

TRAINING THE TRAINERS: REBOOT

GEECT Symposium Spring 2017
Lillehammer, Norway, May 8-10th

Twelve years after The Norwegian Film School's publication of *Training the Trainers*, most of us are still chasing and refining a learning approach in our film schools. Just as we become confident in an approach – somehow it doesn't work as well for the next cohort. We must rely on experience and our ability to transform feedback into adjustments in our learning approach and programmes. Teachers, often trained as filmmakers, not educators, can find themselves quite alone in this work – but we can help each other through sharing experiences between teachers from different schools, through exchanging best practices.

Recently the Nordic film schools joined efforts to create a training programme for film school teachers called “The Artist as (Film School) Teacher”. This course for filmmakers teaching in film schools combines digital tools for online learning with meeting points for building relationships and sharing experiences, giving participating teachers the opportunity to earn credits-points for formal pedagogic qualification to teach in higher education. Could this new approach be useful for other film schools?



The symposium “**Training the Trainers: Reboot**” will focus on the film school teacher, creating an environment for teachers at GEECT and invited schools to share experiences and gain some practical insight into the role and tools of the teacher. The core of the symposium is a series of workshops dedicated to giving participants greater insight into the questions of “becoming a film school teacher”. Participating teachers can exchange experiences and practices, and – in keeping with a focus on peer learning – take part in educating each other.

Another common theme throughout the symposium is: “How do we provoke students to make interesting, provocative, personal, and/or engaging films?” Filmmaking is craft, it is profession, and it is art; different schools emphasise different sides of this triangle but at its core, filmmaking is also storytelling. However, there is seldom much discussion about what we encourage student filmmakers to tell stories about. Should we focus on content at all? If so, how?

Finally, NFS will present its new initiative: The *Centre of Excellence in Film and Interactive Media Arts (CEFIMA)*.

Programme overview:

- Sunday, May 7th* arrivals, registration, welcome cocktail
- Monday, May 8th* 0930 – Welcome
1000 – Morning sessions: *How do we teach? (part 1)*
The meeting between the filmmaker and the prospective filmmaker – the student is to become a colleague
Plenary sessions and small-group workshops (including breaks)
1300 – Lunch
1430 – Afternoon sessions: *How do we teach? (part 2)*
The influence of the digital on techniques, on resources, on discipline, on pedagogies
Plenary sessions and small-group workshops (including breaks)
1730 – End of day
- Tuesday, May 9th* 1000 – Morning sessions: *Why do we teach?*
Topics to discuss include: the relationship between training and education, encouraging mistakes, censorship of student films, ethics, among others.
Plenary sessions and small-group workshops (including breaks)
1300 – Lunch
1430 – Afternoon sessions: *What do we teach?*
Questions of culture, history, ideas (theory?), industry vs. art, and more.
Plenary sessions and small-group workshops (including breaks)
1730 – End of day
1930 – Group dinner (included in participant fee)
- Wed., May 10th* 1000 – *And beyond...?*
Plenary sessions and small-group workshops (including breaks)
1230 – New initiatives
CEFIMA
The Artist as (Film School) Teacher
Peer networks
Building relations outside Europe
1330 – Closing remarks
1400 – Lunch, departures.

For more information, contact fredrik.graver@inn.no

To register, go to <http://konferanser.hil.no/geect/>

**Venue: THE NORWEGIAN FILM SCHOOL
LILLEHAMMER, NORWAY**

Symposium fee: €400.- per participant
Training the Trainers: Reboot – max. 100 participants
registration opens January 30th, 2017
closes March 3rd, 2017

photo by Kjell Vassdal