

# THE INDEPENDENTS

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Co-presented by the Art Gallery of Ontario and Cinematheque Ontario

The Independents is a free series that features the work of a wide range of independent film and video artists, including many personal appearances. Programming suggestions and submissions are welcome. Send films, tapes and documentation, or proposals to Susan Oxtoby, Cinematheque Ontario, 2 Carlton St., Suite 1600, Toronto, ON, M5B 1J3, fax (416) 967-9477 or e-mail suoxtoby@torfilmfest.ca. - Chris Gehman & Susan Oxtoby

Cinematheque Ontario gratefully acknowledges the financial assistance it receives from the Film, Photography and Video Office at the Ontario Arts Council in support of this series.

All presentations in this series are FREE, non-ticketed events, and are held (unless otherwise noted) in the Henry White Kinnear Education Theatre, located on the lower level of the Art Gallery of Ontario, 317 Dundas St. West (please use Main Entrance to the Gallery).

Kieran Dick's IDIOS KOSMOS (Programme 6)



## PROGRAMME 1: JIM SHEDDEN PRESENTS BRAKHAGE

"I cannot seriously imagine that there is a body of work of an individual in cinema more significant than Brakhage's. . . . If you want to know what cinema is, it's Brakhage" (P. Adams Sitney). Stan Brakhage has sustained a rich, restless and consistently creative career as a personal, experimental film artist, producing hundreds of works in many styles and formats since he began making films in the early Fifties. This intelligent and perceptive documentary describes the shape of Brakhage's life as filmmaker, husband, father and friend. As filmmaker Phil Solomon observes, Brakhage's way of making films has often changed with the circumstances of his life, biographical crises precipitating aesthetic crises. For the first time, Stan Brakhage has permitted his films to be excerpted for a documentary, allowing Toronto-based director Jim Shedden to show clearly the connections between Brakhage's life, work and aesthetic theories. BRAKHAGE contains sections from numerous important works by the artist, representing the many different periods of his filmmaking, including ANTICIPATION OF THE NIGHT, DOG STAR MAN, 23RD PSALM BRANCH, THE DANTE QUARTET, THE TEXT OF LIGHT, and "... (SEASONS). For the novice, BRAKHAGE serves as an introduction to the work of one of this century's greatest artists; for those familiar with Brakhage's films, it is a wonderful summary of his life, art and influence.

Director Jim Shedden will be present to introduce the film.

Please note that Stan Brakhage will appear in person at Cinematheque Ontario on Sunday, February 14 at 1:00 p.m. with a programme of his recent work (see page 21 for details).


### BRAKHAGE

Director: Jim Shedden  
Original music: James Tenney  
Canada 1998 75 minutes 16mm  
Wednesday, January 20 7:00 p.m.  
Venue: Jackman Hall, Art Gallery of Ontario

*Jim Shedden's BRAKHAGE*  
1/21/99

## PROGRAMME 2: MALCOLM LE GRICE IN PERSON!

British filmmaker, video artist and theorist Malcolm Le Grice is best known in North America for his challenging structural films of the Sixties and Seventies, his theoretical writings, and his brilliant and polemical book *Abstract Film and Beyond*. For more than a decade, however, Le Grice has worked primarily in video, producing a diverse body of work that integrates the concerns of his earlier films and writings with new electronic media in an aesthetic rooted in daily life and experience. This programme includes selections from *Sketches For A Sensual Philosophy*, a cycle of short videos commissioned for the BBC's Channel 4, and several other short works, including the stunning and absorbing recent pieces JOSEPH'S NEW COAT and EVEN A CYCLOPS PAYS THE FERRYMAN. Don't miss this rare Toronto presentation by internationally renowned artist Malcolm Le Grice.

