

## **BAFTSS SIG Funding Report**

### **Psychoanalysis, Nationalism and Ideology Conference**

**Sopot/University of Gdansk, Poland. 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

The conference was a joint venture between the BAFTSS Psychoanalysis and Film SIG, the Psychoanalysis in Our Time research network, the Nordic Summer University and the University of Gdansk. It was attended by artists, academics and psychoanalysts from 15 different countries (including the UK and Poland, Turkey, Zimbabwe, India, South Korea and Argentina), who explored a range of topics addressing the conference theme of “Psychoanalysis, Ideology and Nationalism”. The first day featured papers on the critique of contemporary capitalism, narcissism and neoliberalism in cinema and new media, before Prof. Alenka Zupančič’s keynote presentation, “Love Your Neighbour as Yourself?!” which addressed the Bible’s “greatest commandment” and the problems it poses to conservative Christian ideologies. This was followed by a screening of Dr Agnieszka Piotrowska’s new film, *Repented*, and a Q&A session led by Prof. Thomas Elsaesser. The day closed with the launch of Prof. Elsaesser’s new book in Polish, *Kino – maszyna myślenia. Refleksje nad kinem eopki cyfrowej* (*Cinema – Thinking Machine: Reflections on Cinema of the Digital Era*. Gdansk University Press, 2018). The second day began with Prof. Elsaesser’s keynote presentation, “The Ideologies and Ethics of Proximity: Neighbours, Guests and Strangers”, which explored the idea of Europe as thought-experiment through the cinema of the Dardenne brothers. The day continued with papers on intersectionality, transference and protest in film, and examinations of the contemporary political landscape in Poland. The third day concluded the conference with a rich selection of papers on Turkish identity, screen satire, and rethinking Orientalism, colonialism and world cinema through Lacanian psychoanalysis.