Ewa Drygalska

## BLACK POPULAR POWER: AMERICAN BLAXPLOITATION WAVE CINEMA

Dissertation abstract in English:

My doctoral research is concerned with movie culture related to Blaxploitation, its production, distribution, reception, advertisement, criticism, institutional reception, and selected cultural aspects. Blaxploitation defined here as black-oriented and black-casted movies created between 1970 and 1979, which amounts to approximately 130 films produced by both large as well as independent studios, within exploitation and action cinema, characterized by their small budgets, low production quality, usually R- and X-rated. During its cultural height 1971-1976 Blaxploitation was largely popular and high grossing. It is worth noting that this film phenomenon has emerged simultaneously from both independents and big studios. In terms of the geographic location, my research focuses on the metropolitan area of Los Angeles. In the context of black movies boom I try to understand and analyze Los Angeles movie-going culture and its relations with the city's cultural and racial dynamic, landscape and topography. Going through various type of data mainly: Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, statistics, censuses, demography reports as well as oral history, my aim is to understand a complex relations between Los Angeles and its African American citizens/moviegoers.

Impoblea Elia