

Film Appreciation
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Lecture - 24
New Hollywood Cinema Part-I

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Good morning, so today's lecture is new Hollywood cinema the American new view see you may we call that we have been trying to capture the essence of all major film movements historically speaking. And then, we are not only looking at the history of national cinema, but we also looking at the various new word trends that occurred and to some extent I would also like to capture the contemporary trends in each major cinematic tradition.

So, here we continue in the same vein, so we have been talking about as you remember the studio years of Hollywood and you remember the kinds of actors and producers and directors that existed during the great UFA the golden age of a Hollywood period. We know that, how films were produced, then director and written till the early 60's though the high point of the period is understood as from the 1930's to the late 40's.

We also know that with the sinking of very big budget films such as Cleopatra several major studio collapsed paving the way for the, so called new Hollywood it is not yes in simple there was several other factors also at play here. But, this was one of the major

regions one was the monumental debacle of Cleopatra, now you may recall that Cleopatra is starring Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton and Rex Harrison it was filmed extensively in Rome.

And the movie had undergone several changes of cast and the directors the earlier there was a period when they had attempted to film it in England also, but then because of Elizabeth Taylor's illness they had to redraw the entire schedule and eventually the film was shot in Rome this was also a period when stars' salaries skyrocketed and, so did a star's entourage. So, this was also the time when Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton started seeing each other and naturally, because of too much of media attention on them.

The movies afford you see whenever there is an unwanted kind of media attention on any project it is not the art that matters any longer, but it is the gimmickry it is the scandal part that was more projected. So, the movie when it was released it was horribly over budgeted it had and of course, the Elizabeth Taylor's salary and her the kind of the amount of money they had spent on her costumes and even on her retinue she would travel big she was a huge star and she would travel with an entire army of supporters and her assistance and all that cost studios a major, major amount of money.

Now, and the set part of it is that the movie fanned very badly commercially as well as critically this was also followed by another big budget film that is Doctor Dolittle starring Rex Harrison and this was about a doctor this is based on a children's story in a series of stories capturing the adventures of this nice doctor who talks to animals who can understand the language and this film also flopped very badly it was a musical.

Now, to back to back debacles and all already there were another social change is the other cultural changes that was and the major when was the massive attention focused on television. Now, television that is the small box or small screen entered the American home, now how is in a very big way. So, people would rather sit at home watching television within the comfort of the home rather than go out and watch films in a movie theater.

All this, led to a major very big kind of a rethinking that the studios resorted to 20th century focus at already collapsed under the weight of Cleopatra. And at the same time they were also suffering some very serious issues concerning Marilyn Monroe, who was a

filming another movie with them on the 20'th century law is studio lords in Hollywood. So, she would not turn off for we shooting and she would not gives them the required dates she was also extremely ill and then, her untimely death.

So, all this led to kind of you know re visiting the old Hollywood system that studios when no longer very show if big budget films starting very big actress you know that is, so called box office draws that was enough to pull the audience back in the movie theater and this was a time when they wanted to start very critically start analyzing there is structure. Before, I go into the dabs of a new Hollywood system, let me also tell you the cultural background of that period.

Now, there is attempt call count a culture many of you I am very show familiar with it is specially students of literature or also those who are interested in contested is. So, count a culture is a sub culture that opposes challenges and reject significant elements of the prevalent or dominant culture of any period usually that, which is in line with accepted norms in conditions count a culture aims to give voice to the a thoughts expirations of a specific population during a specific time period in a American this was that late 50's the early 60's and also the early 70's.

So, the 60's the late 50's the 60's the early 70's is broadly and the stood as the count a culture period. It is offend dub d as dropping out of the main stream that is you know you know longer want to a wish to belong to the main stream of the majority count a culture movements are in opposition to one a more expects of prevalent social norms in cultural accesses. A seminal period of this and this one of the earlier films and I am calling its seminal, because it was one of the earliest move is that give voice to the marginalized to the empty establishment group especially the younger people to the youth of American society and this movie was the wild when starring Marlon Brando.

And this was a trends set of for the, so called biker films introduce the drifter and the alienated hero in cinema. It was also the first film to glamorize the antisocial and maladjusted and also anti authoritarian youth to cinema in cinema one of the most memorable lines that Marlon Brando at a in this film is all the beetles have miss due and beetles is for girls this is a lying that was a that inspired the group the famous British rock group beetles to for naming their group. Now, new Hollywood as a I been talking about is offense seen at the time between the lathe 60's and the mid 70's.

