

Document Citation

Title Soviet cinema -- excerpt

Author(s)

Source Publisher name not available

Date 1976

Type book excerpt

Language English

Pagination 128, 129

No. of Pages 1

Subjects

Film Subjects Aerograd (Frontier), Dovzhenko, Aleksandr, 1935

Aelita, Protazanov, Iakov Aleksandrovich, 1924

ADAM WANTS TO BE A MAN — 1959 - Vitautas Zalakevicius (Lithuanian Film Studio)

THE ADDRESS OF LENIN — 1929 - Vladimir Petrov (Mezhrabpomfilm)

A children's film which dealt with a group of young Pioneers who establish a club and park at a home once occupied by Lenin.

ADMIRAL NAKHIMOV — 1946 [1947] - Vsevolod Pudovkin (Mosfilm)

The first version came out when relations between the USSR and the West were already cooling. The film stressed the diplomacy revolving around 19th-century Russo-Turkish conflicts. Pudovkin was criticized for not giving sufficient scope to Russian naval victories, especially at the Battle of Sinope. The film was revised accordingly and won a Stalin Prize when it was rereleased in 1947. An indication of Soviet foreign policy was given in the end scene when tsarist frigates dissolve into modern Soviet warships, intimating Soviet preparedness for defense of Black Sea interests.

ADMIRAL USHAKOV - 1953 - Mikhail Romm (Mosfilm)

A colorful biographical film of an outstanding Russian naval commander of the 18th century who has only lately been given his due by Western historians. The film had extravagant ship and battle scenes.

ADVENTURES OF A MANUFACTURER — 1926 - P. Sazonov (VUFKU) — Also entitled In the Clutches of Soviet Power.

A social satire on Russian bourgeois emigrants during the Civil War period. A rich businessman, Volfer, finds himself impoverished by the Revolution and joins the Whites. His fortunes decline steadily to the point where he ekes out a living as a clown in Parisian night clubs.

ADVENTURES OF A YELLOW SUITCASE — 1970 - Ilya Frez (Maxim Gorki Studios)

Story about a little boy who helps an absent-minded doctor search for a misplaced suitcase, which contains many magical items such as pills for bravery. The boy discovers he needs no pills for personal courage.

THE ADVENTURES OF BARON MUNCHHAUSEN — 1929 - Ivan Ivanov-Vano (Mezhrabpom-Rus)

Animated film.

ADVENTURES OF OKTYABRINA — 1924 - Grigori Kozintsev and Leonid Trauberg (Sevzapkino)

An eccentric, burlesque comedy that was made under appalling physical conditions. The story was about a bizarre attempt by Coolidge, Poincare, and Lord Curzon to rob the Soviet State Bank. The machinations of the capitalist leaders are foiled by a daring youngster.

ADVENTURES OF PETRUSHKA — 1937 - K. Isayev (Ukrainfilm)
Children's film.

AELITA — 1924 - Yakov Protazanov (Mezhrabpom-Rus)

Based on a novel by Alexei Tolstoi. The cast included Konstantin Eggert, Yulia Solntseva, and Nikolai Batalov. The story dealt with three Soviets who fly to Mars. A love affair develops between the Martian queen, Aelita, and one of the Soviet men while a revolution takes place on the planet. The film received much attention and acclaim when it was released. The film's posters were accorded a prize at the 1925 International Exhibition of Decorative Arts in Paris. The costumes and sets were designed in the constructivist style which was then gaining popularity in the USSR, but Protazanov found the original designs too extreme and toned them down for more conventional taste.

AEROGRAD – 1935 - Alexander Dovzhenko (Mosfilm and Ukrainfilm) Also entitled *Frontier*.

Set in a mythical Far Eastern Soviet city and air base, the film reflects Soviet anxieties about Japanese aggression. In the story Glushak, a Siberian hunter, kills his long-time friend who is exposed as a traitor to the USSR. Eduard Tisse's camera work was excellent and gave a poetic quality to the Siberian countryside. The film in its scenario stage was threatened by bureaucrats until Dovzhenko had a personal meeting with Stalin, who insured the film's completion. Considered one of Dovzhenko's best.