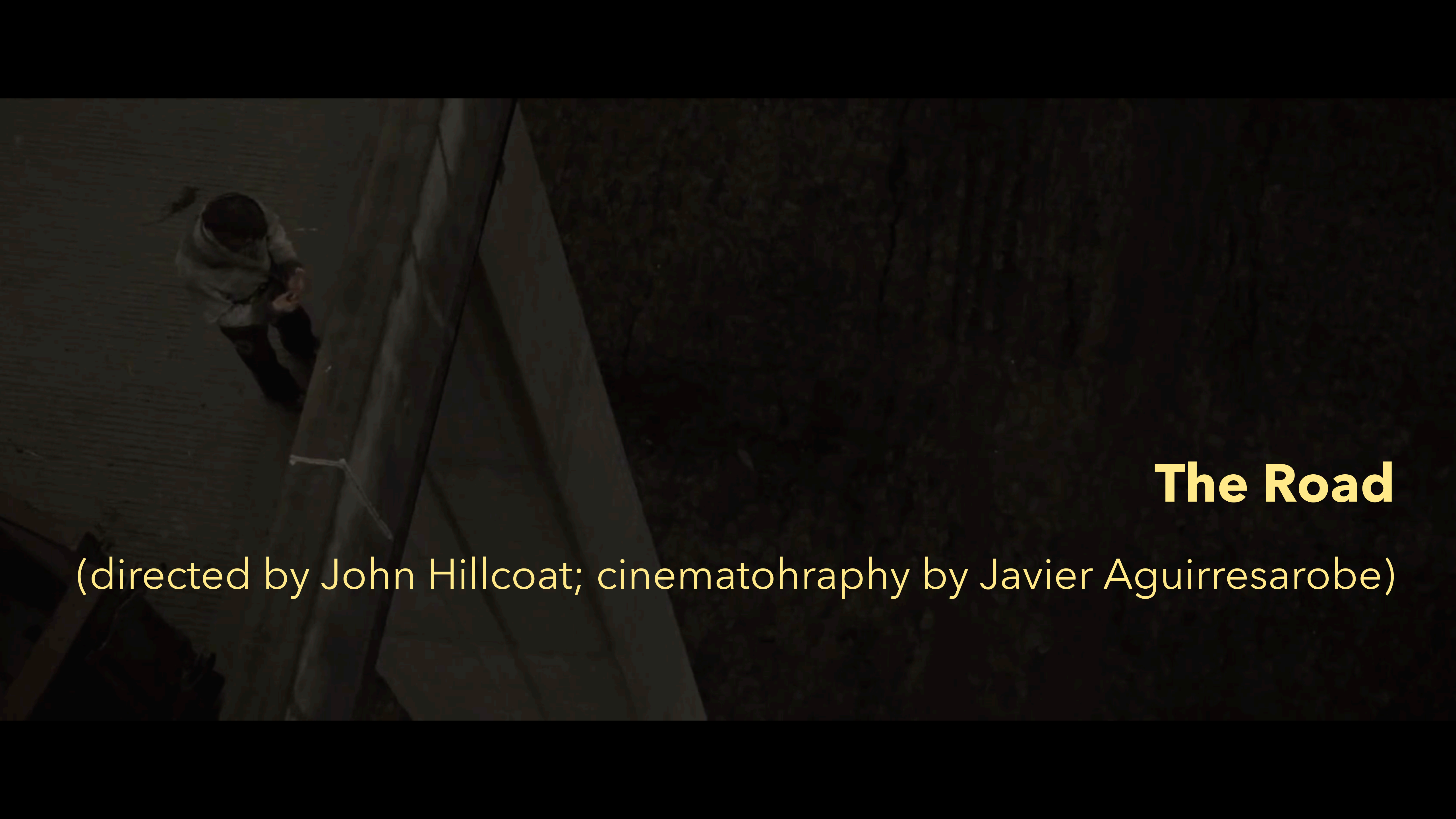


THE ROAD



Wenzel Mehnert

- **Background:**
Cultural & Media Studies, STS, SF-Studies
Depictions of the future in popular culture
- **Dual affiliation:**
University of the Arts, Berlin
Technical University in Berlin
- **Researching about...**
 - ... imaginaries of the future (e.g. Neurointerface, PhD-topic)*
 - ... Gestaltung of futures*
 - ... End-Erzählungen*



The Road

(directed by John Hillcoat; cinematography by Javier Aguirresarobe)

CLIMATE TRAUMA



FORESEEING THE FUTURE IN
DYSTOPIAN FILM AND FICTION

E. ANN KAPLAN

Pretraumatic Stress Disorder

„Journalism, the Internet, television, film, and literature – offer catastrophic futurist scenarios. In these scenarios, audiences are invited to identify with future selves in uncertain, dangerous, and ultimately unsustainable worlds. Such identifications result in a pretraumatized population, living with a sense of an uncertain future and an unreliable natural environment.

