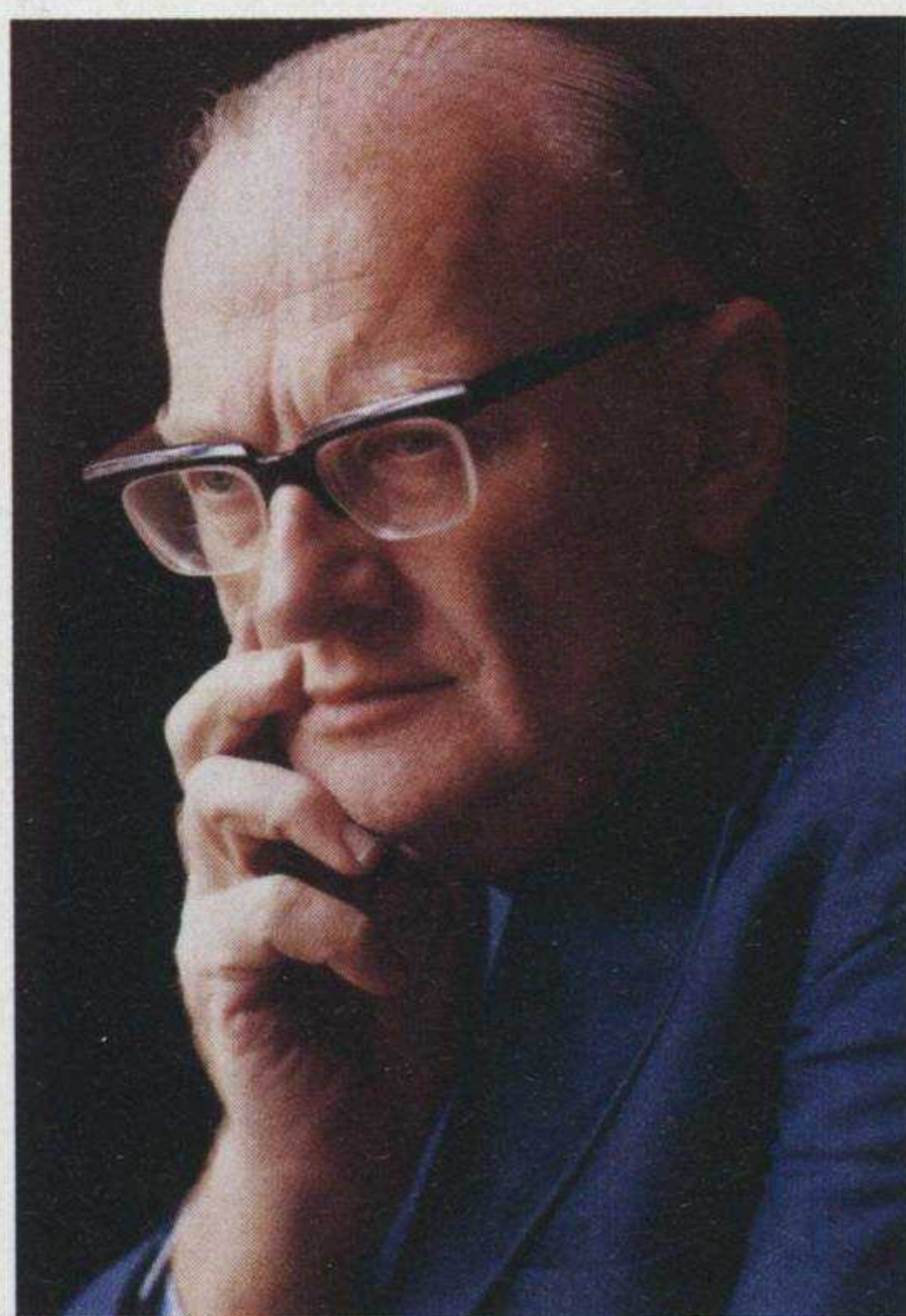


The shape of things to come...

