

Transnationalization Strategies of Danish Cinema: Susanne Bier, Lone Scherfig

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Abstract : This article analyzes the works of certain directors in Danish cinema, namely Susanne Bier and Lone Scherfig, in the context of transnationalisation of Danish cinema. It looks at how the films' narratives negotiate and reconstruct the local / national / regional and the global. Scholars such as Nestingen & Elkington (2005), Hjort (2010), Higbee and Lim (2010), Bondebjerg and Redvall (2011) address transnationalism of Danish cinema in terms of production and distribution processes and how film making transcends national boundaries. This paper employs a particular understanding of transnationalism - in terms of how ideas and characters travel - to analyze how the storytelling and style has evolved to connect the national, the regional and the global on the basis of the works of these two directors. Strategies such as Hollywoodization - i.e. focus on stardom and classical narration, adhering to conventional European genre formulas, producing Danish films in English language have been identifiable strategies in Danish cinema in the period after the 2000s. Susanne Bier and Lone Scherfig are significant for employing some of these strategies simultaneously. For this reason, this article will look at how these two directors have employed these strategies and negotiated the cultural boundaries and exchanges.

Keywords : danish cinema, transnational cinema, susanne bier, lone scherfig, national cinema

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