

Одноразовий перегляд фільму може не мати тривалого впливу на глядацькі настрої, що передбачає привід для подальшого дослідження та актуалізує нові завдання з виявлення механізмів підвищення або зниження стійкості змін. Результати цього дослідження можуть також бути використані для пошуку ефективніших способів виховання, а саме посилення контролю батьків для вдосконалення формування правильної поведінки серед молоді. Таким чином, це відкриває простір для майбутніх розвідок у сфері формування людини як особистості і можливостей зміни її світогляду.

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GENRE AND DRAMATURGIC FEATURES OF THE MODERN PEPLUM

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ЖАНРОВІ І ДРАМАТУРГІЧНІ ОСОБЛИВОСТІ СУЧАСНОГО ПЕПЛУМУ

The problem of genres in film studies is extremely relevant due to its influence on the understanding, analysis and interpretation of films. Genres determine the specificity of films, giving them a defined structural basis, aesthetic and plot frames that influence the viewer's perception. The peplum genre is one of the most spectacular and difficult to produce in the film industry, so the study of its genre and dramaturgical features will contribute to the optimization of theoretical component of the audiovisual industry and practical component as well.

A detailed analysis of modern peplums helped to determine that the peplum genre is most often combined with the following genres:

1. Epic film. It is the closest genre to the peplum because of the common characteristics they often share. Both genres aim to create impressive and large-scale images, grand events and epic battles. They often turn to ancient times as the basis for stories, using mythology, history and cultural aspects of that period.

Both epic films and peplums draw attention to the greatness and heroism of the main characters, emphasizing their strength, courage and willpower. These genres can also use impressive visual effects and big budgets to create an epic atmosphere and unfold dramatic events.

Nevertheless, not all epic films are peplums, and not all peplums are epic. They may involve diverse aspects and approaches to imagery, plot, and aesthetics, but their shared vision on a grand scale makes them close to each other.

2. Historical film. An equally significant genre that stands next to the peplum is the historical film, because most peplums have a historical or mythological basis. At the same time, not all peplums belong to historical films, but many of them have a historical or antique context. The peplum genre can include fiction and fantasy elements that are not always completely historically accurate.

A key characteristic of peplums is their focus on the ancient world and their use of mythological or historical characters and events. However, some peplums may contain fantastical elements, reinterpretations or changes in history, which add elements of adventure and drama to them. Accordingly, among modern peplums, diffusion with fantasy and action films is increasingly appearing.

3. Biographical film. Often, modern peplum contains elements of a biographical film. At the same time, peplums rarely are purely biographical films, since their main

representation is directed to the ancient world, mythology, historical events and heroes. Biographical aspects may be included in peplums, but they are usually limited within the context of a larger narrative.

For example, peplums may represent great historical figures such as Julius Caesar, Alexander the Great, or Hannibal, but their life stories and achievements may be interpreted and subordinated to the entertaining component of the action, adventure or fantasy subgenres. So, biographical aspects may appear in peplums, but they are not a primary or typical characteristic of the genre.

It is also possible to highlight the following dramaturgical features of the peplum genre at the current stage of the cinematographic process:

1. Heroism of the characters. The main characters of peplums often appear as unbreakable, strong, brave and courageous individuals. Their heroism helps create an impression of greatness and invincibility. Among such heroes: the general Maximus (“Gladiator”, 2000), Perseus (“Clash of the Titans”, 2010), Leonid (“300”, 2007) and others. Some modern peplums feature a strong woman as the main character, for example, Hypatia (“Agora”, 2009).

2. Internal conflicts. The internal struggle of the characters based on their beliefs, doubts and aspirations add depth and psychological complexity to the characters. So, for example, Maximus (“Gladiator”) did not want to become the new emperor of Rome, but wanted to return to his family, while circumstances forced him to stay. Achilles (“Troy”, 2004) did not want to go to war against Troy, but he was persuaded by the prospect of becoming immortal in memories and legends. Noah (“Noah”, 2014) was confident that the human race must end after the flood, but the birth of two granddaughters and his family convince him otherwise.

3. Devotion and sacrifice. Often the heroes of the peplum show great devotion to their duty, goals or principles. Their sacrifice willingness to achieve a highest goal adds drama and emotionality to the peplum. This is best demonstrated in the peplum of “300”, where 300 people, including King Leonidas himself, sacrifice themselves to stop Xerxes’ invasion of Greece. Maximus (“Gladiator”) dies in the arena, fighting with the emperor Commodus and frees Rome from this cruel ruler.

