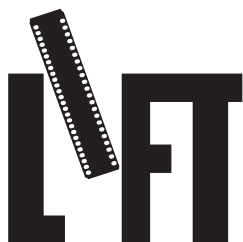


30 x 30: Newly Commissioned Films for Thirty Years of LIFT



Still: Jean-Paul Kelly *A Minimal Difference*(2011)



Friday January 20, 2012
AGO Jackman Hall

Midi Onodera "*The Grand Design*", Video, 9:25, 2011
Words of wisdom from an old broad.

Midi Onodera is an award-winning filmmaker who has been making films and videos for over thirty years. She has over twenty-five independent short films to her credit as well as a theatrical feature film and an abundance of short videos. Her recent works feature a collage of formats and mediums -ranging from film to digital video toy formats such as a modified Nintendo Game Boy Camera, the Tyco and Lego video cameras as well as still film cameras such as the Lomographic Supersampler and various iPhone apps. From 2006 to 2010, Midi has made over 430 short videos or "Vidoddles" for projects that include: A Movie A Day, Movie of the Week and Baker's Dozen. Her current year long project is FPS, a collection of 24 "Vidoddles". New shorts are posted on the 1st and 15th of each month and can be viewed online at www.midionodera.com

Alison Duke "*In Search of a Word*", Video, 3:00, 2011

In search of a word (2012) is part two of a trilogy of experimental short docuvideos that focuses on human rights for African and Caribbean queers on the continent of African and in the Diaspora. The theme of the trilogy is Hate, Love and Peace which each video ending with one of those words. The first video, *Batty Boys Revenge* (2009) premiered at the AGO and screened at several film festivals including Inside Out and Image+Nation. In search of a word features a vibrant social justice poem written partially in Wolof (a Gambian language) by queer African poet/performance artist Rosamond King and is meant to provoke thought around African bodies queering the streets of Canada as well as raise the global consciousness of tolerance as it relates to space. Medium: Super 8mm, iphone, flipcam, HD and by any means necessary.

Alison Duke came out in the Toronto filmmaking scene producing and directing music videos for friends and local urban artists. She later co-owned a music video production company called Raje Filmhouse before producing for television and then entering the world of documentaries. Her credits include *Raisin' Kane: a rapumentary* (2001), *A Deathly Silence* (2003), *Sisters in Cinema* (2003), *Garbage! The Revolution Starts at Home* (2007) and *The Women I Have Become* (2008) and *My Joan of Arc* (2011). To date, her films have broadcasted on CBC Newsworld, The Sundance Channel, Superchannel, Life Network, OMNI Television, Much Music, BET, TVOne and Oxygen and have enjoyed many international festivals. Alison is currently producing a Bruce McDonald drama, *A Love Supreme* and completing *Positive Women*, a short documentary about the criminalization of HIV positive women for the Canadian HIV Legal Network. It will be released in February 2012 to launch a national advocacy campaign around this issue. www.alisonduke.com

Greg Woodbury "*Medical Test Chronicles: Victoria's MRI Story*", Video, 6:30, 2012

Our medical system loves diagnostic equipment, the more complex, the better. But this proliferation of exotic machinery poses an intriguing question: Can someone actually fail a medical test? This film illustrates that patients do fail and that MRI's can be invasive, scary and maybe even dangerous.

Greg Woodbury has worked in the Media Arts community for over 20 years as an administrator in artist-run production centres and public Media Arts organizations; as a production and post-production freelancer and in his own art practice. He has produced several of his own single channel videos and installations as well as fostered the work of other independent film/video/media artists through teaching, advocacy, technical support, creative collaboration and programming. He is presently co-managing Charles Street Video and teaches at OCAD University.

Ant Horasanli "*Inhibit*", Video, 4:27, 2011

Written by: Sara Martins & Ant Horasanli

Cast: Jake Farrel, Shania Chapman, Anne York

Ant Horasanli is an award winning Writer/Director/Producer. His documentary *Redline* won Best Feature Documentary at the 2003 Long Island, New York Film Festival. In 2011 his first feature film *Lost Journey* was picked up by Mongrel Media and released theatrically in Canada and the US. The film can currently be seen on TMN, Super Channel, and Netflix. Currently, Ant Horasanli is penning his second feature film a Sci-Fi/drama to be produced through Telefilm Canada and to star Michael Biehn (*Terminator*, *Aliens*, *The Abyss*). www.n6p.com

Raha Shirazi "*The Story Ends When The Story Begins*", Video, 4:12, 2012

We are hunted by our past, displacement and memories; In this 8mm piece, we take a personal journey through the memories of a girl by viewing a cut of time, a collection of disembodied memories, coming from the future and the past.

Raha Shirazi was born in Tehran, Iran and immigrated to Canada with her family at the age of eleven. Her film, a short entitled *Four Walls*, premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival 2007, and has gone on to screen at international film festivals around the world. In 2008 Raha was selected as one of the six Canadian representatives in the Berlinale International Film Festival Talent Campus. Shirazi is an Artistic Co-Director of Plural Productions and holds an MFA in film production from York University with a joint diploma from New York University and Farnham Film School in the Czech Republic, where she completed intensive training in the cinematic arts.

