

Unspoken Delights: Creative Strategies for Bypass Censorship System and Depicting Male-Female Relationships in Iranian Cinema

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Abstract : Following the Iran Islamic Revolution in 1979 and the subsequent formation of a theocratic regime, the new regime implemented stringent regulations and a complicated censorship system in the film industry. Thereupon, the screening of films showing the relationships between males and females encountered numerous limitations. Not only did these limits encompass the physical portrayal of the relationship between males and females, but also the dialogues containing explicit sexual or even passionate romantic themes, resulting in a film being permanently consigned to archival storage. However, despite these limitations, Iranian filmmakers persevered in creating their interesting cinematic works. Throughout the years after the revolution, Iranian directors have navigated a series of challenges and obstacles, employing innovative and unconventional methods to bypass the rigorous censorship system imposed by the government, ensuring the screening of their films. This study aims to analyze the creative approaches employed by Iranian filmmakers to circumvent governmental censorship regulations.

Keywords : Iranian cinema, censorship, Islamic revolution, male-female relationship

Conference Title : ICMFS 2024 : International Conference on Media and Film Studies

Conference Location : San Francisco, United States

Conference Dates : November 04-05, 2024