

International SMPTE Sections Sponsor Seminars

Nordic February 21, 1996

Some 200 people were on hand for a mini-seminar hosted by the Nordic Section. Members of SF Media, AB Svensk Filmindustri, and the cinema advertising community joined SMPTE members at the new cinema complex at Filmstaden Sergel. The complex, which consists of 14 theaters with a total of 2,670 seats, performs 70 screenings a day. The staff serves in two shifts, with all functions monitored on screens. A number of projectors are loaded and lowered with an elevator for screening, thus saving a lot of space and easing the visual control of the film feed. The complex incorporates an old, 700-seat theater, which uses two Philips DP projectors. Nine of the theaters incorporate the THX system, providing 6 to 8 channels of digital stereo sound.

The morning seminar featured guest speakers Michael Alexanderson, AB Svensk Filmindustri, and Mats Kullander, SF Studio. They began



The Filmstaden Sergel, the site of the Nordic Section's seminar in February.

with an historic overview of the moving image and the introduction of sound into film, then touched on early attempts at sound systems made by Eugene Lauste (1912), Arthur Kingston (1921), Sweden's Bergdahl in the 1920s, and the Danish engineering team of Petersen and Poulsen (1923). The Danish Film Museum currently has a demonstration of the P&P system, featuring fully synchronized picture and sound from 1923.

The review included the Vitaphone, the optical soundtrack from Fox, the magnetic soundtrack from Fox, and Dolby and Dolby SR. Tomlinson

Holman's THX system was also presented. The three major digital systems — Dolby SR-D, DTS, and SDDS — were discussed, using the movie *Demolition Man* as an example. Following a break, a section concerning interactive cinema was aimed at advertisers. — Morten Jacobsen (Chair), Dancan International Sales

Russia March 14, 1996

The Russian Section hosted its first regional Technical Conference, which boasted an attendance of 80. The all-day session featured such papers as "Television Broadcasting in Russia," "Displays with the Holographic Screen for Reproducing 3-D Images," "Problems of Quality Assessment of a TV Signal Digital Compression System," "Problems of TV Program Production Complex Certification," and "Scalable Sets of Motion Picture Images and Their Spatial Transformations." All papers were supported by visual aids, such as slide and overhead projection, and were very well received by the audience. — Angelo D'Alessio (International Governor), BTS



Left to right, Nordic Section members Bertil Sparf, Harry Enequist, and Morten Jacobsen at the mini-seminar in Stockholm.



The feeder elevator system at Stockholm's Filmstaden Sergel.



Guest speakers at the Nordic Section seminar: Michael Alexanderson, (left) and Mats Kullander.