



The Steve Tisch School of Film and Television
The Yolanda and David Katz Faculty of the Arts
Tel Aviv University

DOCUSOPHIA: DOCUMENTARY FILM AND PHILOSOPHY

The Steve Tisch School
of Film and Television,
Tel Aviv University

MAY 22-24, 2018

ALL SESSIONS TAKE PLACE IN
MEXICO BUILDING, ROOM 206A

1st Day // Tuesday, May 22nd

9:30-11:00 **Registration**

11:00-11:30 **Welcoming Notes and Greetings**

Raz Yosef, Head of the Steve Tisch School of Film and Television

Tzvika Serper, Dean of the Faculty of the Arts

Ohad Landesman, Shai Biderman and Shmulik Duvdevani, Conference Organizers

11:30-13:00 **KEYNOTE LECTURE**

Linda Williams, Professor Emerita in Film & Media and Rhetoric, UC Berkeley

Neither a Fly on the Wall, Nor a Fly in the Soup: Intentionality and Embodiment in Documentary Film

13:00-14:30 Lunch

14:30-16:00 **The Notion of Truth in Documentary**

Chair: **Boaz Hagin**

Ido Lewit (Yale University)

"We ought to be grateful that the universe out there knows no smile": Truth and Documentation in the Work of Werner Herzog

Ron Rothschild (University of Potsdam)

Propaganda of Facts

Igal Bursztyn (Tel Aviv University)

Documentary's True Truths

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

16:30-18:00 **What is Documentary Now?**

Afterthoughts

Chair: **Dan Geva**

Mădălina-Ștefana Scîrlat (University of Bucharest)

Making a Case: Documentary as Argumentative Rhetoric

Mario Sluga (Ghent University)

Early Cinema as a Test-Case for Intentionalist Definitions of Documentary: Historicizing Asserted Veridical Representation in Train and Trick Films

Orna Raviv (Shenkar College/Haifa University)

Documentary Identification: Between Longitudinal and Lateral Consciousness

19:30-21:00 **EVENT: BOOK LAUNCH**

"Toward a Philosophy of the Documentarian: A Prolegomenon"

Speaker: **Dan Geva** (Haifa University & Beit Berl College)

Respondents: **Shai Biderman** (Tel Aviv University & Beit Berl College), **David LaRocca** (Binghamton University)

2nd Day // Wednesday, May 23rd

9:30-11:00 **Rethinking the Dynamics of**

Documentary Practice

Chair: **Shai Biderman**

Nadica Denic (University of Amsterdam)

The Visible Self on Screen: Exploring the Affordances of Filmic Self-Perception

Adva Balsam (Tel Aviv University)

The Director-Protagonist-Film Relationship: An Exploration through the Lens of the Psychoanalytic Notion of the Third

Yair Lev (Independent Filmmaker)

You Only Die Twice

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-13:00 **Indexicality and Ontology of Sound and Image**

Chair: **Ido Lewit**

Keren Yehezkel (Tel Aviv University)

The Trace of My Being is Out There

Yotam Shibolet (Utrecht University)

Animated Archives: Authenticity and Indexicality in Contemporary Documentaries

David LaRocca (Binghamton University)

From Lectiocentrism to Gramophonology: Translating Sound as a Cinematic Genre

13:00-14:15 Lunch

14:15-15:45 **The Look of Violence - Documentary Gaze and Ethics**

Chair: **Anat Dan**

Nimrod Matan (Beit Berl College)

Realism, Documentation and Factuality in Cinema after Wittgenstein

Sasha Dilan Krugman (Columbia University)

The Anthropology of Violence: The Mitigation of Violence in Documentary Films

Joseph G. Kickasola (Baylor University)

When Empathy Falters: Incredulity and Corporeal Ethical Tension in Joshua Oppenheimer's The Act of Killing

15:45-16:00 Coffee Break

16:00-17:30 **Docu-Accountability and Political Representations**

Chair: **Shmulik Duvdevani**

Natalija Arlauskaitė (Vilnius University)

Narrating Refugees, Excavating Media: Politics of Visual Ruptures in Flotel Europa and Havarie

Daniel Mann (Goldsmiths, University of London)

Face-Off: Between Representation and Operation

Anat Dan (Tel Aviv University)

Artistic Workshops for Asylum Seekers: The Productive Failures of Israeli Political Documentaries

19:15-21:00 **EVENT: DOCAVIV SCREENING**

Titicut Follies (Frederick Wiseman, USA, 1967).

The Tel Aviv Cinematheque

3rd Day // Thursday, May 24th

9:30-11:00 **New Theses on Documentary and Epistemology**

Chair: **Ohad Landesman**

Maria DiBattista (Princeton University)

A Faker's Creed: The Art and Ethics of Creative Lying

Nanna Rebekka (University of Copenhagen)

Observational Documentary and the Crisis of Truth

Johannes Bennke (Bauhaus-University Weimar)

Obliterations in El Mar La Mar

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-13:00 **Narrativizing and Fictionalizing Reality**

Chair: **Dan Chyutin**

Stefan W. Schmidt (University of Wuppertal)

Narrated Reality — Fiction and Documentary in Andrei Tarkovsky's The Mirror

Yuxing Zhang (Yolanda) (Columbia University)

On Data Bodies and Bodies of Data: Mapping Competing Visions Embodied in Surveillance Footage

Vladimir Alexander Smith-Mesa (UCL)

Una Confusión Cotidiana: A Fictional Moving Image as a Documentary

13:00-14:15 Lunch

14:15-15:45 **KEYNOTE LECTURE**

Thomas E. Wartenberg, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, Mount Holyoke College

Reenacting Torture: The Act of Killing, Empathy, and Evil

17:00-19:30 **EVENT: DOCAVIV SCREENING**

Mrs. Fang (Bing Wang, China, 2017)

The Tel Aviv Cinematheque

Followed by a discussion with **Idit Alphandary, Ohad Landesman and Shmulik Duvdevani**

Conference Organizers: **Shai Biderman, Shmulik Duvdevani & Ohad Landesman** Conference Producer: **Tal Avidan** Conference Coordinator: **Jenny Barak**