

Part Eight - The cinema inside the cinema

La littérature selon le cinéma — The *cinéma* after the TV era — The cinema after the cinema

Short Panorama

The visual culture that characterises our world is grounded on images, that is that the narrative activity that we make use of to organize our environment and self identity is determined by characteristics extracted from cinema and no longer from a paradigm reproduced from literature.

From the cinematographical point of view ‘the cinema inside the cinema’ expresses a situation for which, considering the amount of films and productions made in the last 100 years, it seems almost impossible to make something that someone else has not done before. This creates the problem of the preferentiality, that is, that a film ‘quotes’ or refers to something within a film already made. It is in this respect that the ‘pure genre’ does almost no longer exist and the majority of films recently produced have sarcastical, ironical or humoristic aspects which refer to the history of cinema or, more specifically, to something already done from a cinematographical perspective.

Cinema in the pure sense is gone. What we know is cinema after the history of cinema and cinema after the television development. The cinematographical experience has thus been reduced to cinema and, more relevant, this is why more and more people look at films outside the theater.

Target

The purpose of this lecture is to determine to what extent the development of cinema had generated a regular auto-referential characteristic present almost constantly within new productions. To explore how this style affected the arguments and plots deployed by the films themselves is also another aspect to be considered.

Key Questions

What is the meaning to your understanding of the auto referential characteristic within cinema?

What are the consequences in your view of repetition and 'remakes' that cinema produces more and more?

What is the relation in your opinion between cinema and TV?

What in your view is the relation between cinema and literature? Why?