VISEGRAD CINEMA Points of Contact from the New Waves to the Present

Film Studies dept., Faculty of Arts, Charles University (nám. J. Palacha 2, Praha 1) Wednesdays from 14:00 – 19:00, room 429 (screening room)

The cinemas of the Visegrad region have shared a history of fruitful contacts and communication at least since the period of the New Waves in the 1960s, the high point of development in Eastern European Cinema. Just as the cinemas of the region flourished at that time, so did mutual communication and reflection on highly topical aesthetical, cultural, and political questions. This situation of close cooperation and fertile contacts was unfortunately not re-established after the fall of the totalitarian regimes in the wake of 1989. For this reason, academic exchange and general knowledge about the development of "Visegrad cinema" declined significantly among both film scholars and cinephiles. This course is intended to bridge these gaps and reestablish a network of exchange among scholars and to communicate this shared knowledge to film students.

The course intends to communicate to students the rich and varied history of Visegrad cinema, with a specific focus on the heritage of the New Waves. The course will also explore the subsequent development of the national cinemas from the 1960s to the present, an aspect that is even less known among students. The cinemas of the Visegrad region not only share a rich and inspirational history, but have also found themselves confronting similar hardships and economic compromises in the present state of the film industry. This course should offer students an overview of the main achievements and problems of cinema in the region and hopefully inspire them in their own further research.

Each regular session will consist of a specialized lecture (minimum 4 hours a session, twice the length of regular class), each session will be accompanied by a film screening.

4.3.2009 Opening session

The Visegrad region in historical perspectives

Michal Kopeček, Ph.D., Institute of Contemporary History of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Prague

Visegrad cinema: histories and futures

doc. PhDr. Ivan Klimeš & Petra Hanáková, Ph.D., Film Studies dept, Charles University in Prague 11.3.2009

Film Language in Czech and Polish Cinema around 1968: Styles, Motifs and Subversion

Iwona Kurz, Ph.D., Film and Audiovisual Culture section, Institute of Polish Culture, University of Warsaw

Central Europe in New Perspectives: Eroticism, Power, Fate

Kevin Johnson, M.A., Film Studies dept, Charles University in Prague 25.3.2009

Women Filmmakers in East-European New Wave Cinemas

doc. PhDr. Stanislava Přádná, Film Studies dept, Charles University in Prague

The Second World War in the Polish Cinema of the 1960s

Prof. Piotr Zwierzchowski, Ph.D., Institute of Polish Philology, Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz

The Artistic Dialogue in Visegrad Cinema: Polanski and Szabo, Forman and Gazdag... and Others

Prof. Andras Szekfu, Ph.D., Film Studies Department, King Sigismund College Budapest 15.4.2009

The Image of the Holocaust in Visegrad Cinema

Monika Mikušová, Ph.D., Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts, Commenius University in Bratislava 22.4.2009

Main Tendencies in Polish Cinema after 1989: Vernacularism, Auteurism, Genre

Prof. Ewa Mazierska, Film Studies dept., University of Central Lancashire 29.4.2009

Identity and Containment in Transition Cinema

Petra Hanáková, Ph.D., Film Studies dept., Charles University in Prague 6.5.2009

The Problematic Other: (Im)possible Intercultural Dialogue in Slovak and Czech Cinema after

Jana Dudková, Ph.D., Slovak Academy of Sciences, Department of Theatre and Film 13.5.2009

Closing session

Panel discussion: Teaching Visegrad cinema to domestic and international students.