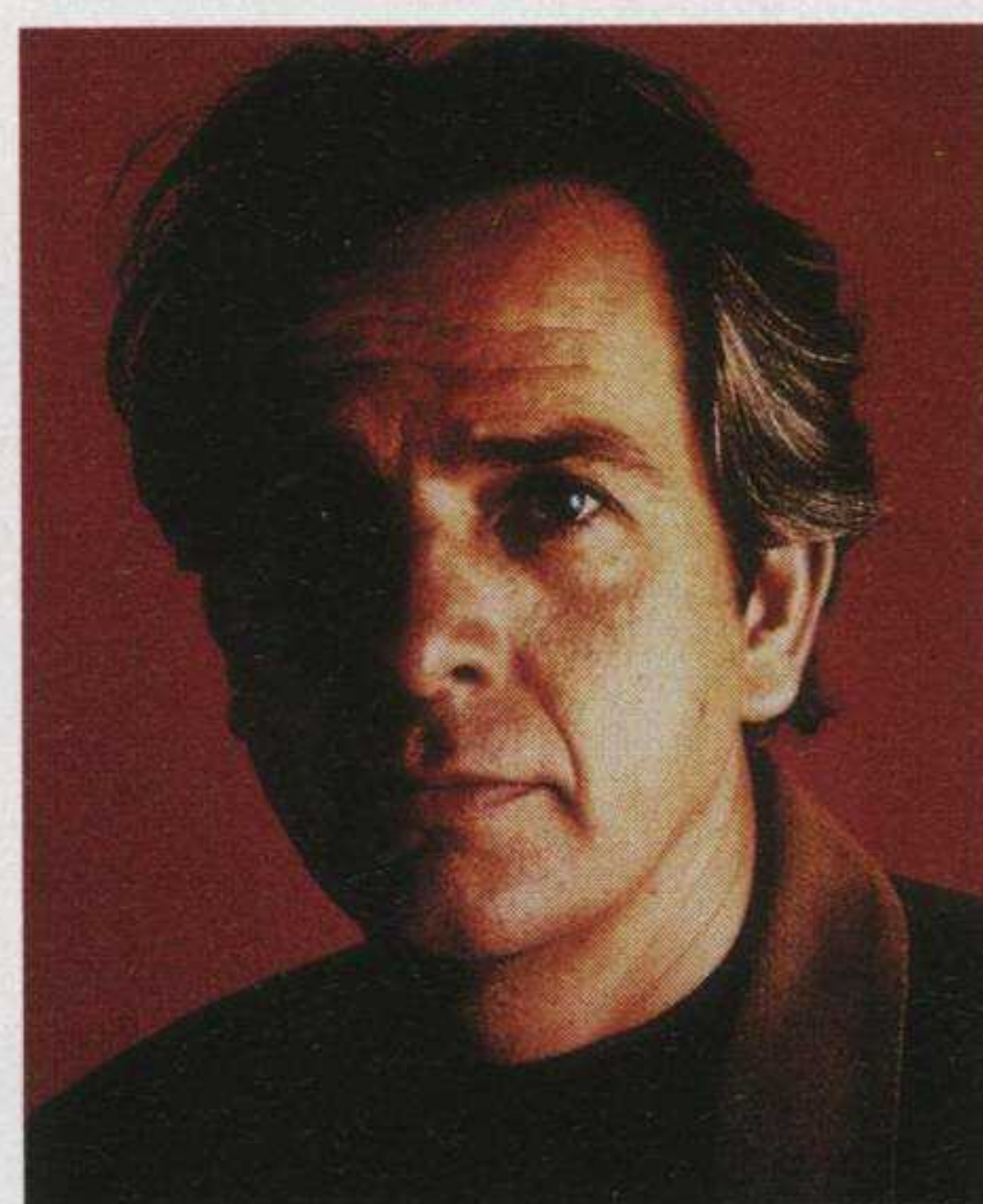
Everyone has an opinion of what the future holds, but some people are closer to it than others. **Edge** spoke to the visionaries



'I have an ambiguous attitude to videogames: they can be a good thing, but also very addictive – I myself was addicted – to *SnakeBite* on my Apple II about ten years ago.

'I regard the **addictive nature** of virtual reality as a *real* danger. Of course it could be a shortsighted view: if we are plugged into the whole universe, why should we unplug ourselves?'

Arthur C. Clarke



'It's a new world. In about five years CD-ROM is going to absorb entertainment, education and information. There's a growing palate of what I call **enabling technology**, which allows the consumer to think of himself as the artist.'

Peter Gabriel





Games aren't going to be played by the 13 yearold shut away in his room; they're going to be

connective, interactive.

I foresee a day when you go to a movie theatre, there's about 300 people there, and between you, you all play the movie. From your seats, you control what happens. The technology is here today...

