

Emerging Trends of Cinema Critics: Historical Background

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Abstract

Cinema criticism has evolved significantly alongside the development of film as an artistic, cultural, and technological medium. From the early decades of cinema, critics primarily focused on narrative, acting, direction, cinematography, and the entertainment value of films. As cinema gained recognition as an important form of artistic expression, criticism gradually developed into a more systematic field of cultural and intellectual analysis. This study examines the historical background and emerging trends of cinema criticism, tracing its development from traditional newspaper and magazine reviews to contemporary digital and interdisciplinary approaches. Early film criticism was largely descriptive and evaluative, whereas later approaches incorporated theories related to aesthetics, authorship, genre, ideology, psychoanalysis, feminism, social class, race, and cultural representation. The emergence of television, film journals, academic film studies, and international cinema further expanded the scope of critical discourse. In the digital era, online publications, blogs, social media platforms, podcasts, video essays, and audience-review websites have transformed the production and circulation of film criticism. Contemporary critics increasingly examine issues such as identity, gender representation, politics, globalization, technology, streaming platforms, and audience culture. At the same time, the rapid growth of digital criticism has created challenges concerning credibility, commercialization, short-form reviewing, and the distinction between professional criticism and audience opinion. Understanding these historical developments provides insight into how cinema criticism has adapted to changing technologies, social contexts, and viewing practices while continuing to shape public understanding and interpretation of films.

Keywords: Cinema criticism, film studies, historical background, film theory, film reviews, digital media, cultural studies, film analysis, emerging trends, cinema.