amended was passed by a unanimous vote with three abstentions: Kula, Kahlenberg and Munden.

Other Business

Accepting an offer from Temple University, the 1972 Conference will be at Temple University, Philadelphia on March 24, 25 & 26, 1972.

It was moved and passed unanimously that the Secretary draw up a new by-law permitting membership by students in the Society.

It was moved and passed that membership fees be set at \$15.00 per year and that student membership fees be \$7.50 per year.

Adjournment at 4:30 PM.

reported by Austin Lamont, Secretary
Society for Cinema Studies

Special Activities

The Council approved of "An Open Letter to the Board of Trustees of the American Film Institute" which was first circulated to members for their vote, accompanied by statements by President Jack Ellis in support of the open letter and by Blair Watson against the letter. The final vote by the membership was:

FOR: 62

AGAINST: 9

ABSTAIN: 1

Accordingly, the open letter was mailed to all AFI Trustees at their home addresses, to 44 industry and scholarly publications, and to officers of the AFI.