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Assignment 3

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Herzog’s Philosophy in Film

What I believe is his philosophy in film is to film because you are passionate about it. No matter what budget you have. He thinks more of a go big or go home mind set, because in his film “Burden of Dreams” he told one of the engineering guys that he wants to go all the way, no matter what it takes. The engineering guy told him that it will be dangerous because people could die if it fails or breaks, but Herzog still wanted to go for it.

Herzog used the method of guerrilla filming by actually going to the locations and using everything that was available to him. He actually went to the jungle and found locations to shoot, used the natives that are there for the film, and used the rivers and the environment around him to make it.

The difference between guerrilla filming and other filmmakers is that when you are guerilla filming instead of building a set and props and what not, you actually go to the actual location, and use what you can and have in hand. I see guerrilla filming as a method that independent filmmakers use because they don’t have an extravagant budget to make a film. The big film companies do at times go to the locations they need to go to, to actually film a scene, but when it comes to science fiction films like in Alien, they actually had to build the set because there is no building that is actually built like a ship. I also think that with guerrilla filming, the filmmakers don’t really use special effects or practical effects as much because of budget reasons. Everyone can make special effects nowadays, but when you are making a low budget film, unless you know how to do it, it might take you a couple years to do the effects, and it might now even look as great as the big companies who have teams and can make the effects in months.