Inner and Outer Reality in Film Storytelling: Wandering Between Vertexes of Human Reality Foundations

Carlos Figueiredo[1] , Inês Coimbra[2]

(1) Faculty of Architecture / CIAUD, University of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal

cfig@fa.ulisboa.pt

(2) Faculty of Architecture, University of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal,
ines_farmhouse@hotmail.com

Abstract

We do have memories, concepts, identity and experiences, building a self-inner world that gives us the notion of reality about ourselves and the world we live in. Each of us have a differentiated reading of what surrounds us, of our environment, a self-consciousness that is unique, an "intuitive" sense of what is true or not, reality or fiction, before our eyes.

What are the foundation of our concepts and notions we use that allow our discernment capacity to tell apart reality from dream / illusion / hallucination? How are we aware and understand the features and concepts of different alternate worlds and their meanings?

Different films convey all range of contrasting times, concepts and realities, about our world and alternate ones, that can coexist in a same film fiction. In a film, we are immersed in the plot and telling, the characters´ inner lives, their feelings and in the fictional world they live in. But the tools we use to decide if we – and the characters – are experiencing reality, "dream time", "mind time" or a "out of this world" reality are the same as in our "real" life.

What are the foundation types where our concepts and notions are rooted? The ones that allows us to decide what is reality and what is not? This inner capacity of judgement about reality also makes alternative universes presented understandable and readable.

We consider three major families of these foundations: Dream and Mind, Scientific and Metaphysical based concepts types.