

**The Image of the Russian Migrant: Filmography of V. Kaminer (film project
"Russendisko" ("Russian disco"))**

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Annotation: this article is devoted to the image of the Russian migrant using the example of film «Russendisko» (2012, Oliver Ziegenbalg) based on the book «Russendisko» written by Vladimir Kaminer. In the article different images of Russian migrants of 90s are analyzed. Also the author draws a conclusion about Kaminer's mastery and reflection of the spirit of that age.

Key words: German-speaking migrants literature, Vladimir Kaminer, film «Russendisko», multiculturalism.

Nowadays, migration is perceived as almost a trivial event in many countries in the world. This factor is one of the central phenomena of life in Germany. Socio-economic transformation of Russian society in the 90s, the collapse of the USSR and its accompanying explosion of nationalism, armed ethnic conflicts, political instability, and systemic socio-economic crisis led to the outflow of the population to foreign countries. Germany is still the second largest migrant country in the world [1, p. 34-35]. The largest number of people migrated in the 90s of the twentieth century - more than 1.6 million people from around the world.

Vladimir Kaminer (the writer of Jewish origin who granted asylum in the GDR in June 1990) arrived in Germany from Russia on this "late" wave of emigration.

In his books the author appears to be a perceptive, sympathetic and witty observer of the processes of Berlin multiculturalism. Like many other migrant authors, V. Kaminer refers to the theme of "past" life at home, thus "supporting" the thesis of modern foreign and domestic researchers about the ongoing dialogue with the native culture and the language of most migrant writers in host cultures [2; 3]. However, the main view of his works is focused on reflecting the characteristics of the life of migrants in host cultures. Kaminer writes his stories in German, but in a simple and available language for both German and average Russian readers learning German. Some of the most popular Kaminer's works are collections of short stories in German «Russendisko» (2000), «Meine Russischen Nachbarn» (2009), «Meine Kaukasische Schwiegermutter» (2010) etc. However, «Russendisko» remains the most readable collection, partly because of the film based on this book in 2012. According to critics, the film fully reflects the image of a Russian migrant in Germany. Another name of the film is "Super Good" (dir. Oliver Ziegenbalg).

The heroes of the film are three young friends: Vladimir, Mikhail, and Andrey, who immigrated to Berlin from Russia. They faced a completely unfamiliar culture, mentality and characteristics of life, and tried to build their well-being with the help of all kinds of tricks. It is interesting to note, that the cast in the film was made up entirely of Germans, which is very unusual for a film about Russian migrants because the images in cinema and TV series represent and at the same time form the stereotypical notion of the social groups [4, p. 156] The film is permeated with the symbols of the passing era, such as a red star, old records, antiques of Soviet times. It's necessary to mention, that the film reveals the author's attitude to the USSR: the era is leaving,

but not forgotten. That is why the main character of the film comes to its climax - to organize a disco for Russian migrants "Russendisko". "The Russian disco has become the homeland both for the Russians in Berlin and for newcomers", - the film says.

The film adaptation of V. Kaminer's work "Russendisko" is a successful attempt to present the most specific picture of life in Germany, to identify the difficulties of migrants' existence in the new German-speaking intercultural environment.

The film project is perceived as unique in the context of modern multiculturalism, as it allows us to understand the connection between Russian and German mentality, visually "evaluate" the lifestyle of migrants outside of the homeland.

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