

JMI is coming out after a year's gap. Number 12 was due in 2013, but our usual source, the annual conference at the Department, was dominated in its 2012 edition by interactions and demonstration based lectures, which proved to be difficult to turn into publishable texts.

We are more than happy however to present the number belatedly as we have gathered an extraordinary harvest in the gap. The articles in the main section of the present volume come from the lecture series we organized to commemorate the centenary of Indian film industry. A set of internationally acclaimed film scholars was invited to Jadavpur University between January and March, 2014, to deliver a series of lectures. We called the series, 'The Luminous Celluloid: Shared Reflections on the Cinematic Legacy'. We decided to commemorate the centenary through a set of events avoiding the usual conference structure. The first was a number of fellowships given to young researchers to work on historical annotation of Bengali films (hosted on www.indiancine.ma). It was followed by an exhibition at Abanindranath Tagore Gallery of ICCR, Kolkata, on 'Technology and Cinema in

Bengal: A Historical Overview' (August 13-20, 2013). The 'Luminous Celluloid' lecture series was the third part of the celebrations featuring Gertrud Koch (January, 2014), Thomas Elsaesser (January, 2014), Geoffrey Nowell-Smith (February, 2014) and Meaghan Morris (March, 2014). The idea was to listen to scholars whose work has shaped our discipline reflecting on the legacy of cinema, which we consider to be a shared one, never limited to national boundaries and contexts. We felt that the experience of cinema in India, never without connections to the film practices discussed in the series, or our film scholarship, deeply in conversation with that represented by these critics, should be considered a part of a global, transnational project. We asked our colleagues, Supriya Chaudhuri, Amlan Dasgupta, Manas Ray, Bhaskar Sarkar, Subhjit Chatterjee, Manash Ghosh, Anindya Sengupta, Madhuja Mukherjee and Abhijit Roy to respond formally to the presentations, bringing critical perspectives to bear on them from the experience of Indian cinema and culture.

The lecture series was made possible through the help of the Goethe Institute, Max Mueller Bhavan, Kolkata, British Council, Kolkata, and Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, Delhi. Would like to thank them again for making those months an exhilarating season for students, teachers and cinephiles of the city.