

"DAVE, MY MIND IS GOING."
A.I. AND ROBOTICS FROM A FILM AND MEDIA
PERSPECTIVE

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HAL – “DAVE, MY MIND IS GOING”



- *2001: A Space Odyssey* dir. Stanley Kubrick (1968),
1:52:20 – 1:54:08

GOALS FOR TODAY

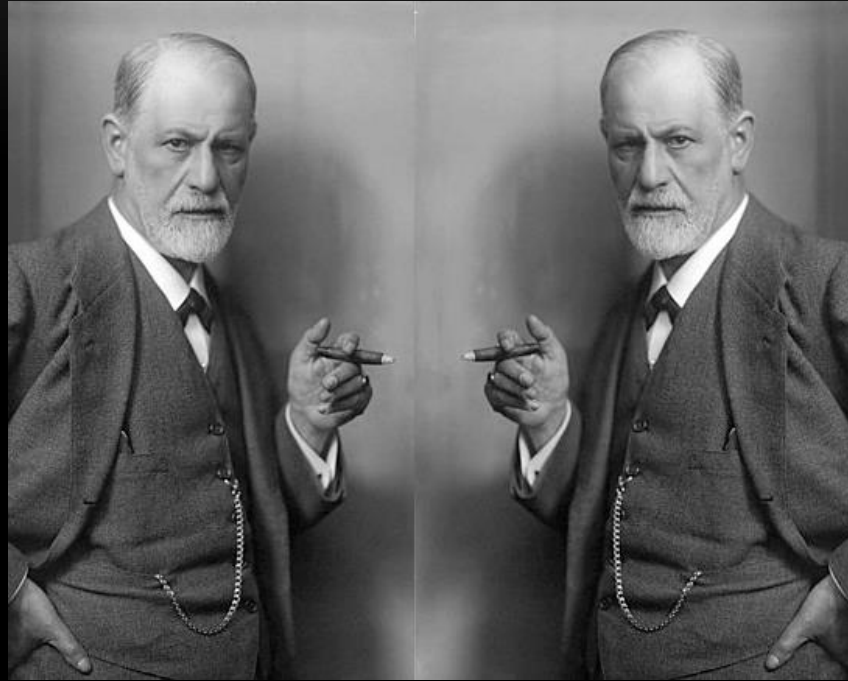
- Detail Freud's Uncanny in relation to robots throughout film history
 - Touch on how cinema evokes A.I. and robotics in decline.
 - Show how such representations allows us to cross the uncanny valley.
 - What does this empathy encourage us to forget?
-

THE UNCANNY

- “Doubts whether an apparently animate being is really alive; or conversely, whether a lifeless object might not be in fact animate”; and [Jentsch] refers in this connection to the impression made by wax-work figures, artificial dolls and automaton.”

