



SLOVAK NEW WAVE

MGR. KATARÍNA KUNKELOVÁ



THE PRIME OF LIFE (1967)

Director: Juraj Jakubisko

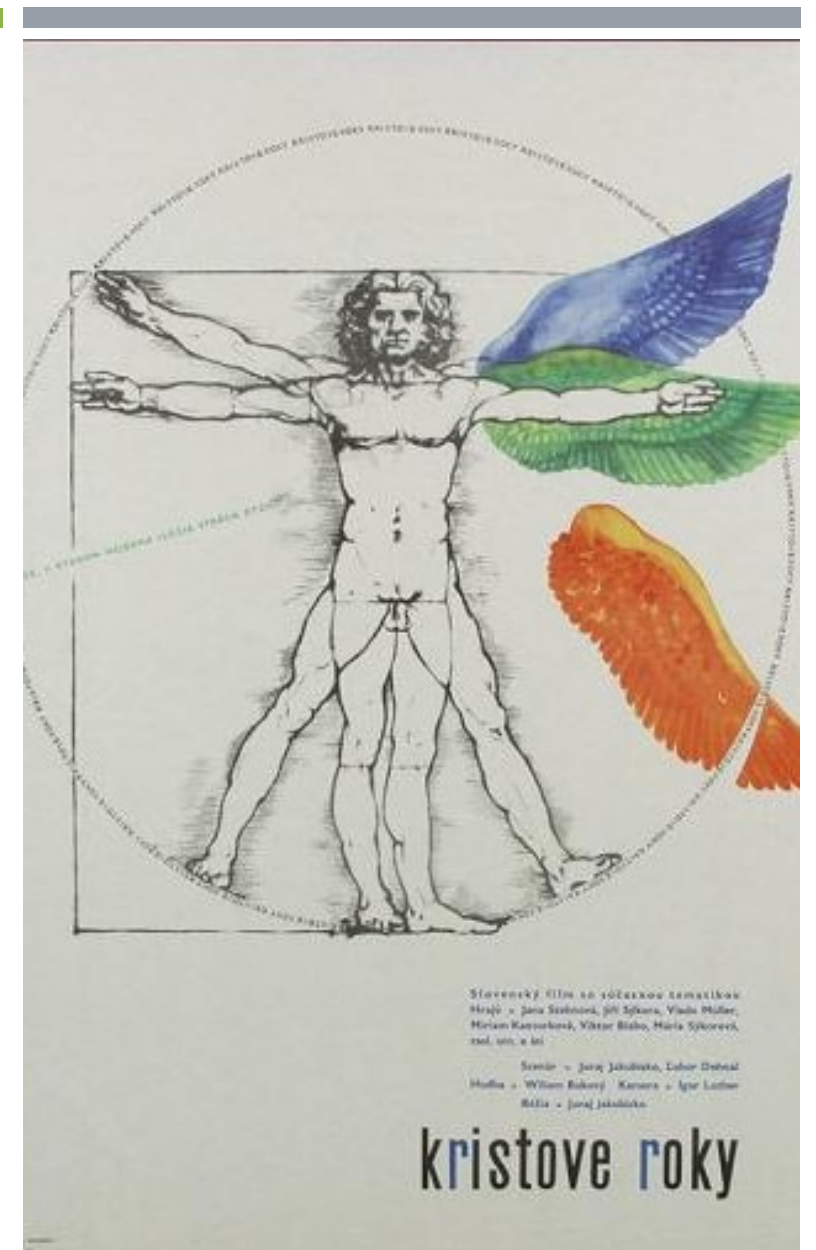
Screenwriter: Lubor Dohnal, Juraj Jakubisko

Camera: Igor Luther

Music: Wiliam Bukový

Actors: Jiří Sýkora, Jana Stehnová, Vlado Müller, Miriam Kantorková, Mária Sýkorová

Film *The Prime of Life* is the first feature film of important director of the emerging, new generation of creators in the 60s. In the film, Jakubisko combines his interests, desires, dilemmas or events he experienced. However, these refer to a more general social issue: the life of young people their choices and freedom.



