

## **ABSTRACT**

*Puppet Master is an experimental film that represents the human condition under the control of invisible forces through symbolic visual approaches. The film portrays an individual living under the shadow of manipulation, symbolized by a string puppet controlled by an unseen entity. The concept was inspired by the personal experience of someone close to the filmmaker, who experienced social control in an unequal relationship. Using non-linear cinematography techniques, distorted sound, extreme lighting, and color manipulation, the film seeks to disrupt the viewer's conventional perception and construct a surreal atmosphere. Elements such as costume design, makeup, mirrors, and visual glitches are arranged to strengthen the narrative of identity loss and existential crisis. This film is not only a media experiment but also an invitation to reflect on how social control can shape individual behavior and perception. The approach aims to open a reflective space on a reality that is often unknowingly shaped by external powers.*

*Keywords: experimental film, Personal experience, string puppet, symbolic visual, identity*