



DURGAPUR WOMEN'S COLLEGE

Affiliated to Kazi Nazarul University
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Title of the national Seminar : The Camera as a Stylus: A discourse on Auteur and Authorship in Indian Cinema
Organised by : Film Club

Date : 16.12.2023

Invited speaker/guests (mention with designation and institution name) : 1. Dr. Anindya Sengupta, assistant professor, film studies, jadavpur university
2. Suavo Mukherjee, Teaching faculty, Cinematography for EDM, SRFTI

Topic of the speech : "The director as a cinematic author". Dr. Sengupta spoke on the contribution of Satyajit Ray, Ritwik Ghatak, and Mrinal Sen on Bengali Cinema. Their role as auteur directors influencing the cinematic landscape. The role of Guru Dutt in experimental Hindi cinema. Mr. Mukherjee spoke on the practical aspects of auteur driven cinema and a history of auteurs in world cinema.

Brief Report (300-400 Words Appx):

The term 'auteur' is the French term for author and became a part of the film studies register in the 1950's after the debate on the "polemic about authors" or the *politique des auteurs*, when the French film critics associated with the film magazine *Cahiers du cinema* adopted the term to recognize the director of the film as its author. It is he who is responsible for the aesthetic quality of the film. The critics came to be known as the *Cahiers* critics and included critics like François Truffaut and Jean-Luc Godard, who argued that since the director controlled all the aspects of film making and editing, it is only he who can employ them effectively to produce the desired aesthetic effect. The final artistic result is not the script writer's but the director's visualization has already been discussed in the section on film as art. The cinema in west saw great auteurs like Alfred Hitchcock (*Psycho*), Akira Kurosawa,

Woody Allen, Steven Spielberg, etc. whose films have been recognized for their aesthetic and artistic value and stand apart from the others of their genre, as they carry the distinct signature style of their directors. The New Hollywood wave of 1970's also called the 'American New Wave' contributed to the propagation of the auteur theory as it shifted the focus from the studio system to the director.


Dr. Mahananda Kanjilal
Principal
Durgapur Women's College

The Indian Cinema has produced some great auteurs beginning with the likes of Satyajit Ray, Shyam Benegal, Sanjay Leela Bhansali, Anurag Kashyap, Ashutosh Gowaridkar. These auteurs have effectively shifted the focus of the film from the protagonist to themselves, and thus the films have started being called, for example “A Sanjay Leela Bhansali film” instead of a “Shah Rukh Khan movie. This seminar spotlighted on the auteurs of Indian cinema who contributed greatly to the Indian cinematic space.

Link to the Durgapur Women’s College Facebook Post about the event:

<https://www.facebook.com/dwcollegeofficial/posts/pfbid0mYcnX2FEYFvxWqu6Fe6n4x7b57AvhyGwTdaxV8Ya9tDovF9b8yENyRqZSWhWpH9el>


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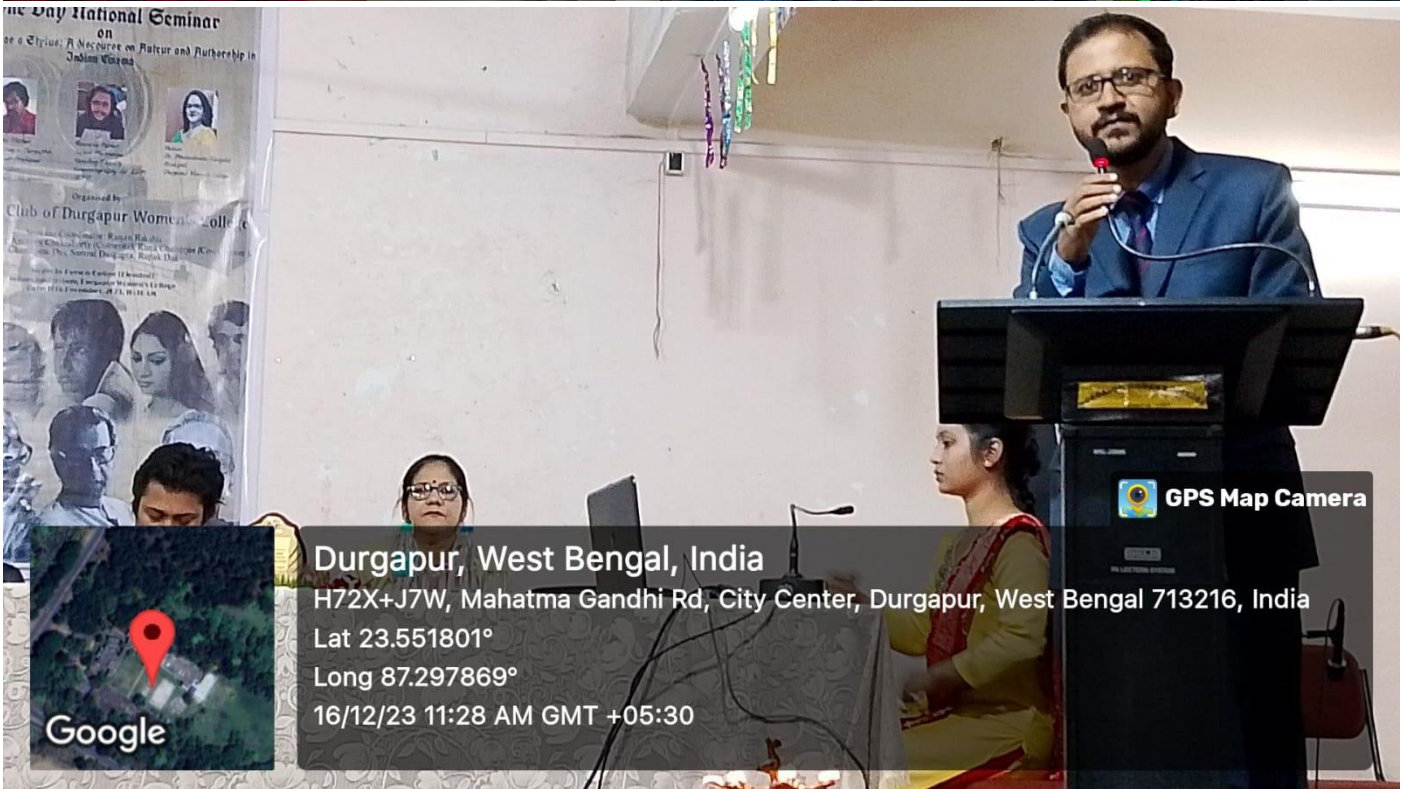

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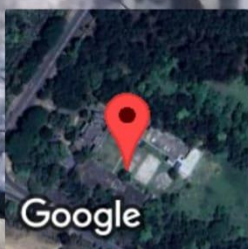
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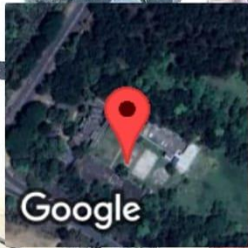
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