

Thesis advisor evaluation by doc. Mgr. Michael Gahut,

Juan Pablo Rozo Rojas – PROBLEMATICS OF ASPECT RATIO

Abstract by Juan Pablo Rozo Rojas (JPRR)

„...The purpose of this thesis is to explore the different dimensions of aspect ratio and to demonstrate its importance of it in the process of filmmaking. By exploring its history and how it has changed until the present, this text intends to give cinematographers as well as filmmakers, an understanding of the factors that are involved in this attribute of film and how it has been approached. Each aspect ratio has its own characteristic, advantages and limitations that, depending on the intention of the filmmaker and the cinematographer, could enhance the storytelling. By producing a particular visual identity for the film, the use of aspect ratio could also produce a better experience for the audience.

For this respect, his work fulfills the purpose of Master's thesis. JPRR is exploring aspect ratio (AR) in 5 chapters.

#### 1. The Evolution of AR

Examining its history his text gives us good understanding of the factors involved in technological as well as in aesthetic evolution of AR. The work covers the very beginning of motion picture era (starting with Thomas Alva Edison) up to today. It's demonstrating very well importance of cinematography technology and its history.

#### 2. Technological and aesthetics characteristic of the aspect ratio

This chapter is a little chaotic – Too much unimportant information is given (arrangement of scenes, examples of recommended and not recommended arrangements, compositions) like list of rules by Fox, or MGM. Use of multi panel screens etc. I consider this chapter as weakest from thesis. There is very little about the aesthetic from JPRR's point of view. On the other hand there is very well explained functions and importance of frameleader test.

### 3. Perception of the public towards widescreens projections

Easy to understand chapter, emphasizing most important elements participating on „immersion“ of viewers to scene peripheral vision, needs of different adjustments of cinemas (layout), stereophonic audio system.

### 4. Television and Aspect ratio

JPRR is very well explaining the history, the origin of current HDTV-Wide AR (1:1.77 – 16:9). He explores limitation of immersion effect of the viewer watching wide AR at home. (Size of the screen, distance of the viewer). He also is explaining very well possibilities of variation of AR being broadcast and watched on TV sets. (letter boxing, Cropping, resolution decrease).

### 5. Present and nearly future

JPRR is analysing possibilities of high resolution cameras (8K,4K) and how it will influence filmmaking together with UHD screens. He also explores possibilities of recording image allowing, the use of Anamorphic lenses. The use of anamorphic lenses on HD (8K, 4K) digital cameras without compromising the quality of the image.

### Conclusion

This is valuable part of JPRR's thesis. He is asking himself questions about current + future solutions and he is answering them. He understands very well the differences of screened images in cinema, stating that this experience is not reproducible at home... yet...! He is asking himself if we are going to have a new period of wider aspect ratio in the digital era... and he adds...that film + TV industries +manufactures should not ignore the importance of supporting the ideas of the story.

I recommend the thesis for defence. My evaluation of Juan Pablo Roza Rojas Master's thesis is between an A and a B