Jean-Paul Kelly "*A Minimal Difference*", Video, 4:00, 2012

Referencing pictures from Kelly's ongoing archive of photographs and clippings culled from Google, flickr and photojournalism, *A Minimal Difference* conflates the material structure of images with a personal dialogue about the experience of seeing.

Jean-Paul Kelly creates drawings, photographs, videos and animation that are often displayed together. Through an exploration of allegorical storytelling his works engage with issues of representation and subjectivity, focusing on the gap between a material relation to the world and lived experience. His work has been exhibited at Gallery TPW (Toronto, Canada), Mercer Union (Toronto), Ed Video (Guelph, Canada), as part of *Coming After* at The Power Plant (Toronto), *Showcase.09* at Cambridge Galleries (Cambridge, Canada), and at various international arts festivals. Kelly holds a Masters of Visual Studies from the University of Toronto.

www.jeanpaulkelly.com

Jorge Lozano "*Let there be Shadows*", Video, 8:00, 2011

Jorge Lozano is a Toronto-based film and video artist. Originally from Colombia, he exhibited his work in Amsterdam, Paris, Toronto, Bombay and New York. He has studied philosophy and literature at University of Valle (Colombia) and Photo Electric Arts at the Ontario College of Art (Toronto). www.jorgelozano.ca

Madi Piller "*7200 Frames Under The Sun*", 2x Super 8, 3:30, 2011

Super 8 double projection: the films are presented as a diptych in color and black and white. The images explore the surface of the film and the deepness richness of the landscape of the rock formations of the Canadian shield. The two Super 8 films, each 50ft, are created in camera, one animating the landscape with methodic incremental movements the other focusing on the texture of it. The films, contemplative and poetic work are abstract representations of visual media such as television scan field and paintings and justify Super 8 as its own art form. Projecting on Super 8 with no sound it is as original and pure as it can be.

Madi Piller is a Toronto based Filmmaker, born in Lima-Peru. She graduated from the University of Lima in Communication Sciences and began her career in advertising producing TV commercials for a wide variety of products. In 1998 Madi moved to Toronto and started working closely with the independent film community doing experimental short films, programming and mentoring. Her films have been shown at many Festivals and Art venues across Canada and abroad. Her work has been produced with the support of the Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council, Toronto Arts Council, LIFT and the National Film Board of Canada. For several years she has been active in programming and creating special commissioned projects in animation. Madi's admiration for the art of animation has motivated her to serve as volunteer President of the Toronto Animated Image Society (TAIS) Board of Directors.

Ulysses Castellanos "Queen's Plate", Video, 6:40, 2011

Queen's Plate is a film composed of images taken from an 8mm home movie reel that I found at a junk shop in Toronto. The film shows the Queen's Plate horse race at the old Woodbine racetrack, with the Queen presiding at the festivities, as well as footage from a Shriner's parade that took place in Toronto circa 1959. The soundtrack of the film was taken from a found recording of a police tape in which a negotiator is attempting to convince two robbers that have taken hostages at a store to give themselves up. The juxtaposition of the Royals surrounded by members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in full regalia, and the soundtrack of the vulgar and ignorant criminals as they demand a getaway vehicle, sandwiches and Labatt's Blue beer from the police, coupled with the ridiculous images of Shriners dressed like clowns riding miniature automobiles, is a representation of Canadian culture at its most sublime, pretentious and base extremes.

Ulysses Castellanos is a multidisciplinary artist and independent curator living and working in Toronto. His work encompasses new media, film and video, music, performance, painting, photography and sculpture-installation. He has exhibited at many national and international institutions including El Museo de la Ciudad de Queretaro, Mexico, La Cúpula Gallery and Media Lab, Córdoba, Argentina, Local Project, Queens, New York, Hemispheric Center for Performance and Politics NYU, Reinraum eV, Düsseldorf, 7A*11D International Festival of Performance Art, Toronto, Atomic Centre, Winnipeg, Nakai Theater, Yukon, Gallery SAW, Ottawa, The McMaster Museum of Art, Hamilton, Art Souterrain, Montreal, The Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, the Bucharest Biennial and the Konkordja Biennial of Young Artists, Vrsac, Serbia. www.ulyssesdadabase.com

Closing night reception starts 10:00pm Saturday January 21 at Hotel Ocho, 195 Spadina Avenue. Free admission, cash bar.

LIFT's 30 x 30 commissioning project has been supported by the Initiatives Program of the Canada Council for the Arts (Media Arts Section).

LIFT is Canada's foremost artist-run production and education organization dedicated to celebrating excellence in the moving image. LIFT exists to provide support and encouragement for independent filmmakers and artists through affordable access to production, post-production and exhibition equipment; professional and creative development; workshops and courses; commissioning and exhibitions; artist-residencies; and a variety of other services. LIFT is supported by its membership, Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Ontario Arts Foundation, the Government of Ontario and the Toronto Arts Council.

For more information about LIFT see: lift.ca