

TOTAH

8'19"

TOTAH presents *8'19"*, an inaugural moving image exhibition, concurrent with Laretta Vinciarelli: *Light Unveiled*, both paying tribute to light, the most ephemeral of media. Uniting abstract, experimental, documentary and narrative - including both 16mm and digital - work, *8'19"* examines how light transforms space, perception, and in turn movement, thought and feeling. *8'19"* is organized by Laurence Kardish, the former Senior Curator of Film, The Museum of Modern Art, with the assistance of Sarah Lehat, an independent curator.

8'19" includes Margot Benacerraf (Venezuela), Stan Brakhage (USA), Maya Deren (USA), Nathaniel Dorsky (USA), Peter Hutton (USA), Kenji Mizoguchi (Japan), Friedrich Wilhelm Murnau (Germany/USA), Andrew Noren (USA), Satyajit Ray (India), Mohammad Rasoulof (Iran) and Bill Viola (USA).

The program takes its name from the eponymous new film work by artist Charles Ross, which TOTAH will premiere. In the 60s and 70s, Ross became fascinated with light, time, and the space of the stars, innovating a host of ambitious earthwork projects with the support of the Dwan Gallery. *8'19"* is an abstract video piece, documenting the creation of Ross' "solar burn" panels, projecting the viewer into the place of light for the "time it takes sunlight to reach the earth".

Thursdays and Sundays, July 28 – September 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Admission to TOTAH's film program is free. Seating is limited.

TOTAH

Thursday July 28 6:30

Peter Hutton. Three 16mm films: New York Near Sleep for Saskia (1972), Time and Tide (2000), & Skagafjordur (2004). Light portraits sculpted by the movement of cities and landscapes. Silent. 77 mins.

Sunday July 31 6:30

Margot Benacerraf. Araya. 1959. Camera by Giuseppe Nisoli. Farmers harvest salt from the sea on the Arayan Peninsula in an ageless process, reflecting sunlight across crystal surfaces. In Spanish, English subtitles. 90 mins.

Thursday Aug 4 6:30

Andrew Noren. The Lighted Field. 1987. Filmmaker Andrew Noren, a self-described 'light thief' and "shadow bandit", celebrates the pulsating energy that is light, building block of the universe. 16mm. Silent. 62 mins.

Sunday Aug 7 6:30

Mohammad Rasoulof. The White Meadows. (Keshtzar Haye Sepid). 2009. Camera by Ebrahim Ghafori. A boatman plies coastal waters off the Persian Gulf, collecting the tears of those inhabiting the islands he visits. Sight and light intertwined. In Farsi, English subtitles. 93 mins.

Thursday Aug 11 6:30

Stan Brakhage. The Text of Light. 1974. Brakhage plays with the mobility of light, modulating its myriad prismatic reflections as they pass through the colored crystal of a glass ashtray. 16mm. Silent. 71 mins.

Sunday Aug 14 6:30

Maya Deren. Meshes of the Afternoon. 1943. Camera by Alexander Hamid. An essential light-inflected surreal adventure shot in a dreamy Los Angeles. 14 mins.

F.W. Murnau. Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans. 1927. Camera by Charles Rosher & Karl Struss. Great Weimar filmmaker Friedrich Wilhelm Murnau elevates a familiar story of sexual temptation into a transcendent motion picture. Sunrise is Murnau's first film created in Hollywood. Shot silent, musical track on film with intertitles. 95 mins.

Thursday Aug 18 6:30

Nathaniel Dorsky. Three silent 16mm films. Two Devotional Songs include The Visitation (2002), Threnody (2004) and Imitations (2015). "How light imbues our feelings". Silent. 61 mins.

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Sunday Aug 21 6:30

Satyajit Ray. Aparajito. 1956. Camera by Subrata Mitra. The second part of Ray's magnificent Trilogy finds young Apu and his family moved to Varanasi (Benares). While filming on an interior set, Mitra, the cinematographer, innovated "bounce lighting" to mimic the look of natural sky light. In Bengali, English subtitles. 113 mins.

Thursday Aug 25 6:30

Kenji Mizoguchi. Tales of the Pale Moon after the Rain (Ugetsu Monogatari). 1953. Camera by Kazuo Miyagawa. Recounted in shadow and fog, this ghost story is set in 16th Century warlord Japan and is famed for its absence of light. In Japanese, English subtitles. 97 mins.

Sunday Aug 28 6:30

Bill Viola. Two single channel videos. Chott el-Djerid (A Portrait in Light and Heat). 1979. Viola records the naturally occurring optical illusions and distorted light reflecting off of salt lake and sand bodies. Set in Tunisia.

Hatsu-Yume (First Dream), 1981. Photographed in Japan Viola wrote of Hatsu-Yume, "Water supports the fish like light supports man", describing the fluid nature of light on video as on the surface of water. 84 mins.

Thursday Sept 8 6:30

Bill Viola. See Sun Aug 28

Sunday Sept 11 6:30

Kenji Mizoguchi. See Wed Aug 25

Thursday Sept 15 6:30

Maya Deren. See Sun Aug 24

Margot Benacerraf. See Sun July 31

Sunday Sept 18 Screened every half hour from 11:30 am - 6:30 pm

Charles Ross. 8'19". 2016. TOTAH premieres 8'19", an abstract video piece, projecting the viewer into the place of light for the "time it takes sunlight to reach the earth". Ross has created vast architectonic earth/star works in the New Mexican desert, using solar rays to map the forces of the cosmos. USA. 8 minutes 11 seconds.