Now, you have to remember that Cleopatra was released in the early 60's and from that

time onwards studios started rethinking their strategies, how to make films, how to produce films and how to rather than making films as a star who kills they had to be there had to be something more and where it the look at and who did the look at it they look to words in a French new view. Now, when have as telling you about the French new views cinema in one of my earlier classes I told you how what is strong influence it was on the American new views. So, this is what we are going to talk about today.

Now, this is a period from mid 60's and the early 70's as mid 70's also when directors and screen writers exercised greater control over the film rather than stars and studios. So, the collapse of a studios in the, so now, I am going to tell you how the shift to place during this period. Now, a when of the most apart from cultural that is the count a cultural movement we are also talking about the formation of this is the very important period movement in a American cultural history.

Is we are talking about the 50's and the formation of hells angels motorcycle, killer which was formed in sent Francisco organizes initially by someone called rocky grieves. The members of the clover frees spirited men bound by brother wood and loyalty towards each other they would offend bike our gun the bikes down in the areas around sunset blue out and this gave birds to a new way of life. Now, a cultural revolution was on it is way also with the music and the and other artist of the period.

For a example bob dill and the dos rolling stone and in the overall the all by near the change it was also a period of psychedelic art rock music and the, so called hippie movement. William barrow the writer of Janky 1953 was one of the earliest authors of literature of protest and anti establishment and it came on the heels of capture in the rai, which is truly a seminal event in American cultural history literal history that is by selling a in 1951.

The manifesto for the cultural revolution of the period was explicitly laid down by Allen Ginsburg in 1956 in his book in his work howl the poem howl, where Ginsburg declared as of the best minds of my generation destroyed by madness staring historical make it how will was a protest against that you radical tendencies of post were America and its commercial in also is intolerance towards a new were thoughts and your kind of wise.

Another major event was the publication of on the wrote by Jack Kerouac in 1957, which maps journey across America by cell paradise and Di Moriya. in 1947 these works at the tones for new themes that is freedom from the cultural ecstasies expression of

individualism and self and also a very interestingly be move the decline or loss of American masculinity. So, therefore perhaps this stress on using a bikes you know bikes after all and the specially symbolize by Hallie Davidson kinds of by is they were symbolic of the ultimating masculinity.

Now, European art house cinema was also another major influence on the growth of American new a cinema. We have already seen what was Italian Nurolisam and French new way cinema this was also are time when the great Anthoniny his movie love in Chura became sensation at khans festival and it is depiction of the rich and bold at a lasting impression on the cinematic consciousness. In England Anthoniny is blow up, which was the 1966 movie offered a Mistery without a solutions cinema became more open ended.

And even suggest that if there was a even a Mistery to begin with, so the entire seen might have taken inside the head of the hero, who is very interestingly ironically astrograph. So, more than anything else the film glow up it ported the sense of alienation in the swinging 60's swinging 60's is the nomenclature given to the London life during the 60's. So, both love in to an blow up the decline any kind of closure they do not explain events to the spectators and it is the ambiguity that capture the time the zit gist of that period.

Now, a politically this was a time of antiwar feelings for the Vietnam war is student protest in 1968 was on major highlight a 1968 democratic convention in Chicago the assassination of president John Kennedy and also later his brother Sanitar Robert Kennedy this was followed by another bloody event the assassination of doctor Martin Luther King these was the events that head far reaching influence on the American consciousness.

So, show culturally the defining event that mark this start of the gay rights movement was the stone wall right, which was the series of violent demonstrations against a polystrate that took place at the stone wall in which was the gay bar this was the first instance of this Skynin American history. Now another important term that you should know is the term wood stock in wood stock nation it was kind by abbey half men and according to the cultural is caller brows show men the count a culture relied on music as a means of communication a communal reachel a gathering of the traipse among the major representatives of this movement a jimmy Hendrix bob Dylan the who and the

beetles.

Now, 1969 is taken as the year of wood stock a musical festival where 32 musical acts were perform in front of 500, 1000 concert go outs and it generated solidarity a kind of loyalty and brother wood among the like minded people over various social political issues. Technically also this was an interesting Ira new Hollywood films got an impieties from the practitioners of cinema were it a such a Richard Leacock and Da penne baker.

