

6. How have genre and genre studies been influenced and shaped by intersections of gender, race, and sexual orientation? How have minority and women filmmakers contributed to shifting definitions of genre?

Shary: Genre studies have become more complex and inclusive of multiple perspectives over time, which is a positive intellectual development. Alas, women and minority filmmakers remain rather rare, yet scholars can and do bring better appreciation to their works. As a supporter of gay rights, I've been hoping to see more gay-positive movies, especially after Brokeback Mountain a few years back, but progress in that realm seems slow in the industry. I think it is ever more the obligation of critics and scholars to challenge the industry to make more diverse genre films; at the same time, I know that audiences pay the money to the industry, not critics.