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For Immediate Release

Release Date:
November 12, 2014

Exhibition film program in collaboration with Anthology Film Archives

Dates:
December 12, 13 & 14, 2014

Time:
7:30 pm

Location:
32 Second Avenue
(at East 2nd Street)
New York, NY 10003

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PUDDLE, POTHOLE, PORTAL FILM PROGRAM AT ANTHOLOGY FILM ARCHIVES DECEMBER 12, 13, & 14

FEATURING A SCREENING OF *WHO FRAMED ROGER RABBIT* ALONGSIDE ANIMATION FROM
AROUND THE WORLD

Long Island City, NY – SculptureCenter is pleased to announce a 3-day film program in collaboration with Anthology Film Archives to coincide with the group exhibition *Puddle, pothole, portal*. The films included comprise much of the research for the exhibition, and touch on themes around live action and animation, the creation of early virtual worlds in cartoons, and the relationship between humor and technology.

The programs include early 20th century mainstream, yet subversive, cartoons by studios like Disney and Fleischer which suggested comic reconfigurations of reality through machines; independent and artist films that continued these traditions; and **WHO FRAMED ROGER RABBIT**, the self-reflexive 1988 Disney film that addressed the history and future of cartoons. The programs are organized to explore the comical and absurd in a reality that is rapidly transforming through machines, industry and technology.

The series includes films by directors such as Charles ‘Charley’ Bowers (American, 1877–1946), who combined slapstick with animation to create fantastical scenarios that were entangled in new industry; Nedeljko Dragic (Croatian, b. 1936), who was a leading member of the Zagreb Animation Film Studio and created fantastic scenes that reconfigured and merged changing urban and psychological spaces; and Sally Cruikshank (American, b. 1949) whose films in the 1970s explored psychedelic mishaps with new technologies. Also featured is **Keiichi Tanaami** (Japanese, b. 1936), whose sculptures are on view at SculptureCenter, and who will here be screening a new print of *STUDY OF THE VIRGIN IN SCHOOL UNIFORM STRIPPED BARE BY HER BACHELORS* (1975), a film that melds art, comics, pop culture, technology, and desire.

Following the screening on Sunday, December 14, there will be a conversation about the exhibition and film program between **Ruba Katrib**, Curator, SculptureCenter, and historian **Esther Leslie**.

PROGRAM 1, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 7:30 PM

Robert Zemeckis *WHO FRAMED ROGER RABBIT* 1988, 104 min, 35mm. With Bob Hoskins, Christopher Lloyd, and the voice of Charles Fleischer.

Plus:

Rob Minkoff TUMMY TROUBLE 1989, 7 min, 35mm

Frank Marshall & Rob Minkoff ROLLER COASTER RABBIT 1990, 7 min, 35mm

Barry Cook TRAIL MIX-UP 1993, 8 min, 35mm

Total running time: ca. 130 min.

PROGRAM 2, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 7:30 PM

Walt Disney ALICE'S EGG PLANT 1925, 9 min, 35mm, b&w, silent

Jack King SELF-CONTROL 1938, 9 min, 16mm. With Donald Duck.

Dave Fleischer KO-KO'S EARTH CONTROL 1928, 6 min, 35mm, b&w, silent. Print courtesy of the UCLA Film & Television Archive.

Harold L. Muller IT'S A BIRD 1930, 15 min, 16mm, b&w. With Charley Bowers.

Dave & Max Fleischer THE CARTOON FACTORY 1924, 8 min, 35mm, b&w, silent. Preserved by the Library of Congress.

Faith Hubley ENTER LIFE 1981, 8 min, 16mm. Courtesy of the Reserve Film and Video Collection of The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

Sally Cruikshank MAKE ME PSYCHIC 1978, 8 min, 35mm. Print courtesy of the Academy Film Archive.

Robert Clampett PORKY IN WACKYLAND 1938, 7 min, 35mm, b&w. Preserved by the Library of Congress.

Jordan Wolfson CON LECHE 2009, 22 min, digital

Walt Disney ALICE'S SPOOKY ADVENTURE 1924, 8 min, 35mm, b&w, silent

Total running time: ca. 105 min.

