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Preface

As visual culture is becoming more important in our cultures, we experience an increasing necessity to study the relationships between film, media, and society: to explore the development of the media (such as film, television, and performing arts) as aesthetic and cultural forms; to examine how film and the media communicate with their audiences; and to analyse the impact of those visual expressions on our cultures. The results of research in this area will provide us with insights and horizons of how film and television challenge us, amuse us, and influence us in many ways, for better or for worse. From these visual forms of expressions, we can also raise issues related to gender or children's education as some films and television shows reflect social lives, daily thoughts and beliefs (norms and values) of our society. In this issue of *Wacana*, *Journal of the Humanities of Indonesia* Vol. 14 No. 1 (April 2012) themed "Film, media, and culture", we present some articles about films, effects of television programs on children, and performing arts.