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Foreword

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On behalf of the Department of Film Studies at the University of Western Ontario and the Western Undergraduate Film Society, we are pleased to present this 2012 issue of *Kino: The Western Undergraduate Journal of Film Studies*. *Kino* is a student-run publication that serves to promote the availability of creative and academic thought within the field of film studies through the work of our own undergraduate students. As a fully open-access online journal, our authors' works are exhibited worldwide and can be accessed by a variety of film enthusiasts.

This year's issue is packed with interesting and innovative material on films and topics ranging from the early 20th century—such as Segundo de Chomón's *The Red Spectre* (1907)—to 21st century blockbusters like James Cameron's *Avatar* (2009). We have selected papers that bring something new to the table through their passionate ideas and writing styles, so we are certain that readers will be enlightened this year.

Many thanks are due to the Department of Film Studies' faculty and staff for their support in finding these wonderful essays and for their assistance with the technicalities of the journal. Adrian Ho (former Scholarly Communication Librarian at Western Libraries) is also deserving of thanks and recognition for his assistance with the publication of our first three issues. Past editors Kylan Mitchell (issue #2) and Pat Martini and Josh Romphf (issue #1) are also highly appreciated for their work in the development and maintenance of *Kino*. These people are the reason that *Kino* is such a great opportunity for undergraduate students to become published authors. On that note, we also want to express our gratitude toward all the students that submitted papers for this year's publication. This year we received more submissions than in any year prior. It was a pleasure to read each of the submissions and choose our top ten.

Congratulations to our published authors in this 2012 issue for their impressive handling of such interesting material. We hope to have such successful years in the future.

Sincerely,

Laura Conning and Jesse Brossoit
Editors of the *Kino*