



**For Immediate Release**

October 13, 2009

**SFMOMA PRESENTS STAR-STUDED FALL LINE UP OF PROGRAMS AND  
FILM SERIES**

**LIVE ART: MARTHA COLBURN RESIDENCY**

*November 5–12, 2009*

In Martha Colburn's animated films, collages, paintings, and installations, textbook histories and heroic figures undergo lurid transformations. In her recent work *Myth Labs* (2008), the Mayflower's pilgrims meet a Midwestern America strewn with meth addicts, while devils in the apocalyptic *Don't Kill the Weatherman!* (2007) fill SUVs at the gas pump, hastening our own global warming-induced flood.

In this weeklong residency, Colburn screens new and past works with multiple projectors and musical accomplices. Highlights include an SFMOMA/Performa co-commissioned new work, Thollem Mcdonas on piano, indie legend Jad Fair on guitar, and a matinee of favorites selected by the artist.

**November 5, 2009 • Phyllis Wattis Theater, 7 p.m.**

SCREENING AND Q & A

***Power to the Puppets: Films by Martha Colburn***

Martha Colburn, artist; Frank Smigiel, associate curator, public programs; Thollem Mcdonas, musical accompaniment

\$10 general admission; \$7 SFMOMA members, students, seniors.

The result of a painstakingly slow and hand-driven production process, Colburn's animated films nonetheless teem with speed, their paper puppet stars running, tumbling, and falling apart in a constantly morphing and manipulated landscape. This program features shorts, from her *First Film* (1994) to the just-completed *Join the Freedom Force* (2009). Also on the bill is Colburn's contribution to the SFMOMA/Performa co-commission *Futurist Life Redux*, plus her music videos for Felix Kubin, Friendly Rich, and Deerhoof, among others. The films are accompanied by music performed by Mcdonas, a San Francisco-based pianist and frequent Colburn collaborator, and followed by a Q&A.

**November 12, 2009 • Phyllis Wattis Theater, 7 p.m.**

PERFORMANCE

***Puppets of the Apocalypse or Martha Colburn: Live Cinema***

Martha Colburn, artist with musicians Haleh Abghari, Jon Dietrich, Michael Evans, Jad Fair, Thollem Mcdonas, Laura Ortman, and Ryan Sawyer

\$10 general admission; \$7 SFMOMA members, students, seniors.

Long involved in experimental music scenes as both a musician and a filmmaker, Colburn has honed a live practice of multiprojector, manipulated film and music shows. As she recently told *Time Out New York*, "When I'm filming, I'm working at a rate of, like, one second of film per hour. When I finish, I want to create in real time, or even better: double real time, and be my animated 'self.' I call together my musician friends who work on my soundtracks, and we play together." Tonight, she gathers legendary Half-Japanese founder Fair, Deerhoof guitarist Dietrich, pianist Mcdonas, and a cohort of New York collaborators—vocalist Abghari, noise artist Evans, violist Ortman, and drummer Sawyer—for an evening of immersive, live cinema.

Fair plays a warm-up party at Hemlock Tavern on Wednesday, November 11; visit [hemlocktavern.com](http://hemlocktavern.com) for details.

**FILM @ SFMOMA**

ERASED JAMES FRANCO

In this special collaboration with the Castro Theatre, SFMOMA presents *Erased James Franco*, artist Carter's new homage to Robert Rauschenberg's iconic *Erased de Kooning Drawing*, starring local favorite James Franco. Three films screened over the course of the day—two at SFMOMA and one at the Castro.

DOUBLE FEATURE MATINEE @ SFMOMA

**Sunday, November 15 • Phyllis Wattis Theater, 1 p.m.**

***Safe***

Todd Haynes, 1995, 119 min., 35mm

Set in an affluent suburb in the San Fernando Valley in 1987, *Safe* tracks the physical and psychological breakdown of Carol White (Julianne Moore), a housewife suffering from multiple chemical sensitivity, or “20th Century Disease.” Trying to cope with her unpredictable reactions to seemingly harmless everyday products through psychotherapy, she eventually retreats from the invisible chemical threats and enters a New Age community designed to help people with MCS recover.

**Sunday, November 15 • Phyllis Wattis Theater, 3 p.m.**

***Freaks and Geeks***

JAMES FRANCO IN PERSON!

Franco himself selects favorite episodes of the TV show *Freaks and Geeks* and introduces the screening.

\$10 general; \$7 SFMOMA members, students, and seniors. Includes both films.

EVENING DOUBLE FEATURE @ THE CASTRO THEATRE

**Sunday, November 15, 6 p.m. • The Castro Theatre, 429 Castro Street, San Francisco**

***Seconds***

John Frankenheimer, 1966, 107 min., 35mm

Frankenheimer’s riveting film unfolds as a disillusioned middle-aged business man is given the opportunity to be reborn as someone else through a mysterious organization known only as The Company. After faking his own death, he undergoes extreme plastic surgery and psychoanalysis and returns, completely transformed, as Tony Wilson, a handsome young painter played by Rock Hudson. As he lives out his seemingly idyllic new life, he begins to face the consequences of his decision.

**Sunday, November 15, 8 p.m. • The Castro Theatre, 429 Castro Street, San Francisco**

***Erased James Franco***

JAMES FRANCO IN PERSON!

