

POSUDEK BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

Jméno a příjmení studenta: Matěj Herout

Název bakalářské práce: Sam Shepard's Drama Fool for Love and its Film Adaptation by Robert Altman

Vedoucí bakalářské práce: PhDr. Christopher E. Koy, M.A., Ph.D.

Oponentka bakalářské práce: PhDr. Alice Sukdolová, Ph.D.

I. Cíl práce a jeho naplnění: 1. Cíl práce byl stanoven a naplněn v souladu s tématem
~~2. Cíl práce byl naplněn s drobnými nedostatky~~
~~3. Cíl práce byl adekvátní, ale jen částečně naplněný~~
~~4. Stanovený cíl nebyl naplněn~~

II. Struktura práce: 1. Logická, jasná a přehledná
~~2. Přiměřená~~
~~3. Uspokojivá~~
~~4. Nevhodná~~

III. Práce s literaturou: 1. Výborná: zvoleny a použity vhodné prameny v patřičném rozsahu
~~2. Velmi dobrá práce s adekvátními prameny v patřičném rozsahu~~
~~3. Průměrná práce s literaturou~~
~~4. Slabá, chybná nebo nedostačující~~

IV. Formální stránka: 1. Odpovídá všem stanoveným požadavkům
2. Obsahuje drobné formální chyby
~~3. Nesplňuje některé zásadní požadavky~~
~~4. Nesplňuje většinu stanovených požadavků~~

VI. Jazyková úroveň práce: 1. Výborná
~~2. Velmi dobrá~~
~~3. Dobrá~~
~~4. Podprůměrná~~

VII. Náročnost zpracování tématu: 1. Velmi vysoká
2. Vysoká
~~3. Střední~~
~~4. Nízká~~

Vyřádění oponentky bakalářské práce:

In his bachelor thesis, Matěj Herout decided to compare and analyze Sam Shepard's play *Fool for Love* and its film adaptation. The introductory chapter of the thesis provides a cultural background to Sam Shepard's life, relating the play *Fool for Love* to the biographical facts from the author's life. As mentioned by the author of the thesis, some elements of the play reflect Shepard's personal relationships with the family members, including the father's alcoholism, as supported by a quote from the play.

The first chapter of the thesis further mentions the influence of the French New Wave on Shepard, pointing out a reference to O'Neill's play and the film adaptation of *Long Day's Journey into Night* and the impact of the Beat Generation on Shepard's writing. Then it enlists the author's theatre career in NYC, his short stay in England and San Francisco film career (screenplays and acting). This part of the thesis relies on Sam Shepard's biography by John Winters.

The following part of the thesis introduces Sam Shepard's play *Fool for Love*, its main theme and characters. The beginning of the chapter provides a detailed description of the first act and scene, the characters' physical appearance while covering the plot details and offering interpretational analyses of the characters' actions. A detailed reproduction of particular dialogues and actions follows, referencing the play properly. The thesis further enlists the themes of abandonment and return, analysing the characters' actions and relationship. The second part of the thesis concentrates on the film adaptation of the play, focusing on the differences between the play and the film scenes. In conclusion, the thesis demonstrates discrepancies in the dialogues as performed in the film and in the play, and a variety of forms of visualization of the play. According to the author of the thesis, there are no major differences between the film and the play, except for the visualisation of the landscape in the film's beginning and the so-called "fillers" that extend the length of the film. Further attention is paid to the film's soundtrack of country music, specific camera shots and the appearance of side characters who watch and overhear the main protagonists' confrontations and conflicts. Finally, the thesis hints at the idea that initially, the author of the play did not find it appropriate for a film adaptation because of the "physicality" of the play (34). Nevertheless, the author of the thesis finds the film adaptation "one of Altman's all-time classics" (34), thus emphasizing its relevance in the 20th century American film canon.

As for Matej Herout's work with sources related to the life and works of Sam Shepard, his thesis seems to be consistent, however, there are almost no secondary sources to the context of the modern American drama or film. The thesis is written in English, demonstrating the author's appropriate usage of language and style and his enthusiasm with respect to the theme of the thesis. Nevertheless, there are some minor inconsistencies in the form of the thesis, some mistakes in grammar and spelling occur (15-17), including informal style, occasionally (7, 13).

Práce splňuje základní požadavky kladené na tento typ prací, a proto ji doporučuji k ústní obhajobě.

Navrhovaná známka: výborně

Otázky k obhajobě:

1. What are the major changes in the film adaptation compared to the original play?

2. Is it possible to trace examples of the transgressive sense of humour you mentioned in Shepard's biography and his plays?
3. Why does the character of the Old Man exist only in the mind of the two main protagonists and how is this feature of the play resolved in the film? What is the Old Man's function in the play?
4. Can you name any other play in the context of modern American drama which would focus on similar relationships as Fool for Love? Who are the significant American playwrights of the 1960s and on?
5. Why was the effect of the film adaptation unsuccessful? What makes it different from the play?

Podpis oponentky bakalářské práce:.....



Datum: 12. 5. 2023