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This particular issue of *Senri Ethnological Studies* grew out of a Symposium on the subject of cinematographic theory and ethnographic film which was held at the National Museum of Ethnology, in Osaka, on October 19-26, 1986. That was the Tenth International Taniguchi Foundation Symposium on Ethnology. All of us, participants and organizers alike, are indebted to the Taniguchi Foundation and to its Executive Director, Mr. Toyosaburo Taniguchi, whose profound generosity met the expenses of all participants during the Symposium and brought five of them from overseas too. Without their help, this Symposium would not have been possible.

Many people worked "behind the scenes" to make the Symposium a resounding success. The Organizing Committee consisted of Dr. Tadao Umesao, Director-General of the National Museum of Ethnology, and Professors Takuji Takemura, Komei Sasaki, Mikiharu Itoh, Tomoaki Fujii, and Hisatsugu Sugimoto, together with Mr. Akio Hata, the Chief Administrative Officer. The Planning Committee was composed of Noriyuki Itokane, Chief of the General Affairs Section, Akira Sato, Chief of the Information and Documentation Centre, and Professors Yasuhiro Omori, Yoshinobu Kotani, Shuzo Ishimori, Kenichi Sudo, Sinobu Yoshimoto, and Masatoshi Kubo, all of the National Museum, together with two members of the Senri Foundation staff, Miss Eiko Yuasa, the President and Executive Director, and Mr. Hidejiro Uji, Chief Planning Officer.

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Special thanks are extended also to Professor Yutaka Tani, a social anthropologist at the Research Institute for Humanistic Studies in Kyoto University. He presented a stimulating paper on laughter in ordinary social interaction during the Symposium, but as the editors felt it was tangential to the main theme of this volume it has not been included in it. In its place we have been permitted to publish a valuable address by Colin Young which serves as an apt introduction to the subject matter of this entire collection of papers. Professor Young's paper was originally given as a keynote address at a recent UNESCO conference, but it has never been published before. It is regrettable that we lacked the means to invite Colin Young as a participant in the Symposium.

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and
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Osaka, July 1987