THE PRIME OF LIFE (1967) - QUESTIONS

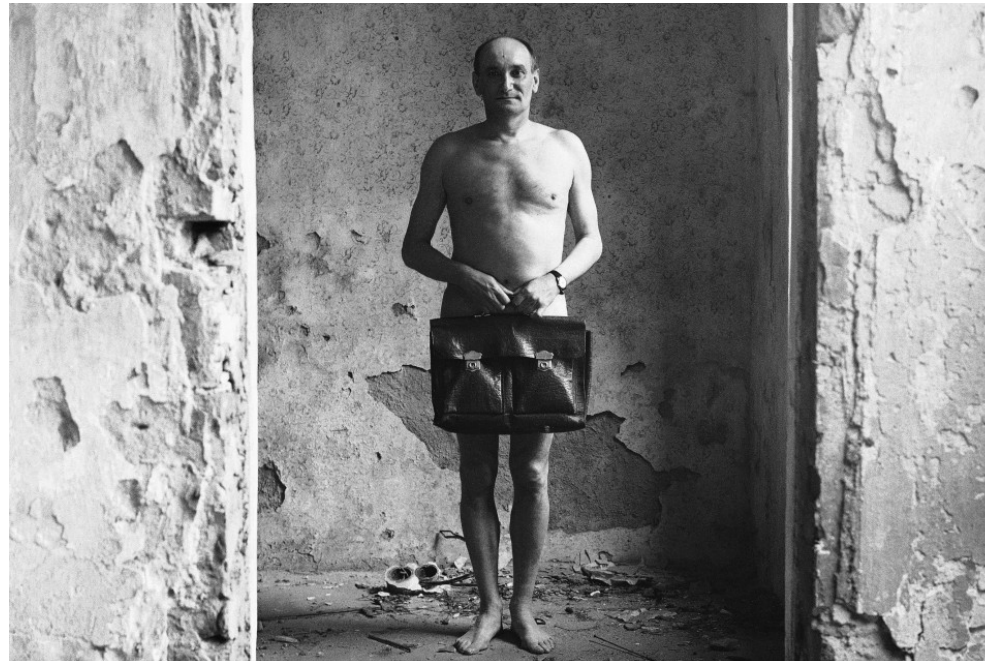
- *The Prime of Life* was created almost 5 years after *The Sun in Net* (1962) was released. It was the debut of a new generation director - Juraj Jakubisko. Can you tell what makes the film similar? What makes them different? Is it possible to consider *The Prime of Life* to be part of the new wave films?
- How do you perceive the main character Juraj and his relationship with other characters, for example Jane?
- In what way is folklore or the relationship of Jakubisko to his birthplace shown in the film? Is it there at all?
- Jakubisko's films are full of symbols or scenes/actions that can be interpreted differently. Did something interest you?

CZECHO-SLOVAK NEW WAVE

VS.

SLOVAK "WAVING"

- Organizational and political changes were the same as those in the Czech territory.
- Recognition at important festivals and winning prizes
- Connection mainly in case of study and cooperation.



- The impossibility of creating films in scale and aesthetics as in Czech
- Creating "festival" films - demand
- The first wave did not have a permanent poetics (Štefan Uher) = more emotional film.

ŠTEFAN UHER

- * 4. 7. 1930 - † 29. 3. 1993
- FAMU (Peter Solan, Martin Hollý)
- Beginnings in documentary film
 - Addressing social issues
- 1. feature film: *We from ninth grade A* (1961)
- Frequent collaboration with Alfonzo Bednár, Stanislav Szomolányi
- Young people – coming of age, authenticity social criticism,
- Trying new things.
- Older – 1. generation



ORGAN (1964)

- Baroque music and J. S. BACH in the gothic setting of church in small town.
- Catholicism vs. Nazism
- Stylized, but based on realistic motifs – 2. WW
- Contrasts plays important role
- Same creators – new ways



THE MIRACULOUS VIRGIN (1966)

- Based on work of Dominik Tatarka
- Notice how Uher works with characters, their inner world and motivation.
- Questions of art and life of young people after WWII
- Again finding new ways (modernism) and experimental (surrealism).



PETER SOLAN – STANISLAV BARABÁŠ – MARTIN HOLLÝ ML.

- All three of them have beginnings in short/documentary films.
- Older – 1. generation
- Stanislav Barabáš: *A Song about Gray Pigeon* (1961), *The Bells Tol for the Barefooted* (1965)
- Martin Hollý: *Ballad of the Seven Hanged* (1968)
- Peter Solan: *Boxer and Death* (1962), *Seven witnesses* (1967), *...Be sure to Behave...* (1968), *Small Survey* (1969) – topics of social criticism
 - Mostly popular works for viewers
- *The Barnabáš Kos Case* (1964)
 - Judicial environment, skepticism, realism, self-defense and respect
 - Kos paradox = a competent person becomes a director
 - It's absurd ! Not realistic.

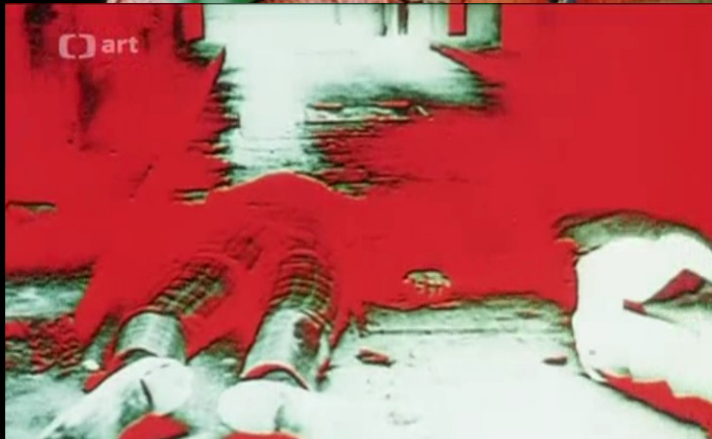


JURAJ JAKUBISKO



- * 30. 4. 1938
- ŠUP Bratislava a FAMU
- Student films:
 - *Silence* (1961), *Waiting for Godot* (1966)
- Debut in feature film: *The Prime of Life* (1967)
- Young generation (2. generation)

- Notice: working with color, folklore (East), expressiveness, art as games and nature.