PROGRAM 3, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 7:30 PM

Mark Leckey FLIX 2008, 2 min, 16mm, b&w, silent

Walt Disney ALICE'S WONDERLAND 1923, 12 min, 35mm, b&w, silent

Keiichi Tanaami STUDY OF THE VIRGIN IN SCHOOL UNIFORM STRIPPED BARE BY HER BACHELORS 1975, 4 min, 16mm

Nedeljko Dragić TUP TUP 1973, 10 min, 35mm Print courtesy of the Cineteca di Bologna.

Sally Cruikshank QUASI AT THE QUACKADERO 1975, 10 min, 35mm. Print courtesy of the Academy Film Archive.

Charley Bowers BELIEVE IT OR DON'T 1935, 8 min, 16mm, b&w

Dave Fleischer HA! HA! HA! 1934, 7 min, 35mm, b&w

Total running time: ca. 60 min.

Followed by a conversation about the exhibition and film program between Ruba Katrib, Curator, SculptureCenter, and historian Esther Leslie.

Leslie is Professor of Political Aesthetics at Birkbeck, University of London, UK. Her first book was *Walter Benjamin: Overpowering Conformism* (Pluto, 2000). She has also written a biography of Benjamin (*Reaktion*, 2008). In 2002 she published *Hollywood Flatlands: Animation, Critical Theory, and the Avant Garde* (Verso). *Synthetic Worlds: Nature, Art, and the Chemical Industry* (*Reaktion*) appeared in 2005. *Derelicts: Thought Worms from the Wreckage*, a study of the effects of war on the writings and creative work of Benjamin, Theodor Adorno, Kurt Schwitters, Siegfried Kracauer, and others was published by Unkant in 2014. She has just finished a book on liquid crystals. She co-edits three journals: *Historical Materialism*, *Radical Philosophy*, and *Revolutionary History* and runs a website together with Ben Watson: militantesthetix.co.uk.

TICKETS

Per show: \$10 general admission; \$8 for students, seniors, & children (12 & under); \$6

SculptureCenter and Anthology Film Archives members. Tickets are available at Anthology's box office

on the day of the show only. The box office opens 30 minutes before the first show of the day. Members may purchase tickets in advance.

THE EXHIBITION

Puddle, pothole, portal, curated by Ruba Katrib, Curator, SculptureCenter, and artist Camille Henrot, fill SculptureCenter's entire building to inaugurate the recent expansion and renovation. The exhibition features works, many of them newly created, by Olga Balema, Joachim Bandau, Camille Blatrix, Teresa Burga, Antoine Catala, Abigail DeVille, Jos de Gruyter & Harald Thys, Judith Hopf, Jamian Juliano-Villani, Allison Katz, Mark Leckey, Maria Loboda, Win McCarthy, Danny McDonald, Marlie Mul, Mick Peter, Chadwick Rantanen, Lucie Stahl, Saul Steinberg, Keiichi Tanaami, Lina Viste Grønli and Jordan Wolfson.

Incorporating a sense of wonder and humor, concepts surrounding animation and cartooning are expanded into an exhibition that enacts a similar sort of hysteria around flatness and depth in relation to technologies, real, and illusory spaces—physical, virtual, internal, and external.

The exhibition will be on view from October 2, 2014 to January 5, 2015.

About SculptureCenter

Founded by artists in 1928, SculptureCenter is a not-for-profit arts institution in Long Island City, NY dedicated to experimental and innovative developments in contemporary sculpture. SculptureCenter commissions new works and presents exhibitions by emerging and established, national and international artists. Our programs identify new talent, explore the conceptual, aesthetic and material concerns of contemporary sculpture, and encourage independent vision.

About Anthology Film Archives

Founded in 1969, Anthology's mission is to preserve, exhibit, and promote public and scholarly understanding of independent, classic, and avant-garde cinema. Anthology screens more than 1,000 film and video programs per year, publishes books and catalogs annually, and has preserved more than 900 films to date.

DIRECTIONS

Subway:

F train to 2nd Avenue, walk two blocks north on 2nd Avenue to 2nd Street; #6 to Bleecker St., walk one block north on Lafayette, then two blocks east on Bond St. (turns into 2nd St.) to 2nd Avenue.

Bus:

M15 to 3rd Street.