And also the Maysle brothers and Maysle brothers, who developed cheap live light weight equipment and enable the film makers to take to streets to capture the city live the reality of life we have been talking about, if you remember the British new way cinema and I have already introduce due to the these names. So, again have repeating this in order to understand the importance developing The New Hollywood Kind of Cinema, which old a lot to the development of new and light weight equipments.

So, it sort of liberated the film makers to come out from the Shakils of this studios the heavy equipment to jet is in the heavy equipment and come out and the streets and captured the real life the city life the street life. In the mid 60's US theater at tendency was declining and we have already talked about bloated epics mindless musicals and the all the started flopping. Now, added by the new equipment film makers, now free to make small budget and more personal films, which soon found acceptance among the audience that is the background of the entire new Hollywood period.

One of the earlier films of this period is bonnie Clyde, so this was a 1967 move film bonnie Clyde along with the graduate. Now, these two films and shock ways through the film industry the films are about the rebellious youth and the highlighted the prevalent mood and anti establishment and anti authoritarianism it paid way for the cinema of NRK finally, bonnie Clyde was a shock to the system and the director Arhappan explain that we are in the Vietnam war this film cannot be sanitized and still violence.

So, sanitized and the immaculate kind of film were over the period was finally, over I have already talked about Arthappan and you can consider Athappan as one of the earliest and one of the most Rabelais kind of a film maker of this period. Now, he is the one who let the way at least for the first to view of new Hollywood. Now, a key future of this period was that the directors a started assuming the mental of the artist just like they did just the way did in the French new wave period, when directors a started developing personal styles distinct from that of a other directors.

It was also time when the directors enjoyed as much power prestige and also material success, which was still then only accorded to the stars and a studios. So, director became the keep person to go to this is also time when new voices a merge new film makers an actress arrived on the scene and some of them warren Beatty the actor he is also a major producer he invested lot in bonnie Clyde a major risk take a of his times peter Bogdanovich Francis ford Coppola, then his hop up peter Fonda john Kakavetsis Athappan mike Nichols in England you have mike lay also mike Nichols to Hell lash by Robert Altman and in ten Licobric a some of the most significant names of the first way of new Hollywood period.

Now, coming back to bunion Kline the legend of bunion Kline is well documented in American culture this is the story based on the real life bank robber's bonnie parker and Clyde barrow. Now, there were two journalists Robert Benton and David Newman they wrote majorly for the esquire magazine and became of with their virgin of the legend. Now, warren Beatty who was already an established actor do not a superstar at that time he got interested in a to produce the film along with the backing of the Warner brothers the studio.

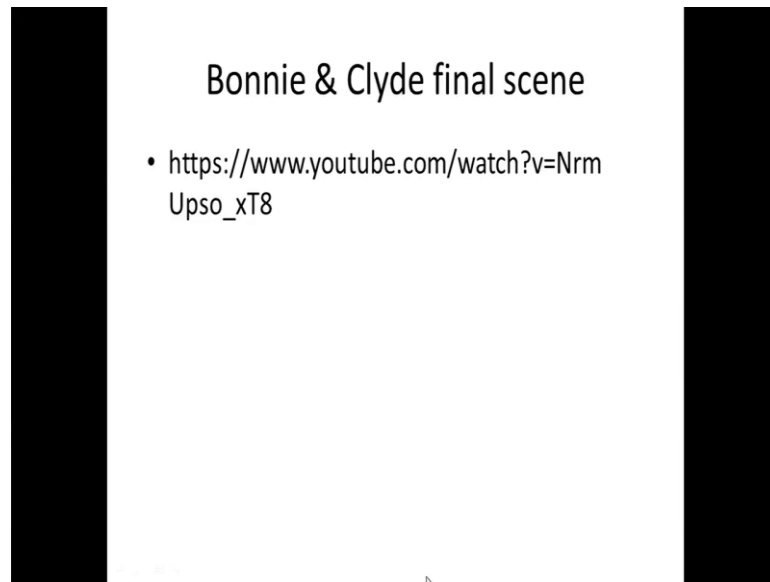
The film was intended to be a low budget film to be directed by Athappan in a scripted by Robert townie bonnie Clyde pulled out all stops when it came to taking risk to begin with the majority of actors, where from New York and not those trained in studios, but trained in acting schools of New York. The violence was a shocker it was very much true to life and real life it was like almost blasting wholes on the screen anti establishment to it is hard it brazenly Romant sizes the out lost, who are actually Roberson kill us.

