**The linking of scenes in "Crash"**

**Key**

**1. Analysis**

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| 6:30 | Dorri is leaving the gun shop. |
| Anthony and Peter are coming out of a restaurant. |
| 9:30 | Anthony and Peter are speeding off in the Cabots´ car. |
| Graham Waters and Ria are arriving at a crime scene by car. |
| 22:25 | Farhad is walking away. |
| Christine Thayer is walking to the phone. |
| 28:30  | Ruiz gets a call on his beeper, which means he has to go back to work (by car). |
| Anthony and Peter are driving in the stolen car. |
| 37:43  | Ria slams a door. |
| Ryan wakes up. |
| 41:00 | Anthony can´t start his car. |
| Maria apologizes for having taken Jean Cabot´s car. |
| 46:18 | Ryan is leaving Shaniqua Johnson´s office (going to the door). |
| The door to Ruiz´ employers´ office is being opened. |
| 47:18  | the interior of Farhad´s shop |
| the interior of Louise´s apartment |
| 53:15 | Farhad is leaving his shop. |
| Hansen is coming out of the police department. |
| 55:20 | Cameron is sitting in his chair and thinking. |
| Farhad is sitting in his chair and thinking. |
| 1:23:51  | Ryan passes Peter, who is hitchhiking. |
| A car stops and Peter is picked up by Hansen. |

**2. Interpretation**

The viewers experience irritations, e.g. one person heading for the exit and then in the next scene another person leaving a different building, as intellectual challenges. Thus the audience learns very soon that "Crash" cannot be watched with a "lean-back-and-relax attitude" but, for various reasons, needs the viewers´ full attention.

The linking of scenes also underlines the idea of people crashing into each other and of everybody being affected by everybody else (cp. Graham Waters to Ria in the first scene: "In a real city you walk, you know, you brush past people. People bump into you. In L.A. nobody touches you. We´re always behind this metal and glass. I think we miss that touch so much that we crash into each other just so we can feel something.").

As an ensemble film "Crash" does not have one central character, but there are many, often ambivalent characters whose lives are intertwined and who live in an anonymous city. Each of them has his own storyline and each of them is important. The transitions analysed above stress the connectedness between these characters. They all contribute to or are affected by stereotyping, prejudice and racism. Although most of them do not know each other, the technique of linking the scenes shows they all live in the same world of cultural clashes where they all affect each other. Thus this technique contributes to the film´s cohesiveness and has a unifying effect.