Moving Images - Static Spaces: Architectures, Art, Media, Film, Digital Art and Design

• Paper / Proposal Title:
Train and Early Cinema: Mobility and Speed in Cities

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• Presentation Method. I would like to:
present in person (with a written paper)

• Abstract (300 words):
During the industrial revolution, European cities were introduced with many new vehicles for public transportation; such as trains and omnibuses. Emergence of these vehicles critically transformed the way cities were organized: The mobility in the city and the speed of the daily activities abruptly increased.
This transformation coincides with the emergence of the early cinema. Early cinema is a critical tool for documenting the increasing mobility in the modern cities. The Soviet director Vertov refers to cinema as a “Kino-eye”: A moving eye, strolling in the city, similar to Baudelaire’s “Flâneur”. However, this definition lacks something very crucial: After the industrial revolution, it is essential to underline that the new modern city life itself is very mobile. As a medium, cinema acts as a “Mise-en-abyme”: It is a mobile technology documenting the actualities of the increasing mobility in the city.
The scope of this research is to portray how the image of trains and train stations are represented with the early cinema. Initially, the urbanization traits concerning the mobility in the early 20th century European cities will be briefly discussed. Later on, beginning with
Lumiere Brothers’ first public cinema show in 1895; the image of “Trains” in the modern city and its influences on the city life will be discussed.

**Key Words:** Early Cinema, Mobility, Speed, Train, Industrialized Cities

• **Author(s) Biography (200 words each):**

Ece Konuk received her Bachelor of Architecture degree from İstanbul Technical University. (2010-2016) Currently she continues her researches in İstanbul Bilgi University, enrolled to History, Theory and Criticism in Architecture program (2017-2019). She also works as a research assistant at Altınbaş University (2018-) Her major research interest include urban sociology, cinema, and postmodern architecture.