The film was initially tragedy by old fashion critics such as Bossley Crawther, who wrote for New York times. But, another major critic that was fast a merging on the seen Pauline Kael she hell review the prospect of this films she wrote extensively about the merits of the film and soon Pauline Kael became came at the center or at the for front of American film criticism her voice held major influence on what people should be watching and also it influence, what people should be making at that time.

So, this was a time when a see according to those stand the standards of those times bonnie Clyde was an extremely violent film. And along with a another film point blank it also pave the way per a very different kind of cinema it was also the time we have already talked about blow up and the battle of Algiers and it prove that European

innovation was influence American new view American cinema. Here is a clipping the final seen from bonnie Clyde please watch it and it will substantiate what have been telling you.

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A movie that preceded a bonnie Clyde, but still extremely [FL] and very experimental in nature was Richard Lester's 1964 movie a hard day's night, now a hard day's night is genre define work it is called offend it is offend call as citizen cane of jukebox movies another musical films. The beetles it is stars the beetles as beetles and they were already a publicity phenomenal, but through this film audience got to know the boys behind the ban.

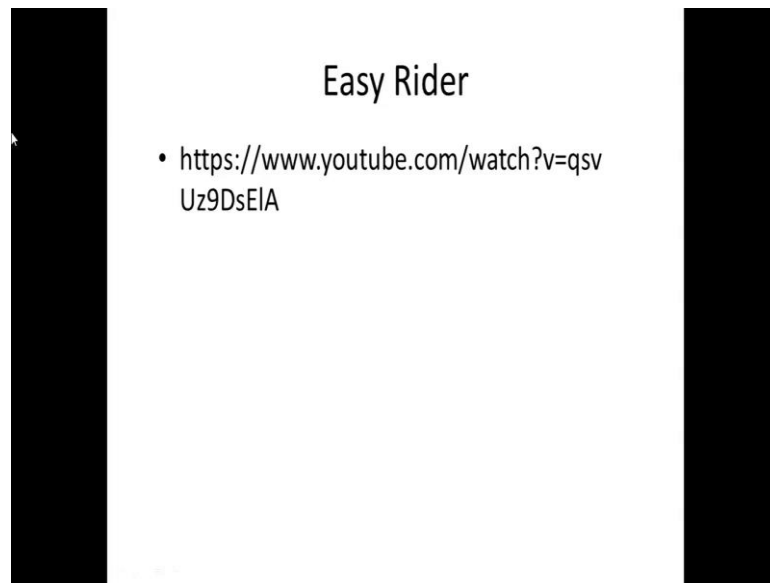
The film is extremely irreverent again pretty anti authoritarian in it is stone its joys and very original. It is one of the earliest main stream work with a documentary look with hand held cameras and black and white photography it also employed quick cutting if the boys giving interweaves on there and with inter cuts of dialogues. Now, other name that you should be familiar with is BBS, which is the shorten form per three film makers who change or who revolutionize the view American cinema was made.

In the late 60's and the early 70's at the four front of the entire new view culture new view cinema Bert Schneider, Bob Rafelson and Steve Blaner, now BBS was there company that enable directors to make the kinds of film they wanted to an in doings. So, the produce pictures, which were seminal on influential on the cinematic that Hollywood most film makers when a writers directors and actors also such as warren Beatty Dennis

hopper [FL] and Jacqui Nichols.

But, shinnied a produced easy rider the film that broke every rule in the book and was the first new real are the first real new Hollywood picture refuels son and shinnied wanted the style of a you know a television series to reflect film techniques such as improvisation quiet a curt's jump curt's breaking the forth wall and free flowing loose narities and which was then Paineira by the European film makers, here is the clipping from easy rider please watch it.

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Now, easy rider success let to another interesting film alias Rest raw, which is 1969 short film it is directed by Athappan and the film was release soon after the wood stock festival it is an adaptation of a folk song alias Rest raw, which is a 23 minutes song by Alugatrin it is stared musician Alugatrin as himself and in the film he rebels against everything that is passive as traditional the plots concerns a wrote taken by Alugatrin making new friends meeting old friends, which hiking playing his guitar and making a case for a life in a commune.

BBS also produce of TV show with the group of them musician the monkeys, where each episode would contain at least one musical romp, which might have nothing to do with the story line. The impales was to make a hard day's night as a TV show. BBS went on to produce some of the most interesting works of that period starting with easy rider and then, head drive he said five easy pieces the king of Marven gardens films, which went on to re define Hollywood in easy ride the writers and actors Dennis hopper.