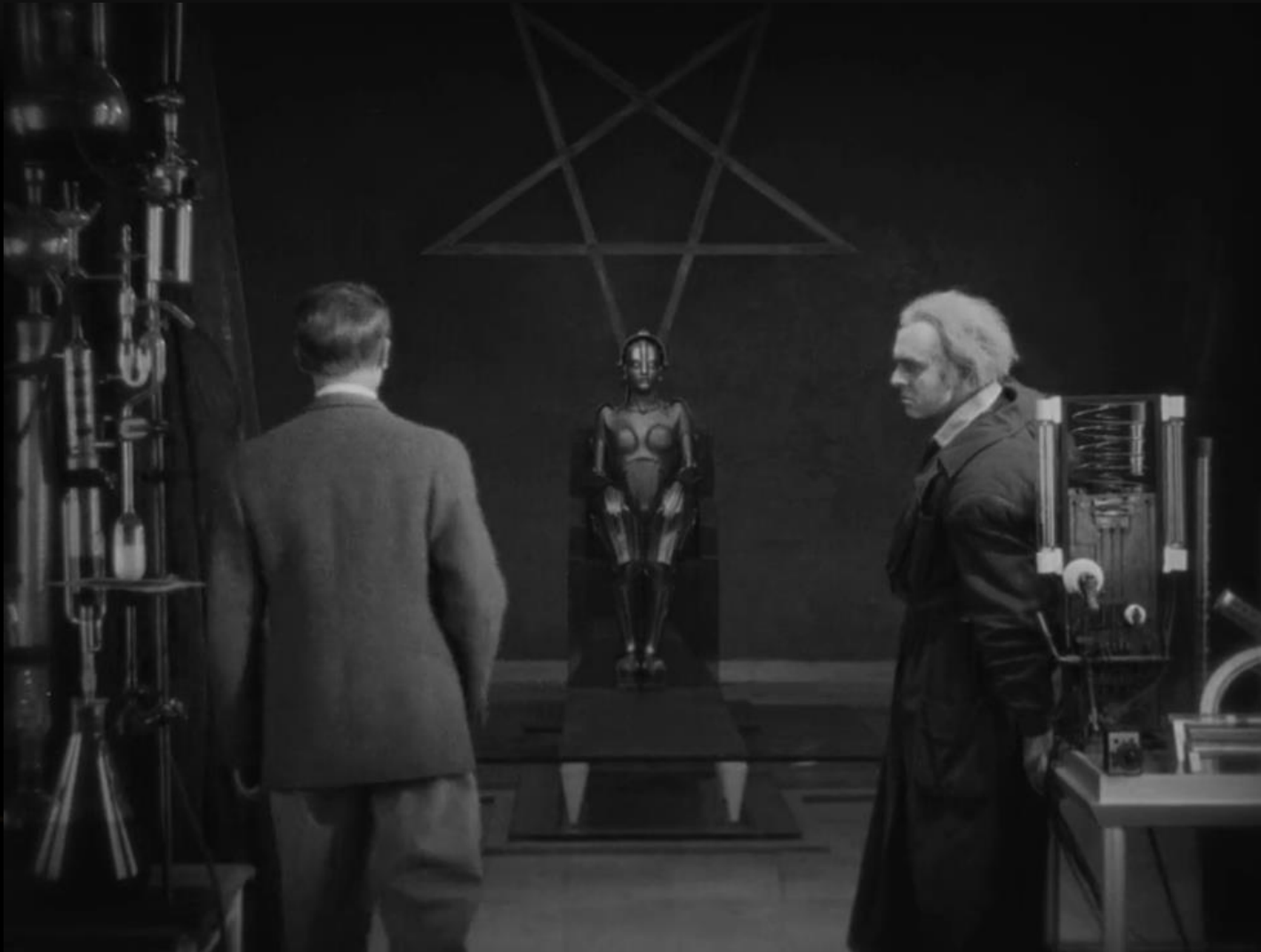
“The Uncanny” (Freud 4)

AN ELEMENT OF THE UNCANNY – THE DOUBLE

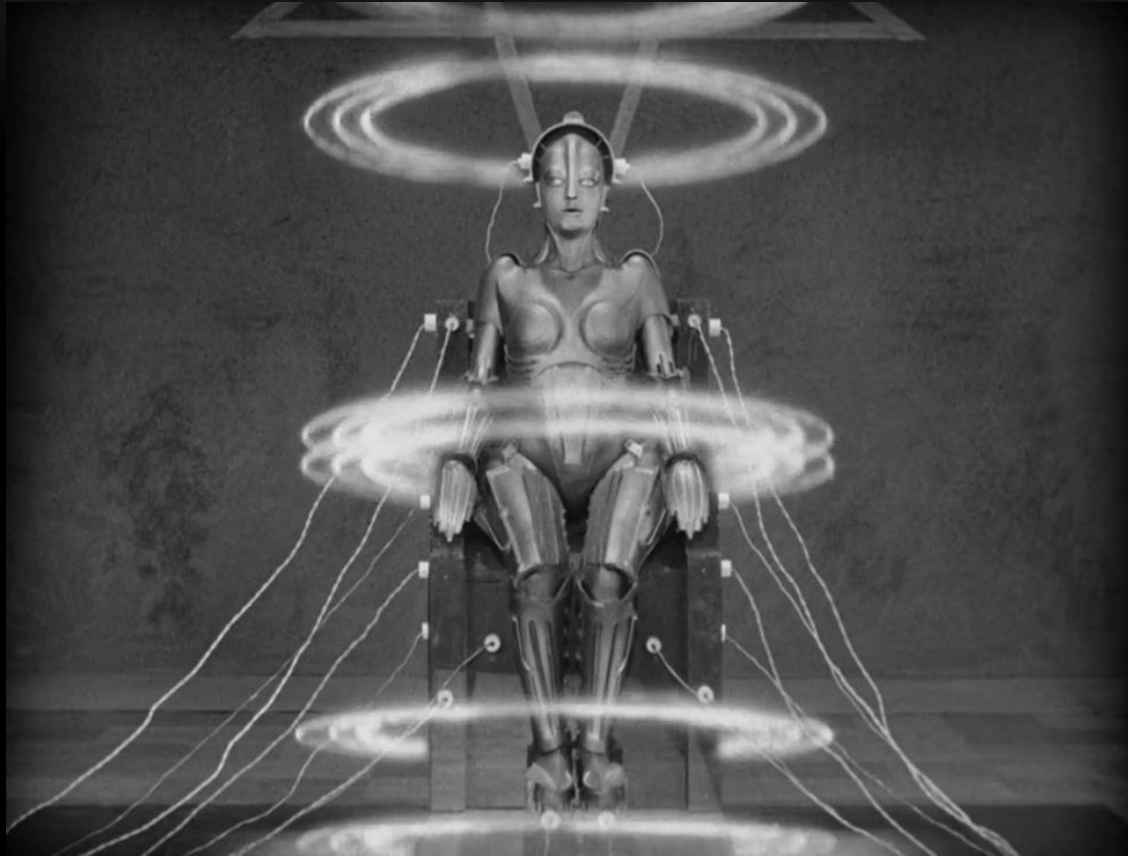


- “From having been an assurance of immortality the double becomes the ghastly harbinger of death” (Freud 9)

