

A film Festival on freedom

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Freedom at what cost

Freedom at what cost will be an exhibition on the concept of freedom and how much we are entitled. It will be looking at this topic through the film world and intends on using five examples of films in the exhibition. The theme of freedom has been explored heavily in films in many different ways from the content of the film itself to deeper hidden meanings or sometimes the questions of freedom are in the creation of the film rather than the film itself.

Freedom as a topic is a very broad one that encompasses many different beliefs and ideas, with some believing freedom itself is relative to your situation. "Freedom in general may be defined as the absence of obstacles to the realization of desires." - Bertrand Russell (1870-1972) As such The exhibit will not be an exhibit on freedom itself but an exhibit on how people feel about the freedoms they're entitled to. Throughout history many philosophers have come to the conclusion that freedom isn't free and must instead be earned. "freedom cannot be bestowed - it must be achieved" - (Elbert Hubbard 1899). This is a widely accepted way of viewing freedom, that it is not a guaranteed thing but instead something we must work for and earn. This leads into the main question this exhibition will be trying to ask, what happens when we aren't given the freedoms we believe we deserve and at what cost are we willing to pay to get those freedoms. The films chosen to be in the exhibition each show a different aspect of what happens to people who aren't given the freedoms they feel they deserve. This exhibition will hopefully make people question what freedom is and how much they themselves deserve.

1 .Fight club

The first film in The exhibition will be fight club. Fight club was chosen because it has very obvious messages about freedom. The plot of fight club is centred around a man who feels as if he has no freedom, no choice in his life and no control of himself. A lack of choice is a freedom that many hold important “Between stimulus and response there is a space. In that space is our power to choose our response. In our response lies our growth and our freedom”- Viktor E. Frankl (1946) . Throughout the film we meet more men like him characters who are also feeling trapped and end up creating their own freedom “Fight club”. This is a good example of how many modern day people view

they're freedoms. It also touches on the idea blaming others for the characters lack of freedom which is an important idea in taking your own freedoms at the cost of others. Fight club gives an honest view of what people can become capable of when they truly believe they're freedoms are at risk.



2. Apocalypse now

Apocalypse now is a film that looks directly at the topic of freedom and what it can do to people. In apocalypse now there are two main characters it follows that have a lot to do with the themes of



freedom in the film. These characters are captain Willard and colonel Kurtz. These topics of freedom with these to characters is actually entirely different.

Captain Willard is a man who's being forced against his will complete a mission for his commanding officers. The film follows him and his journey through a war zone to complete his mission in hopes of getting his freedom back. This film looks at the extraordinary lengths people will go to get their freedom. This is also shown by the characters willingness to put others in danger if it helps him towards his goal. This a Good example of film asking the question can you go to far in search of freedom?

The other character this film follows that has a story relevant to the topic of freedom colonel Kurtz has a very different view of freedom. He is a man who as gotten all the freedoms he ever wanted and sacrificed much to do it. Colonel Kurtz is a good expel of a character in film who has to many freedoms. This film shows how dangerous a man with freedom to do anything can be.

“Have you ever considered any real freedoms? Freedoms from the opinion of others... even the opinions of yourself?” Apocalypse now (1979).

3. Boyz in the hood

Boyz in the hood looks is a film that looks at racism in the 90s. This is an important film to have in the exhibition because it looks a freedoms in a less literal way and instead looks and the difference in the personal freedoms people have based on who they are. In this film there are constantly themes and ideas that the characters deserve more than they've got. However any attempts to better their lives always fall short. This film does a good job of showing that freedoms despite being promised to everyone can treat people differently depending on who they are. And finally its important because it looks at the idea of limiting others freedoms simply because you do not have them yourself and the questions that this brings up.”Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves” Abraham Lincoln (1859)



4. Reservoir dogs

Reservoir dogs looks at what happens to people when their freedoms are taken away from them. During the film reservoir dogs we see a crew of jewellery thieves fail a heist and end up locked in a safe room hiding from the police. In this film we see the characters slowly change the longer they're inside. We see what these characters are truly like when they believe their freedoms are

on the line. During their time inside we see the characters panic and struggle trying to find a way to keep their freedoms. This film takes a more literal look at freedom however it has important things to say about the topic of freedom as these characters being locked in a room is a metaphor for how many feel without their freedom.



