

Kenneth Goldsmith – I Declare a Permanent State of Happiness
Wednesday 27 November, 6.30 pm
Teatrino di Palazzo Grassi

After the lecture “I Declare a Permanent State of Happiness” by Kenneth Goldsmith, a selection of films by Stan VanDerBeek are screened:

Astral Man

1959, 2’30”, 16mm film transferred to video, colour, silent

A drawn film. An animated vision... a subliminal glance at man in light and space.

Dance of the Looney Spoons

1959-1965, 5’29”, 16mm film transferred to video, black and white, sound

Directed with Johanna VanDerBeek

Music by Jay Watt

An animated and live action fantasy, the loop de loops of ten spoons, forks and tableware ... a parable in the shape of a soup spoon ... conceived as a children's film.

Breathdeath

1963, 14’33”, 35mm film transferred to video, black and white, sound

Music by Jay Watt

Dedicated to Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton. A surrealistic fantasy based on the 15th century woodcuts of the dance of the dead. A film experiment that deals with the photoreality and the surrealism of life. It is a collage-animation that cuts up photos and newsreel film and reassembles them, producing an image that is a mixture of unexplainable fact (Why is Harpo Marx playing a harp in the middle of a battlefield?) with the inexplicable act (Why is there a battlefield?). It is a black comedy, a fantasy that mocks at death... a parabolic parable.

Science Friction

1959, 9’49”, 16mm film transferred to video, colour, sound

Animated collage and live action. A social satire aimed at the rockets, scientists, and competitive mania of our time.

Site

1965, 9’21”, 16mm film transferred to video, black and white

A 3-screen film documentary of a dance by Bob Morris and Carolee Schneemann set in a black infinite space. A man moves, carrying and moving large planes and shapes - uncovering a nude woman - metaphor of architectural and metaphysical space.

Poemfield No. 5

1967, 6’44”, 16mm film transferred to video, colour, sound

Computer generated soundtrack

Poemfield No. 7

1967-1968, 4'47", 16mm film transferred to video, colour, sound
Music by John Cage

Moirage

1967, 8'45", 16mm film transferred to video, colour, sound
Directed with Gerald Oster
Soundtrack: Paul Motian

A study in ocular illusions, pattern superimposition producing other patterns and illusions of three dimensionality. A thorough demonstration of the richness and varied qualities of moiré patterns by the acknowledged scientist/artist Gary Oster.

Film Form No. 1

1968-1970, 11'02", 16mm film transferred to video, colour, sound
Danced by Adrienne Egan and Jane Baird Adam

A hypnotic dance film of colours, dancers, forms and music all sweeping through the TV tube eye mixed together into a flow of female bodies and colours, a brilliant study of colour printing from black and white. Collaboration on the project by Brown/Olvey.

Euclidean Illusions

1979-1980, 9'43", 16mm film transferred to video, colour, sound

Music by Max VanDerBeek. A fantasy film of illusive geometry, changing and rebuilding itself by computer animation, unique visual magic done while artist-in-residence at NASA in Houston in conjunction with Richard Weinberg.