Carter, artist; James Franco, actor; Frank Smigiel, associate curator, public programs

Riffing on Robert Rauschenberg’s iconic *Erased de Kooning Drawing* (1958), multimedia artist Carter presents actor James Franco stripped of the sureties of his craft and transformed into an almost sculptural object. *Erased James Franco* finds Franco covering banal scenes from his own films, as well as segments of Julianne Moore’s scenes in Todd Haynes’s *Safe* and Rock Hudson’s in John Frankenheimer’s *Seconds*. Carter and Franco join SFMOMA Associate Curator of Public Programs Frank Smigiel for a post-screening conversation about film, celebrity, identity, and art.

\$10 general; \$7 SFMOMA members, students, and seniors. Includes both films.

FILM SCREENINGS

**Thursday, November 19 • Phyllis Wattis Theater, 7 p.m.**

***Deborah Stratman: O’er the Land***

Deborah Stratman, filmmaker

\$10 general admission; \$7 SFMOMA and San Francisco Cinematheque members, students, seniors.

Stratman’s epic film *O’er the Land* channels the dark side of the American psyche, presenting a savagely poetic meditation on the contemporary culture of violence and patriotism by looking at gun culture, war reenactments, and border conflicts. Including the story of Lt. Col. William Rankin, a Marine Corps pilot who survived being trapped in the updrafts of a thunderstorm for 45 minutes following an emergency ejection at 48,000 feet, *O’er the Land* describes a stark world of warriors and survivors. Also screening are Stratman’s *Paranormal Trilogy* (*How Among the Frozen Words*, *It Will Die Out in the Mind*, and *The Magician’s House*) and *Palimpsest*. (Steve Polta). Co-presented by San Francisco Cinematheque.

**Thursday, December 3 • Phyllis Wattis Theater, 7 p.m.**

***The Cockettes on Film, at 40!***

FILMMAKERS AND COCKETTES IN PERSON!

*Syd Dutton, Sebastian, Bill Weber, and David Weisman, directors; Harlow Hasse, Fayette Hauser, Scrumbly Koldewyn, Rumi Missabu, Sweet Pam, and Tahara, Cockettes members*

\$10 general admission; \$7 SFMOMA members, students, seniors.

It's been 40 New Year's Eves since the legendary performance, drag, and hippie ensemble the Cockettes first began staging their glitter-draped spectacles in North Beach. To celebrate, SFMOMA hosts an evening of rare Cockettes films, including *Tricia's Wedding*, *Pick-up's Tricks*, and *Elevator Girls in Bondage*. Cockettes members and friends join us to introduce the program and discuss some of the group's most magical moments.

**Thursday, December 10 • Phyllis Wattis Theater, 7 p.m.**

***George and Mike Kuchar: Recent Preservations***

George and Mike Kuchar, filmmakers

\$10 general admission; \$7 SFMOMA and San Francisco Cinematheque members, students, seniors.

George and Mike Kuchar are the twin darlings of the experimental film world, makers of hundreds of films and videos, and legends in their own time. But back in the 1950s and 1960s, they were just a couple of brothers from the Bronx who shared an 8mm camera. As delirious as they are dramatic, as colorful as they are campy, these rarely seen short films are laugh-out-loud funny and overwhelmingly prove that the Kuchars are the eighth and ninth wonders of the world. (Anthology Film Archives) Join us to see four of the Kuchars' earliest works, recently preserved by Anthology Film Archives: *Pussy on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Tootsies in Autumn*, *A Woman Distressed*, and *Lovers of Eternity*. A reception follows. Co-presented by San Francisco Cinematheque.

**Thursday, December 17 • Phyllis Wattis Theater, 7 p.m.**

***Kenneth Anger: Restored Prints***

FILMMAKER IN PERSON!

*Fireworks*, 1947, 15 min., 35mm

*Rabbit's Moon*, 1950/1971, 16 min., 16mm

*Scorpio Rising*, 1963, 29 min., 35mm

*Kustom Kar Kommandos*, 1964, 3 min., 35mm

\$10 general; \$7 SFMOMA members, students, and seniors.

Films by Anger, American underground cinema's dark star, ignite the screen with occult symbolism and lush baroque sensibilities while smashing the atoms of pop culture. The selection of early short films in this screening—a reverie of homoeroticism, fetishism, machismo, myth, and ironic spectacle—paved the way for queer cinema and captured the attention of directors from Jean Cocteau to Martin Scorsese. These films were recently restored at the UCLA Film and Television Archive.

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**Museum hours:** Open daily (except Wednesdays): 11 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.; open late Thursdays, until 8:45 p.m. Summer hours (Memorial Day to Labor Day): Open at 10 a.m. Closed Wednesdays and the following public holidays: New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving, Christmas. The museum is open the Wednesday between Christmas and New Year's Day.

**Koret Visitor Education Center:** Open daily (except Wednesdays): 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; open late Thursdays, until 8:30 p.m. Summer hours: Open at 10 a.m.

**Admission prices:** adults: \$15; seniors and students: \$9; SFMOMA members and children 12 and under: free. Admission is free the first Tuesday of each month and half-price on Thursdays after 6 p.m.

SFMOMA is easily accessible by Muni, BART, Golden Gate Transit, SamTrans, and Caltrain. Hourly, daily, and monthly parking is available at the SFMOMA Garage at 147 Minna Street. For parking information, call 415.348.0971.

**Visit our website at [www.sfmoma.org](http://www.sfmoma.org) or call 415.357.4000 for more information.**

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