METROPOLIS DIR. FRITZ LANG (1927):
THE ROBOT DOUBLE AS DEATH



SEQUENCE: THE CREATION OF A DOUBLE



Metropolis, 1:23:04 – 1:25:56

A ROBOT DOUBLE: FROM SAINT TO TEMPTRESS



SELLING THE DEATHLY DOUBLE: MEET DAVID



- <https://youtu.be/wjQMdtKhnoU>

A MORE SYMPATHETIC MIRRORING – *METROPOLIS* DIR. RINTARO (2001)

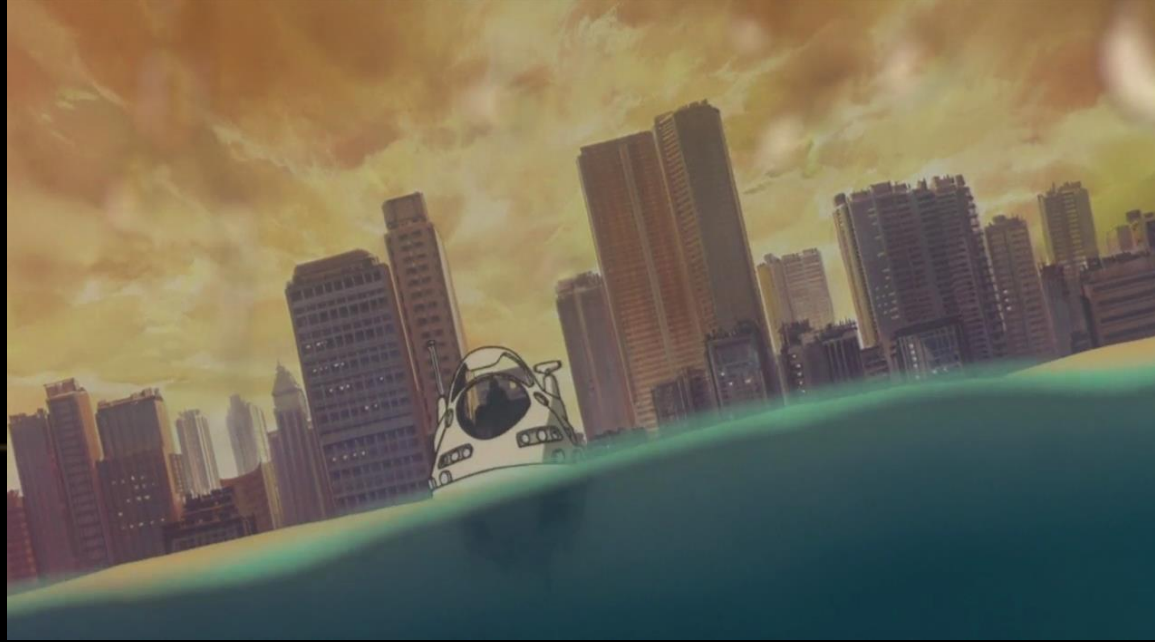


- 1:19:35- 1:19:56

BREAK DOWNS



CROSSING THE UNCANNY VALLEY: *GHOST IN THE SHELL* DIR. MAMORU OSHII (1995)



CUT TO THE 'REAL' WORLD AIBO'S ARE DYING!



- Sony AIBO clinic clients “worried terribly about each scratch acquired by the robot, but then grew to accept them, the blemishes being indelible badges of memorable and affecting occasions” (Knox and Wantanabe 2024).
- “[M]ore than software controls, it was scuffs or breakdowns that came to evoke abiding memories with AIBO, [owners} seeing them as the marks of trials and tribulations that bear witness to their AIBO's growth and the history of their relationship with it” (qtd. in Knox and Wantanabe 2024)

“SEE YOUR ENEMY”:
THE MATRIX REVOLUTIONS DIR. WACHOWSKIS (2003)



- “Look past the flesh. Look through the soft gelatin of these dull cow eyes and see your enemy!”

LET'S NOT FORGET OUR MACHINE SIGHT:
BLADE RUNNER 2049 DIR. DENIS VILLENEUVE (2017)



- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8QvJajVj28w>

THANK YOU!