

Archives of the South. Non-Fiction Cinema and Southern Landscape in Italy: 1948-1968 – Prof.ssa Alessia Cervini

This research aims to analyze the ways in which the cinematographic image of the Southern landscape has been conceived during an important phase in the history of Italy and Italian cinema: 1948-1968. Through the selection, analysis and study of different types of documentary materials coming from audio-visual archives located in various parts of Italy, the research will focus on how the landscape has been represented and how it bears the marks of the transformations and changes of life practices and of the memory and perception of the South. Specifically, the research will focus on a period of time when some of the most important geographical, cultural, political and economic transformations of Republican Italy and particularly of the South are concentrated. This period corresponds to a moment when our cinema (both auteur and genre production) gained an enormous artistic strength, a self-awareness of its role amid world film production, as well as a great international success. The work on archives and the possibility of analyzing films that have not been the subject of previous research will allow us to use a new methodology and to open an important field of research with an enormous potential for the study of our country's cultural identity.