

Servet Golbol, DAAD Lecturer for Film at the German Jordanian University

Nils Keber, Director of Photography

and Immo Truempelmann, Sound Engineer and Sound Designer

*Mr. Truempelmann contributed to the German TV mini-series "Generation War" ("Unsere Mütter, Unsere Väter") as an important part of the sound design team, which was awarded an international EMMY Award in 2014.*

*Director of Photography Mr. Nils Keber and Sound Engineer and Sound Designer Mr. Immo Truempelmann gave a 2 week workshop as Flying Faculty from Germany at the GJU. They offer numerous answers to the above question and have a lot of hands-on instructions for about 40 students of the School of Architecture and Built Environment.*

The workshop was organized and guided by DAAD-Lecturer Prof. Servet Ahmet Golbol. Since 2013/14, he has been responsible for the Filmstream at the Department for Design and Visual Communication at SABE. "It was a unique experience for me to run a hands-on workshop with so many students who had no previous knowledge about filmmaking. The first week was filled with theory on sound and camerawork. The students were sort of bored and we thought this would never become a success story. But in the second week, when it was the turn for the practice part, everything learned before started to make sense. The students were boosted and fascinated by the means of filmmaking. In less than 6 days, they managed to realize professional sound recordings, make meaningful interviews, and handle a professional camera; they learned how to act, run a film production, and direct a film shooting. The outcome was extraordinarily remarkable."

It was the first time that such a workshop was held at the GJU covering so many aspects of filmmaking. It was the contribution of the two flying professors with their highly professional attitude that made the workshop so successful. They shared their experience with unlimited patience and an incomparable talent to instil the art of filmmaking to the students.

Truempelmann: "How many ideas, perspectives, light sources, sounds, and words are actually parts of a movie? Why does my cell phone video sound so much worse than the sound in a movie theater? And how do I get it right? What does Amman sound like, what things are typical for this city? In the camera and sound workshop at GJU, it was mainly about teaching the knowledge that a film on location does not just "happen" in front of a camera and microphone, but is created through deliberate use of all design elements such as subtle sounds and atmospheres. I am very pleased that many students felt that after the workshop they were much more aware and analytical in watching a movie - their "look and ears were sharpened". For example, the students created a collage entitled "Amman - a working city". Falafel sizzling in hot oil, the buzz of the bazaar and the melodious singing of muezzins form the soundscape of this lively city and are just a few examples of recordings that fascinated me as well as the students. This was my first time in Jordan and in Amman - an amazing city full of history and cultures of different people and destinies. I hope the workshop encouraged students and enabled them to implement their own ideas and stories with a lot of creativity and professionalism beyond the usual "Youtube Selfies"."

Keber: "Being in Amman for the first time I felt at home immediately. Everyone gave us Flying Faculty teachers a very warm welcome and my students were extremely passionate and interested in learning about the practical side of filmmaking. The first part of our program was a theoretical approach. By showing my students scenes from movies and directors of photography that I admire and that influenced me in my work, I tried to show the audience, that every single frame in a feature

film is meant the way it is composed, lit, and staged. By examining scenes we tried to find the deeper meaning behind a usually very fast and short living industry. The second part of our seminar had a more practical approach: By learning how to set up our own little scenes we worked out a lot of the "do's and don'ts" of a movie production and even the team eating our most needed food props couldn't keep us from completing two wonderful and funny examples of a short movie scene. I had a great time teaching at GJU and I am looking forward to my next time in Amman. "

Some quotations of the participating students (taken out of their reports on the workshop):

"Those two weeks that we spent with them were more than fascinating and beneficial! We learnt so many different and new things about sound equipment and camera use! And not only that, I was surprised by the way they treated us, they gave us so much respect and I hope we gave it back to them as well. They have a great skill in approaching students and teaching them. Mr. Immo and Mr. Nils were so patient with us, they tried to give us all the best within this short period of time and they succeeded in doing that." Milena Al-Hennawi

"What I liked the most about it was the practical side, like the exercises and assignments they gave us, and how we lived in a real film environment. I tried to point out one disadvantage at least, but I could not find any. Maybe the only thing is that two weeks was a short period, and I think it would be a good idea to have them for a longer time." Duha Edwan

"In the end I only regret that we didn't have more time. Also, I am really grateful for everything you have taught me and one more thing, I never thought about majoring in film making but this workshop opened up a new possibility." Jamil Matloub

"I would love to recommend this workshop to other people who are still wondering how this beautiful world of film making works." Amal Khaled Jaber