4. Struggle for power and liberation. Often, the theme of the struggle for power, the liberation of the people from tyranny or the protection of the native land is embodied in the plots of peplums. These motifs add epicness and social relevance to the plot. In this context, it is worth to mention the film “Troy”, the tragic fate of the king of Priam and his son Hector, who heroically fought for the future of their city and its people.

5. Love and romance. Romantic storylines in peplums add emotional depth and variety to the plot. Characters’ love relationships can be used to show their vulnerability and human nature. Among the studied films in this context, the film “Pompeii” (2014) stands out the most, in which the love story line is central. Unlike other peplums, where the main character is shown on the poster, in “Pompeii” it is a couple in love. In other peplums, the central focus is on the struggle for power, the liberation of the native land from invaders, or the search for justice or truth.

6. The search for truth or destiny. Peplum heroes can go on a journey in search of their destiny, truth or some value. This adds elements of an adventure film and internal growth of the characters. These can be: the search for the resident of the enemy (Medusa Gorgon) in “The Clash of the Titans”, the search for the standard of the Roman legion — a symbol of the greatness of Rome in the peplum “The Eagle” (2011), the search for the end of the

world or the final point for the expansion of Macedonia in the movie “Alexander” (2004), the search for scientific truth regarding the construction of the Solar System in the film “Agora”, the search for renovation of justice in the film “Ben Hur” (2016).

7. Betrayal and loyalty. Themes of betrayal and loyalty add the conflict and drama to the plot. The future emperor Commodus treacherously kills his father, the emperor Marcus Aurelius, and Aurelius’ loyal Maximus lays down his life for revenge. 300 Spartans die in the Battle of Thermopylae due to the betrayal of a offended hunchback, who opens to the Persians a secret path to the Spartans.

8. Glorious moments and despair. The dramaturgy of peplums can include bright inspiring moments when the characters achieve their goal or reveal their heroic qualities, as well as the despair of the characters due to circumstances that test the strength and spirit of the main characters. For instance, in the film “300”, the Spartans celebrate one victory after another, but sudden defeats become unexpected and tragic both for the characters of the film and for the audience.

9. Moral dilemmas. Moral dilemmas and difficult choices create emotional tension and add depth to the plot. The philosopher Hypatia (“Agora”) was faced with a moral dilemma about accepting Christianity in the difficult times of the 1st century. AD, when Christianity began to spread widely in Rome. A convinced atheist and scientist, she could not give up her beliefs, for which she was severely punished. Alexander the Great was constantly at a crossroads — to return home and celebrate the victory for the conquest of new lands or to continue his campaigns. He was able to stop himself only when it was already too late. Achilles (“Troy”) kills Hector and then mourns him with his father Priam and agrees to give the body for burial. Cassia (Pompeii), instead of running away from the lava of Vesuvius, lets go of her horse to spend a few more moments with her man before the death.

10. Mythological and religious motifs. The use of mythological and religious motifs strengthens the epic nature of the plot, creating a connection with ancient heritage. This dramaturgical feature is a required component of the peplum genre, because peplum aims to reproduce antique or ancient times, accordingly, the scenery, costumes, and props must correspond to the stated setting.

11. Use of narrator. Some peplums may include montage effects to enhance the narrative role of some character, god, or narrator telling a story or myth. For example, the king of Egypt Ptolemy Lag tells the viewer about the life path of Alexander the Great in the film “Alexander”. In the film “Gods of Egypt” (2016), the off-screen narrator of the story is the young thief Bek. The warlord Ambrose, aka Merlin, tells the story in the film “The Last Legion” (2007).

Thus, in modern cinema, peplum interacts with various genres through the phenomenon of genre diffusion. It is mainly associated with epic and historical genres, as well as with biographical works, fantasy and action. Such combinations make it possible to reveal deep moral dilemmas, show the psychological development of the characters, and emphasize eternal themes in a new context. The peplum genre in cinema uses a variety of dramatic techniques, such as mythological and religious motifs, struggle for power and liberation, the search for truth or destiny, devotion and sacrifice. Genre diffusion of peplum allows for experimentation with narrative structures, aesthetics and means of expression, giving the genre a fresh breath and a modern character. In turn, dramaturgical means used in the peplum genre for creating exciting film experiences based on the epic atmosphere of the ancient and antique world.