THE FILM CORNER CONFERENCE

General statement

In the past few years the possibilities and potential for film education have radically changed. In the digital era film education needs to be considered as part of a wider project – that of audience development. Within this context film education can be seen as a set of practices aimed at raising people's awareness of film as a cultural practice, increasing people's ability to understand film as an art form and attracting people to a wider range of films, particularly those from Europe which can often be more challenging and offer different types of pleasures compared to blockbusters and more mainstream films thus widening the accessibility to film as a cultural form and making film a common and shared experience among EU citizens.

This European dimension has given film education the possibility of becoming a priority on the agendas of European governments. The financing schemes and the research and surveys being promoted by the European Union are giving European film education workers a common framework to share and a common background of ideas and best practices to develop.

In recent years film education has expanded as a subject of research: several universities Europe-wide have developed investigative studies into the hows and whys of film education. It is crucial to create a series of approaches and common frameworks for research around film education; a framework that includes all the various aspects of the field of study; a film-specific and theoretical approach; a social approach that binds film education into the cultural field of media and cultural studies, in which film has increasingly become a major part; a means for audience development to act positively in the development of an audience based film culture.

The aim of The Film Corner is - of course - to explore the intersection between film education, audience development and information and communication technologies and web 2.0. At this international conference we will introduce our work which we hope will become part of best practice within the film education community but also to take a snapshot of the state of film education in the context of a completely transformed technical, social and cultural context.

www.thefilmcorner.eu