

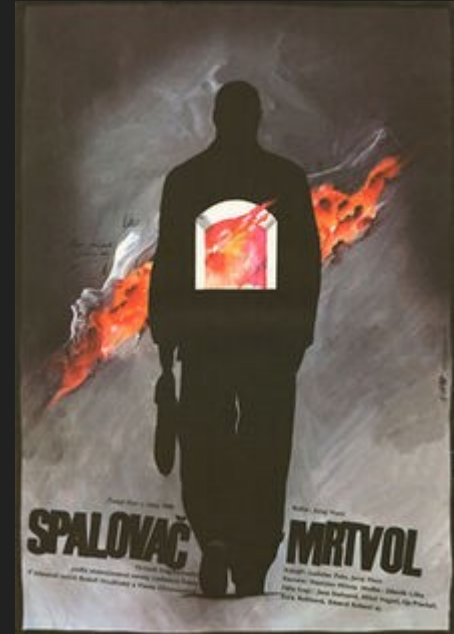
# The Cremator



‘What kind of people are used by dictatorial regimes, according to *The Cremator*?’ - Dominic Bogle

# Defining The Dictatorial

- System that relies on and seeks to maintain a unified ideology
- Ideology can quickly be used as tool to judge an individual's use or lack thereof
- 'Them' and 'Us' Dichotomy
- Exercised throughout the film
- Simplification of ideals fuels the rise of Dictatorship
- Promise of Paradise



# The Promise of Utopia

- Richard Stahel:

*‘every social organisation relies on something that is not realized or feasible, but has the ideal that is somewhere beyond the horizon, a lighthouse to which it may seek to approach if it considers that ideal socially valid and generally accepted’ (2017)*



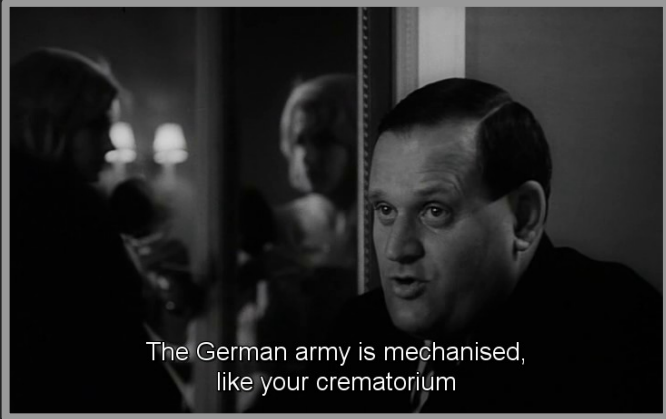
# Types of people used - Desirables - Karel K.



- Case in Point - Karel Kopfrkingl
- Desired personality + power
- Those who are ambitious
- Works to liberate the dead
- Ideologically maneuverable
- Jason Pirodsky (Prague Reporter): 'Many of the cremator's friends and colleagues are Jewish, and others are anti-German, making Karel the perfect spy.'
- Illuminating a beneficial higher purpose



# Types of people used - Desirables - Walter Reinke



- Those who can persuade
- Those who are persistent
- Those who are unflinching
- Those who can manipulate
- Those who can see weakness



# Types of people to be used - The Everyday

- Everyday have their use within system
- Can illuminate insecurities
- Can act as passive to allow stronger wills to seize control/influence.
- In movie: 1 - Karel's cafe/rest. Speech
- 2. Speech at Lakme's funeral
- Silent majority left supporting the regime
- The Everyday can be swayed to support through acceptance/repression, thus serve use



# Fluidity between categories of use

- There can be change between Desirable, undesirable and everyday
- Depending on actions of those in positions of movement
- Depending on the ideological needs of a dictatorial regime
  - E.g. Nazi Pursuit of anti-semitic and exclusionary society
- Ideology reigns supreme in judgement of use
- Draws parallels to Nazi experience in Czechoslovakia to highlight the kinds of people in which can and cannot be used by dictatorships
- Film of human behaviour, instinct and misled ambition