

Agnès Varda as an Image Gleaner Woman Filmmaker: Embracing digital video for the reconstruction of herself, her memory and her works.

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Abstract

Agnès Varda, as “an image gleaner woman filmmaker,” started to utilize the affordances of digital video technology within her renown documentary film *Les Glaneurs et la glaneuse (Gleaners and I)* in 2000. Like the feminist artists of the 1970s, who have used analog video technology to understand their own bodies and femininity, Varda has turned digital video camera to herself—to her own body, hair and hands—to contemplate and express her thoughts on the flow of life, eroding effect of time, and coming of death. In her later works, she has embraced the digital video for the reconstruction of herself, her memory and the materiality of her works. Thus, digital video camera has become an apparatus of thought within the experimental use of Varda in her post 2000 films and installations. She enforced the digital video technology with all of its components (not only the camera but non-linear editing suite as well) and utilized its affordances. Varda realized that, this new digital technology would emancipate her in seeking the shape of her cinema and make her autonomous in her cinewriting (McFadden, 2014: 59-60).

In this paper/presentation, I will critically discuss her post 2000 works (including films and installations) within her use of the digital affordances of video technology, in her own way. My aim is to explore and expose her use of digital video technology for the reconstruction of herself, her memory and her works. Hence, I will put how Varda has reconsidered her body, thoughts and emotions through the affordances of digital video technology at each encounter with the narratives of the social actors of her film and herself in a self-reflexive manner.

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Short CV

Ersan Ocak is an academician and a filmmaker. He is the coordinator of the Architecture and Urban Studies Master's Program in TED University. He has given courses on urbanism, (visual) cultural studies, cinema, documentary, essay film, filmmaking, new media at undergraduate and graduate levels. He has publications on urbanism, urban

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