

"Private Hungary"

Tibor Szemző/Péter Forgács

Sound and Film /Video Installation

The pictures are samples from the Private Film Archive, Budapest

THESAURUS LIST 87 N. DICTIONARY 559 N.

privacy — seclusion 883 n.

private — inferior 35 n.

— soldiery 722 n.

— possessed 773 adj.

— secluded 883 adj.

public — social group 371 n.

— national 371 adj.

— known 490 adj.

— formal 875 adj.

seclusion, privacy, private world, world on its own; peace and quiet 266 . *quietude*, home life, domesticity, loneliness, solitude; retirement, withdrawal; confinement, *pardah* 525 n.

concealment; isolation 744 n. *independence*; renunciation of the world 985 n. *monasticism*; self-exile, expatriation; sequestration, segregation, rustication, excommunication, quarantine 57 n. *exclusion*; reserve, reservation, ghetto, native quarter; backwater, god-forsaken hole, back of beyond; island, desert; cloister, cell, hermitage, retreat; ivory tower, private quarters, shell.

35. Inferiority — N. *inferiority*, minority 105 n. *fewness*, littleness 33 n. *smallness*; no record, second best; subordination, dependence 745 n. *subjection*; secondariness, supporting role, second fiddle 639 n. *unimportance*; lowliness 872 n. *humility*; second rank, back seat; commonness 869 n. *commonality*, disadvantage, handicap 702 n. *hindrance*, faultiness, blemish 647 m. *imperfection*; deficiency 307 n. *shortcoming*, 636 n. *insufficiency*, failure 728 n. *defeat*; poor quality 645 n. *badness*, decline 655 n. *deterioration*; minimum, nadir, the bottom 214 n. *base*; averageness 732 n. *mediocrity*.

inferior, subordinate, subaltern, sub, underling, understrapper, assistant, subsidiary 707 n. auxiliary; tool, pawn, retainer 742 n. dependant; menial 742 n. servant; poor relation 639 n. nonentity; subject, underdog 742 n. slave; backbencher, private, other ranks, lower classes 869 n. commonality; second, second best, second string, second fiddle, second-rater; bad second, alorran; failure, reject 607 n. rejection; younger, junior.

soldiery, cannon fodder; private, man-at-arms; targeteer, slinger, archer, bowman, cross-b., arbalester; spearman, pikeman, pike, halberdier, hoplite, phalangist, lancer; arquebusier, musketeer, fusilier, rifleman, pistoleer, carabineer, bazookaman, grenadier, bombardier, gunner, cannoneer, artilleryman; pioneer, sapper, miner.

possessed, enjoyed, had, held; in one's grasp; in the bank, to one's credit; on hand, in store; proper, personal 80 adj, special; belonging, one's own, unshared, private, personal; inherent, appertaining.

secluded, private, sequestered, retired, hidden, buried, tucked away 523 adj. latent; behind the veil, behind the *pardah* 421 adj. screened; quiet, lonely, isolated, enisled; god-forsaken, unvisited, unexplored, off the beaten track 491 adj. unknown; uninhabited, desert, desolate 190 adj. empty.

social group, society, community 706 a. association; human family 11 n. family; tribalism; comity of nations 654 n. civilization; people, persons, folk; public, man in the street, you and me; population, populace, citizenry 191 n. native; the classes; the masses 869 n. commonality.

national, state, civic, civil, public, general, communal, tribal, social, societal; cosmopolitan, international. known, seen, heard; ascertained, verified 473 adj. certain; discovered, explored; celebrated 866 adj. renowned; no secret, public, notorious; familiar, intimate, dear; hackneyed, trite; proverbial, household, commonplace, corny 610 adj. habitual; memorized 505 adj. remembered; knowable, cognizable.

formal, dignified, solemn, stately, majestic; ceremonious, punctilious, stickling, correct, stiff, starchy; of state, public, official; ceremonial, ritual 988 adj. ritualistic.

The most private and withdrawn opens up in his films about himself. You, too, are curious; certainly in a certain way. So am I. Primarily about the old, civil bourgeois culture in Hungary which has gone down (just like us having separated from Europe as if we were Atlantis).

In these old amateur-films the most withdrawn private Hungarian can be seen — he is wise and sweet, sad-funny and sentimental in a naive way. Time travel implying both: old and/but different.

These films narrate more fictitiously than fiction (because they have been acted, standardized, invented freely and arbitrarily) and are more realistic than realism (which is loyal in its banality and discreet in drama).

Thus it can be said of private-film:

fiction = reality

reality = fiction

... or perhaps a chance document against the facts ...

(Péter Forgács)