And Peter Fonda use the motive of journey to form the alternative kind of life style to expose the stifling repression of conservative mid West America its a wrote movie is a wrote trip taken by two hippies. And we have already seen the literary and culture influence on these on this kind of period and it is very apparent on easy rider. So, literature like on the wrote by care work I have already told you about an also Angela Burks howl.

So, this is what the writers and the directors port trade on screen which was already said to a large extent to a great extent by the literate tears of the period. So, the plot is the these two protagonist as played by Peter Fonda and Dennis Hopper the bi cocaine in Mexico Hyde it in the motor bikes its smug lit across the border and head to verse new for Mardi Gra festival, which is also known as a carnival.

Now, the hippies adventures including crossing the Colorado bridge crossing the dessert of monumentally reaching new and getting killed while leaving new all ness its all captured through the strains of, but then very popular rock and pop music and also through the using very innovative kinds of techniques cinematic techniques easy rider marks the beginning of new Hollywood and like Bonnie Clyde it is celebrates rebels out logs and mitts miss fits of the American society.

One of the most memorable lines is from Captain America or White as played by Peter Fonda, who says we blue it and it was red by many as the death of the American dream what is blond the American dream the American problems. So, what was it is like a see the film give voice to those film makers who reacted again the standard and the banal fir an experimented with the new style new actors and new materials five easy pieces 1970 movie is again a seminal film director by Bob Rafelson.

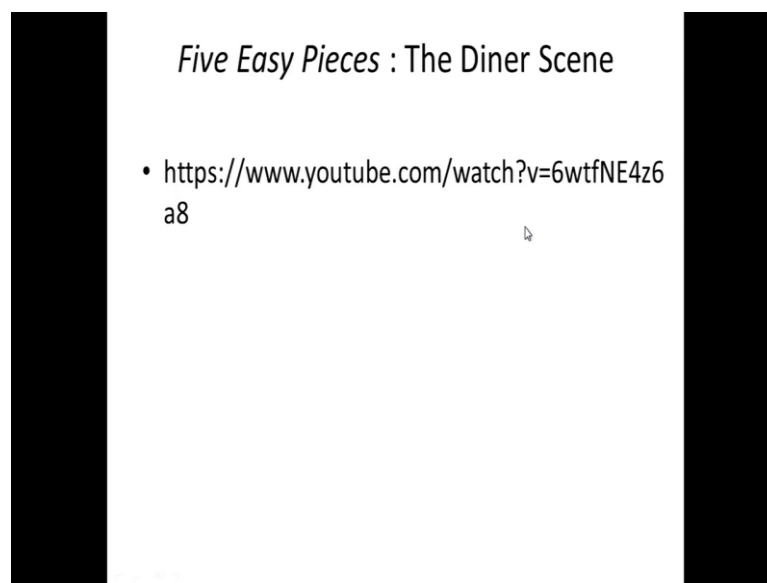
And also produce by BBS here you have Bob Dupia as played by Jack Nicholson, who is belongs to distinguish music family, where his father and brother they are concert pianos the story begins in a small California town Jack living in with his girl friend right who is a waiters and Jack Warks in an oil field spends is evenings in the bowling alley and watches TV all working class pleasures all though he comes from very distinguish family.

But, that desire to you know it is turning the American dream on its head American dream it is all about the desire to come up in life the notion of upward mobility. But, here we look at people who at the protagonist who actually works is way down the social

ladder he takes up a waitress as the girl friend spends time in Berlin ale he when watches television rings be a.

So, all very non a latest when rate gets pregnant jack as mix feelings about the relationship mean while he learns that is a father as suffered as to and then bobby takes a girl friend along for a root trip to home the travel through California or Gunnar Washington and here is one of the most famous seems very much below its seems from five easy pieces the drainer seen is look at the link watch the movie a watch the scene and we talk about.

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Now, this is the scene why I am interested in, because they consider the way jack Nicholson Sense, Bobby Dupia he questions the rules, now the rules when the very simple he is just talking about what you wants to have a, but and he challenges the waitress who is extremely digit in how use she wouldn't give him in a ensured [FL]. But, the point is not just about having the kind of breakfast you warn, but actually questioning the establishment questioning the rules why do a need to follow what is written in black and white all the time why cannot will be a little more is anti establishment once in a while it may not it may not necessarily hurt anyone.

So, why not give in to a simple pleasures of life that was at the heart of all of the particular period that we are talking about, so will continue with a discussion of new Hollywood cinema in a next class.

Thank you.