My hope is that, instead of being passively terrified, audiences will begin to understand dystopian scenarios as warning humans of what they must, at all costs, avoid.” (Kaplan, 2015)

**PRESENT FUTURES
VS.
FUTURE PRESENTS**



HOW DO WE IMAGINE WHAT THE END OF THE WORLD LOOKS LIKE?





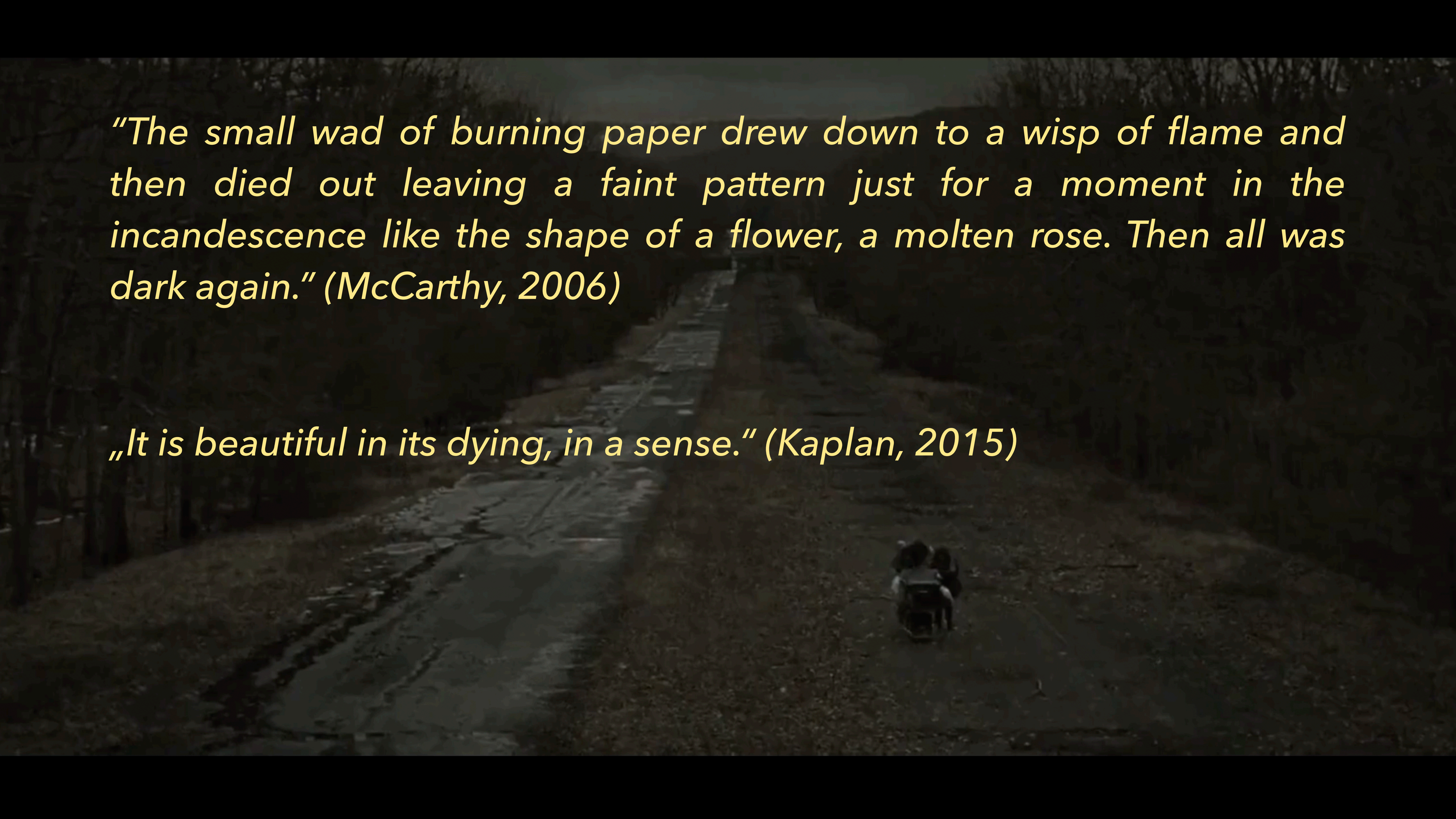
(a) CINEMATOGRAPHY
(b) STORYWORLD
(c) MYTHOLOGY

