

SOA 4/2013: Film in Southeast Asia

The focus of this issue is on films *from* and *about* Southeast Asia. In particular, we are interested in the relation between society and film. We are looking for articles on the role of film in the political, social and cultural development of Southeast Asian countries and on the contemporary film industry and film scene in the region. We are hoping to offer an overview and a comparative analysis of developments in all the relevant countries of the region. In addition to these main points of interest, we are also interested in contributions that discuss colonial and postcolonial views of Southeast Asia in film, and in the special genre of the "Vietnam war film." We hope that this issue can thereby offer a first introduction and overview of the Southeast Asian film to a German audience.

1. What role does film play in the political, social and cultural development of Southeast Asia? How has the relation between society and film developed? What role did film play in the major conflicts of the 20th Century: colonial subjugation, national liberation and the long wars of the block confrontation? How did elites use film to ensure their hegemony? What counter-hegemonic films developed. How did arguments between 'political' films and 'art for its own sake' emerge? How did economic growth and social transformation influence the themes that were taken up in films? How are gender relations reproduced or challenged? Which films influenced whole generations? What soaps are popular and what role models do they portray?
2. How did the film industry develop in Southeast Asia? Who produces films in the region? Which companies dominate the industry? How did the film industry develop from its beginnings until today? How did governments regulate and censor films? Is there an independent film scene?
3. Colonial and Post-Colonial views of Southeast Asia
Films such as "The King and I," "The Lover" or "Bangkok Dangerous," exhibit different western views of Southeast Asia. How have these changed? And what does a post-colonial critique say about these films?
4. The War in Film
The 'Vietnam War' has become a hollywood film genre in its own right. What images and stereotypes do these films portray? Are they examined critically by other films? And how do films in Vietnam and Southeast Asia deal with the war?
5. Contemporary Films from Southeast Asia
Many Southeast Asian countries have produced an exciting film scene of their own. What are their main dynamics? What directors and producers are relevant. What global and local influences play a role? Do films in Southeast Asia discuss 'sensitive' topics such as homosexuality, religion, or traumas of the past and what response does this generate?
6. Film Reviews
We are interested in short reviews of important films. If you have a suggestion for a film or if you would like to review a film from our list, please contact the editorial team.

Articles should be either one (4,500 characters, 700 words), two (9,000 characters, 1,400 words) or three pages (13,500 characters, 2,100 words) long. Film reviews should be shorter, between 200-400 words. Photographs are very welcome.

Please submit by 15. September, 2013

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