

Reviews and feedbacks on the movies: Melissa Marquez, a 10th grade Esabac in class 2

The Italian Comedy treats a lot of rich topics, striking topics such as love, death, elderly, youth, family, the unknown, self achievement, ambition, social codes; and tough themes like poverty, unemployment, prisons, unfaith marriage. It sometimes also deals with subjects that are still taboo today in society: incest, murder, prostitution, immigration, and conjugal beating in movies. (Themes that are presented in “ Rocco e i suoi fratelli “, “ Brutti sporchi e cattivi “, “ I soliti ignoti “, “ Divorzio all'italiana “, “ Matrimonio all'italiana “, “ Sedotta e abbandonata “, “ I Mostri “, “ Se permette parliamo di donne “)

According to me the omnipresent drama for which we can qualify of tragedy creates the Aristotle's catharsis phenomenon. It is a purification of passion that rises up the heart, pushes up a self-consciousness and cleans emotions and souls of the public. Indeed, as a spectator, we identify ourselves to the characters and we put ourselves into their shoes. We ask to ourselves dilemmas as their were ours and this what in my perspective makes the Italian Comedy accessible to all.

The Italian Comedy is influenced by the “Commedia dell'arte” for the characters are sometimes ridiculous and cartoonists, yet alive (like the poor, the clever, the liar, the coward, the womanizer, and the con). Also the irony and the humor of the sketches hooks the spectators and makes him giggle. Italian directors succeed greatly in combining contradicting factors such as irony, humor and drama in order to give birth to an entertaining piece of art that will be enjoyed by those who went through tough times after the war. Movies that most sparked me were: « Divorzio all'italiana », « Matrimonio all'italiana » et « Rocco e I suoi fratelli ».

Mashup:

My mashup deals with love in the Italian Comedy. Once the movie's extracts are downloaded, I had to list up the extracts one by one so I could have images that are related with my theme. Extracts that show love were easy to find because Italian cinema is in general full of romanticism and erotism. Andrea and I decided to divide my mashup into 4 parts: seduction, passion, subordination, and hate. We willed to tell a chronologic story that has a beginning, and development and an ending.

Seduction by first sight, the discovery of the other and envy of passion by sexual desire such as kissing, making love, and wooing.

Subordination where lovers are one in marriage and no individual in the self by taking care of the other, by living their daily habits with fail weddings images and of women that brings coffee to their husbands. Frankly, I think we have failed this part because I am not certain that this is obvious to link between subordination and love for the reader. I should have had another title that would have fitted better. Indeed, according to Andrea and I, it sometimes happens in love where lovers are just “subordinates” who have the duty to take care of each others because of the love that they found and which loses them.

Hate should be exhibit in our video. In order to feel hate for someone, it has to be love first. We ended up by hate in our video for we had to finish it by a factor that shocks the spectators and give it a good ending.

Technical problem were related to the harmony of the images. I didn't want to disturb the spectators by throwing to their faces colorful images, sometimes shocking from "Brutti Sporchi e cattivi" and after that carrying on with black and white images of "Divorzio all'italiana". I simply cut the extracts' sounds from time to time and kept impactful quotes to highlight the fours parts that I talked about.

I tried to bound all the extracts together first by a soft soundtrack that keeps by a progressive rise of the sound so those sounds follow my story of seduction then of hate by using the melody of "Divorzio all'italiana" orchestred by Carlo Rustichelli. In the end I perfected the whole by using "Matrimonio all'italiano" which is called "O Cielo Ce Manna Sti Cose" by Armando Trovaiolo and interpreted by Fred Bongusto. The choice of this melody has been made because I love this song. The singer's accent and the Italian romanticism that evaporates from it makes it definitely worth putting in it.

Also, I am glad that the final work looked good to watch because I spend 12 cumulated hours of work and a lot of ideas to edited and make it. Moreover, I learned a lot and it boosted my creativity.

Andrea Ionna, a 10th grade Esabac in class 2

We studied the Italian Comedy for one entire year. This kind of cinema was born between the 1950's and the 1960's; and is usually based on dramatic and stressful situations. The Italian reality from the after war have beneficed from humanistic reading mostly ironic. The movies that I appreciated the most are:

Rocco e i suoi fratelli, *Matrimonio all'italiana* and *Brutti, sporchi e cattivi* : *o Rocco e i suoi fratelli* is a movie in which I liked the truth and the way the emotions such as loyalty, treason, jealousy, disappointment, duty and honor, forgiveness, and the importance of our roots were put in scene.

Brutti, Sporchi e Cattivi is on the other hand a movie that I found very hard to watch. The very realistic way that the director decided to tell his story in Roman slums in the 70's is harsh. His decision in criticizing society, the failing relationships between the members of the family and the way characters are referred to trash is strange, perhaps shocking too. The director shows us another Italy in which the kind ones are not the poor but quite contrary because misery gives the worst to people.

Matrimonio all'italiana is a movie that I liked the most. This former prostitute, Filumena, has a very specific way to get to dominate her husband whereas at the beginning it was her who was dominated. This character evolution is impressive. She gains little by little dignity as a woman and fight to gather her family. In the end she succeeds.