5. The interview

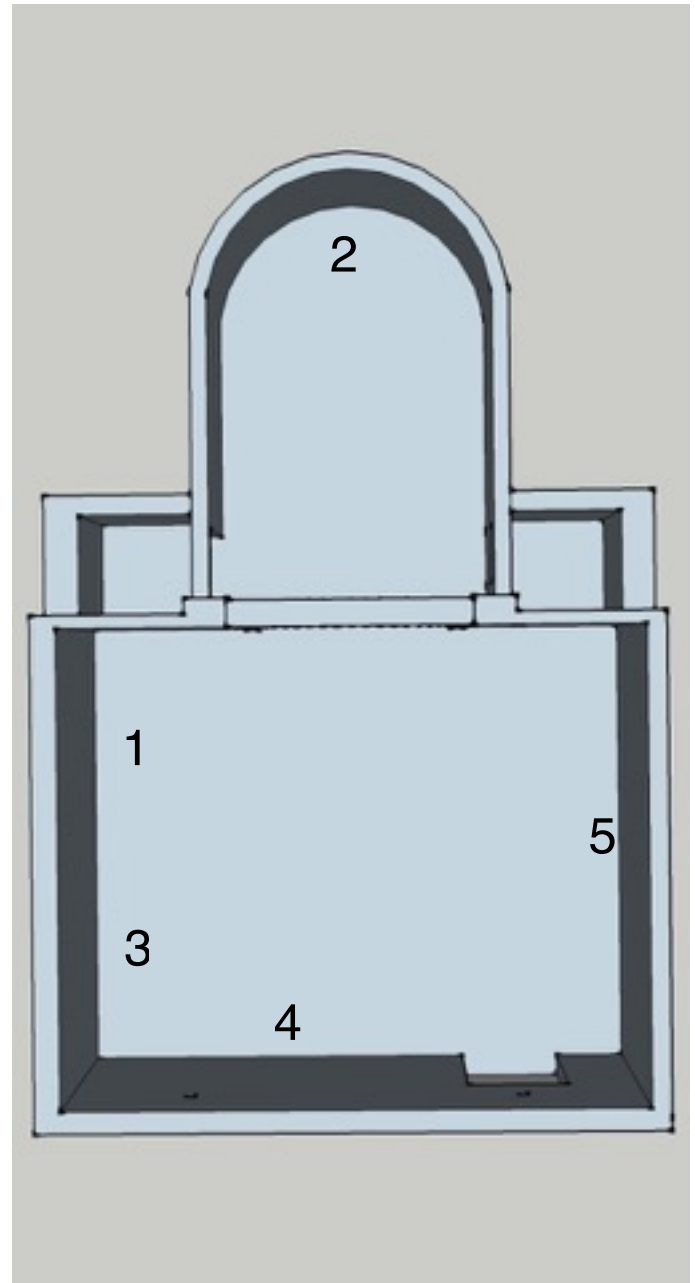
The interview is important in terms of freedom in a very different way. It is important not for its context but for it being released at all. The interview is a great example of what films can do for peoples freedoms around the world. While this film was being released it brought up an important question of freedom and in particular the freedom to do something in spite of others. This film



truly sends no grand message and has no new thinking to bring to the world. Instead it was a funny film Made to be stupid and make people laugh. the releasing of this film was a good example of freedom at the cost of others being not a negative thing but instead supports the idea that true freedom means doing what you believe with no thought to others. "If liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they do not want to hear."

— George Orwell

This is the floor plan of the area being used for the exhibition. The main Goal of the lay out will be to create an exhibition that flows and allows people to follow the narrative easily. As the exhibition is on freedom which is a large subject to cover the layout and placement of the films curated will create an understandable narrative for people to follow. Reservoir dogs will be the first piece in the exhibition as it has very obvious themes of freedom and lack there of. secondly Boyz in the hood will be shown a film that takes a less literal look at freedom which hopefully will make people think about what freedom truly is. The next film in the exhibition is fight club in my mind fight club as it asks many questions of the viewer. The penultimate film shown will be Apocalypse now this film should somewhat contradict the message the previous films send as now freedom will be viewed negatively. Finally the final piece will be The Interview it was left till last because I'm hoping that after the previous pieces the peoples view on freedom at the cost of others will be quite a negative one and i believe that the interview can punctuate the exhibition by making them question that.



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