

Film Studies: Definition, Current Status, and Future Perspectives for Cuba

Authors : Carlos Guillermo Lloga Sanz, Maria del Carmen Tamayo Asef

Abstract : As an object of study in Cuban universities, cinema is still in its infancy. This is relevant considering the significance of cinema within the local political culture and its impact on countries of the region. Discussions about the medium have been carried out mainly in the field of film criticism. The objective of this article is to reflect on the divergences between film studies and film criticism taking into account formal and theoretical features and to explore the transcendence of this debate for the intellectual ambiance of the Island. Methodologically, the study relies on theoretical elaborations based on literature review and non-structure interviews with Cuban film critics and scholars. The study finds that the gradation proposed by the Anglo-Saxon tradition, where film studies are considered a "higher stage," compared to criticism and cinephilia, does not apply to the Cuban space. Instead, to assess the state of reflection on cinema in Cuba, it is essential to consider it a starry node traversed by epistemic, institutional, and geopolitical matrices.

Keywords : film studies, film criticism, Cuban cinema, Cuban film studies

Conference Title : ICCC 2023 : International Conference on Cinema and Communication

Conference Location : New York, United States

Conference Dates : January 30-31, 2023