

THE CINEMATIC MUSEUM: THE POSTWAR ART DOCUMENTARY

FILM PROGRAM AND SYMPOSIUM

FRIDAY 1 AND SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER, 2017

KASK Cinema, Ghent, Belgium

Organized by Steven Jacobs and Birgit Cleppe (Ghent University)

in collaboration with Cinea, Cinematek Brussels, and KASK Cinema



The 1940s and 1950s can be considered “The Golden Age” of the European art documentary with landmark films by Luciano Emmer, Alain Resnais, Henri Storck, Paul Haesaerts, Robert Flaherty, Carl Theodor Dreyer, and Henri-Georges Clouzot among others. At the same time, prominent critics, art historians, and film theorists extensively paid attention to the art documentary, which came to be seen as an interesting genre to investigate the boundaries between film and art, juxtaposing movement versus stasis, narrative versus iconic images, and cinematic space versus pictorial surface.

This symposium includes several lectures by international experts as well as screenings of rarely seen mid-twentieth-century films. Documentaries by Henri Alekan and Dudley Shaw Ashton on the sculptures by Auguste Rodin and Barbara Hepworth respectively will be combined with a rare late-1930s color film on Rubens by René Huyghe, two so-called *crito-films* by Carlo Ludovico Raghianti, and some segments of *Pictura*, a major portmanteau production containing parts directed by several filmmakers including Alain Resnais. Particular attention goes to the way these films can be seen as “cinematic museums” in the sense that filmmakers consciously experimented with viewpoints, light conditions, and display devices to transform the original artwork in a thrilling cinematic experience.

Last but not least, artist Mark Lewis will introduce the screening of some of his recent cinematic explorations of the Louvre museum and its artworks.

KASKcinema Godshuizenlaan 4, 9000 Gent, Belgium

<http://www.schoolofarts.be/kaskcinema/>

- The symposium and film program are free but reservation is required by sending an email before November 27th to info@cinea.be

- A lunch (soup and main dish) is available at KASK-café on Saturday 2 December, but this needs to be pre-ordered by transferring 15 € to the Cinea account: BE04 2100 0796 1631

SCHEDULE

SESSION 1: SCULPTURAL CINEMA (Friday 1 December, 7:00-9:15pm)

- 7:00pm Welcome
Steven Jacobs and Birgit Cleppe (Ghent University)
- 7:20pm Lecture: Some Thoughts on Sculpture in Film
Steven Jacobs (Ghent University)
- 7:40pm Screening: *L'Enfer de Rodin* (Henri Alekan, 1957, 20', 35mm)
- 8:00pm Screening: *Reclining Figure* (Dudley Shaw Ashton, 1958, 7', 16mm)
- 8:10pm Lecture: Dudley Shaw Ashton and his Films on Sculpture
Lucy Reynolds (Westminster University)
- 8:30pm Screening: *Figures in a Landscape* (Dudley Shaw Ashton, 1953, 17', 16mm)
- 8:50pm Q&A
- 9:10pm Book Launch: *Screening Statues: Sculpture and Cinema* by Steven Jacobs, Susan Felleman, Vito Adriaenssens, and Lisa Colpaert (Edinburgh University Press, 2017)
Steven Jacobs (Ghent University) and Lisa Colpaert (Cinea/University of the Arts London)
- 9:30pm Reception

SESSION 2: THE LOUVRE IN FILM (Saturday 2 December, 9:30am-1:00pm)

- 9:50am Introduction
Steven Jacobs (Ghent University)
- 10:00am Screening: *Rubens et son temps* (René Huyghe, 1938, 11', 35mm)
- 10:10am Lecture: Mid-Twentieth-Century Documentaries on the Louvre
Birgit Cleppe (Ghent University)
- 10:40am Q&A and Discussion
- 10:50am Coffee Break
- 11:10am Lecture: Invention at the Louvre
Mark Lewis (University of the Arts, London)
- 11:30am Screening: *Night Gallery* (Mark Lewis, 2014, 5', DCP), *In Search of the Blessed Ranieri* (Mark Lewis, 2014, 23', DCP), and *Pyramid* (Mark Lewis, 2014, 8', DCP)
- 12:10pm Q&A and Discussion
- 12:30pm Lunch Break

SESSION 3: RAGGHIANI AND PICTURA (Saturday 2 December, 2:00pm-5:00pm)

- 2:00pm Introduction
Birgit Cleppe (Ghent University)
- 2:10pm Lecture: Carlo Ludovico Raghianti and the *Crito Films*
Emanuele Pellegrini (School of Advanced Studies, Lucca)
- 2:30pm Screening: *Deposizione di Raffaello* (Carlo L. Raghianti, 1948, 12', DCP) and *Il cenacolo di Andrea del Castagno* (Carlo L. Raghianti, 1954, 9', DCP)
- 2:55pm Q&A and Discussion
- 3:05pm Coffee Break
- 3:20pm Lecture: *Pictura* and Modern Art in the US
Dimitrios Latsis (Ryerson University)
- 3:50pm Screening: two segments of *Pictura: An Adventure in Art* (1951): *Gauguin* (Alain Resnais, 13', 35mm) and *Toulouse-Lautrec* (Robert Hessens, 15', 35mm)
- 4:20pm Q&A and Discussion
- 5:00pm End