Cinematheque Ontario acknowledges the generous assistance received from The British Council in support of this programme.  The British Council

### DIGITAL STILL LIFE

UK 1988 8 minutes video

### LIKE A FOX

UK 1988 5 minutes video

### BEWARE

UK 1988 5 minutes video

### ET IN ARCADIA EGO

UK 1988 8.5 minutes video

### FOR THE BENEFIT OF MANKIND

UK 1995 1 minute video

### CIDRE BOUCHE

UK 1994 1.5 minutes video

### BALCONY WATER COLOUR

UK 1994 3 minutes video

### PRELUDE

UK 1993 1.5 minutes video

### JOSEPH'S NEW COAT

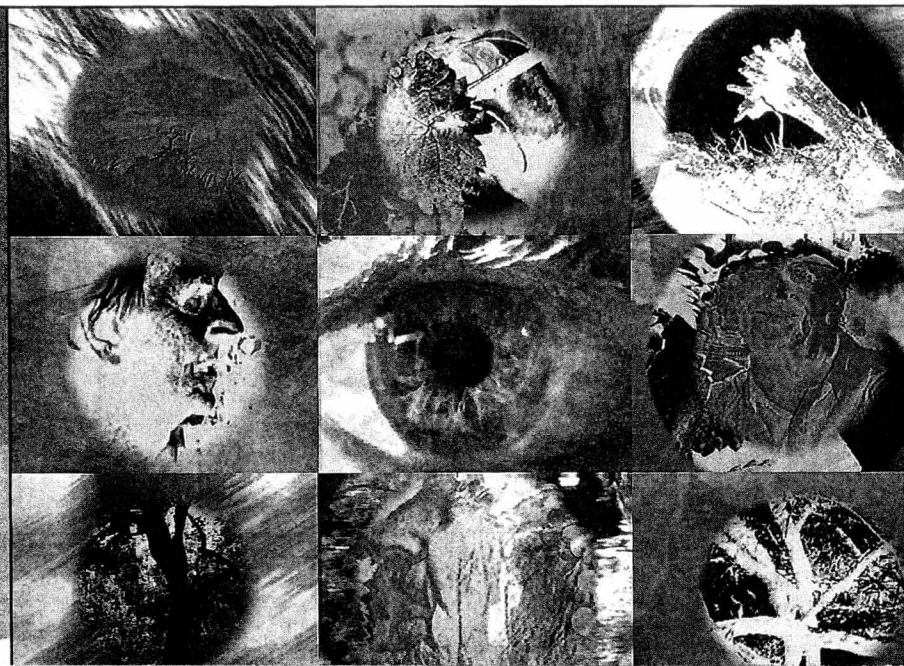
UK 1998 16 minutes video

### EVEN A CYCLOPS PAYS

UK 1998 16 minutes video

Wednesday, January 27 7:00 p.m.

Malcolm Le Grice's EVEN A CYCLOPS PAYS THE FERRYMAN (composite image)



## PROGRAMME 3 TORONTO PRESENTS BIRTH OF A NATION

Director: Jonas Mekas  
USA 1997 85 minutes 16mm

For decades, Lithuanian emigrant, tireless advocate of film and video, Throughout his activities as a fund-raiser and administrator, continued to make his own mark on the course of his daily life; so a significant event. In BIRTH OF A NATION? presents "appearances, sketches, independent filmmakers and an inimitable style between 1955 and 1997. film are figures representing a new film, from Hans Richter, Hans-Joachim Schneemann and Stan Brakhage, Rossellini, Shirley Clarke and others. OF A NATION? Because the film is in itself. We are surrounded by the same way as the indigenous people of any other country are surrounded. We are the invisible, but essential part of the cinema" (Jonas Mekas).

Wednesday, February 3 7:00 p.m.

## PROGRAMME 4: RICHARD KERR IN PERSON!

We are pleased to welcome Toronto video artist Richard Kerr to present his disturbing new video, HUMAN GRAND SCALE... HUMAN GRAND SCALE... is an experimental portrait of Paul Ernest Hemingway's grandfather, encompassing the sometimes "fictionalization" of the character of Ernest Hemingway's grandfather, the viewer in a state of tension between word and text in such a way that all that is being communicated formally mirrors the disorienting feel in the world, and connects with one another. HUMAN GRAND SCALE... is a portrait of Richard Kerr's ongoing, tortured development of the writing of Ernest Hemingway's grandfather.

### HUMAN TRAGEDY

Director: Richard Kerr  
Canada 1998 50 minutes video

Wednesday, February 3 7:00 p.m.

Richard Kerr's HUMAN TRAGEDY

