

Rendezvous with Madness Film Festival



November 5 – 14th, 2009

www.rendezvouswithmadness.com



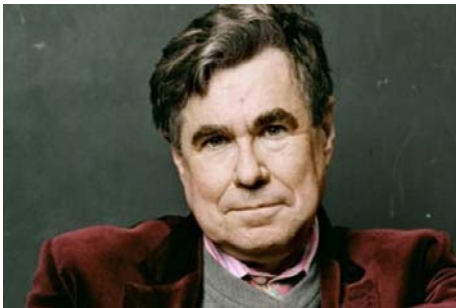
Co-Presenters:



EXPERIMENTAL MADNESS

In this evening of experimental film, R. Bruce Elder will explore works by DADA and Surrealists artists on madness, hysteria, and paranoia, and show how the experimental forms they developed have influenced contemporary artists.

NOVEMBER 7, 2009, 5:30 p.m.
Workman Arts – 651 Dufferin St



In this talk, R. Bruce Elder will look writings by DADA and Surrealists artists on madness, hysteria, and paranoia, and show how the experimental forms they developed have influenced recent artists. The talk will focus on writings that developed out of the belief that film's special character arises from the fact that film was suited to imitate the extreme experiences, intense experiences in which disconnected thoughts seem suddenly to converge—and their convergence makes it seem that everything in the cosmos is accessible at once.

Paranoia Now and Then

Freud took the delusions of the person suffering from paranoia as evidence of an attempt at recovery. The later stage in the process represent the effort of the individual to forge relationships anew: they give evidence that the person has reconstructed relations with people or the things of the world, though now these relations are often hostile, when earlier they were affectionate.

This mixture of love and hate, and the inventiveness of the mechanisms through which the paranoid person attempts to reestablish relations with the world have made paranoia a phenomenon that has interested artists and filmmakers: when the boundaries between self and world become shaky the imagination sometimes assumes a fascinatingly delirious quality. This program includes experimental films, made from 1920s to the present, whose makers have taken the mysterious processes of paranoia as a model for art making.



Stan Brakhage, *Paranoia Corridor*, (1995) 3 min

George Kuchar, *The Mammal Palace* (1969) 31 min

Christopher MacLaine, *The End* (1953), 35 min

Christopher MacLaine, *Scotch Hop* (1959), 6 min

Lee Henderson, *meanwhile (the unglued image)* (2008), 6 min

Chih Wen Lo, *An Unquiet Mind* (2008), 6min

Hysteria Now and Then

Filmmakers took from Freud's later writings an understanding how the hysteric's day-dreaming, projected onto film, would result in a different form of somatization, one in which the body of the film would receive the excess energies mobilized by unconscious desires. For these filmmakers, hysteria becomes a model for a process which can produce intense, vibrant works. This program includes films, made from the 1920s to the present, that mobilize energies akin to those of hysteria.



Man Ray, *Emak Bakia* (1926), 18 min

Storm De Hirsch, *Journey Around A Zero* (1963, 3 min

Storm De Hirsch, *The Tattooed Man* (1969), 35 min

Ron Rice, *Chumlum* (1964), 26 min

Kelly Egan, *cockroach* (2002) 4 min

Kelly Egan, *object / loss* (2004) 3 min

For a full list of films screening at the festival, please visit www.rendezvouswithmadness.com.

Reception before Artist Talk and at Intermission.

Tickets and festival passes are available at the door and in advance online at www.rendezvouswithmadness.com. Tickets for group sales and student programs can be purchased by calling 416.583.4339 x7. Opening Night Gala tickets are priced at \$25, general admission for the festival is \$10 and a limited number of PWYC tickets are available one hour before each screening. Suggested minimum price is \$2.

About the Rendezvous with Madness Film Festival

The Rendezvous with Madness Film Festival explores cinematic representations of mental health and addiction. Film and video programs are followed by post-screening panel discussions with people who receive mental health and addiction services, as well as writers, directors, actors, health care professionals and academics.