Don't come in! Let me be!



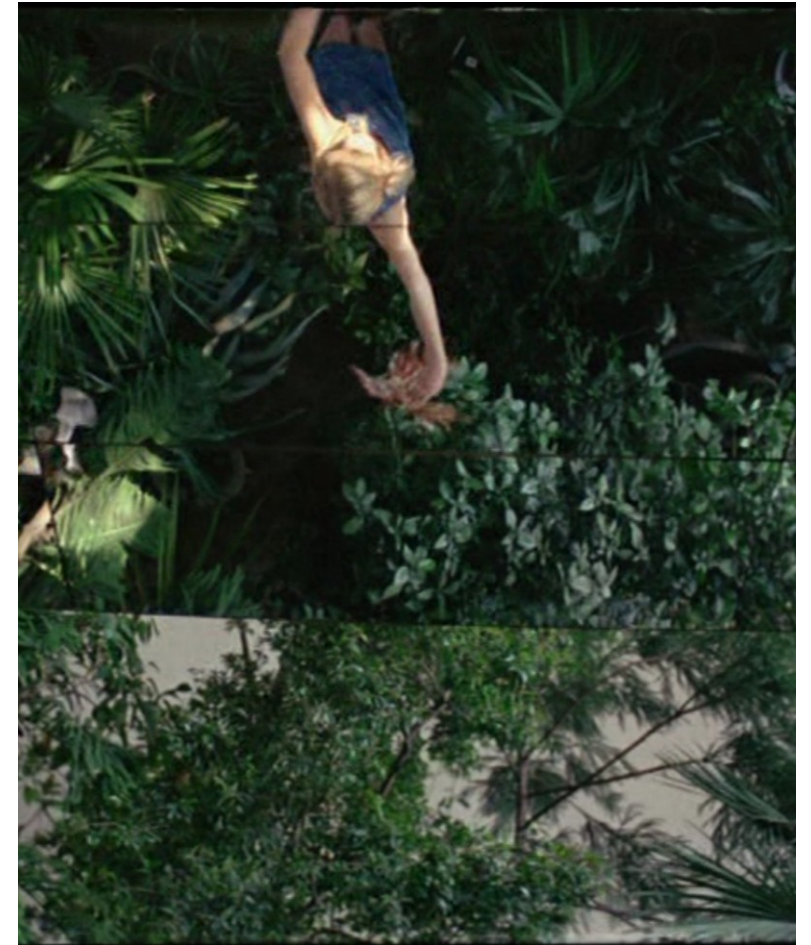
ELIÁŠ „ELO“ HAVETTA

- * 13. 4. 1938 - † 3. 2. 1975
- ŠUP Bratislava a FAMU
- Young (2. generation)
- Impressionist, Imaginary,
Folklore (South)



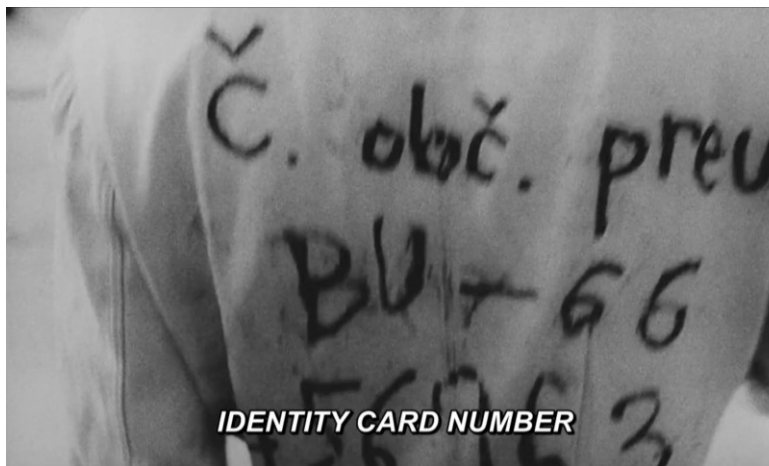
CELEBRATION IN THE BOTANICAL GARDEN(1969)

- An allegorical film, divided into chapters.
- Women have an important role
- Folklore – brass music and village > celebration of nature and life
- Idealization of the birth place and its connection to the author's childhood life
- Q: freedom and experiencing every moment
- Film of experience not enjoyment



DUŠAN HANÁK – 322 (1969)

- Poetic civility
- Próza Jána Johanidesa – The Sources of Sea Attract the Diver
- The question of guilt, of existence
- Building on authenticity and acquisition of reality (micro-existence) – but it is a strange world (absurdity)
- Footage from Bratislava
- Contrast image - overexposed material = "documentary roughness"



WHAT TO READ ?

- Owen, Jonathan. Slovak bohemians: revolution, counterculture and the end of Sixties in Juraj Jakubisko's films. *Studies in Eastern European Cinema*. 2010, vol. 1, no. 1, s. 17– 28.
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