

Handout for *Millennium Actress*

Things to consider while watching *Millennium Actress*:

1. As with *Perfect Blue*, some critics wondered why *Millennium Actress* was animated rather than live action, given its realistic style and its movie-about-movies content. Be prepared on Thursday to answer such critics in a defense of the film being animated.
2. List some examples of the film's "cinematic" qualities. In other words, how does Kon mimic styles and techniques we usually associate with live-action cinema?
3. What does Kon's animated film seem to be saying about cinema film as a medium?
4. Think about the notion of the "gaze" and framing that we brought up in our discussion *Perfect Blue* and apply it to *Millennium Actress*.
5. What is your interpretation of what the film is about? What is its main theme, its message, its thesis (if it has one), etc.?

Jot thoughts down and come to class Thursday prepared to comment.