

POSUDEK OPONENTA PÍSEMNÉ KVALIFIKAČNÍ PRÁCE

Název práce: Images of Masculinity in U.S. Conservative Politics
Autor/ka práce: Michael Amico
Studijní program: Photography
Typ studijního programu: magisterský

Vymezení cíle a jeho naplnění:

A

Aktuálnost tématu (a relevance zvolené metodologie v případě diplomové práce):

A

Odborný přínos, původnost práce a její případné využití v praxi:

B

Logická stavba a členění práce:

B

Formální úprava a náležitosti práce včetně jejího rozsahu:

A

Práce s informačními zdroji:

A

Jazyková, stylistická a terminologická úroveň:

A

Celkové/vlastní shrnutí hodnotitele:

Michael Amico describes the main goal of his thesis as finding the connection between "the earliest forms of gender segregated representational artwork" and "the presidency of Donald Trump". By and large Amico is successful. Writing rather in essayistic than in dry analytical mode, he integrates the politically involved discussion of past traditions of conservatively masculine iconography with the vigorous dissection of contemporary political discourse of the United States. The discussion of the "image of the cowboy" (that for Amico represents "the quintessential model of American masculinity") fittingly illustrates to what extent "the masculine identity" is rather a nostalgic retrospect projection than an authentic continuation of some cultural tradition endangered by progressive politics.

Given the prominence ascribed by Amico to the "image of the cowboy", the more focused discussion of this motive would be welcome. Indeed, it can be easily imagined that the whole essay was written about the incarnations, reincarnations, and redefinitions of "the cowboy". When Amico briefly touches upon the rise of the "androgyny craze" in popular music (Prince, Jackson, Bowie...) in the era of Reagan's conservative politics, one would expect at least brief discussion of the fact that at the same time also the figure of the cowboy specifically entered the performance stage of the cultural battles – most predominantly through its queer incarnation in the videoclip of Village People's song YMCA.

Otázky a náměty k diskuzi při obhajobě:

Could you briefly discuss cases when some aspects of the figure of the cowboy were adopted by representatives of progressively minded circles and communities?

Doporučení práce k obhajobě: ano
Navrhovaná klasifikace: A
Datum vypracování posudku: 4. 6. 2023

Josef Ledvina

Jméno oponenta práce

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(datum a podpis)

4. 6. 2023

