

FUGITIVE PRAYERS:

NEW EXPERIMENTAL WORKS at the **SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL**

Curated by Kathy Geritz and Irina Leimbacher

Co-Presented by San Francisco Cinematheque, Pacific Film Archive and SF International Film Festival

Kabuki Theatre, Sunday April 30, 2006, 6:45 pm

Artists Dolissa Medina, Tomonari Nishikawa, Stacey Steers, Pawel Wojtasik In Person

This year marks the twelfth annual co-presentation of new experimental work by San Francisco Cinematheque, Pacific Film Archive and the San Francisco International Film Festival. Fugitive Prayers features nine experimental films and videos that pay homage to early cinema and its precursors, witness the ordinary made extraordinary, or mourn tragic events. With elegance and originality, they offer meditations on the past, warnings for the future, and new visions of the present.

HOW TO PRAY (2006) by Bill Morrison; 35mm, b/w, sound, 11 mins.

An environmental meditation using newsreel footage from the 1920s, with music by David Lang (Bang on a Can), and produced by Hypnotic Pictures.

PHANTOM CANYON (2006) by Stacey Steers; 35mm, b/w, sound, 9.5 mins.

A young woman encounters enormous insects and an alluring man in this personal memoir, a surreal recollection of a pivotal journey taken long ago. The piece incorporates over 4,000 handmade collages.

FUGITIVE L(I)GHT (2005) by Izabella Pruska-Oldenhof; 16mm, color, 9 mins.

This film explores the morph-like quality of the serpentine dance and its intricate play on the visible and invisible. It is also a tribute to the legacy of its originator, the American born Loïe Fuller. Music by Colin Clark.

NAKED (2005) by Pawel Wojtasik; mini-dv, color, sound, 10.5 mins.

An unflinching look at life in a lab colony of naked mole rats.

SITE SPECIFIC_SHANGHAI 04 (2005) by Olivo Barbieri; digi-beta, color, sound, 13 mins.

A film about silence, the story of the most rapid change in the urban fabric and architecture of a single country.

19: VICTORIA TEXAS (2006) by Dolissa Medina; beta sp, color, sound, 4 mins.

An experimental short film about an incident that took place in May 2003, this piece is both a memorial and a journey into the dark, claustrophobic experience of a human tragedy

MARKET STREET (2005) by Tomonari Nishikawa; 16mm b/w, silent, 4.5 mins.

In this exhilarating single-frame celebration of Market Street, one hundred years after the street first entered the history of cinema, composition in time and human visual perception are explored.

THE HAUNTED CAMERA (2006) by Nancy Andrews; 16mm, b/w, sound, 30 mins.

Combining live-action, documentary, animation and puppetry, this film follows Ima Plume as she investigates her own death, spirit photography, and other mysteries.

PASSERS-BY (2005) by Jos de Putter; 35mm, color, sound, 7 mins.

Fragments of conversations linger in bus shelters in the deserted landscape of the Dutch Province of Zeeland.

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THE **SAN FRANCISCO CINEMATHEQUE** WAS FOUNDED BY BAY AREA FILMMAKERS IN 1961 AND IS NOW ONE OF THE OLDEST SHOWCASES FOR PERSONAL AND EXPERIMENTAL FILM IN THE UNITED STATES. STRIVING TO MAKE EXPERIMENTAL FILM AND VIDEO A PART OF THE LARGER CULTURAL LANDSCAPE, THE CINEMATHEQUE PRESENTS FIFTY PROGRAMS EACH YEAR, WITH ARTISTS PRESENT AT MOST SCREENINGS. FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.SFCINEMATHEQUE.ORG

THE **PACIFIC FILM ARCHIVE** (PFA) IS AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED CENTER FOR THE EXHIBITION AND STUDY OF CINEMA LOCATED IN BERKELEY. THROUGH ITS DAILY FILM AND VIDEO SCREENINGS, COLLECTION, AND STUDY RESOURCES, THE PFA IS COMMITTED TO INCREASING THE UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION OF THE ART OF CINEMA. FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.BAMPFA.BERKELEY.EDU/PFA/

* **Fugitive Prayers** will screen again at the **Pacific Film Archive in Berkeley on Tuesday, May 2 at 7 pm.** *