

## Curators' Biographies

**David E. James** lives in Los Angeles. His books include *Allegories of Cinema: American Film in the Sixties* and *The Most Typical Avant-Garde: History and Geography of Minor Cinemas in Los Angeles*. He edited the collections *To Free the Cinema: Jonas Mekas and the New York Underground* and *Stan Brakhage: Filmmaker*. Along with Michele Pierson and Paul Arthur, he co-edited the forthcoming collection of essays, *Optic Antics: The Amazing Cinema of Ken Jacobs*.

**MM Serra** is an experimental filmmaker, curator, and author. She is the Executive Director of the Film-Makers' Cooperative, the world's largest archive of independent media. Serra was the curator of a six part experimental film series titled "Cinema of the Unusual" at P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center from 2007-2008. In 2007, Serra curated and traveled with the show "New York Experimental" in Warsaw and Paznan, Poland. In December 2008, the Office of Contemporary Art in Oslo, Norway invited MM Serra to lecture at and curate a two hour program titled "Art(core): Avant Garde and the Cinematic Body". Her film work was included in the program of "New York Experimental", a four part historical overview of experimental film from 1946-2007. Her new film, *Chop Off*, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and was screened at the Tribeca Film Festival and the Museum of Modern Art's Documentary Fortnight Series in 2009. She co-authored with Kathryn Ramey the chapter on the work of Carolee Schneemann, titled "Eye/Body: The Cinematic Paintings of Carolee Schneemann", published in *Women's Experimental Cinema* by Duke University Press in 2007.

**Juan A. Suárez** teaches at the University of Murcia (Spain). His most recent books are *Pop Modernism* and *Jim Jarmusch*, and recent essays in English include "Structural Film: Noise" in *Still Moving: Between Photography and Film* (Duke University Press, 2008), "Myth, Matter, Queerness: The Cinema of Willard Maas, Marie Menken, and the Gryphon Group" in *Grey Room 36* (August 2009), and "Styles of Occupation: Manhattan in Experimental Film and Video, from the 1970s to the Present" in *Manhattan, Mixed Use* (MIT Press, forthcoming 2010). He has curated film programs for Tate Modern (London), the Center for Contemporary Culture of Barcelona, and the Museum Reina Sofia (Madrid).

The SilverScreen Theater features the world's best theater sound by Steinway Lyngdorf.

# COUNTER CULTURE COUNTER CINEMA

The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles & Pacific Design Center & Charles S. Cohen present

### Counter Culture, Counter Cinema: An Avant-Garde Film Festival

Co-Curated by  
David E. James and MM Serra

### SilverScreen Theater Pacific Design Center

8687 Melrose Avenue  
West Hollywood, CA 90069

This cinema extravaganza, programmed from the collection of The New American Cinema Group/ New York's Film-Makers' Cooperative, showcases the long-term alliance between experimental cinema and counter-cultural activity. Covering 50 years, these films and videos explore sexuality, politics, communal experiments, and transgressive film appropriations.



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## Counter Culture, Counter Cinema

### Programming for October 14 & 15, 2010

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**Thursday  
October 14  
6:30 PM**

#### Cocktail Reception

Cocktail Reception at the SilverScreen Theater Lounge.

#### Welcome by Charles S. Cohen

Introduction of MOCA Director Jeffrey Deitch, MM Serra, and David James.

**7:30 PM**

#### Program 1: Underground Classics

Followed by a panel discussion with Jonas Mekas, Carolee Schneemann, MM Serra and David James.

- *Flaming Creatures* (Jack Smith, 1963) 16mm, black & white, sound, 45 min.
- *Lupe* (Jose Rodriguez-Soltero, 1966) 16mm, color, sound, 49.5 min.
- *Fuses* (Carolee Schneemann, 1964) 16mm, color, silent, 23 min.

**Friday  
October 15  
5:30 PM**

#### Program 2: California Counterculture at the Film-Makers' Coop

Curated and introduced by David James.

- *Be-In*. (Jerry Abrams, 1967) 16mm, color, sound, 10 min. Music by Blue Cheer.
- ----- (The Rock'n'roll Movie ). (Thom Andersen and Malcolm Brodwick, 1966-67) 16 mm, color, sound, 11 min.
- *Valentin de las Sierras* (Bruce Baillie, 1967) 16mm, color, sound, 10 min.
- *Offon* (Scott Bartlett, 1968) 16mm, color, sound, 9 min.
- *P.P. 1* (Donna Deitch, 1963) 16mm, color, sound, 6.5 min.
- *The Resistance* (Leonard Henny, 1968) 16mm, color, sound, 16.5 min.
- *We Shall March Again* (Lenny Lipton, 1965) 16mm, black & white, sound, 8 min.
- *Nine O'Clock News* (Dan McLaughlin, 1968) 16mm, color and black & white, sound, 2 min.
- *Sonata For Pen, Brush & Ruler* (Barry Spinello, 1968) 16mm, color, sound, 10 min.

