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***„Cold War” but not a cold movie* [recenzja filmu *Zimna wojna*, napisana przez studentkę przebywającą na Wydziale Filologicznym w ramach programu Erasmus+ w 2020 r.]**

Paweł Pawlikowski is one of my favorite Polish filmmakers and with his movie *Ida* he not only conquered me but also the London Film Festival’s jury. In fact, in 2013, the movie won The Best Film Award. A couple of years later, in 2015, *Ida* won the 2015 Academy Award for Foreign Language Film and it was the first time that a Polish movie achieved this award. The great success of the Director, however, was repeated in 2018 when his last movie was released. *Cold War* [*Zimna wojna*] received numerous nominations at the Academy Award and at the British Academy Film Awards. The movie is an historical drama set in Poland and France during the cold war, between 1940 and 1960. The film is shot in a lovely black and white, using the 4:3 format and giving great importance to the music. These three aspects, together with the inspiration that Pawlikowski took from his parents’ lives, are the main reason why I declare this movie one – if not the one – of the Polish movies I could re-watch a thousand times. The narration of Wiktor and Zula’s troubled love story takes place on the background of a very complex historical period. Stalinism is gaining support and Wiktor feels that in western Europe he may have more chances to be appreciated as a jazziest. Pawlikowski uses interpersonal relationships as a way of describing the reality of that time and intersperses dialogues with music, typical dances and singing scenes. These moments are very intensively interpreted by Joanna Kulig – Zuzanna “Zula”– who received the Best Actress Award at the European Film Awards for her performance in the movie.

When the setting of the film moves from Warsaw to Paris also the relationship between the two lovers changes. They finally managed to be together and have each other but life in Paris is made of perdition, failures and sadness. This is definitely the part of the movie in which Pawlikowski demonstrates his knowledge of the human being. He is capable of representing human’s emotions at their peak with a depth that makes impossible for the viewer to stay *cold*.

I recommend the vision of this movie to everyone interested in the history of that time and, of course, in struggled love stories. Also, it has been a great exercise and pleasure for me to hear songs singed in Polish during in the movie. In particular, I loved “Dwa Serduszka”. I hope I will improve my Polish in order to understand the whole lyrics!