

The Holocaust in Film

Evaluating ANY film:

1. Salient (the obvious):
 - a. What year was the film made?
 - b. What history was occurring at that time?

2. Contextual:
 - a. What country?
 - b. Who is director or scriptwriter?
 - c. Use of stereotypes?
 - d. Photography?
 - e. Music?
 - f. Casting?
 - g. Use of film / terminology?
 - h. Drama (entertainment or pure antisemitism?)
 - i. Documentary (propaganda or liberation footage?)
 - j. Trivialization?

Types of Holocaust Films:

1. Fiction (ex. *The Great Dictator*)
2. Documentary (ex. *Triumph of the Will*; *Shoah*: consists of archival film and still photographs; interviews with witnesses, their families and experts; contemporary film sites where events relating to the Holocaust occurred)
3. Contemporary Drama (ex. *Of Pure Blood*; *Music Box*)
4. Costume piece (ex. *The House of Rothschild*)
5. Poetic documentary (ex. *Damaged Visions*: avant-garde symbolism)
6. Hollywood melodrama (ex. *Holocaust*; *Sophie's Choice*)
7. Liberation footage (ex. *Night and Fog*)