

***Dr. Marian Tutui***

**Balkan Cinema an Early Example of Transnational Cinema** □

Balkan cinema is already an accepted concept (after the world recognition of Kusturica`s films in the 90s) but seldom defined. It involves not only sharing a series of common cultural assets and sensibility or genres (e.g. black comedy, films on outlaws etc.), but it deals also with diaspora and transnationalism. The early case of Manakia brothers (1907- 1912) is more than eloquent for both diaspora and transnational cinema. Together with other examples of cinema pioneers in the Balkans, this talk will prove that from its beginnings – and especially with mute films, cinema has always been a transnational phenomenon. Despite tense political relations, the Turkish- Greek co-production, *The Wrong Road/Kakos dromos/Fena yol* (1933), solved the problem of making the first Greek film with sound, and recent co-productions of a certain genre ("foustanella") have proved popular in both Greece and Turkey. These films deal with a broader "Balkan reality" and are thus distributed widely throughout the region. The markets and consumers of these films are not exclusively on the national domestic market of the filmmakers.

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A native to Bucharest, Marian Tutui (b. 1961) is a graduate of the University of Bucharest (Romanian and Bulgarian Philology). He completed a PhD on Balkan cinema at UNATC (Romanian Academy of Theatre and Cinema) in 2007 and has worked as film scholar (since 1993) and manager of the Romanian Cinematheque (since 1995). Dr Tutui is a member of FIPRESCI (2008) and of juries for film festivals. He is the author of 4 scripts for documentary films for television broadcasted in Romania, Greece, R. Macedonia, Albania. He has written three books on cinema "A Short History of Romanian Cinema" (2005, in Romanian and English), "Manakia Bros or the Moving Balkans" (2005, in Romanian and English) and "Orient Express. Romanian and Balkan Cinema" (2008, in Romanian, Award of the Romanian Film Critics Association), as well as articles included in volumes (Refugees and Film, Skopje, 1994; Cinematographies of Small Nations, Skopje, 1997; Cinema of the Mountains, Turin, 2003, Cinema of the Balkans, London, 2006). Since 1995, Dr Tutui has been collaborating with magazines regarding film criticism in Romania, USA, Moldova, Macedonia, Hungary, Russia and Bulgaria.