

Table of Contents

Foreword	1
Chapter One: Introduction	5
I. Media Literacy	5
II. Hip Hop Culture	10
III. Spike Lee's Perspective	12
IV. Theoretical Framework	16
V. Plot Summary	18
Chapter Two: American Racist Ideology and the Minstrel Show—A Brief History	21
I. A Brief History of American Slavery and Racist Ideology	22
II. A Brief History of the American Minstrel Show	30
Chapter Three: The Media, Blacks' Self-Image and Identity Confusion	38
I. Racist Ideology and the Media	38
II. Postmodern Media and the Confused Self-Image of Contemporary Blacks	41
III. Postmodern Self-Parody and the Confusion of True and False Self-Image	46
IV. Dunwitty vs. the Blacks, the Interplay of Class and Race	52
Chapter Four: Symbolic Meanings and Transitions of the Names of the Characters	68
I. Delacroix	68
II. Dunwitty	73
III. Manray and Cheeba	75
IV. Sloan	88
Conclusion	90
Work Cited	97

Abstract

In my thesis I explore Lee's treatment, in his 2000 film Bamboozled, of the problem of contemporary African-Americans' confusion about their identity and self-image in a predominantly white society. I also show how the complex film combines the absurd comedy of a blacks-in-blackface minstrel show with the serious issues of racism and violence. To discuss Lee's ideas and techniques I use theories of mass media, theories of African American self-identity— especially W.E.B. DuBois' notion of double-consciousness, and Stuart Hall's cultural-studies-based theories of the "politics of representation" and as well as the Postmodern theories.

In the first chapter of this thesis, I will outline my main topics, present the background, introduce the main theories to be used and provide a brief plot summary of the film. In the second chapter I will present a brief history of White-on-Black racism in the U.S.A., with the focus on the way in which racist ideology functions. In the third chapter I will go more deeply into the complex problems of African- Americans' confusion of self-identity and self-image as this arises within the context of Lee's ironic and media-driven "show within a show within a show." In this way the interrelationship between racism and the media will be brought to the forefront. In the fourth chapter I will attempt to interpret the symbolic meanings of some of the characters' names, and the changes that the characters go through in the course of the film. And in the Conclusion I will review the main issues discussed in the previous chapters and slightly expand on both the themes and the techniques of Lee's ground-breaking film, itself embedded within the very self-conscious "media culture" that it depicts.

Keywords: Image, Identity, African-American, double-consciousness, media

摘要

此文中將探討史派克·李在 2006 年的電影《王牌電視秀》片中之論述，尤對於當代非裔美人在白人主導之社會中對身份認同和自我形象的困惑。同時呈現本片如何融合黑人扮黑臉的走唱秀荒誕劇，及嚴重的議題如種族歧視與暴力。本人運用大眾媒介理論以及非裔美人的認同理論，特別是杜博瓦的雙重意識理論以及霍爾的再現政治理論等文化研究基礎之論述，與認同形成的社會文化基礎來探討史派克·李的概念。在《王牌電視秀》中也運用反諷，社會政治諷刺，自我諧擬於各個層面。

在本文的第一章將先概述主旨，背景，運用的理論，以及電影的故事大綱。第二章將概述在美國白人對黑人種族歧視之歷史，並著重於種族歧視之意識形態如何作用。第三章將就種族，階級，和性別在《王牌電視秀》中所扮演的複雜角色。同時探討史派克·李運用反諷和媒體導向的劇中劇脈絡所產生的非裔美人身份認同和自我形象的困惑。以此將種族歧視和媒體之間的相互關係帶至中心。第四章將試圖解釋電影中角色名字的象徵意義，以及在片中角色所經歷的改變。在結論中將回顧先前章節之議題並在史派克·李的《王牌電視秀》之主題與敘事技巧上稍作擴述。

關鍵字：形象、身份、非裔美人、雙重意識理論、媒體

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