



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI BERGAMO

Dipartimento
di Lettere, Filosofia,
Comunicazione

Open Lecture



Film and the Beauty of Nature

An Ecocinematic Perspective

INTERVIENE

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Can the affectively charged experience of natural beauty in film contribute positively to the debate about ecocinema, ecocriticism and an environmentally progressive aesthetics? Perceiving beauty is a key appeal of film, and the cinema often sought and found the sources of this pleasure in nature. Starting from analyses of films such as *RR* (J. Benning, 2007) or *Gunda* (V. Kossakovsky, 2021), it will be argued that rejecting representations of natural beauty would not only rob us of a fundamental aesthetic experience but also a weapon against environmental ignorance. Philosophically, this position comes close to what in environmental aesthetics is called *aesthetic preservationism*, by which natural beauty is an important justification for environmental protection, and it comes with a powerful aesthetic imperative. Just as there is a duty to preserve beautiful art, there is an obligation to preserve beautiful nature. Aesthetic preservationism therefore concludes that environmental ethics should take environmental aesthetics more seriously.

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