

“Walking or Weeping” (video essay)

Abstract:

Ten years before John Berger’s *Way of Seeing* and Laura Mulvey’s essay “Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema”, Agnès Varda made *Cléo from 5 to 7* (1962), a film which responds to many of the ideas expressed by both Berger and Mulvey, while at the same time anticipating the call for a new kind of spectator.

We compare and contrast Varda’s film with Orson Welles’ *F for Fake* (1973), which unlike *Cléo*, plays to an ideal male spectator and where the woman –played by Oja Kodar- is used as an element of spectacle.

Bibliography/videography:

Ways of Seeing (John Berger, 1972)

Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema (Laura Mulvey, 1973)

Cleo from 5 to 7 (Agnès Varda, 1962)

F for Fake (Orson Welles, 1973)

Creator Bio:

Libertad Gills is a filmmaker, critic and teacher, based in Guayaquil, Ecuador. Her studies include a B.A. in Film Studies from Wesleyan University, M.A. in Visual Anthropology from FLACSO-Ecuador, and she is currently working towards her Ph.D. in Art, Literature, and Cultural Studies from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. She has made several films and her writings on film have been published in *Desistfilm*, *Short Film Studies*, *Senses of Cinema*, *La Furia Humana* and *Fuera de Campo*. This video essay was created for her class on Analysis and Aesthetics at the Universidad de las Artes and is available in both English and Spanish.

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