

Lies Van de Vijver, PhD

Cinema historian

ABOUT

I am research coordinator for FilmEU, the European University for Film and Media Arts at LUCA School of Arts where I'm responsible for setting up inspiring initiatives for artistic researchers to work in collaborative projects of various sizes supported by training. As a researcher, I work on historical and contemporary visual culture, film programming and cinema experience. I have been involved as project manager and researcher in several international projects and networks. I am the author of *Gent Filmstad* (with G. Dupont & R. Vande Winkel, Houtekiet, 2021) and the co-editor of *Handbook of Comparative New Cinema Histories* (with D. Treveri Gennari & P. Ercole, Palgrave, 2023) and *Mapping Movie Magazines* (with D. Biltereyst, Palgrave, 2020). We are currently writing the book on our project on post-war cinema cultures in Europe called *European Cinema Audiences* (University of Exeter Press, 2026). On occasion, I am invited for debates, lectures or opinion pieces on our contemporary and historical film culture.

LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/lies-van-de-vijver-695b281b/>

e-mail

lies.vandevijver@luca-arts.be

EDUCATION

2011	PhD Communication Sciences
2004	Master Film Studies
2003	Master Art History
2001	Bachelor in Art History

WORK

2022 >

FilmEU

I am the research coordinator for the European University Alliance FilmEU funded as a SwafS project called FilmEU_RIT (101035820, H2020-IBA-SwafS-Support-2-2020) and a WIDERA project called FilmEU_WIRE (101136627, HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-03) on artistic research at founding partner LUCA School of Arts. The project entailed setting up a strategic path for research capacitation, support systems and assessment tools for artistic research in all partners in the Alliance. More information: www.filmeu.eu

2018-21

European Cinema Audiences

I was the co-investigator and project manager for this AHRC (AH/R006326/1) comparative research project on the experience of cinemagoing in Europe in the 1950s. The project entailed coordination of seven researchers at seven HEIs gathering and analysing data from the film exhibition landscape, the film programming and the oral histories on cinemagoing in Bari (Italy), Leicester (UK), Rotterdam (the Netherlands), Ghent (Belgium), Brno (Czech Republic), Magdeburg (Germany) and Gothenburg (Sweden). More information: www.europeancinemaaudiences.org

2012-16

Cinema Located

I was the post-doctoral researcher on this FWO (12A1514N) research project on place, space and social experience of cinema in Ghent (1982-2012). The main goal was to understand the social experience of screen

culture from the emergence of the multiplex in Ghent in 1982 to the absorption of film in digital culture in the present day.

2009-11

Gent Kinemastad

I was hired as doctoral researcher on this FWO multimethodological research project on the history of film exhibition, programming and cinemagoing in Ghent and its suburbs (1896-2010) as a case within a comparative New Cinema History perspective.

2005-08

The Enlightened City

I was hired as researcher on this FWO project on the social role of film exhibition and film consumption in Flanders (1895-2004) in interaction with modernity and urbanization.

