



My impressions on CINAGE Course and Cinema Workshop at Slovenian Third Age University

I found out about the CINAGE course by chance. I was informed about it by a friend, who was not herself interested in enrolling, but me, in contrast, I was greatly attracted to the idea of participating in it straight away. This great opportunity came on my way at the precise moment when I was, a bit surprisingly, retired by my former employer due to a new law on mandatory retirement in the public sector.

Learning about how to make films about active aging sounded like a really great idea; an opportunity to do something completely different from what I used to do in my previous job at the Ministry of Finance. My younger years came to my mind, when I was an amateur actress through practically all the time of my studies. "The films you will be producing are meant to break down the stereotypes about passive and waiting ageing". Really, what is 'ageing' – I still feel young," I thought to myself. If this is so, let's do it! So, I met the participants in the CINAGE course, the leaders and facilitators that were to take us through all of the film-making stages. Everything was new, interesting and promising. I immediately took a liking to everyone, especially the facilitators who, despite their youth, approached their work very seriously. Ouch, this too is a stereotype! Who says that young people cannot be serious and responsible?! We were not always the easiest group to work with, especially when we had to make just three film scripts based on twelve stories! My topic group was especially difficult but the plan was to make only three films, that's all. And so we did only three of them.

I participated in all three films as a costume-designer. I liked that. I think my classmates liked the way I dressed them, and that I really made them look their best. In Joy, the film director chose me for one of the parts. I was going to act a dancer. I was to dance with a painter who saw me from his window and ran down to meet me. It was really fun, despite the rain, and bitter cold, and we were all touched by the scene.

We shot all three films, all of us as participants, facilitators and leaders of the project working together as one. I felt the relationship we established could be felt in the final product – it was in the air.

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