

Call for Papers
The 9th International Conference and Festival on Global Cult Film Traditions



The University of Brighton Presents:

Cine Excess IX

Historical Trauma, Hysterical Texts: Cult Film in Times of Crisis

The University of Brighton, Grand Parade

12-14 November 2015

www.cine-excess.co.uk

Over the last nine years, the *Cine-Excess* International Film Conference and Festival has brought together leading scholars and critics with global cult filmmakers. *Cine-Excess* comprises of a three day conference alongside filmmaker interviews, UK theatrical premieres of up and coming cult releases as well as related film industry panels.

Previous guests of honour to the annual *Cine-Excess* event have included **Catherine Breillat** (*Romance, Sex is Comedy*), **John Landis** (*An American Werewolf in London, The Blues Brothers, Trading Places*), **Roger Corman** (*The Masque of the Red Death, The Little Shop of Horrors, The Intruder, The Wild Angels, Bloody Mama*), **Stuart Gordon** (*Re-Animator, King of the Ants, Stuck*), **Brian Yuzna** (*Society, Beyond Re-Animator, The Dentist*), **Dario Argento** (*Deep Red, Suspiria, Inferno*) **Joe Dante** (*The Howling, Gremlins, The Hole*), **Franco Nero** (*Django, Keoma, Die Hard II*), **Vanessa Redgrave** (*Blow Up, The Devils, Julia*), **Ruggero Deodato** (*Last Cannibal World, Cannibal Holocaust, House on the Edge of the Park*) **Enzo G. Castellari** (*Keoma, The Inglorious Bastards*), **Sergio Martino** (*Torso, All the Colours of the Dark*) and **Jeff Lieberman** (*Squirm, Blue Sunshine*).

Cine-Excess IX is hosted by the School of Art, Design and Media at the University of Brighton and considers the extent to which the cult film can be viewed as an uncomfortable reflection of wider discontents during key periods of historical turmoil.

From depression era monster movie classics and 'paranoid' 1970s chillers exploring the traumas of Vietnam, Watergate and urban unrest, to post 9/11 torture controversies and beyond, American cinema has often referenced a wide range of social, political and military horrors within the 'disreputable' arena of the cult film canon. Beyond this emphasis on violent unrest, insurrection and dystopian fears, American cult cycles have also explored wider historical tensions around sexuality, ethnicity and youth subcultures in a range of film formats that have included the skin flick, gang movie, vigilante narrative and even the musical.

Europe has also used a wide range of cult representations to acknowledge historical traumas that have ranged from fascist fears and militant threats to ecological anxieties and recent immigration phobias. In addition, other global cultures frequently figure their anxieties through a range of marginal movie cycles that also warrant further investigation.

In order to explore these themes, *Cine-Excess IX* will consider the concept of the cult film as a reflection of historical trauma from a range of differing theoretical and methodological perspectives, while also considering pertinent national case-studies across film, television, literature, comics and digital media.

Proposals are now invited for papers on any aspect of historical trauma, hysterical texts: cult film in times of crisis. However, we would particularly welcome contributions focusing on the following themes:

- *Poor Angry White Kids: Urban Unrest from Comics to the Cult Screen*
- *Terrorism and the Trash Film Text*
- *From Lovelace to Loveless: Case-studies in Cult Carnality and Anxiety*
- *Rocky Horror and Ribald Imagery: Sexual Subcultures in the Cult Musical*
- *American Traumas on the Screen: From JFK to [9/11](#)*
- *Medical Mishaps: Traumatic Interventions of the Body*
- *Symphonies of Terror: Soundtracks to Social Discontent*
- *Dictatorships and the Deviant Image*
- *Science Fiction Traumas: Case-Studies in Dystopia*
- *The Contaminated Screen: Cannibals and Zombies in Social Context*
- *Close Circuit Extreme: Surveillance Fears in Cult Cinema*
- *The Devil Inside Me: Religious Taboos and the Sacrilegious Screen*
- *Violence on the Streets: Gang Movies in Grindhouse Cinema*
- *Ice Cold Fears: Canuxploitation as Social Commentary*
- *German Anxieties and the Cult Image*
- *Refugee Terror and Colonial Anxieties*
- *Political Phobias in the Italian Cult Film Text*
- *Cult Vengeance Cinema in Social Context*
- *The Cars are Still Eating Paris: Classic and Contemporary Ozsploitation Themes*
- *Race Against the Machine: Race Conflict and Cult Cinema*
- *Radicalization as Cult Reality, or Is My Mind Not My Own?*

We welcome individual paper submissions, panels and roundtable proposals related to the above conference themes. Please send a 300-word abstract and a short (one page) C.V. by **14th September 2015** to:

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Delegates fees for *Cine-Excess IX* are £100/£60 (concessions), and includes entrance to the conference and related *Cine-Excess* screenings, industry panels and related events.

A final listing of accepted presentations will be released on **18th September 2015**. A selection of conference papers from the event will be published in the *Cine-Excess* E-Journal in 2016. For further information and regular updates on the event (including information on guests, screenings and industry panels) please visit www.cine-excess.co.uk