

1986 Summer Schedule - Mondays & Tuesdays • 214 N. Fourth Ave. • 8pm • \$3 (unless otherwise noted) • 662 2470

Mondays, June 9-30 Workshop Series

The Language of Eroticism: A Critical Investigation of Sexuality in the Text

Despite the conservative turn of events the past six years, we continue to exist in a repressed identity in the depiction and politics of sexuality in writing. Now critical works by Alvin Toffler, Julia Kristeva and others have explored this interest academically, while authors Kathy Acker, Nicole Brossard and George and Chris Tynah have broadened the barriers to language to accurately chart the interior and political aspects of desire. We have seen the release of texts by Marguerite Duras, Georges Bataille, and Monique Wittig, as well as the translation of a number of other writers dealing with these same concerns from different viewpoints (Trigay, Iyotard, etc).

The workshop's aim is to investigate these texts and assert ourselves in the development of a discourse concerning the larger implications of the subject of sexuality in the text. We will use a variety of mediums including lectures, video and of course, writing. Discussion will be a major part of our investigation into language, transgression and obscenity as it appears in the text.

Eyemedia will provide all text materials. Workshop participants will write each week and should expect to read their work to the class. The fee for four weeks is \$14 or \$4 per session.

Mon June 9 The Language of Eroticism, Pt. I

Discussion of "eroticism as language" by Thom Jurk. Definition of eroticism and its other ego, pornography. Discussion of writings by Acker and Genet.

Tue June 10 Destroy She Said

(Marguerite Duras, 1969)
From the creator of *Hiroshima, Mon Amour*, comes the hypnotic story of five people isolated in an eerie hotel, discussing a ritualistic poem game. The guests assume interchangeable personalities as they act out an ambiguous charade until the haunting atmosphere of nightmares and fear explodes in a climax of revolutionary destruction. With Catherine Sellers and Michel Lonsdale. Fresh, with subtitles. (100 min.)

Mon June 16 The Language of Eroticism, Pt. II

Lecture on the history of erotic literature in western society and discussion of its political implications by Thom Jurk. Viewing and discussion, led by Kay Marsh, of "The Right Side of My Brain" and other works from New York's "Cinema of Transgression" movement. Discussion of writings by Sontag, Bataille, Wittig and Barthes.

Tue June 17 News From Home

(Chantal Akerman, 1977)
Images of Manhattan are accompanied sporadically by the sounds of letters to the director from her mother back home in Europe. Akerman develops a complex counterpoint between two languages: one visual, revealing Manhattan in all its fascinating alien urban glory, and the other verbal, revealing the claustrophobic family life the director left behind. Unlike most formalist films, this one is elegantly emotional, and cumulatively its images build up a "narrative" element at least as strong as that contained within the spoken texts. In English. (90 min.)

Mon June 23 The Language of Eroticism, Pt. III

Talk by George Tynah on the "Thought and writing of Georges Bataille." Discussion of works by Brossard, Acker and Bataille.

Tue June 24 Variety

(Bette Gordon, 1984)
In her first feature film, Bette Gordon depicts into the dirt observational world of film. A young woman gets a job selling tickets in a Times Square porno theatre and soon becomes obsessed with New York's porn underworld and her own overbearing sexual fantasies. Written by Kathy Acker with an original score by John Zorn. Starring Sandy McLeod and Will Patton. (100 min)

Mon June 30 The Language of Eroticism, Pt. IV

Discussion of writings by Bataille and Duras. Writing assignment in class. Participants read and discuss their writings. Summary of the workshop in a structural context.

Tue July 1 The Servant

(Joseph Losey, 1963)
This thoughtfully measured recreation of the 40's and 50's melodrama is a camp parody that sometimes directly steals from the genre, sometimes burlesques it and often transgresses it. As if San Butler and Sternberg had collaborated in shooting a script by Tennessee Williams and Ruth Meyer. (122 min.)

