



Deimantas Narkevičius // **Da Capo** Fifteen Films

Between 1961 and 1967, the French filmmaker Chris Marker published, through Éditions du Seuil, two volumes entitled *Commentaires*. Marker himself, who had collaborated as both an author and editor with the publishers – for whom he had conceived and curated, amongst others, the illustrated volumes of *Petite Planète* series (1954–1964) – designed the two publications that contain the ‘commentaries’ or scripts of his first films. As a cineast and bibliophile, Marker’s interest in the relationship between images and text underscored both the film-essay and the book ‘ersatz cinema’.

The structure and compositional method chosen for this volume ‘revisits’ Marker’s form of commentary, making its own a theme that is dear to the Lithuanian artist and filmmaker. Indeed, the parallels and superimpositions between film material and printed matter are not secondary in Narkevičius’ work: from the shooting of Stanislaw Lem’s novel in *Revisiting Solaris*, to the enactment of the founding myth of the city of Vilnius in *Legend Coming True*, to the tracking shot over the covers on display in a German Democratic Republic bookshop in *Into the Unknown*, through to his more recent video, *Books on Shelves* and *Without Letters*, shot inside a secondhand bookshop.

The publication is completed by the comments of 16 authors on the 15 films made by Narkevičius from 1997 through to today, an exception being made for *Scena* (2003) and *Ausgeträumt* (2010), to which reference is made in parallel with the reading of *Books on Shelves* and *Without letters*. Each film is introduced by the artist’s personal statement.

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