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Kalle Lampela: Two Utopies. Contradictions of Ideals and Utopies in Martin Scorsese's Movies Taxi Driver and Good Fellas

In this article, contradictions of utopian dreams and realities in Martin Scorsese's films Taxi Driver and Good Fellas are examined. Protagonists of the films are chasing their dreamworlds furiously. Taxi driver Travis Bickle played by Robert de Niro pursues towards a morally purified world. Good fella Henry Hill played by Ray Liotta would like to live in a gangster's paradise with never ending parties without any moral or legal restrictions. However, there are too many obstacles on the way of these utopias. Lives and dreams of the raging protagonists face the real world at every turn. Dystopian elements threaten the utopian presence. In the article the utopias that Bickle and Hill cherish are analyzed by drawing from utopian hermeneutics and discussions that derive from the legacy of German philosopher Ernst Bloch. Albeit the utopian visions of the protagonists are violent, criminal and morally doubtful, a longing for something better and enjoyable than the one the existing world gives can be seen in them.

Marika Haataja: Pursuing pleasure in Finnish sex manuals

This article examines the ways in which subjects are guided to achieve sexual pleasure in Finnish sex manuals published between 2013 and 2017. By drawing on the Foucauldian framework of governmentality, the article highlights how body consciousness, connection to another person, and sensuality play significant roles in recent manuals. Readers are encouraged to recognise their individual pleasure and sexuality. Hence, while the authority of experts becomes questionable when readers are emboldened to find their individual pleasure, sex manuals strengthen and engender new normalising models and ideals when defining which concepts are worth pursuing. Overall, this analysis demonstrates the paradoxes of power which concurrently liberates and disciplines sexual subjects.

Elina Hytönen-Ng & Nora Tarmio: Inclusion and exclusion in the soundscape of reception centre

In the Finnish reception centres, thousands of asylum seekers are waiting for the decision on their residence permit. They live within a liminal space, as we noticed when observing the soundscapes at one reception centre. The asylum seekers' wish and intention to participate in the surrounding society can be detected in the soundscapes. That participation is controlled by the officials, but the observations also highlight the unintended control that the imperfect living environment adds: The locked doors and fire alarms teach about the rules of the surrounding society but also protect from it. The reception centres support the asylum seekers' participation in the surrounding society, e.g. through teaching in the Finnish language, and in the values of the society that at times expects silence. However, genuine participation is prevented by the liminal space where an asylum seeker has to live while waiting for the decision.

Minna Saariketo: Code-paced landscapes of experience

Through a small-scale rhythmanalysis, inspired by Henri Lefebvre's methodological considerations, this article addresses how avid users of ICTs experience the softwarization of daily life and infrastructures. Research data were produced by qualitative interviews (n=13) in which media diaries and tracking data from the participants' smartphones and computers served as prompts for reflection. Results show that the intimate entwinement of digital devices and applications in the everyday evokes manifold and even contradictory feelings. Technology is perceived as an aid in managing the everyday, but it also induces feelings of chaos, burden, and losing control. Furthermore, while people seem to take as given the technological conditioning of their day-to-day activities, such as data mining, they still actively negotiate their relation to devices and applications visà-vis the temporal organization of the everyday. The article is concluded by suggesting a need to develop tools that enable reflection on the contemporary complexity of sociotechnical power.

Petri Saarikoski: Social media site in the shadow of the Facebook: My Space in Finland 2005–2011.

This article is a case study of MySpace in Finland during 2005-2011. MySpace was one of the earliest social networking sites, before the concept of "social media" was adapted. When MySpace launched in the fall of 2003, they welcomed musicians online, quickly attracting the attention of consumers. MySpace was especially popular in United States. In 2007, Finnish version of MySpace was launched. For couple of years MySpace Finland was popular among indie rock musicians and consumers. In 2009, the popularity of the service, however, went down sharply. The main season was a fierce market competition between MySpace and other popular social media services like Facebook and YouTube. In this article, I will analyze the marketing history of MySpace in Finland, and how its media popularity grew especially in 2008. I also highlight how user profiles of MySpace Finland were moderated and how the employees of the company remember the history of the service.

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