Mon June 23 Housing In Our Cities

Featuring: "Spatters" The Other Philadelphia Story" (Charles Sponable, 1984), the award-winning documentary that tells the stories of people who "squatch" (or take over) in abandoned houses, in order to get places to live. The film focuses on Gloria Giles, a 22 year old single mother of three children who becomes a leader in the central squatters movement (27 min). Also, "Not the American Dream," an exploration into the causes and effects of housing crisis and sets out a larger economic picture. "Hue 12-Square," an investigation into the death of Florence Rempus, who was shot to death by New York police during an eviction proceeding. Other videos and live performance to be announced.

Tue July 29 Bed and Sofa

(Abram Room, 1955)
Moscow's housing shortage is the setting for this story about a husband who brings home a friend to sleep on the sofa—before long it is the husband who has to sleep on the sofa. Room's surreal aesthetic is executed so brilliantly that it depicts the tensions and psychology of the characters in their crowded little flat. This satire was not only rarely seen outside of the Soviet Union due to its forbidden subjects of adultery and abortion. (85 min.)

Mon July 7 Caroline Des Medicis

(Steven Chivers, 1984-85)
This internationally acclaimed film contains some of the most stunning imagery ever seen. A haunting story of romance, transformation and madness. "Crawping at vast shimmering corridors of light, that rush and pass them by: blackly veiled people that wander in death, as in life, burning hearts, such loathed passions; burn yourself to a cinder, and suffocate the world with ashes." —Steven Chivers. (95 min.) Also excerpts of an interview with Hans-Jürgen Syberberg (Eyemedia, 1985) recorded in Chicago. Plus poetry videos to be announced.

Tue July 8 Ludwig: Requiem for a Virgin King

(Hans-Jürgen Syberberg, 1972)
Syberberg created a new course for cinema with his story of "Mad" Ludwig (1844-90), the last King of Bavaria. Using overt stagecraft, rear-screen projection and symbolic tableaux, Syberberg creates a Brechtian style portrait of the fairy tale king. Everything in the world is contained in this story of Ludwig, builder of fantasy castles and patron of Richard Wagner: myth, vaudeville, burly-purdy, Shakespeare. Faust, Die Nibelungen, twilight of the gods, mystical low death. Hitler, the telephone. 35 an film, videotape, the 19th century, the 20th century, the tragic history of Germany is laid bare before us. With Harry Bar, Ingrid Gann & Peter Kern. (140 min.)

Mon July 14 Michigan Poetry

Featuring the readings of Detroit poets Kofi Nantambu, Richard Waller, and Lydia Jay, and An Arbor poet Mary Sullivan.

Tue July 15 Poetry in Motion

(Ron Mann, 1982)
Poetry explodes out of the classroom, off the written page, and into the realm of performance art. This ambitious documentary presents many of the great poets of our time doing what they do best: reading and writing. Featuring Adri Baraka, Ted Berrigan, Charles Bukowski, William Burroughs, John Cage, Jim Carroll, Joyce Kilmer, Robert Creeley, The Four Horsemen, Allen Ginsberg, John Giorno, Michael McClure, Muzak Shrage, Gary Snyder and Tom Waits. (91 min)

Monday July 21 & Tuesday July 22 Art Fair Special

ART IN THE STREETS: GRAFFITI

This lyrically poetic study of the graffiti-covered subway trains of New York provocatively explores its controversial subject. The director confronts the illegal "vandalism" of graffiti with the legal "vandalism" of commercial billboards. Which do you prefer? Music by Charles Mingus. (65 min.) Also graffiti/street art videos including "Richard Hamilton's NightLife," a documentary on the great street artist, and a look at Chicago area street gangs and their graffiti in "Off the Ball." Live performance and installation to be announced.

Mon July 21 Stations of the Elevated

(Manny Kirchberger, 1980)
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Tue July 22 Style Wars

(Tony Stone, 1982)
The risk injury and jail to paint giant, full-color "asterisks" on the sides of subway trains. Mayor Koch and the police try to smother them, the artwork makes them celebrities. They are authors of the "hip hop" subculture, a world of irony and hope. "Through graffiti I've met people who have helped me. I'm not accepting it. I've met me through my art what I'm trying to express. See, I've always looked for a way out. I tried anything got out from living poverty in the South Bronx." —Mare(Graffiti writer). (69 min.)

