



# Parallel Cinema

B2 – C1

Module 4

Here's What  
We Will Be  
Learning in this  
Presentation:



## Summary

- ❑ Introduction.
- ❑ Parallel Cinema In Different Parts Of The Globe.
- ❑ Exercises.

# Vocabulary

**Offbeat:** different from what most people expect.

**Unrest:** a political situation in which people are angry and likely to protest or fight.

**Acclaimed:** to praise or welcome somebody/something publicly. (For example: This book has been widely acclaimed as a modern classic.)

**Blanket Term:** covering all cases or instances; total and inclusive.

**Invigorate:** (in this context) to make a situation, an organization, etc. efficient and successful.

**Mainstream:** considered normal because it reflects what is done or accepted by most people.

**Dissipated:** to break up and scatter or vanish.

# Introduction

Parallel cinema is cinema that deals with offbeat movies, movies that focus more on reality than commercialisation. These movies rejected any traditional conventions of classical cinema, instead choosing to deal with subjects such as political unrest, social change, sexual violence and youth culture.

Today, we will see some examples of such parallel cinema, along with examples of acclaimed filmmakers who produced such movies.



# Japanese New Wave

The Japanese New wave is a blanket term used to describe a group of Japanese filmmakers during the late 1950s and into the 1970s, who favoured more challenging words.

The Japanese New Wave originated within film studios, as companies sought to invigorate the local cinema with new ideas from younger directors. These filmmakers eventually formed independent production companies, when they failed to thrive within the studio system.

Some notable directors include: Koreyoshi Kurahara, Seijun Suzuki, and many more.



*Koreyoshi Kurahara*



*Seijun Suzuki*

# Indian Parallel Cinema

Originating in the 1950s as an alternative to mainstream cinema, it began just before the French New Wave and Japanese New Wave.

It was known for its serious content, and for the rejection of the dance-and-song numbers that are typical of mainstream commercial Indian cinema.

Some notable directors include: Satyajit Ray, Mrinal Sen, and many more.



*Satyajit Ray*



*Mrinal Sen*

# French New Wave

The French New Wave was a term used for a group of vibrant, innovative French filmmakers in the 1950s and 1960s whose movies took the form of an informal movement. Modern takes on classical movies, experimentation with new and old techniques were just some of the characteristics of this movement.

Though this movement dissipated, many of the directors associated with the New Wave continued and continue to make films into the 21st century.

Some notable directors include: Claude Chabrol, François Truffaut, and many more.



*François Truffaut*



*Claude Chabrol*

# Russian Parallel Cinema

Parallel Cinema was born only after the fall of the Soviet Union.

During the 1980s, an underground group of filmmakers in the Soviet Union assumed the philosophy and practice of the Indian New Wave, except they took it to a whole new level.

There were three founding directors of the Parallel Cinema film movement. These were Boris Yukhananov and brothers Igor and Gleb Aleinikov. They did not wish to work in the studio system, and deliberately founded the underground movement in order to reject conforming to the standards of professional filmmaking.

The notable directors are: Boris Yukhananov, Igor and Gleb Aleinikov, and many more.

*Igor and Gleb Aleinikov*



*Boris  
Yukhananov*

# Exercise 1

- 1) What is Parallel Cinema? In your words.
- 2) "Parallel Cinema is very different from Mainstream Cinema." Explain this sentence in six lines.
- 3) "The Japanese New Wave originated within film studios, as companies sought to invigorate the local cinema with new ideas from younger directors." Explain the meaning of this sentence.
- 4) Have you ever seen a movie from this genre? Would you want to? Explain your answer with reasons in six lines.
- 5) Talk about Russian Parallel Cinema in 5-6 lines.

# Exercise 2

**Make two sentences each using the following words:**

1. Offbeat
2. Conforming
3. Vibrant
4. Thrive
5. Unrest
6. Invigorate