

presents: THE DARK ARTS: magic and intuition

Where the Wild Things Are

curated by

ERIK MARTINSON

Screening and curator's talk Friday, January 30, 2009 Screening @ 6 & 7:30pm Curator's talk @ 7:00pm

This programme will be available on request through Thursday, February 19, 2009



five more minutes by Dena DeCola & Karin E. Wandner, 2005 (photo: Star Barry)

THE VTAPE CURATORIAL INCUBATOR v.6: THE DARK ARTS: magic and intuition

The 6th season of The Curatorial Incubator, Vtape's innovative media arts mentoring project, delves into the nature of the supernatural. Artists have always been interested in that which is not of this world, and video could be an ideal medium for this investigation (sorry, we couldn't resist!).

After combing through the extensive holdings at Vtape, assisted by their research into other distributors' holdings, the four emerging artist/curators each present a challenging and entertaining programme of works that engages their own specific "take" on the topic. The second programme in this year's Curatorial Incubator features Erik Martinson's exploration of family relationships.

"The three videos in the program approach parent/child dynamics with an eye for their complexity, dialogue miss-functions, and psychic traumas. The 'Wild Things' are not wholly lost; they lie beneath the surface to be accessed, summoned in the service of love, mourning, and transference." - Erik Martinson

The Programme:

Tseng Yu-Chin, *Who's Listening? 5* 2003, 24:20

Dena DeCola & Karin E. Wandner, *five more minutes* 2005, 17:15

Mary J. Daniel, *Parenthesis* 2003, 3:55

Biographies:

Tseng Yu-Chin

Tseng Yu-Chin lives and works in Taipei. He received a graduate degree from the School of Technical Art at Taipei National University of the Arts in 2006. His work has shown widely including the 3rd Fukuoka Asian Art Triennale 2005, Rencontres Internationales Paris/Berlin 2006, a solo exhibition (Acid Tongue) at Chi-Wen Gallery in Taipei 2007, Documenta 12 in Kassel Germany 2007, and a show with Daniel Andersson at Location One Gallery in New York 2008. Recently he received the award for Best Young Artist at the Chinese Contemporary Art Awards 2008. In addition to his art practice, Tseng is a writer of fiction and poetry. The *Who's Listening* series is in the collection of The Taipei Fine Art Museum and the National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts.

Dena DeCola and Karin E. Wandner

Dena DeCola and Karin E. Wandner live in Los Angeles. They have collaborated since meeting at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Their work has shown nationally and internationally.

Mary J. Daniel

Mary J. Daniel has a twenty-year history of making hard-to-categorize works focusing on the artistry and poetry of mundane phenomena, including several short films and videos and a feature-length study of everyday storytelling invited to the 1990 Toronto Festival of Festivals. Her work has shown at cinematheques, galleries, art houses and micro-cinemas, and traveled to festivals on the international, experimental, women's, and gay & lesbian circuits. She received the 2005 Images Festival's Steamwhistle Award for best local artist; Toronto's Pleasure Dome premiered her 2007 anthology of poetic shorts, *Pictures of Things That Aren't There*, alongside selected works by New York filmmaker Marie Menken; different pieces of the collection recently featured in curated programmes at the Struts Gallery Media Arts Festival, the Kassel Documentary Festival, and the Anthology Film Archive in New York City.

Erik Martinson

Erik Martinson graduated from Queen's University in 2004 with a BAH in Film. He has worked at Vtape since 2005 and serves on the board of Charles Street Video and A Space Gallery. He curates independently and as a member of Pleasure Dome, an experimental film and video programming collective.

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January 9 – 29, 2009

Darryl Bank presents "Trickx of Light: the art of the hoax". "The hoax only becomes a hoax after it is debunked. Prior to that point, it is merely a truth claim, an assertion, an attempt to supplant one reality with another. The works that comprise this programme collectively argue for a third category beyond "truth" and "hoax" – the paradoxical hoax which cannot be debunked, forever in stasis between a subjective truth claim and an objective reality." (D.B.)

January 30 – February 19, 2009

Erik Martinson presents "Where the Wild Things Are". The three videos in the program approach parent/child dynamics with an eye for their complexity, dialogue miss-functions, and traumas. The 'Wild Things' are not wholly lost; they lie beneath the surface to be accessed, summoned in the service of love, mourning, and transference." (E.M.)

February 20 - March 12, 2009

Leigh Fisher presents "Marvelous! Ruin! Collapse!", an exploration of Andre Breton's idea of the "fixed explosive" along with ideas of the uncanny and the marvelous.

March 13 - April 2, 2009

Matthew Hyland presents "Life on Venus", a look at feminism and the uncanny.

Exhibitions in the Vtape Video Salon are supported by The Canada Council for the Arts, Media Arts Section.

Please contact Erik Martinson at Vtape to book class visits to view The Curatorial Incubator program as well as other titles in the Vtape holdings and to have an orientation to Vtape and all the extensive research facilities available to students, curators, writers and the general public.

Vtape

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