Weimar Cinema and German Expressionism
Syllabus

Instructor: Michael Latham
Email: michael.latham@gm ail.com

Quarter: Winter 2024
Start – End Date: January 4 – February 22, 2024
Session Day/Time: Thursday, 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm
Course Code and Section: HUAS79116 24W1

Modality: Remote learning

Course Overview
This course considers the classic films produced in Germany during the Weimar Republic, a period that breached the silent and sound eras in cinema, and a brief period of great creativity and experimentation in the arts. A focus of the course is on the relationship of film production in this time to the development of expressionist forms in art and design and the dream-like narratives in literature and theater. We will also look at the influence of The New Objectivity (Neue Sachlichkeit), an alternative social realist aesthetic that sought to counter the perceived excesses of expressionist filmmaking, and follow this counter-aesthetic into the sound era.

Recommended Reading
WEEK ONE
Ernst Lubitsch
The Doll (Die Puppe) 1919. 66 mins.
https://fsharetv.co/movie/the-doll-episode-1-tt0010600
https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x22th8t
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=02__--sxlOgk&ab_channel=SilverScreenFilmoth%C3%A8que

Robert Wiene
The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari (Das Cabinet des Dr. Caligari) 1920. 67 mins.
https://fsharetv.co/movie/the-cabinet-of-dr.-caligari-episode-1-tt0010323
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gpn49rUuOGU&ab_channel=PDflixMovies
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IP0KB2XC29o&ab_channel=TwiTV

WEEK TWO
Paul Wegener /Carl Boese
The Golem: How He Came into the World (Der Golem: Wie er in die Welt kam) 1920. 91 mins.
https://fsharetv.co/movie/the-golem-episode-1-tt0011237
https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=p6dvWPN8OMA&ab_channel=ArkTheatre

F.W. Murnau
The Haunted Castle (Schloß Vogelöd) 1921. 69 mins.
https://fsharetv.co/movie/the-haunted-castle-episode-1-tt0012651

WEEK THREE
Arthur Robison
Warning Shadows (Schatten) 1923. 90 mins.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ki3GrUkL26g&ab_channel=FilmsbytheYear
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FgD5n0KcWuE&ab_channel=SilentCaligari

Henrik Galeen
Waxworks (Das Wachsfigurenkabinett) 1924. 107 mins.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BOQi6qO0jx8&ab_channel=BackscatteringPast
Waxworks commentary by Australian film critic Adrian Martin:
https://fsharetv.co/movie/waxworks-episode-1-tt0014586

WEEK FOUR
F.W. Murnau
The Last Laugh (Der letzte Mann) 1924. 90 mins.
https://fsharetv.co/movie/the-last-laugh-episode-1-tt0015064
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Spp9MHvFc2M&ab_channel=n99
Faust 1926. 107 mins.
https://fsharetv.co/movie/faust-episode-1-tt0016847
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3BGt1r6pNdA&ab_channel=DonaldP.Borchers
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jn7FYl6UbWo&ab_channel=2mi3

WEEK FIVE
G.W. Pabst
Pandora’s Box (Die Büchse der Pandora) 1929. 133 mins.
https://fsharetv.co/movie/_uid03112023-pandora's-box-episode-1-tt0018737
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JhSqbw_BviU&ab_channel=film

WEEK SIX
Walter Ruttmann
Berlin, Symphony of a Great City (Berlin, die Sinfonie der Großstadt) 1927. 65 mins.
https://fsharetv.co/movie/berlin:-symphony-of-a-great-city-episode-1-tt0017668
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LdFasmBJYFg&ab_channel=MasteringModernity
https://archive.org/details/BerlinSymphonyofaGreatCity

Robert Siodmak/Edgar G. Ulmer/Rochus Gliese
People on Sunday (Menschen am Sonntag) 1930. 73 mins.
https://fsharetv.co/movie/people-on-sunday-episode-1-tt0020163
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1hg_vL6lQ6I&ab_channel=locationsite

WEEK SEVEN
Leontine Sagan/Carl Froelich
Mädchen in Uniform 1931. 87 mins.
https://fsharetv.co/movie/m%C3%A4dchen-in-uniform-episode-1-tt0022183
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eHyAm_dQDk0&ab_channel=OldFilmsRevivalProject

Fritz Lang
M 1931. 99 mins.
https://fsharetv.co/movie/m-episode-1-tt0022100
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q_JU10cYLVQ&ab_channel=ClassicMovieTrailers

M. Criterion Collection commentary by Anton Kaes and Eric Rentschler:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkLHcUYGB30&ab_channel=PavelSobolev

WEEK EIGHT
Fritz Lang
The Testament of Dr. Mabuse (Das Testament des Dr. Mabuse) 1933. 122 mins.
https://fsharetv.co/movie/the-testament-of-dr.-mabuse-episode-1-tt0023563