

Film and TV School of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague
Department of Photography

Assessment of the Master's Thesis

Author of thesis: Lin Jun-ye

Title of thesis: Atrocity images and the Audience

Assessment of the primary advisor

Assessment of the opponent

Author of the assessment (first name, last name, workplace): Václav, Janoščík,
FAMU

Evaluation of the content and final form of the thesis (A/excellent – B/very good –
C/good – D/good with objections – E/satisfactory – F/unsatisfactory – not
recommended for defence)

Suitability of the selected objective and work approach.....B
Relative completeness of the literature used for the selected topic.....B
Ability to critically evaluate and use professional literature.....C
Logicality of the thesis structure, connection of its chapters.....C
Language and stylistic level of the thesis.....E
Compliance with citation norms (should the text repeatedly contain adopted passages
without citing the source, the work cannot be recommended for defence).....D
Sufficient extent of image attachments, justifiability and suitability of attachments,
graphic layout.....D
Originality of the thesis, contribution to the development of the field of study.....C
Overall evaluation of the thesis.....D

Verbal evaluation of the thesis including questions that the diplomate must address in
his/her thesis defence:

Theoretical thesis of Lin Jun-ye concerns highly complex and topical problem of
photography of suffering or atrocities. She discusses in depth perspective of Susan
Sontag on the subject matter and then confronts it with views of Judith Butler Ariella
Azoulay and few examples. As such the diploma project presents ambitious
theoretical work with a lot of background research.

Biggest problem of the whole text is unluckily enough its formal and grammatical
aspect. Names mis-spelled, page numbers missing, simple sentences with wrong
syntax overall formal level of the work is poor. Grammatical and stylistic problems
seriously endanger clarity, flow and even intelligibility of the text.

Nonetheless I must acknowledge not only the immense complexity of the subject
matter but also the ability of Lin Jun-ye to formulate several different position and
meaningful questions. She is able to draw significant conclusions from her reading of
the three theorists of photography; also setting the question in introduction can be

considered as very interesting and relevant and I found even the narrative drive of the very first and last lines of the text as highly inspiring.

Therefore I recommend the thesis to be defended with overall evaluation D; mainly in respect to the fatal grammatical flaws of the text, without such lapses my grading would be significantly higher.

Questions for the thesis defense:

1. Please clarify the crucial distinction you make between the two accounts of atrocity images by Susan Sontags one in *On photography* the other in *Regarding the pain of others*?

2. Based on your research is there a development of popular perception of atrocity images (as for instance Sontag argues), if yes in which way or aspect?

Date:

Signature:.....