Mon July 28 Housing In Our Cities

Featuring: "Spatters" The Other Philadelphia Story" (Charles Sponable, 1984), the award-winning documentary that tells the stories of people who "squatch" (or take over) in abandoned houses, in order to get places to live. The film focuses on Gloria Giles, a 22 year old single mother of three children who becomes a leader in the central squatters movement (27 min). Also, "Not the American Dream," an exploration into the causes and effects of housing crisis and sets out a larger economic picture. "Hue 12-Square," an investigation into the death of Florence Rempus, who was shot to death by New York police during an eviction proceeding. Other videos and live performance to be announced.

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Mon August 4 Interviews with Independent Filmmakers

Videotaped interviews with a selection of major independent film and video makers including Yvonne Rainer (The Man Who Evaded Women), John Van Der Kenden, Huile Gerzon, TREATYVILLE by TREVINO/Edie and Dale Hoy.

Tue August 5 The New Cinema

(Robert Wintonick, 1983)
Many of the world's foremost independent filmmakers attended the 11th Annual Montreal International Festival of New Cinema including Chantal Akerman, Anne de Melon, Les Blank, Doris Chase, Robert Frank, Werner Schroeter, Jean-Marie Straub, John Van Der Kenden and Wim Wenders. The New Cinema features interviews with these and other filmmakers along with excerpts from their films. (100 min.)

Mon August 11 Michigan Poetry

Featuring Detroit poets Kurt Orment and Schaarazetta Natale. Additional poets to be announced.

Tue August 12 A Film About a Woman Who...

(Yvonne Rainer, 1974)
From the director of the new, highly acclaimed "The Man Who Evaded Woman" comes this earlier meditation on ambivalence, contemplating the desire for independence with the need for love and sensual reciprocity. Rainer establishes a new film aesthetic by using the expression of suspended time in place of the depiction of the consequences of dramatic action. Predicated on Rainer's earlier dances and the "chance" practices of Cage and Genet, she is the film's instigator of time and ambivalence actively subvert the manipulative "thrillards" of Hollywood entertainments. (105 min.)



Mon August 18 Michigan Film Video

Eyemedia continues its tradition of showcasing recent explorations in film and video. Submissions in all formats are welcome. (662-2470)

Tue August 19 Contrary Warriors: A Film of the Crow Tribe

(Gornie Patton, Pamela Roberts & Beth Ferris, 1985)
Through the experiences of tribal leader Robert Yellowtail, this film explores the century-long struggle of the Crow for survival. Like all Native Americans, the Crow of southeastern Montana were subjected to relentless attempts by the federal government to take away their land and destroy their culture. The film manages to slip through a message that all is not peace and doom, that the people are not broken, that the stories are still told and the spirit remains strong. Winner of the Golden Plaques at the 1985 Chicago International Film Festival. (60 min.)

Cowgirls: Portraits of American Ranch Women

(Sussey Jolly, 1982)
This new documentary is about the women who ride, rope and "tough out" the elements just as well as their more famous counterparts, the cowboys. The film features the stories of two women and two little girls in California and Texas. The producer and director Sussey Jolly herself worked as a buckaroo and ranch hand in California and Nevada for three years. (30 min)

Mon August 25 ???



Tue August 26 Nevada's Chinatown

(George Kuchar, 1973)
This thoughtfully measured recreation of the 40's and 50's melodrama is a camp parody that sometimes directly steals from the genre, sometimes burlesques it and often transgresses it. As if San Butler and Sternberg had collaborated in shooting a script by Tennessee Williams and Ruth Meyer. (122 min.)

EYEMEDIA GALLERY

Hours: Monday & Tuesday: 7:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. or by appointment.

June: Eileen McInland, Sherri Moore and Johanna Mirza: "Restrictive paintings and prints.

July: Rafael Duran: Steel, bronze and paper works.

August: Photographs by Mark Wilson