Film as Film Today:
On the Criticism and Theory of V. F. Perkins

University of Warwick
4-5 September 2018

Provisional symposium timetable:

Tuesday, 4 Sept

10.30 - 11  Registration

11- 11.50  Welcome and Introductory Address

James MacDowell (Warwick, UK) and Andrew Klevan (Oxford, UK)

12 – 1.30  Session 1: Histories

  John Gibbs (Reading, UK)
  Method and motivation: Oxford Opinion, Movie, and the early criticism of V.F. Perkins

  Sarah Street (University of Bristol, UK)
  Victor Perkins, Clive Donner and Some People (1962)

  Robert B. Ray (Florida, USA)
  Film as Film, the Screen/Movie debate, and Wittgenstein’s case-by-case method

1.30 - 2.20  LUNCH

2.20 – 3.50  Session 2: Evaluation and Criteria

  Douglas Pye (Reading, UK)
  Perkins, Gombrich and Criteria

  Katerina Virvidaki (Hellenic Open University, Greece)
  V.F. Perkins’ “Credibility”: An attempt to clarify the use of the concept

  Pete Falconer (University of Bristol, UK)
  Understanding and judging horror movies
3.50 – 4.15   BREAK

4.15 – 5.45   PARALLEL PANELS:

3. Character and performer

Alex Clayton (University of Bristol, UK)
Notes on Casting, after Perkins

Miguel Gaggiotti (University of Bristol, UK)
Insisting on failure: the value of clumsiness and awkwardness in film performance

Seth Watter (independent researcher)
Film and the hermeneutics of character

4. Movies other media

Christopher Holliday (King’s College London, UK)
“A totally controlled vision”: V.F. Perkins on animation

James Walters (University of Birmingham, UK)
Perkins and Television

Timotheus Vermeulen (University of Oslo, Norway)
Where else could the world be?

5.45 – 6.45   Keynote 1

George Toles (Manitoba, Canada)

6.45 - 7.45   Drinks

8.00   Dinner
Wednesday, 5 September

9 – 10  Keynote 2

Laura Mulvey (Birkbeck College, University of London, UK)

10 – 11.30  Session 5: Evaluation and Judgment

Dominic Lash (University of Bristol, UK)
Why this how? V.F. Perkins and the evaluation of function

Leo Robson (independent researcher)
“It is understandable…,” or Why is What: on the uses of empathy in Perkins’s critical thought

Lara Perski (Marburg, Germany)
On credibility

11.30 – 11.55  BREAK
Tea and coffee

11.55 – 12.55  PARALLEL PANELS:

6. Perkins and Politics

Alan Lovell (independent researcher)
What do we talk about when we talk about film?

Leighton Grist (University of Winchester, UK)
Revisiting “Must we say what they mean?” V. F. Perkins, film criticism, and the political

7. Beyond Interpretation

Lucy Fife Donaldson (University of St. Andrews, UK)
“The moment that made me smile”: Affect, empathy, texture

Hoi Lun Law (University of Bristol, UK)
The pertinence of significance
12.55 – 1.55 LUNCH
1.55 – 3.25 Session 8: The ‘Impurity’ of Film

James Taylor (University of Warwick, UK)
Digital imaging technology and technique

Elizabeth Muñoz Huber (independent researcher)
Hidden in plain sight: explorations of an intermedial vocabulary in VF Perkins’ work

Joshua Schulze (University of Warwick, UK)
Perkins and the post-cinematic: understanding and judging the desktop film

3.25 – 3.50 BREAK
Tea and coffee

3.50 – 5.20 Session 9: Role and Philosophy of Criticism

Charles Warren (Boston/Harvard University, USA)
The integrity of film: Victor Perkins and some cousins in aesthetics.

William Rothman (Harvard University, USA)
Film as Film and The World Viewed

Murray Pomerance (Ryerson University, Canada)
Upstairs, downstairs: Victor Perkins and Nicholas Ray’s domesticity

5.30 – 6.30 Keynote 3:

Adrian Martin (independent researcher)