

Course: Director Atelier (ELO-E1549/ELO-C1536)

PSYCHOGEOGRAPHIES: MEMORY & LANDSCAPES WITH ANDRES DUQUE.

Major in Documentary Film
2023/2024
Department of Film, Television and Scenography
ELO, Aalto University

Dates: 20 Nov - 1 Dec 2023.

Time: See individual schedule below.

Rooms: See individual schedule below.

Professor: Andrés Duque

Responsible teachers: Arturo Delgado Pereira/Salla Sorri

Teaching Language: English

Credits: 3 cr

Email: arturo.delgado@aalto.fi / salla.sorri@aalto.fi

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE by Andrés Duque

Psychogeography is the exploration of urban environments that emphasizes interpersonal connections to places and arbitrary routes. The objective of the course is to provide students with the tools to creatively film any-given-space incorporating self-reflexion, empathy and emotions to narration.

For instance, to explore your own skin as a map of real events could be an interesting set up for storytelling; registering city corners of a city from the window of a tramway and conditioning yourself to shoot only during the stops of the train. A more radical approach could be planning a filmed walkthrough the city of Helsinki but using as a guide a map of Barcelona.

These are brief examples of how you could use your imagination and explore visually personal stories, These are psychogeographies and we will be discussing in class this tradition in the Arts, as well as practical examples from renowned filmmakers.

This workshop is conceived as a five-day face to face teaching plus independent work to carry out a film exercise. In the first three days, we will study the relationship of the documentary form in the Arts, the questioning of realism in representation, and the evolution of documentary narrations such as the essay-films. We will discuss on filmmakers who have devoted their lives to explore concepts such as: subjectivity, perceptual phenomenology, the movement of the landscapes, the shape of memories, the art of the human existence.

ASSIGNMENT

This course will require students to carry out a film exercise of no more than 5 minutes length. Either starting an idea from scratch or as a complement for the development of your current film project, exploring psychogeographies could be a good strategy to broaden the possibilities of your exploring cinematic world.

Andrés will assign students certain parameters to carry out this exercise. Andrés will introduce and explain this assignment towards the beginning of the course. Students will have self-independent work time to carry out this exercise. Students will present their work on the last two days of the course.

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Andrés Duque's first film "Ivan Z" is a portrait of cult filmmaker Iván Zulueta. Later on, he has done self-referential films and portraits about exceptional figures such as the composer Oleg Karavaichuk that have received numerous awards and recognitions at film festivals around the world (Punto de Vista, Cinéma du Réel, Dokufest, D'A, Unicorn Awards, Goya Awards, City of Barcelona Award) and have been exhibited in cultural centers such as the Reina Sofía National Art Center Museum (MNCARS), Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art (MACBA), Vienna Museum of Modern Art (MUMOK), Moscow Museum of Contemporary Art (GARAGE) and the Hermitage Museum in Saint Petersburg, among others.

Works: Iván Z (2004), Parallel 10 (2005), Landscapes in a Truck (2006), Bartleby's Constellation (2007), Life Between Worlds Not in Fixed Reality (2008), All You Zombies (2008), It's Not The Image It's The Object (2009), Color Runaway Dog (2011), Dress Rehearsal for Utopia (2012), First Symptoms (2015), Oleg and The Rare Arts (2016), Carelia - International with Monument (2018). Tropic Seamount - A tale of the Lockdown (2022). The King is Dead (2023, in post-production), A House in the Border (2023, in development).

SCHEDULE

WEEK 47

Monday 20 Nov. Odeion, Maarintie 8. Otaniemi.

9:30-11:30. Presentation of course and lecture with Prof. Andrés Duque.

11:30-12:30 Lunch

12:30-14:45. Lecture with Prof. Andrés Duque.

15-17: MA 1 SEMINAR.

Tuesday 21 Nov. Odeion, Maarintie 8. Otaniemi.

9:30-11:30. Lecture with Prof. Andrés Duque.
11:30-12:30 Lunch
12:30-15:30. Lecture with Prof. Andrés Duque.

Wednesday 22 Nov. Odeion, Maarintie 8. Otaniemi

9:30-11:30. Lecture with Prof. Andrés Duque.
11:30-12:30 Lunch
12:30-15:30. Lecture with Prof. Andrés Duque.

Thursday 23 Nov. Independent study.

Students pick up film equipment.
Independent work on film exercise.

Friday 24 Nov. Independent study.

Independent work on film exercise.

WEEK 48

Monday 27-Tuesday 28-Wednesday 29 Nov. Independent study.

Independent work on film exercise.

Thursday 1 Dec. Odeion, Maarintie 8. Otaniemi.

9:30-11:40. Individual tutorials (if you are signed up)
11:40-12:45 Lunch
12:45-15:30. Class with Prof. Andrés Duque.

Friday 2. Odeion, Maarintie 8. Otaniemi.

9:30-11:30. Presentations film exercises.
11:30-12:30 Lunch
12:30-15:30. Presentations film exercises and wrap-up of course.
Students return film equipment.