

Liverpool Film Seminar

2012 – 2013 series

Every year, Liverpool Film Seminar invites six experts to deliver a series of talks. Topics vary greatly and the series does not focus on a specific aspect of film. Instead, a range of genres and approaches are celebrated, from historical reach to the internet's impact on cinematic material.

Professor Tim Bergfelder (University of Southampton)

Whatever Happened to Popular European Cinema?

From the late 1980s, the history of 'popular European cinema' became one of the major academic concerns in the UK and elsewhere, evidenced by numerous publications and conferences intent on rehabilitating cinematic traditions and genres that had in previous decades been neglected in favour of an emphasis on art house auteurs and movements. In the last decade or so, this trend has seemingly stalled or even reverted. In this paper, I want to trace this shift, but also take account of the migration of 'popular European film' cinophilia into diverse other manifestations, from the imitation of 60s popular genres in recent German and French cinema to the nostalgic reflection of these traditions on blogs and websites.

Biography:



Tim Bergfelder is Professor of Film at the University of Southampton. He is the author of the monograph *International Adventures: Popular German Cinema and European Co-Productions in the 1960s* (2005). His most recent books are *Film Architecture and the Transnational Imagination: Set Design in 1930s European Cinema* (2007, co-

written with Sue Harris and Sarah Street), *Destination London: German-speaking émigrés in British cinema, 1925-50* (2008, co-ed. with Christian Cargnelli), and *The Concise CineGraph: Encyclopaedia of German Cinema* (2009, co-ed. with Hans-Michael Bock)