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Culture in Focus: Essays on Art,
Cinema and Society

Sous la direction
de
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Présentation de la revue

La revue Aleph. Langues, Médias & sociétés s’inscrit dans une perspective interdisciplinaire, à la croisée des Sciences du langage, des Sciences du texte et des Sciences de l’information et de la communication. Elle publie des dossiers thématiques, des articles en rubriques « Varia », « Méthodologie », des notes de recherche, des comptes rendus de lecture, une bibliographie des publications sur les discours.

Les articles sont évalués par un comité de lecture qui est composé de chercheurs reconnus internationalement dans la thématique du dossier. Les comités de lecture sont constitués au moins pour moitié de chercheurs appartenant à des institutions situées hors d’Algérie. Les articles, retenus, sont publiés dans la langue dans laquelle ils sont soumis et sont accompagnés de résumés avec mots-clés en français, anglais et arabe.

La revue, créée par l’équipe de l’Édile (Édition et diffusion de l’écrit), est soutenue par le Conseil Scientifique de Dipralang EA 739, laboratoire de sociolinguistique, d’anthropologie des pratiques langagières et de didactique de FLE/FLS rattaché à l’université Paul-Valéry Montpellier III et du CELAT (Centre de recherches Cultures – Arts – Sociétés), - UQAM et l’UQAC.

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Exploring Cultural Narratives: Essays on Art, Cinema, and Sociopolitical Discourse

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جامعة الجزائر 2 ALGIERS 2

Introduction

Welcome to our latest issue, “Exploring Cultural Narratives,” where we embark on a journey through the intricate webs of art, cinema, and sociopolitical discourse. Through a collection of insightful essays, we invite readers to delve into diverse perspectives and critical reflections that illuminate the complexities of our contemporary cultural landscape. From the streets of London to the cinemas of Palestine, from the pages of comic books to the screens of Hollywood, this issue offers a multifaceted exploration of the cultural narratives that shape our world.

Cultural Reflections and Artistic Expression

In this section, we explore the dynamic interplay between culture, art, and societal narratives. “British Visual Arts from Museums to Streets: Banksy and Culture Jamming” delves into the subversive world of street art, examining how artists like Banksy challenge traditional notions of art and politics. Meanwhile, “Cinematic Representations of Displacement” offers a poignant analysis of contemporary cinema’s portrayal of the refugee crisis, shedding light on the human stories behind the headlines. “Cinematic Response Through Visual Cues” explores the language of cinema itself, uncovering how visual elements convey complex narratives and emotions in films such as *Capernaum* and *It Must Be Heaven*. Additionally, “Exploring Utilitarian Myths and Power Discourse in Fritz Lang’s *Metropolis*” critically examines one of cinema’s most iconic works, revealing the underlying power structures and societal critiques embedded within its narrative. Through these essays, readers are invited to reconsider the ways in which art and cinema reflect, challenge, and shape our cultural realities.

Literary and Cinematic Analysis

This section delves into the nuances of literary and cinematic works, exploring themes of power, identity, and social commentary. “Transtextuality in Fiction” takes readers on a journey through the complex intertextual landscape of Alan Moore’s *Watchmen*, unpacking the layers of meaning and symbolism that enrich the narrative. “New Woman or Traditional Woman?”

offers a fascinating exploration of gender representation in Italian cinema, highlighting the ways in which female figures are constructed and perceived within fascist ideology. Meanwhile, “Jessica Jones, A.K.A: A Representation of the MeToo Movement” examines how the popular TV series navigates issues of trauma, power, and gender dynamics in the era of #MeToo. These essays offer insightful analyses of literary and cinematic texts, inviting readers to engage critically with the cultural narratives embedded within them.

Sociopolitical Commentary and Identity

In this section, we examine the intersections of politics, identity, and cultural representation in cinema. “Cinema of Palestine as a Pillar of Resistance and Preservation of Cultural Identity” offers a powerful exploration of Palestinian cinema as a tool for cultural preservation and resistance against oppression. Meanwhile, “12 Years a Slave and the Twenty First Century Filmic Slavery Experience” critically analyzes the representation of slavery in contemporary cinema, highlighting the ways in which these narratives shape our understanding of history and identity. Through these essays, readers are invited to reflect on the role of cinema in shaping societal perceptions, challenging dominant narratives, and advocating for social change.

Conclusion

“Exploring Cultural Narratives” offers a multifaceted exploration of contemporary cultural phenomena, inviting readers to engage critically with the diverse discourses shaping our world today. From the streets to the screens, from the past to the present, these essays illuminate the complexities inherent in our cultural landscape. We hope this issue sparks dialogue, inspires new perspectives, and fosters deeper understanding of the intricate web of cultural narratives that surround us.