EXHIBITIONS

01-22 > 01-23

Filmaffiches voor Gentse cinema's 1938-1961

Free traveling exhibition in public libraries, Ghent

09-21 > 10-21

Filmaffiches voor Gentse cinema's 1938-1961

Free exhibition in public library De Krook, Ghent

10-15 > 01-16

Filmtheaters. Gent Kinemastad

Free exhibition in Caermersklooster, Ghent, with catalogue

LECTURES

27-4-2025

Vijf bioscopen in de Brugse Poort, Erfgoeddag, Ciné Rio, Ghent

29-9-2024

Een terugblik op Ciné Rex, cinema Rex, Ghent

8-9-2024

Een terugblik op Ciné Rex, Open Monumenten Dag, Ghent

8-4-2023

De toekomst van cinema, Speakers Corner, Ghent

13-2-2023

Night of the Living Dead, Film Classics in Cinema Zed, Leuven

30-10-2021

Gone with the Wind, Film Classics in Cinema Zed, Leuven

14-10-2021

Gent Filmstad, Film Talkies Film Fest Ghent

14-10-2021

De Gentse Bioscopen, Lectures Ghent

28-4-2019

De Gentse Filmaffiches en de bioscooppublieken, Heritage Day, Ghent

13-10-2018

Gentse bioscopen in de jaren 1950, Film Fest Ghent

18-9-2018

De Verdwenen Bioscopen van Gent, senior citizens association, Ghent

14-5-2018

Gent en de Europese Filmpublieken, Pint of Science, Ghent

13-10-2017

Cinema Vooruit, Film Fest Ghent

SERVICES

2024 >

General Assembly **Film Fest Gent**

2019 >

Illustrator for the **HoMER Network**

2014-18

Co-coordinator of **Digital Cinema Studies**, Ghent University

2014-16

Co-coordinator of the **HoMER Network**

2013-18

Editorial Board **TMG - Journal for Media History**

2013-16

Editorial Board **CIMS Working Papers**

TEACHING

2021-22

Ghent University-Cultural Media Studies

2021-22

VUB-Visual Culture

2021-22

KULeuven-Film History

2015-16

University of Antwerp-Film Historiography

2012-16

Ghent University-Internships Film Studies

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- Treveri Gennari, D., L. Van de Vijver & P. Ercole (2024) *The Palgrave Handbook for Comparative New Cinema Histories*. London: Palgrave.
- Van de Vijver, L., G. Dupont & R. Vande Winkel (2021) *Gent Filmstad. Cinema's en filmaffiches, 1938-1961*. Antwerpen: Houtekiet.
- Bilteyst, D. & L. Van de Vijver (2018) *Mapping Movie Magazines. Digitization, Periodicals, and Film History*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. Runner-up for Best Edited Collection awarded by British Association of Film, Television, and Screen Studies (BAFTSS), 2021.
- Van Pee, L. & L. Van de Vijver (2015) *Filmtheaters : Gent cinemastad*. Gent: Caermersklooster.

Mobile application software

- Van de Vijver & Simon Legiest (2025) 'Gent Kinemastad', *Erfgoedapp*. Consulted <https://erfgoed.app/tourid/?id=2167>

Articles & book chapters

- Treveri Gennari, D., L. Van de Vijver & P. Ercole (2021) Defining a typology of cinemas across 1950s Europe', *Participations* 18(2): 395-418.
- Ercole, P., L. Van de Vijver & D. Treveri Gennari (2020) Challenges to comparative oral histories of cinema audiences', *TMG-Journal for Media History* 23(1/2): 1-19.
- Van de Vijver, L. (2019) 'Why young people still go to the movies: historical and contemporary cinemagoing audiences in Belgium', in R. Maltby, D. Bilteyst & Ph. Meers (eds.) *Routledge Companion to New Cinema History*. London & New York: Routledge.
- Pafort-Overduin, C., J. Sedgwick & L. Van de Vijver (2018) 'Identifying Cinema Cultures and Audience preferences: a Comparative Analysis of Audience Choice and Popularity in Three Medium-Sized Northern European Cities in the Mid-1930s', *TMG-Journal for Media History* 21(1): 102-118.
- Van de Vijver, L. (2017) 'The cinema is dead, long live the cinema!: Understanding the social experience of cinema-going today', *Participations* 14(1): 129-144.
- Bilteyst, D. & L. Van de Vijver (2017) 'Cinema in the 'fog city'. Notes on film exhibition and sociogeography in Flanders, Belgium', in J. Thissen (ed.) *Cinema Beyond the City: Filmgoing in Small-Towns and Rural Europe*. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press.
- Van de Vijver, L. (2016) 'Billenkletsers en meezingers. Reflecties over canoniseringsprocessen in de filmgeschiedenis', in S. Joye, D. Bilteyst & S. Van Bauwel (eds.) *Media, Democratie & Identiteit*. Gent: Academia Press.
- Van de Vijver, L. (2016) 'Going to the Exclusive Show: Exhibition Strategies and Movie-going Memories of Disney's Animated Feature Films in Ghent, 1937-1982', *European Journal of Cultural Studies* 19(4): 403-418.
- Van de Vijver, L., D. Bilteyst & K. Velders (2015) 'Crisis at the Capitole: A cultural economics analysis of a major first-run cinema in Ghent, 1953-1971', *Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television* 35(1): 75-124.
- Van de Vijver, L. (2015) *Gent Kinemastad : een historisch overzicht van de sociaaleconomische, geografische en ideologische ontwikkelingen van de bioscoopstructuur te Gent*. Gent: Academia Press.
- Van de Vijver, L. & D. Bilteyst (2013) 'Cinemagoing as a conditional part of everyday life. Memories of cinemagoing in Ghent from the 1930s to the 1970s', *Cultural Studies* 27(4): 561-584.

