



Poli, P. (2009) *Cinema e disabilità visive. L'esperienza filmica senza colore* [Film and visual disabilities. The filmic experience without colour] Roma: Franco Angeli. ISBN: 9788856815542

Abstract

In the history of cinema, black and white films and films in colour were used to express different meanings. Initially, colour was reserved for the fantasy or musical genre, while black and white was considered the most suitable to represent the reality of everyday life. Today, most films are in colour, while black and white is only used to evoke an historical period, to emphasise an expressive tone of the film or its time and sometimes just to allow the colour to burst onto the scene, marking out characters, memberships and tensions. Colour has already assumed an important role in the narrative film.

Yet how is this aspect conveyed in the experience of those who cannot fully perceive colours, light or contrast?

Main findings

The book answers the following questions: is it possible for a viewer who is blind or visually impaired or achromatic to share meanings in the filmic representation? Is it possible to recover some of the information that is lost or misrepresented because of disability, enriching the vision of other stimuli and transforming it into a multi-sensory perceptual experience?

Moreover, is it possible to use the tools of light and colour in order to maintain their symbolic and iconographic role, in a narrative construction that is equally significant for both sighted people and those with visual impairment?

This book was created with the intention of viewing disability as a starting point for new ideas, to new ways of understanding communication, socialisation and training. Its intention is to raise questions and elicit hitherto unexplored responses.