

4/9 notes: Ch 15 Hollywood Renaissance

1. Art cinema //s modernist art because they both collage together pieces to make a film
 - a. Godard in breathless parallels cubism through how it fragments the world and calls attention to creation
2. Post modernism: comments on contemporary culture with borrowing, recycling, and quoting (nothing is original)
 - a. Calls attention to the storytelling process with lot of quotation, appropriation, borrowing, homage, copying, recycling
 - b. References mass culture a lot with both high and low culture references (not elitist)
 - c. Sources material that is mixed and matched – various sources are combined
 - d. Notions of originality/authenticity give way to irony
 - e. Everything is a fragment of other things – what we are is packaged stereotypes and labels (ex: in annie hall alvy is seen as a stock character jewish man)
 - f. Shows the world as imaginary and reality as a construction (important in annie hall)
3. Warhol
 - a. Artist who paints \$ and soup to show what he's made of because they're icons of Americanism
 - b. Annie hall parallels this a lot with the references to mass culture and how it takes existing forms and parodies them
 - c. Alvy lets popular culture speak about him LIKE warhol does
4. Perspectives
 - a. Rear window focuses on point of view BUT the world is presented differently in Annie Hall
 - i. Ex: he says he would fall for the queen in snow white → scene where he's in snow white and annie's the queen
 - ii. Ex: becomes a cartoon and old Disney (appropriating)
 - b. "sorrow & pity" is a documentary of the French war and alvy takes Annie to watch it 4 times because he thinks it represents his jewish history so well
 - c. other people create images of us too (we're all stereotypes – theme in annie hall)
 - i. ex: at dinner being seen as an intense jew by her family
 - ii. there's the Californian, the midwesternern, the NYer
 - d. one of the 1st comedies that is embraced by the academy awards
5. Opening Scene
 - a. Feels like a movie told by a celebrity about another celebrity
 - b. Direct look at the start from alvy – but no scene/ people / time just woody allen talking to the audience
 - i. In breathless there's a passenger in the car he's talking to

- ii. In rear window there's LBJ
 - iii. In roshomon they talk to the judge
 - c. Alvy's life is structured around the 2 stock jokes they show at the start
 - d. Woody allen is 40 and DID break up with Diane Keaton but he says he's Alvy and she's annie hall
 - i. 2 act in this after they broke up but it looks like they still love each other so it's a weird mix between fiction and reality
- 6. Alvy = unreliable narrator
 - a. Says he had a happy childhood then right after is the scene of him super depressed
 - b. His friends were marines/showgirls and he lived under a roller coaster (not true)
 - c. Tells his story out of order
- 7. Alvy lives within the scenes
 - a. Jumps reality vs not
 - i. Ex: in the classroom when kids talk like adults about where they are now; waiting in line for the movies when he brings in marshall McLuhan to criticize the professor
 - b. The TV interview is actually a clip in real life of Woody Allen during a TV interview so Woody samples his own life as part of alvy's
- 8. ROMANCE MATTERS in this film
 - a. Lobster scene is most famous scene that shows this true genuine relationship between them both