THE BASICS



LUPUS EST HOMO HOMINI, NON HOMO,





“The small wad of burning paper drew down to a wisp of flame and then died out leaving a faint pattern just for a moment in the incandescence like the shape of a flower, a molten rose. Then all was dark again.” (McCarthy, 2006)

„It is beautiful in its dying, in a sense.” (Kaplan, 2015)



DISASTER PORN











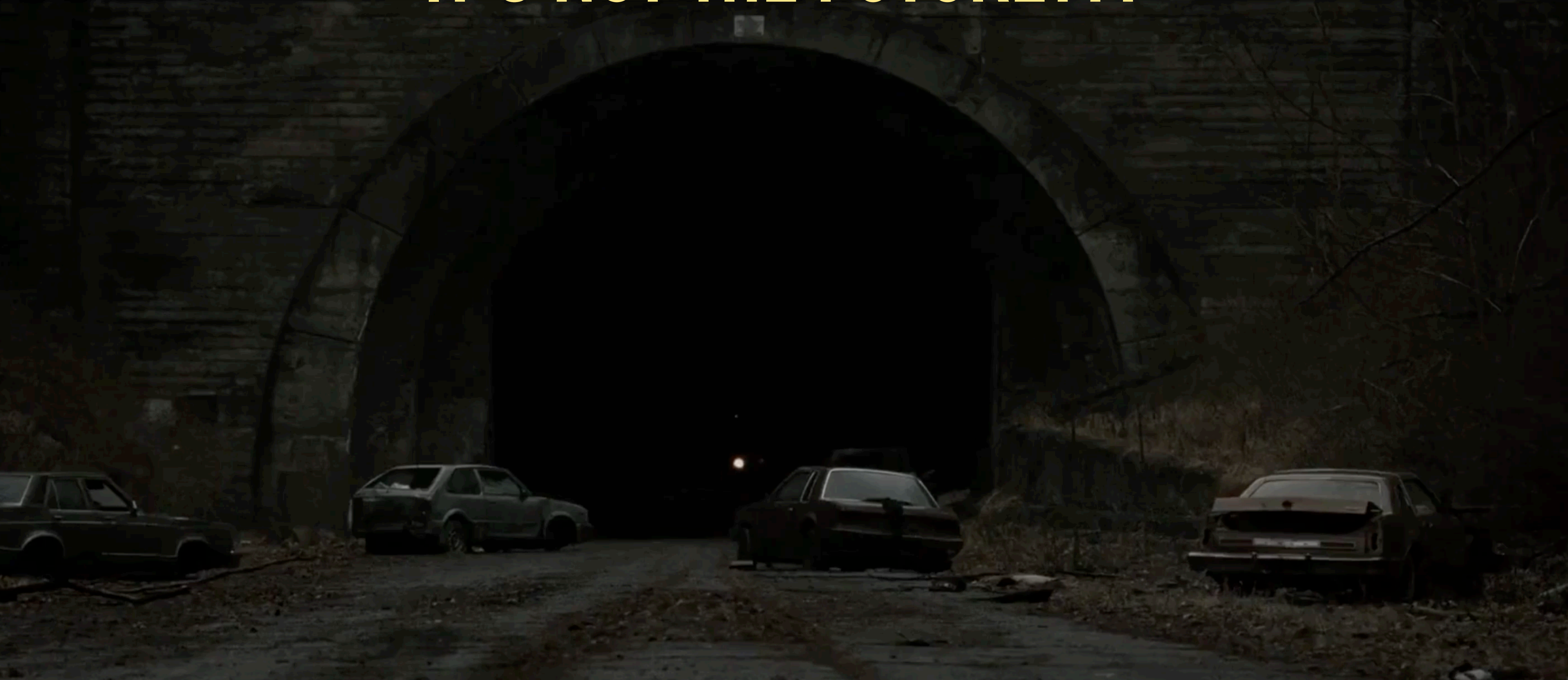








IT'S NOT THE FUTURE...



... IT'S A MOVIE

THANK YOU!

