

Cinema, Men and Society

Cinema and society sounds so clear, so easy, but it isn't. You can see cinema from different points of view. Let me give you just a few of them:

Cinema as a fun- and entertainment factory which serves the audience with action and fun so that they don't think about real important matters.

Cinema as a tranquilizer, because if you think about the hero who has to go through many adventures you will not have the time to think about the situation and the condition you have to deal with in your life.

Cinema as a mind weapon, which influences your thoughts in a very hidden way. For example: I observed in many American productions that the bad guys look mostly South American, Arabic or Asian. The good guys are white and very American. This is a mind weapon. The same with some documentaries which appear well researched and fair. But the second look shows you the same prejudice covered as reality.

Cinema as a money-making machine. Well designed films which are only constructed and composed to make money, to make you addicted. They know precisely how they can catch your soul and mind. ... They need no people who want to think, because if they would think they wouldn't become addicted to their movies. Their profession is not to make movies, but to make money.

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Cinema as a voice. A voice who speaks for those who have no chance to speak. A voice who raises questions to the society. Answers are not so important. Answers should be the result of reflection that develop in the head of each spectator. Each person in the audience should be able and willing to think and to find her or his own explanation.

Cinema as a mind adventure that provoke to think.

Artists should not be servants in the system they are living in. They should be questioners. We are not wise enough to give answers. But we should be encouraged enough to ask questions.

Cinema can also be an intercultural bridge which allows us to compare different points of view.

You can make films that serve the society with illusions, fakes, lies and propaganda. Or you can be a critical mirror of your society.

In a world with so many different cultures **cinema can be an ambassador** and a translator to get a better understanding. Variety is richness and different points of view give us the chance to find out who and where we are. There is not a single culture in the world that holds the right of truth. But all the different parts of truth can be compared and in the end all of us will have exciting experiences about what is reality. ...

Therefore censorship is a border to build walls between us, which make it impossible to see the view of the others. Free books. Free art. Free cinema – this is the only way for an universal conversation and later for an universal understanding. **Censorship in any case is an isolation of thoughts and opinions.**

In the actual worldwide political situation where the US try to divide the world in bad East and good West, in a situation where Americans try to tell us that everybody who lives east of Istanbul is a terrorist and everybody who believes in the Islam is close to a terrorist, in such a situation a good way to break this dangerous prejudice is to have an open minded dialogue in order to get to know each other in a realistic and fair way. Therefore censorship is foolish and dangerous and it supports the wall between the variety of cultures which make us all richer.