History of Film Education in Poland – an Outline

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Abstract
The paper offers a review of Polish discussions on the educational aspects of film. While initially many authors were quite sceptical of film, then viewed primarily as a form of cheap entertainment for the masses, they subsequently started exploring the possibilities for using film in education. The paper discusses the views of early pioneers, such as Matuszewski and Irzykowski, up until more recent developments (such as the New Horizons Association), emphasizing the Polish contribution to the history of film and media education.

Keywords: history of film education, Poland, cinema, media history

1. Introduction

The history of film education dates back to 1895, when during a public demonstration organized on December 28th on the Boulevard des Capucines in Paris in the basement of the Grand Café, the brothers August and Louis Lumière presented their first films such as “Workers Leaving the Lumière Factory” or “The Arrival of a Train at the Station”\(^1\). With the invention of the cinematograph, new technical possibilities were created for the application of film in education, as pointed out already in 1901 by the French film producer Charles Pathé, who postulated that in the not too distant future film should become a theater, a journal and a “school of the future”. The dream of the Parisian creator of newsreels did not come true immediately, because technically this was not an easy task, thus even as rich