

SUOMEN ELOKUVA ARKISTO  
the finnish film archive

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES 1.1.1961 - 30.5.1962  
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In the Spring of 1961 there was organized a series of twelve programs of film classics (two screenings of each to permit all 650 to 700 members to see the films), and in Autumn 1961 and Spring 1962 a series of eleven programs. The screenings were held in a movie house on Saturday and Sunday afternoons for lack of any other suitabilities for projection. Members pay a fee of 1.000 Fmk (about 3.50 US Dollars) for each season, which gives them the right to use the Archive's Library and other collections, and to attend, free of charge the above-mentioned screenings.

In March 1961 and in 1962 the Finnish Film Archive organized, with the financial guarantee of Die Vertretung der Bundesrepublik Deutschland and under the auspices of the Finnish Ministry of Education, several German Film Weeks. During the first were shown post-war films which had not previously been seen in Finland (for example NICHT MEHR FLIEHEN, DER VERLORENE, IN JENEN TAGEN, UNTER DEN BRUCKEN, SERENGETI DARF NICHT STERBEN), and during the second week seven films of Murnau, Pabst, Dupont and Dreyer's VAMPYR. These screenings would not have been possible without the collaboration of F.I.A.F. members including Copenhagen, Stockholm, Moscow, Berlin, London, Brussels, Bucarest and Belgrade.

The activities of the Archive were financed by membership fees, donations, and especially with the surplus of the sum set aside to guarantee a possible financial loss during the classic German Film Weeks by the West German representation in Helsinki. The Finnish Government subsidized the Archive's work only in the year 1961 with a sum of Fmk 360,000 (about 1,100 DS Dollars). Thanks to continued informative and public relations work, (primarily the screenings mentioned above and the favourable press reviews about them), the Parliament included in its 1962 budget 5,000,000 Fmk, so as to finally give its aid to the matter of film archives in Finland. However, the Cabinet, which must give its agreement to all additional sums, refused its accord due to several political crises in the Government on the grounds that the State economy does not permit new expenses, among which is the subvention for the Finnish Film Archive along with a group of new allowances also approved by the Parliament.

In December 1961, the Archive published the Year Book "Studio 6" which is offered to Members present at this Congress, as well as the programs prepared for the recent screenings. The articles written and the editing of the material were done without remuneration, and the printing was made possible by a revenue from ads taken by the film companies.

Work done in the Archive is principally on a voluntary basis. In the year 1961, the total sum of salaries was about 1,000 Dollars.

In fact, Suomen Elokuva Arkisto's economic situation at the present, without any guarantee that the amount approved by the Government will ever be paid out, is more difficult than ever, for the Archive found it necessary to move to new quarters in November, quarters which are for the first time suitable, but about three times as expensive than the previous ones.

However, in spite of the difficulties which it faces, the Finnish Film Archive has been able to furnish the 28 Film Clubs in the country with some 100 programs from the approximately 50 titles it has available for this purpose.