Prof. MgA. Jaromír Šofr

The Evaluation of Thesis by Loureanco Sassetti Correa:

„The Effects of Widescreen on the Aesthetic of the Film Image“

The topic represents undoubtedly big challenge from the cinematographer's and of course film director's point of view – influencing attitude and their working method. While any statement concerning emotional impact of the wide screen film image contains a kind of ambiguity, some values of it nobody can deny. Wide viewing angle makes the moving image more impressive.

The compositional tools first of all concerning the image linearity as dominant lines, if present, can be employed more effectively in comparison with classic academy film format. The validity of psychological impact of different shapes of curved lines within the image can be confirmed. The presence of many actors within the image at the same time, if employed creatively by the specific director's method of story-telling, can bring a significant advantage. More over, by my opinion, no one film format enables to represent the feeling of emptiness more impressively like just wide screen. My personal experience with wide film image alows me to state, that image linearity components can be employed more freely and playfully. The author of the thesis is tracking the historical development of film director's approach towards that enriched medium by many suitable examples not avoiding omnipresent restrictions of its use when the system has been introduced. I can't complain when I shot my first long feature movie by cinemascope („Long live Republic“- 1964) on some problems, but just only disadvantage made my work difficult: close-ups needed always to use proxar lens – to prevent unavoidable distortions of actor's faces. Nothing exceptional among experience of other colleagues – we all suffered due to changes of anamorphic values deending on focus setting.

I consider the thesis written by Lourenco Sassetti Correa a valuable contribution to the theory of widescreen film image and I suggest evaluate it by the classification

Grade A