Mark Lewis, president of Electronic Arts

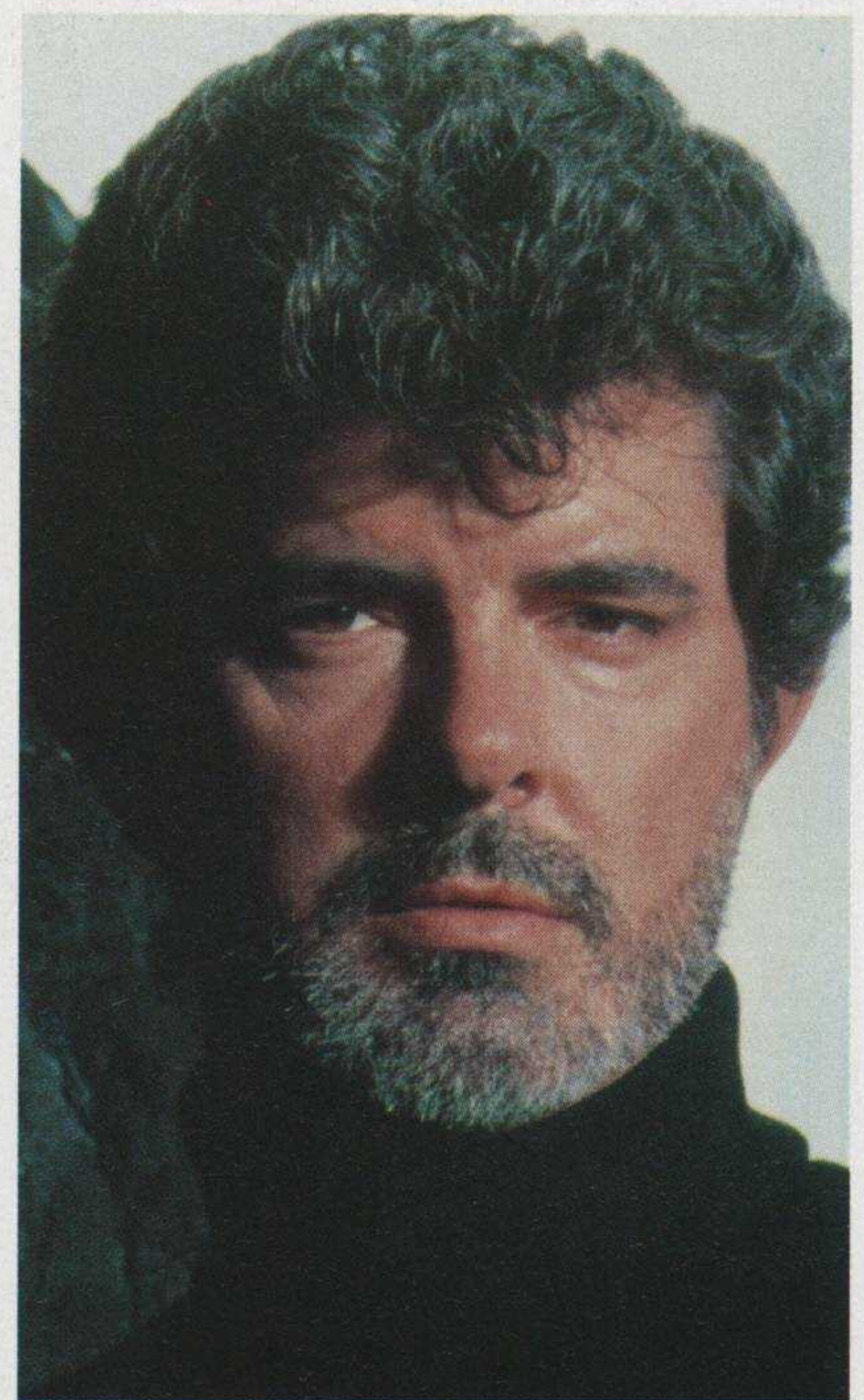


'Within a few years from now, we'll start to see cable and satellite

direct broadcast games

where you select from a menu of games and it'll constantly download new parts of the game into your machine while you're playing.

Jez San, MD of Argonaut Software



'Telephone and cable companies will lay the

information super highway

and it will be one of the greatest technological developments of the 20th century. But someone will still have to fill up the highway. It won't be a new entertainment form, but a more sophisticated version of what exists now.'

George Lucas, movie director/producer



'I think incredibly

sophisticated virtual reality

is the future. Experiences that somehow tap into the mind and are controlled by your thoughts, rather than any hardware, must come somewhere down the line.

Nick Alexander, MD of Sega Europe