- Van de Vijver, L. (2012) 'Gent Kinemastad. Een multimethodisch onderzoek naar de ontwikkeling van de filmexploitatie, filmprogrammering en filmbeleving in de stad Gent en randgemeenten (1896-2010) als case binnen New Cinema History onderzoek', *Belgisch Tijdschrift voor Nieuwste Geschiedenis* XLII(2/3): 235-241.
- Van de Vijver, L. (2012) 'Distributie en exploitatie van film te Gent. Een historische typologie op basis van de programmeringsprofielen', *Tijdschrift voor Sociale en Economische Geschiedenis* 9(2): 73-100.
- Biltereyst, D., Ph. Meers, K. Lotze & L. Van de Vijver (2012) 'Negotiating cinema's modernity: Strategies of control and audience experiences of cinema in Belgium, 1930s-1960s', in D. Biltereyst, R. Maltby & Ph. Meers (Eds.) *Cinema, Audiences and Modernity: New perspectives on European cinema history*. London: Routledge, 186-201.
- Biltereyst, D., Ph. Meers & L. Van de Vijver (2011) 'Social Class, Experiences of Distinction and Cinema in Postwar Ghent', in R. Maltby, D. Biltereyst & Ph. Meers (Eds.) *Explorations in New Cinema History: Approaches and Case Studies*. Oxford: Blackwell, 101-124.
- Meers, Ph., D. Biltereyst & L. Van de Vijver (2010) 'Film consumption in Flanders 1920-1980: A longitudinal analysis', in I. Schenk, M. Tröhler & Y. Zimmerman (Eds.) *Film-Cinema-Spectator: Film Reception*. Marburg: Schüren, Zürcher Filmstudien Series, 319-337.
- Van de Vijver, L. & D. Biltereyst (2010) 'Hollywood versus lokaliteit. Het (on)gelijke aanbod van Amerikaanse en Europese film in de jaren dertig in Gent', *Tijdschrift voor Mediageschiedenis* 13(2): 60-79.
- Meers, Ph., D. Biltereyst & L. Van de Vijver (2010) 'Metropolitan vs rural cinemagoing: The 'Enlightened City' oral history project on cinemagoing in Flanders (Belgium), 1925-1975', *Screen* 51(3): 272-280.
- Meers, Ph., D. Biltereyst & L. Van de Vijver (2008) 'Lived experiences of the 'Enlightened City' (1925-1975). A large scale oral history project on cinema-going in Flanders (Belgium)', *Illuminace. Journal of film theory, history and aesthetics* 20(1): 208-214.
- Biltereyst, D., Ph. Meers, L. Van de Vijver & G. Willems (2007) 'Bioscopen, moderniteit en filmbeleving. Deel 1: Op zoek naar het erfgoed van bioscopen in landelijke en minder verstedelijkte gebieden in Vlaanderen', *Volkskunde* 108(2): 105-124.
- Willems, G., L. Van de Vijver, Ph. Meers & D. Biltereyst (2007) 'Bioscopen, moderniteit en filmbeleving. Deel 2: Bioscoopbeleving en filmcultuur in landelijke en minder verstedelijkte gebieden in Vlaanderen', *Volkskunde* 108(3): 193-213.
- Van de Vijver, L. (2007) 'Een film is zoals een goede pint bier, dat smaakt altijd beter op café': Embodied leisure en de herinnerde bioscoop', in D. Biltereyst & Ch. Stalpaert (Eds.) *Filmsporen. Opstellen over film, verleden en geheugen*. Gent: Academia Press, 51-59.
- Van de Vijver, L. (2007) 'Neergang en crisis van de bioscoop (1958-1980)', in D. Biltereyst & P. Meers (Eds.), *De Verlichte Stad. Een geschiedenis van bioscopen, filmvertoningen en filmcultuur in Vlaanderen*. Leuven: Lannoo Campus, 99-122.