

Secret Images by Daniel Mann & Laliv Melamed (Brussels, 10–11 Mar 17)

ISELP, Brussels, Mar 10–11, 2017

CHEVAL Florence

Daniel Mann, Laliv Melamed

Secret Images

Workshop in the context of the exhibition *Some Arguments Later* by artists collective MESSIDOR (Sirah Foighel Brutmann & Eitan Efrat, Pieter Geenen, Meggy Rustamova)

EN. What are secret images? Are they simply images that show us the discrete and hidden objects that authority seeks to keep invisible, or rather, they are paradoxically the images that we do not see at all, since secrets ontologically dissolve with their own exposure - migrating elsewhere - to the periphery of the frame.

What if the secret slips away from our fixed gaze with its sudden exposure as an image? No doubt, the capacity of images to provide visible evidence to what has been there, in front of the camera's lens (whether a smartphone, drone or satellite), enables an image to reveal clandestine installations, activities and operations. The seductive fantasy of revelation, however, has often been dictated by a visual regime that sought to frame a secret and to pin it down to the specificity of a singular event. To rethink the capacity of images to reveal secrets; or better yet, to reassess the role of images in producing a discourse of transparency, a new taxonomy of 'secret images' should be assembled.

This two-day workshop invites artists and scholars to think and speculate on the various and often contradicting modes of secrecy which emanate from the flood of images that appear daily on our screens.

Programme

Friday, March 10 / 6.30 > 9 pm

Laliv Melamed & Daniel Mann: Lecture: Secret Images

Screening: Sarah Wood, *I am a Spy*, 2016, 35 min

Saturday, March 11 / 4 > 7 pm

4 pm - 6 pm

Lecture + Panel discussion : Eitan Efrat, Jana Haeckel, Theo Price, Sonja Simonyi

Moderated by Daniel Mann & Laliv Melamed

6 pm – 7 pm

Meeting and discussions in the exhibition of collective Messidor, Some Arguments Later
with Sirah Foighel Brutmann, Eitan Efrat, Pieter Geenen, Meggy Rustamova

In English

Laliv Melamed is a film curator and scholar based in Tel Aviv. She holds a PhD in Cinema Studies from New York University and is currently a research fellow at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics at Tel Aviv University. Her writings have most recently appeared in *New Cinemas* and *American Anthropologist Review* and the anthology *Silence, Screen and Spectacle*. She is the co-editor of the "Screen Memory" issue of *International Journal of Politics, Culture and Society*. In addition to her academic work she is a programmer for DocAviv Film Festival and programmed for 48 m"m Film Festival, produced by the Israeli activist organization Zochrot. She is currently working on a book manuscript entitled *Sovereign Intimacy: Israeli Commemorative Home Videos and the Politics of Loss*.

Daniel Mann (IL) is a PhD candidate in the Department of Media and Communications at Goldsmiths College, University of London. Mann's work in film and video has been shown internationally at various venues such as IDFA, the Rotterdam Film Festival and the Institute for Contemporary Arts in Tel Aviv. His new feature film, titled *Low Tide*, is selected to premiere at the 2017 Berlinale.

Sonja Simonyi is a film scholar and curator working on the film and media cultures of postwar Eastern Europe. She is currently co-editing a volume on postwar experimental filmmaking in the region for Amsterdam University Press. She obtained her PhD in Cinema Studies at New York University in 2015.

Jana J. Haeckel is a writer, curator and lecturer. Her fields of research are contemporary art, visual culture and media studies, with a focus on Post-9/11 image and body politics. She holds a PhD in the History of Art (UCL) and studied art history, comparative literature, and French philosophy at the Humboldt University Berlin and Sorbonne Paris.

Theodore Price is an artist, curator and writer based in London whose work covers a diverse set of mediums from performance, film, sculpture, to self-produced publications and critical writing. Placing his practice at the intersection between art and politics, Theo's work is interested in political representations of power through aesthetics and performance. His current area of focus is the aesthetics of emergency politics.

Eitan Efrat has been working in collaboration with Sirah Foighel Brutmann for several years and they are creating works in the Audiovisual field. Living and working in Brussels. Their works have been produced by Auguste Orts and Argos (BE). Coming from different educational backgrounds – Sirah studied at P.A.R.T.S (Performing Arts Research and Training Studios), Brussels and Eitan studied at the Gerrit Rietveld Academie, Amsterdam – their work aims to challenge the performative aspects in the moving image.

Sarah Wood (United Kingdom) is an artist filmmaker. She works with the found object, particularly the still and moving image, as an act of reclamation and re-interrogation.

FR. Qu'est ce qu'une image secrète ? Est-ce une image qui nous montre des objets, des événements qu'une autorité souhaiterait garder cachés ou est-ce une image qui resterait hors de notre vue, de notre connaissance, puisque - ontologiquement – les secrets se dissolvent lors de leur propre exposition?

La capacité des images à fournir des preuves visibles de ce qui est présent ou de ce qui se passe devant l'objectif permet de révéler des activités ou des opérations «clandestines». Cependant, ce fantasme séduisant de la révélation est souvent dicté par un régime visuel qui cherche à encadrer, limiter un secret et à le fixer à la spécificité d'un événement singulier.

Ce workshop invite à réfléchir et à spéculer sur les différents et souvent contradictoires modes du secret des images qui émanent quotidiennement de nos écrans.

Vendredi 10 mars / 18h30 > 21h

Samedi 11 mars / 16h > 19h

En anglais

ISELP

31 bd de Waterloo

1000 BRUSSELS

BELGIUM

Contact: f.cheval@iselp.be

Reference:

CONF: Secret Images by Daniel Mann & Laliv Melamed (Brussels, 10-11 Mar 17). In: ArtHist.net, Mar 6, 2017 (accessed Jul 3, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/14886>>.