



Wim Wenders's Road Magic: Alice in the Cities

Description

The Drishti Film Club, under the Department of Electronic Media and Mass Communication, organised the screening of German language movie, *Alice in the Cities* (1974) as part of its weekly film screenings on Friday, August 2, 2024 at the DEMMC auditorium. The film, written and directed by Wim Wenders, is the first in his road trilogy, followed by *Wrong Move* (1975) and *Kings of the Road* (1976). Although this is his fourth film, Wenders considers it his true debut, as it was through this project that he discovered the genre of road movies. This film has become one of those defining works of Wenders's career.

The story follows a German journalist, played by *Rüdiger Vogler*, as he travels across America in search of a news story. On this rather uneventful trip, he meets a mother and her daughter, Alice, portrayed by *Yella Rottländer*. When circumstances leave him alone with Alice, he takes on the responsibility of taking her home. Together, they journey across Germany in search of her grandmother. The story brings together a child and an adult in strange circumstances, but bound by the familiarity of longing and belonging.



PONDICHERY UNIVERSITY

Department of Electronic Media & Mass Communication

DRISHTI FILM CLUB

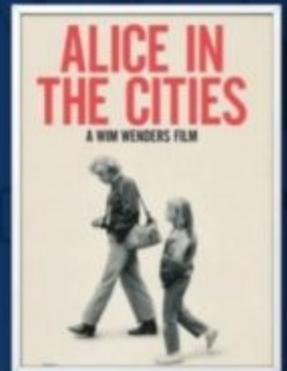


Special film screening

Alice in the Cities

• 1974 • 107 mins

- Director: Wim Wenders
- German with English subtitles



Venue: Lecture Hall 3, first floor

Department of Electronic Media and Mass Communication, Silver Jubilee Campus

In the 1970s, Wim Wenders was among the first true international breakthrough artists of the revolutionary New German Cinema movement, a filmmaker whose fascination with the physical landscapes and emotional contours of the open road proved to be universal.

The first of the road films that would come to define the career of Wim Wenders, the magnificent Alice in the Cities is an emotionally generous and luminously shot odyssey. A German journalist (Rüdiger Vogler) is driving across the United States to research an article; it's a disappointing trip, in which he is unable to truly connect with what he sees. Things change, however, when he has no choice but to take a young girl named Alice (Yella Rottländer) with him on his return trip to Germany, after her mother (Lisa Kreuzer)—whom he has just met—leaves the child in his care. Though they initially find themselves at odds, the pair begin to form an unlikely friendship.

All are welcome



Drishti Film Club - Pondicherry University

Scan here to join
the Film Club



A space that

- ▶ nurtures ways of seeing, deep listening, empathy and critical thinking
- ▶ cultivates focus, vision and appreciation of cinema and artful practices
- ▶ offers experiential learning for self-expression and skills development
- ▶ encourages interdisciplinary exploration of connectedness, introspection, and well-being of self and the community.

Footer Tagline



Alice in the cities: Film Screening Poster

After the screening, audience engaged in a discussion led by Dr. Radhika Khanna, Head i/c of the Department of Electronic Media and Mass Communication and Director i/c of the Educational Multimedia Research Centre. The viewers praised Wenders's skillful use of light and shadow in this black-and-white film, particularly the cinematography. The photographs taken by the protagonist were in monochrome yet full of life. The audience also commented on the realistic and unpretentious dynamic between the journalist and Alice. Their connection and interactions draw viewers into the film, with the photobooth scene standing out as a memorable summary of their relationship.

The film is as warm as it is cool and one of the calmest of road movies. Wenders's ability to tell a story through mundane places, be it is set in America or Amsterdam captures the essence of each location and translates it onto the screen, embodying the true spirit of a road movie.

-By Shifa E

-Edited by Rupam Shukla

Category

1. Campus Buzz

Tags

1. Alice in the cities
2. Drishti Film Club
3. Film Screening
4. Pondicherry
5. Pondicherry University
6. Wim Wenders

Date Created

November 4, 2024

Author

admin