

KATY MARTIN

FILM SCREENING

Anthology Film Archives  
32 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street (at 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue)  
New York, NY  
May 21, 2015 at 7:30 pm

A painter, printmaker, photographer and filmmaker, Katy Martin's work moves between mediums with a grace and ease that few artists are able to command. Her work has long been interested in the body and choreography, and this is a fascination that one can trace back to her earliest super 8 movies. Almost all of her films and videos are rooted in tracing an action, whether it be artisans pulling the prints for an edition by Jasper Johns, the movement of a dancer, or the painted skin of the artist herself. Subtle yet distinctive, her films have an elegance and intuitive internal rhythm that will stick with you long after the screening has ended.

This program will offer an overview of the films Martin has made since the mid-1970s and brings us up to date with her latest forays into digital video, performance, and visual arts projects. Martin will be on hand to introduce the screening and treat us to a slide show of her compelling, yet deeply related non-cinema works.

**APPLE BUTTER BOIL**, 1979, 8 minutes, Super 8-on-digital, silent

Apple butter needs constant stirring when it is boiled in huge cauldrons over an outdoor wood fire. People come and go, taking turns at the paddle, in this annual autumn ritual in Martin's hometown.

**SILKSCREENS**, 1978, 20 minutes, Super 8-on-16mm, sound. Preserved by Anthology Film Archives with support from the National Film Preservation Foundation and the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

A mesmerizing piece of choreography and motion, **SILKSCREENS** follows printmakers at work pulling the edition of Jasper Johns' **THE DUTCH WIVES**. Featuring exquisite sound by electronic music pioneer, Richard Teitelbaum, **SILKSCREENS** is an absorbing document of artisans in process and the space which they inhabit.

**SWAN'S ISLAND**, 2005, 5 min, 16mm film, sound. Co-made with Bill Brand.

**SWAN'S ISLAND** focuses on gesture in painting, and how that relates to the hand-held camera. The emphasis is on the physicality of painting, and its visceral connection to memory and imagination. Here, the movement of the artist's hand is expanded to include the entire body.

**BY NIGHT - NO STILLNESS**, 2009, 10 minutes, video, sound. Co-made with Miriam Parker, with Hamid Drake and Jo Wood-Brown.

A study in black, where black becomes a radiant space within which one finds inner light, **BY NIGHT - NO STILLNESS** takes its cues from Rothko's last paintings. Dancer

Miriam Parker and percussionist Hamid Drake perform within a video projection of a black and yellow painting by Martin, all together creating a piece that explores movement in relation to the painted gesture and fragmented, dreamlike sculptural space.

**BREATHING TWICE**, 2009, 7 minutes, video, sound

Calligraphic images of paint on skin, which the filmmaker traces on her own body, are intercut with details of New York's Chinatown. Meanwhile, a classic Chinese story, about a clever messenger and a treasured piece of jade, emerges in passing from the ambient sounds heard on Chinatown's streets.

**THE MEETING POINT**, 2012-13, by Christophe Averlan, 5 minute excerpt (from an 18-minute video), sound, featuring a performance by Katy Martin and Jérôme Liniger

Two painters collaborate in this performance for cameras. Liniger paints on plastic sheeting as Martin paints her own body, then Jérôme's. The camera finds the movement and interactions, and frames the combined textures, lines, and shapes.

**SWIMMING AROUND WITH THE CONTINENTS**, 1977, Super 8-on-digital, 10 minutes, silent

Filmmaker Paula Longendyke illustrates the theory of continental drift by gathering up a group of friends, strapping thick foam-core continents to their backs, and homing in on the excitement as India slams into Asia. This newly discovered super-8 film captures her film shoot, a day at the pool, and a group of young artists having a lot of fun. Featuring Betsy Sussler (as India), Kiki Smith, James Nares, Andrea Callard, Jacki Ochs and others.