

DYSTOPIA AS A CINEMATOGRAPHY DIRECTION

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Dystopia is a direction of the artistic literature and the cinematography direction, in narrow sense, it is a description of the totalitarian state, in wide sense, it is a description of any society, in which there are prevailed negative progress trends. Dystopia is a complete opposition of utopia. Utopia is a genre of the artistic literature, which is close to science fiction and describing a model of an ideal society from the author's point. Unlike dystopia, it is characterize by the author's faith in the blamelessness of a model.

At first the word "dystopian" (as an opposition to the "utopian") was used by the English philosopher and economist John Styuart Mill' in 1868. The term "dystopia" (as the name of a literary genre) was coined by Glenn Negli and Max Patrick in the anthology of the utopias "The quest for Utopia" (1952).

Dystopia is a logical development of utopia and legalistically can also be attributed to this direction. However, if classic utopia is concentrated on the demonstration of the positive features of the public device, which is described in the work, dystopia aims to expose its negative lines. Thus, the difference between utopia and dystopia is only in the author's vision of society.

Dystopia as a direction of artist literature have progressed due to such known literary works as: "Gulliver's travels" (Jonathan Swift), "The Begum's Fortune" (Jules Verne), "The Time Machine" (Herbert Wells), "The Iron Heel" (Jack London), "Nineteen Eighty-Four" (George Orwell), "Fahrenheit 451" (Ray Bradbury), "Running Man" (Stephen King), "[We](#)" (Yevgeny Zamyatin), etc. Such films as "Planet of the Apes" ([1968](#)), "Stalker" ([1979](#)), "Nineteen Eighty-Four" ([1984](#)), "Terminator" ([1984](#)), "The Truman Show" ([1998](#)), "The Matrix" ([1999](#)), "Equilibrium" ([2002](#)), "The Island" ([2005](#)), "V for Vendetta" ([2006](#)), "Zombieland" ([2009](#)), "In Time" ([2011](#)) etc. have contributed greatly to the development the promotion of this cinematography direction.

A basic object for artistic research in films-dystopias is the totalitarian society, a dictatorship of ruling apex, applying the most acute methods for transforming a human into an executive function, which is deprived senses and ability to think logically. For example, a sedation of the human emotions in a film "Equilibrium". There is a world of the future, in which art and senses are banned. Mass production of the medicate

“Prozium” represses human emotions. Also the government destroys all works of art and everything, which is able to cause emotions.

Sometimes in dystopia some private aspects of public life can be taken to the extreme point. For example, the TV-industry of entertainments. In the film “The Truman Show” all human rights are bought out by the media-corporation in order to transform them into a non-stop reality-show. Truman Berbank is an ordinary man, who lives his ordinary life. He doesn't know that every of his step is watched by numerous hidden cameras and all his life happens in front of the world. A Truman's motherland (the city Sikheven) is the skillfully executed sceneries and its population is actors.

“Matrix” is a film representing the future, in which reality, existing for most people, is a pure simulation. It is created by intellectual machines to subordinate and pacify a human population, while their warmth and electric activity of their bodies are used by them as an energy source.

The film “In Time” represents a society of the 22nd century, in which the life of every human being has its own countdown. The time is 2161. Gene modified people won the victory over the process of senescence remaining ever young at the age of 25. But nothing is for free. In order to stay young they have to earn every year of their lives. Time for them has become a unique currency, a unique means of existence. But one thing remains unchangeable – the rich and the poor. The first can lives extremely long while the second must fight for every minute. The author's key point is a biological and economic life merging into one process.

So, dystopia as a cinematography direction has a wide popularity nowadays and it is exercised in the various genres and themes of the cinema art.

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