

1. Género, feminismos e estudos sobre as mulheres

OC - (22616) - FROM THE CARICATURE OF GENDER ROLES TO THEIR DENUNCIATION: BETWEEN HUMOUR AND UNEASE IN THE FIRST FEMINIST FILM IN HISTORY.

Coraline Refort (France)¹

1 - University of Florence/Université la Sorbonne Nouvelle

The aim of this proposal is to analyse the anticipation film "The Results of Feminism", by Alice Guy in 1906. The world's first female filmmaker, producer, and studio director, she shot several hundred films in France from 1896 to 1907, when she left for the United States, continuing her prolific career. Despite the importance of her contributions, Alice Guy has been forgotten by the public and often omitted by film historians; her works have been attributed to other artists or even to her assistants, destroyed or even lost. The study of her films shows that she had a modern vision of narrative continuity, a highly developed visual style and a satirical view of her time. However, the debates surrounding the question of film attributions have distracted us from her films, and prevent us from grasping the vision that makes her such a unique director.

"The Results of Feminism" is a fantasy film set in a future where the fight for gender equality has triumphed. In this new society, gender roles are reversed: men sew, look after the children and apply make-up, while the women go out, drink and smoke. At the end of the film, the men rebel and everything "goes back to the way it was". With this proposal, we wish to focus on the filmic analysis and on the symbolic significance of the "Results of Feminism": the humor provoked by the reversal of roles cannot hide the male violence which is clearly denounced. The male behavior depicted is violent; women systematically physically and sexually assault men. The futuristic world has simply reversed the balance of power, to actually depict the situation of women in 1906. By making men the subjects of sexual harassment and assault, Alice Guy forces the spectators to reflect themselves in this supposedly futuristic society.

Palavras-chave : Silent Cinema, Alice Guy, French Cinema, Feminist theories, Feminist historiography, Film Studies and Queer Theories