

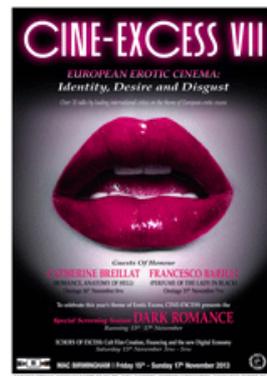


B-Film: The Birmingham Centre for Film Studies 2013-2014 Report

The 2013-14 academic year was exciting and eventful for film studies at the University of Birmingham in association with other universities, institutions and organisations.

B-Film co-organised two international academic conferences. The first was the **Screening European Heritage** conference in association with the Centre for World Cinemas at the University of Leeds. This was held at Weetwood Hall in Leeds on 12-13 September 2013 as part of an AHRC-funded scoping study under the 'Care for the Future' project. Twenty-five scholars offered papers on a wide range of subjects with keynotes delivered by two of the leading experts on the subject and several members of B-Film including Alex Marlow-Mann, Kate Ince and Rob Stone.

The second international conference was held in Birmingham at the Midlands Arts centre and was co-organised with the University of Brighton. **Cine-Excess VII: European Erotic Cinema: Identity, Desire and Disgust** took place from 15-17 November 2013 and brought in a range of external partners including local arts organisations like Vivid Projects, academic partners like Birmingham City University, and in-kind sponsorship from Silver Ferox, Arc Media and Classic Miniatures. Conceived as a cross-over industry into academia event aimed at both scholars and the general film-going public, the event brought a number of high-profile industry figures and special guests to Birmingham for the first time, including the internationally acclaimed filmmaker Catherine Breillat. Again, several members of B-Film, including Alex Marlow-Mann, Michele Aaron, John Horne, Rob Stone and Kate Ince gave papers and contributed to special events.



REMAPPING WORLD CINEMA



Regional Tensions and Global Transformations

A major announcement was made in January 2014 when B-Film confirmed that, in partnership with the Centre for World Cinemas at the University of Leeds, it had secured a major new book series with the publisher Routledge to be titled **Remapping World Cinema: Regional Tensions and Global Transformations**. This book series will begin with the monumental flagship volume **The Routledge Companion to World Cinema**, to be co-edited by the series editorial board of Rob Stone, Paul Cooke, Stephanie Dennison and Alex Marlow-Mann. The Companion and the books in the series will carry the logo of B-Film and publish two major volumes every year, including monographs and edited works that combine historical knowledge and revisionism with contemporary insight and awareness. A major conference that carries the name of the series for its title is being planned for December 2015 in Birmingham.

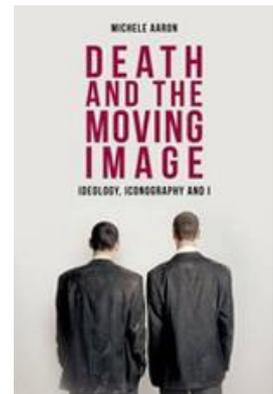
The AHRC-funded **Screening European Heritage** project concluded its first year with numerous publications, the aforementioned conference, several invited papers and a report to the House of Lords Select Committee on 'Soft Power and the UK's influence'. The co-edited book **Screening European Heritage** is forthcoming from Palgrave and an application for follow-on funding from the AHRC has just been submitted. If successful, this will allow for three community-based documentaries to be made in Yorkshire, the Basque Country and Palestine.



The B-Film documentary **Basque Heritage Cinema**, which was made in the overlap between the AHRC Screening European Heritage project and Stone's Leverhulme Fellowship research project on Basque cinema, was invited to special screenings at the universities of Deusto, Zaragoza and Pamplona in Spain, as well as Cambridge, Bangor and Leeds in the UK. It was also featured on the new Mediático website along with other short films and video essays produced by B-Film and was invited to be screened during the recent Belfast Film Festival.

Many members of B-Film delivered **papers, keynote addresses and invited lectures** during the 2013-14 academic year. Kate Ince delivered papers at the Film-Philosophy conference in Amsterdam, the Edinburgh Film seminar at the University of Edinburgh and the Women's Film and Television History network conference at the University of East Anglia; Alex Marlow-Mann at the Busan International Film Festival and ECREA European Film Cultures conference in Sweden; Rob Stone at the Basque Film Institute in San Sebastian and Queens University, Belfast; John Horne at the European Association for American Studies 60th Anniversary Conference in The Hague; and Michele Aaron and John Horne at the British Association for American Studies annual conference and the Media for Social Change Unconference in Birmingham.

Members of B-Film saw numerous research projects through to publication during the last academic year. **Michele Aaron** published a monograph entitled *Death and the Moving Image: Ideology, Iconography and I* (Edinburgh University Press), an edited collection *Envisaging Death: Visual Culture and Dying* (Cambridge Scholars publishing) and a journal article entitled 'Cinema and Suicide: Necromanticism, Necropolitics and the Logic the Vanishing Point' in *Cinema Journal*. **Rob Stone** published several chapters in edited books including 'Las otras de 1961' in *La España de Viridiana* (University of Zaragoza Press), 'Transatlantic Drift: Hobos, Slackers, Flâneurs, Idiots and Edukators', which was co-written with Professor Paul Cooke of the University of Leeds, in *Impure Cinema: Intermedial and Intercultural Approaches to Film* (IB Tauris), and 'Sesso e violenza: Rappresentazioni cinematografiche di gender e ETA', which was co-written with Professor María Pilar Rodríguez of the University of Deusto, in *Immagini di Piombo: Cinema, storia e terrorism in Europa* (Postmedia). **Kate Ince** guest-edited an issue of *Studies in European Cinema* (10:1) on 'Women's Film-making in France in the 2000s' and published a short essay on Franju's *Eyes without a Face* for the BFI DVD release. And **John Horne** published a chapter entitled 'Unsettling Structures of Otherness: Visualising the Dying Individual and End of Life Care Reform' in Michele Aaron's collection *Envisaging Death: Visual Culture and Dying* (Cambridge Scholars publishing).



Coming Soon:

B-Film has several projects coming to fruition in the coming months. These include:

- Collaboration in the conference **Euskal Zinema: Zinegileen Hiru Belaunaldi / Basque Cinema: Three Generations of Filmmakers** to be held at the Basque Film Institute in San Sebastian between 2-5 July 2014;
- The publication of **Basque Cinema: A Cultural and Political History** by I.B. Tauris;
- The Call for Papers of the Birmingham-based conference **Remapping World Cinema: Regional Tensions and Global Transformations** for 2015; and
- The public and trade announcement of the associated Routledge series **Remapping World Cinema** and its publishing schedule for the coming years.