**7:30 PM**

#### Program 3: Ken Jacobs Program

Curated and introduced by David James.

Followed by a discussion with Ken Jacobs, David James and MM Serra.

- *Krypton Is Doomed* (Jacobs, 2005) DVD, color, sound, 34 min.
- *Capitalism: Child Labor* (Jacobs, 2006) DVD, color, sound, 14 min.
- *Jonas Mekas In Kodachrome Days* (Jacobs, 2009) DVD, color, silent, 3 min.
- *Hot Dogs at the Met* (Jacobs, 2009) DVD, color, sound, 10 min.
- *The Pushcarts Leave Eternity Street* (Jacobs, 2010) DVD, color, silent, 13 min.
- *a loft* (Jacobs, 2010) DVD, color, silent, 16 min.

**9:30 PM**

#### Program 4: Jonas Mekas

Introduced by Jonas Mekas, founder of the Film-Makers' Cooperative & Anthology Film Archives. Followed by a panel discussion with Jonas Mekas, David James and MM Serra.

- *The Birth of a Nation* (Jonas Mekas, 1997) 16mm, color, sound, 85 min.
  - *Selection from 2007 365 Day Project: January 9, February 21, March 1, March 28, June 21.* DVD, color, sound.
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## Counter Culture, Counter Cinema

### Programming for October 16, 2010

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**Saturday  
October 16  
3:00 PM**

#### Program 5: Unruly Bodies, Transgressive Appropriations

Co-curated by Juan A. Suárez & MM Serra. Introduced by MM Serra.

Followed by a discussion with George Smith, Amy Lowles, Anne Hanavan and MM Serra (3 filmmakers will be present for discussion).

- *Mayhem. Is This What You Were Born For? (Part 6)* (Abigail Child, 1987) 16mm, black & white, sound, 16.5 min.
- *The Male Gayze* (Jack Waters, 1990) 16mm, black & white, sound, 11 min.
- *Color of Love* (Peggy Ahwesh, 1994) 16mm, color, sound, 10 min.
- *Too Rich Tourists* (Smith and Lowles, 2009) DVD, color, sound, 9 min.
- *Instinct: The Bitches Side* (Tessa Freeland-Hughes, 2008) DVD, color, sound, 13 min.
- *Trailers* (Jasmine Hirst, 2009) DVD, color and black & white, sound, 10 min.
- *Chop Off* (MM Serra, 2009) DVD, color, sound, 10 min.
- *I Love Jesus* (Anne Hanavan, 2003) DVD, color, sound, 3 min.

**7:30 PM**

#### Program 6: Carolee Schneemann

Carolee Schneemann is a performance artist, filmmaker, and painter.

Followed by panel discussion with Carolee Schneemann and David James.

#### Los Angeles Premieres

- *Precarious* (Schneemann, 2009) DVD, color, sound, 5 min.
- *Mysteries of the Pussies* (Schneemann, 2010) DVD, color, sound, 7 min.
- *Ask The Goddess* (Schneemann, 1991) DVD, color, sound, 7 min.
- *Snows*. (Schneemann, 1967) DVD, color and black & white, sound, 21 min.
- *Water Light/Water Needle - Lake Mah Wah* (Schneemann, 1966) DVD, color, sound, 12 min.
- *Meat Joy* (Schneemann, 1964) DVD, color, sound, 11 min.

**9:30 PM**

#### Program 7: The Art of Seeing: Underground Gems

Curated by David James and MM Serra.

- *Meshes of the Afternoon*. (Maya Deren, 1943) 16mm, black and white, sound, 14 min.
- *Bridges-Go-Round* (Shirley Clarke, 1958) 16mm, color, sound, 17.5 min.
- *Window Water Baby Moving* (Stan Brakhage, 1959) 16mm, color, silent, 12 min.
- *Chumlum* (Ron Rice, 1964) 16mm, color, sound, 26 min.
- *Oblivion* (Tom Chomont, 1969) 16mm, color, silent, 4.25 min.
- *Ophelia/The Cat Lady* (Tom Chomont, 1969) 16mm, color, sound, 2.5 min.

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#### Admission

Visit [www.moca.org](http://www.moca.org) to purchase tickets.

Proceeds will benefit MOCA and The Film-Makers' Cooperative.

#### Tickets

\$10/\$8 MOCA Members

#### Festival Pass

\$45/\$40 MOCA Members

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