

## COMMEMORATION AND THE MYTH OF THE WARSAW UPRISING IN POLISH POLISH FEATURE CINEMA

The aim of my doctoral thesis is to understand how the commemoration of a historical event and the myth produced on its basis affect the cultural and social reality and the preservation of certain patterns of remembrance - based largely on mythologized images of history, which cinema also co-creates. The Warsaw Uprising and the history of memory about it can show how the source event gains the status of a myth in society. In this context, several important questions arise: what was the process of creating the myth of the Warsaw Uprising? What are its most important elements? What makes it still so vital? How does Polish cinema shape the image of the uprising, and what follows - the cinematic face of this myth? In the answers to these questions, I use Polish feature films, both classic masterpieces like Andrzej Wajda's 'Canal' and contemporary films such as 'City 44' by Jan Komasa. Collective analysis of the representation and images of the Warsaw Uprising in Polish cinema can help understand the nature of the intense presence of this event in the social imagination.

In my doctoral dissertation on the commemoration and myth of the Warsaw Uprising, I use the idea taken from Marcin Napiórkowski's book 'The Rise of the Dead', a category of nostalgic memory. This is a memory based not on facts, but on ideas about facts, not on data, but on aesthetic images. I examine the traces and symptoms of the nostalgic memory of the Warsaw Uprising in the Polish feature cinema to understand the phenomenon of modern representation of this event in Polish culture. I am also thinking about the possible benefits and social costs of nostalgic memory.

The Warsaw Uprising is an image of social dreams about a great homeland. A paradoxical picture, because it has its source in one of the greatest Polish historical tragedies. The Warsaw Uprising also became a mythical story based on national myths and universal myths. Today, after almost three decades of democratic freedom, the longest period of Polish independence for over two centuries, it is worth to lean on the myth of the Warsaw Uprising and insurrection myth in general, because it still constructs the Polish socio-political reality.

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