

Irit Batsry : rétrospective vidéo

23 septembre - 8 octobre, 2006

JEU DE PAUME



THE JEU DE PAUME PRESENTS IRIT BATSRY'S FIRST VIDEOTAPES RETROSPECTIVE ORGANIZED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DE FILMS DE FEMMES DE CRETEIL AND HEURE EXQUISE !

Irit Batsry, is an artist of international reknown working in video, installation and photography. Her work is in prestigious institutional collections, such as those of the MoMA and the Whitney Museum in New York and will be the subject of a video retrospective (1981-2006) to take place at the Jeu de Paume in Paris from September 23rd until October 8th, 2006. The artist will be present.

Irit Batsry's work evokes collective and personal memory and inquires into the way reality is represented and transformed through our perception, technology and imagination. The retrospective includes 6 programs of screenings and lectures: (Please note: all lectures are in French and most videotapes are shown in their French Version).

Opening reception, Tuesday September 26, 7 PM.

Projection of *These Are Not My Images*, 80 min., 2000.

In presence of Jackie Buet, Director of Festival International de Films de Femmes de Créteil, of Sandra Lischi, professor at the University of Pisa and Artistic Director of Invideo Festival, Milano, of Stuart Jones, composer, creator of most soundtracks in this retrospective, and of the artist.

Passage to Utopia,

One of her major works, this trilogy is an interrogation of memory and forgetting, of identity and creation. A passage from a traumatic past towards a poetic evocation of our fears and dreams of the future.

Saturday, September 23, 5 PM; Tuesday, October 3, 5 PM; Sunday, October 8, 5 PM.

De la vision,

Short videotapes and documents of installations dealing with vision and perception. Including the video *A Simple Case of Vision*, (1991) and the document of *...Of absence of persistence...* (1991). Following a visual rendition of a Buckminster Fuller text about the evolution of his vision, the viewer might be wondering about the notion of "normal" vision.

Sunday September 24, 5 PM; Friday September 29, 5 PM; Friday October 6, 5 PM.

These are not my images,

A skewed "road movie" set in the near future that follows the voyage of a Western filmmaker accompanied by a half-blind guide. Interweaving elements of different genres (documentary, essay, experimental, narrative) in order to question the way we see and show reality. Stuart Jones' soundtrack immerses the viewer in many subtle soundscapes.

Tuesday, September 26, 7 PM; Thursday, September 28, 5 PM; Saturday, September 30, 5 PM; Saturday, October 7, 5 PM.

Premières vidéos 1981 - 1983, lecture/projection. **Wednesday, September 27, 5 PM.**

Irit Batsry will show and comment videotapes created at the Bezalel Art Academy, Jerusalem.

Irit Batsry: Histoire de regards, lecture of **Sandra Lischi**, organized by the Cultural Service of the Jeu de Paume - Marie Muracciole. **Friday, September 29, 7 PM.**

« ... Along with the question of identity (nomadic identity, identity to be questioned, displaced, difficult, precarious identity...), that of the gaze is one of the main subjects of Irit Batsry's work.

A « different » gaze that she tells « differently ... » (Sandra Lischi).

Irit Batsry: Vidéos et installations (1981-2006), lecture/projection and conversation with **Thierry Garrel**, director of the Documentary Unit of Arte France. **Sunday, October 1st, 5 PM.**

Irit Batsry will trace the itinerary of her work through the projection of excerpts from her videotapes and documentation of her installations.



Image de *These Are Not My Images* © 2000



Image de *These Are Not My Images* © 20

« Fundamentally, then, Batsry's art is existential, reflecting on the nature of being. In this sense, her work is profoundly philosophical. By using images to investigate images, she engenders in the viewer both a deepened sensual acuity and a heightened self-awareness.

Formally, Batsry's art exemplifies one of the most significant recent artistic tendencies: the movement towards mixing media and blurring the boundaries between disciplines. Combining elements of architecture, film, video, and sculpture, as well as references to painting, photography, and poetry, Batsry weaves a uniquely expressive fabric. »

Laurence Rinder, *Beauty and the Theory of Beauty: Irit Batsry's Set in ART LIFE*, (c) 200

Irit Batsry is an internationally renowned artist working mainly in video, installations and photography. She was awarded the prestigious Whitney Biennial Bucksbaum Award (2002), given to "an artist whose work demonstrates a singular combination of talent and imagination - a person who promises to make significant contributions to the visual arts". She received the Grand Prix of the Société Civile des Auteurs Multimedia, Paris (1996 and 2001) and Fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship (1992,) and the Daniel Langlois Foundation for Art, Science and Technology (1999).

Her work has been shown extensively in 35 different countries. Selected shows include the National Gallery in Washington DC, the National Film Theater and the ICA (London), the Reina Sofia (Madrid), Museu d'Arte Moderna (Rio), Ludwig Museum (Cologne), Tel Aviv Museum, and The Museum of Modern Art (New York).

Her work was broadcast in the US on PBS and in Europe on La Sept, WDR and ARTE. Her videotapes, selected for international film and video festivals and received many prizes including: Grand Prix Locarno 90 and 95, First Prize - Vigo 94 and 01 Best Intl. Artistic Contribution - Cadiz 91, First Prize - the Australian Video Festival 89, First prize - San Francisco Poetry Film Festival 89.

Stuart Jones is a renowned composer, performer and sound artist whose work interweaves influences from western avant-garde (Cage and Stockhausen) to traditional non-Western music (Ghanaian drummer Mustapha Tettey Addy). Since 1989, he has been collaborating with Irit Batsry by creating exceptional soundtracks for her videotapes.

A program proposed by Danièle Hibon with the collaboration of Marie-Jo Malvoisin.

With the participation of
The Festival international de Films de Femmes de Creteil and of Heure Exquise !

With the support of
USA Embassy in France, Centre National des Arts Plastiques (French Ministry of Culture, Arte France and Duplaceda).

Coordination : Temelios productions, Nathalie Coutard - temelios@free.fr

Additional information :
www.iritbatsry.com
www.jeudepaume.org
www.filmsdefemmes.com

Irit Batsry's work is represented by Heure Exquise ! - www.exquise.org
and by the Shoshana Wayne Gallery - www.shoshanawayne.com

Irit Batsry : Retrospective of Videotapes

September 23rd - October 8th, 2006

J E U D E P A U M E

1, place de la Concorde, 75008 Paris

01 47 03 12 50 et 01 47 03 12 52

www.jeudepaume.org

Press contact at the JEU DE PAUME :

Eva Bechmann - 01 47 03 13 36 - evabechmann@jeudepaume.org

Manon Sellier - 01 47 03 13 22 - manonsellier@jeudepaume.org