

Mon 14.02.

2022 16:10

from:

radioeins from three

## **Berlinale: Panorama Documents**

### **Brainwashed: sex camera power**

A documentary film with individual analyzes of scenes from 120 years of film history, which disenchant many a cult film of the independent canon, is the title of "Brainwashed: Sex-Camera-Power". radioeins reporter Katja Weber watched the film by Nina Menkes about patriarchal narrative structures in films.



*Brainwashed: sex camera power by Nina Menkes | © Berlinale / Hugo Wong*

MeToo and Harvey Weinstein's no longer abusive abuse of countless women have challenged much in the film industry since 2017. Nina Menkes' lecture "Sex and Power: The Visual Language of Oppression" forms the basis for this documentary analysis of Male Gaze in the cinema. In it, Menkes uncovers patriarchal narrative structures that lie behind supposedly classic scene resolutions and frames.

Based on theses by the feminist film theorist Laura Mulvey on the objectification and sexualization of the female body, she shows how aesthetic decisions such as camera movement or lighting influence the perception of women on screen, how shot design functions as an instrument and mirror of power relations. In doing so, she works out a connection between established film language and a culture of misogyny, which leads to the abuse of women beyond the screen. Their individual analyzes of scenes from 120 years of film history demystify many a cult film of the independent canon - because the patriarchal film language not only permeates Hollywood cinema.

*(Source: Berlinale)*

The article is available until March 14th, 2022.