

Video-Feature

HER GAZE

a video installation by

Katharine Meynell

INTERNATIONAL CENTER OF PHOTOGRAPHY

1130 Fifth Avenue at 94th Street

Her Gaze has been developed out of my preoccupation with the myth of Medusa the Gorgon as a contemporary parable of the struggle with patriarchal representation of women; in particular the way women are looked at within dominant media practice.

In the Greek myth Medusa had the ability to turn men and wild beasts to stone by her gaze.

Since making this work in 1988, the debate around the gaze has continued. I, for my part have no theoretical certainties to pose, rather my position is one of an empirical fiction maker, in this way I can suggest the possibility (however surreal or unbelievable), that something different could be articulated.

-Katharine Meynell

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Katharine Meynell, a London-based video and performance artist, has exhibited widely, in England, France and the United States at such museums as the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, the Tate Gallery in Liverpool, Franklin Furnace in New York and Palais de Tokyo in Paris. Her works have been part of the Berlin Videofest, the London Film Festival and the European Media Art Festival, among many others. She received her Master of Arts from the Royal College of Art and currently, she is an associate lecturer in Fine Art at Middlesex Polytechnic in London. She has served on the Board of London Video Arts, and is a founding member of the Women's Media Resource Project.

Her work is part of the collections of the Victoria and Albert Museum, London; the New York State University; and the British Film Institute.

Her Gaze was also shown as part of a **BOOKWORKS** event at the Victoria & Albert Museum (London) accompanied by a small book "Medusa - a narrative for a video script." The image of the woman's eyes used in ***HER GAZE*** is taken from a dance sequence in ***MEDUSA***, a single screen work funded by the British Film Institute.

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