

BAFTSS French and Francophone Cinema Special Interest Group Report on Activities 2016- 2018

The FFSIG delivered its first panel at the BAFTSS conference 2017. Its flagship journal, *Studies in French Cinema*, has since the FFSIG's inception produced eight issues, several of them being special issues: two on the French New Wave (ed. Doug Morrey), contemporary comedies (Harrod and Powrie), documentary (Erika Thomas), with a special issue on terrorism about to be published (Maria Flood and Florence Martin). Members have disseminated their research in the following ways:

Books

- Gemma Blackwood and Andrew McGregor (eds), *Motion Pictures: Travel Ideals in Film* (Peter Lang, 2016).
- Kate Ince, *The Body and the Screen: Female Subjectivities in Contemporary Women's Cinema* (Bloomsbury, 2017).
- Barry Nevin, *Cracking Gilles Deleuze's Crystal: Narrative Space-time in the Films of Jean Renoir* (Edinburgh UP, 2018).
- Phil Powrie, *Music in Contemporary French Cinema: The Crystal-Song* (Palgrave Macmillan 2017), and lecture-toured it internationally (Brussels, Salzburg, Lyon, Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide). He also co-edited *Bicultural Literature and Film in French and English* (Routledge, 2017), and fourteen previously published book chapters were published in Chinese (2017).
- Ginette Vincendeau and Alastair Phillips, *Paris in the Cinema: Beyond the Flâneur* (BFI, 2017), with a related panel event at BFI Southbank in early 2018. Mary Harrod had a chapter on rom-coms in this collection, and also took part in the event. All three also took part in a screening event and discussion at the Institut Français to mark the publication of the second edition of *The French Cinema Book* (eds Michael Temple, Mike Witt).

Articles and chapters

- Sarah Cooper on *Two Days, One Night, Immanent Frames* (SUNY 2018).
- Annabel Doherty on marriage and adultery in heritage films, *Adaptation* 2018.
- Sue Harris co-edited a special issue of *Contemporary French Civilization* 2016.
- Kate Ince on *Bamako* and *Timbuktu*, *Paragraph* 2018.
- Nikolaj Lübecker on *La Vallée close*, *French Ecocriticism* (Peter Lang 2017); Bruno Dumont, *Studies in French Cinema* 2018.
- Barry Nevin on Jacques Feyder, *Film History*, and on Renoir, *French Cultural Studies* and *Studies in French Cinema*, all in 2018.
- Phil Powrie on Varda, *Agnès Varda unlimited* (Legenda 2016); the operetta films of Pills and Tabet, *Historical Journal of Film Radio and Television* 2017; the opera film, *Open Screens* 2018; ageing stars in *La figure du loser dans le film et la littérature d'expression française* (Presses universitaires de Limoges, 2018).
- Alison Smith on 'The Multilingual New Wave', *The Multilingual Screen* (Bloomsbury 2016).
- Dominic Topp on Godard, *Significação: Revista de Cultura Audiovisual* 2018.

- Ginette Vincendeau on a Franco-Portuguese comedy, *Global Portuguese Cinema: Industry, History and Culture* (I.B. Tauris 2017); cross-border stars, *The Routledge Companion to World Cinema* (2018).

Conferences

- Sarah Cooper, 'French Film and the Mental Image' (keynote, French Studies 2017), and on Jean Rouch (SCMS 2017).
- Annabel Doherty on Pagnol adaptations (Australian Society for French Studies 2017).
- Mary Harrod on Canal + at the French Media Research Group Conference, Newcastle University (2017).
- Barry Nevin on Feyder at the Irish Association for French Studies (2017, 2018).
- Phil Powrie on the crystal-song (Brussels 2016, French Studies 2016, Salzburg 2018), Carmen adaptations (Bordeaux 2016), ageing stars (keynote, Texas Tech University 2017), Danielle Darrieux (Bordeaux 2017), music in political conspiracy thrillers (BAFTSS 2017), early films by Abel Gance (Lyon 2018), on operetta films (BAFTSS 2018).
- Phil Powrie and Ginette Vincendeau gave invited papers at the Richard Dyer conference in Bordeaux 2018.
- Ginette Vincendeau gave invited talks at the University of Southampton (on the French banlieue) in November 2017, at the University of Amsterdam (on Bardot) in January 2018, at King's College London (on Women filmmakers and May 68) in May 2018, the University of Lausanne on French stars (May 2017 and October 2018) and at the University of Warwick (October 2018) on contemporary French comedy.

Public events

- Maria Flood was on a panel to speak about *La Bataille d'Alger* and the French-Algerian War at the Midlands Arts Centre (2018).
- Ginette Vincendeau gave an invited talk on Jean Gabin at the Musée de la Résistance in Paris in October 2017 and was filmed for a documentary on Air France and the cinema in November 2018. She continued writing features and film reviews of French films for *Sight and Sound* and introducing French films at the BFI, including taking part in the Varda event in June 2018, as well as at other film venues. She also wrote or was filmed for essays for DVDs on French films, including *L'Amour d'une femme* (Arrow), the Jacques Becker collection (StudioCanal), *La Vérité* and *La Poison* (Criterion), Sacha Guitry (Arrow), Clouzot's *Inferno* (Arrow), *Mollenard* (Gaumont).
- *Paris 1900* (Nicole Vedrès, 1948) was screened at the Ciné Lumière as part of the 2018 Essay Film Festival. It was introduced by Bernard Eisenschitz, and followed by a conversation between Eisenschitz and Mike Witt.
- Several members have given lectures to schools on a regular basis (Harrod, Harris, Powrie, Vincendeau).

Phil Powrie
12/01/2019