

CROCEVIA DI SGUARDI XIV edition

Contemporary Racisms

Thursday, 11th October 2018, 9:00 PM, Cineteatro Baretto



JUDGMENT IN HUNGARY

Directed by Eszter Hajdú, Hungary and Germany, 2013, 104'

In 2008 and 2009, a group of Hungarian right-wing extremists committed a series of indiscriminate attacks on members of the Roma community. Six people were killed, including a five-year-old, and another five people were injured. The trial of the four suspects lasted two-and-a-half-years, and the verdict was issued in August 2013. The director filmed the trial, providing us a disturbing picture of the suspects, an irritable judge and the families of the victims. At the start of the trial, the victims and their parents assume that there will be justice. But will the extremists be found guilty? The widespread cultural environment and anti-Roma sentiment in Hungarian society, as well as forms of pervasive institutional racism, raise fears about the outcome of the process.

Discussant:

Stefano Pasta (CREMIT - University Cattolica of Milan)

Eszter Hajdú is a film director, sociologist and professor based in Budapest and Lisbon. Prior to her career as a film director she has worked as a journalist. Her first documentary film *My Own Private, Tarnabod* (2006) depicts homeless families who were given a chance to start over in the village of Tarnabod, 120km away from Budapest. This film won awards at Hungarian and international film festivals in 2006. Her award-winning film *The Fidesz Jew, the mother with no sense of nation and mediation* (2008) was the most provocative and most viewed documentary film in Hungary in 2008. The film depicts society in Hungary after the 1989 change of regime, in which a polarized political atmosphere has caused major splits between friends and even within families. The antagonising parties turn to mediation techniques to try to achieve reconciliation. *Judgment in Hungary*, documentary about the trial of the serial killers of Roma was premierd at the 26th IDFA (International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam). The film won 19 international awards and was screened in 40 countries so far.

Stefano Pasta: he obtained a PhD in Pedagogy and he is a researcher in Didactics and Special Pedagogy at the Centre for Research on Education to the Media, Information and Technology (CREMIT) of the Cattolica University of Milan, where he deals with incorrect behaviours in the digital environment. He won the award Giovane Ricercatore 2017 of the Società Italiana di Ricerca sull'Educazione Mediale (SIREM). He is a member of the Research Centre on Intercultural Relations of the Cattolica University. He is an **associate** at academic level, and he takes part in working groups of public institutions. He is an expert on interventions against discrimination (anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, anti-Gypsism, xenophobia) and the presence of Roma and Sinti in Italy, a topic on which he coordinated the creation of the multimedia guide *Giving memory a future*. He carries out research and training on interculturalism, migratory flows and teaching of the Holocaust. He is a professional journalist and collaborates with several national newspapers (*Famiglia Cristiana, Avvenire, la Repubblica.it, Corriere della Sera.it*).

Edited by Pietro Cingolani e Francesco Gai Via

For information

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