

# DALLAS WINTER MEDIANALE 2015

**Jan. 9 - Mar. 7, 2015**

**At the McKinney Avenue Contemporary, presented by the Video Association of Dallas**

The McKinney Avenue Contemporary will host the Video Association of Dallas, the organization behind the annual *Dallas VideoFest*, and its new production, the *Dallas Medianale* (\*\*\*), January 9 - March 7, 2015.

The *Dallas Medianale* will comprise installations, screenings, and intermedia performances in the galleries and black box theater of the McKinney Avenue Contemporary, showcasing the work of internationally renowned artists working in film and video. These works will range from iconic works of early video art to immersive performances with radical repurposing of obsolete video technology. We will revisit pioneers of early computer films alongside bleeding-edge experiments in moving images and interactivity. Artists featured in the various exhibitions and events will include Francis Alÿs, Andrew Blanton, Kyle Evans + James Connolly/Cracked Ray Tube, Harun Farocki, Gary Hill, Owen Kydd, Liz Larsen/LZX Industries, Dani Leventhal, Jodi Mack, Sean Miller, Bruce Nauman, Tara Merenda Nelson + Gordon Nelson, Jennifer Reeder, Michael Robinson, Ben Russell, William Sarradet, Lillian Schwartz, Joe Sola, Micah Stansell, Deborah Stratman, Stan Vanderbeek, John Whitney, and many more. The exhibition is curated by Charles Dee Mitchell, Danielle Avram Morgan, Michael Alexander Morris, and Carolyn Sortor.

The *Dallas Medianale* will begin on the weekend of January 9<sup>th</sup> with two days of screenings and performances in the black box of the MAC, curated by Dallas-based artist and educator Michael A. Morris. These screenings will include recently restored 16mm prints of pioneering filmmakers and technologists John and James Whitney, who utilized analog computers to create alchemical experimental films throughout the 60's and 70's. This first weekend will also feature audio/visual performances by local and national artists including Austin/Chicago-based duo Cracked Ray Tube, Denton-based artist and technologist Liz Larsen of LZX Industries, Dallas-based artist and musician Sean Miller, San Francisco-based artist Andrew Blanton, and Dallas-based artist Half Asexual (William Sarradet). These works will be screened on Friday January 9<sup>th</sup> and Saturday January 10<sup>th</sup> alongside contemporary digital videos and films by several artists to-be-announced.

On the afternoon of January 10<sup>th</sup>, the *Dallas Medianale* will collaborate with Oak Cliff alternative arts education institution Oil and Cotton to present a workshop by Kyle Evans and James Connolly of Cracked Ray Tube. Kyle and James will instruct students in building DIY audio/video synthesizers and analog video transmitters to create their own audio/visual works of art. More information about the workshop and signup can be found here: <http://oilandcotton.bigcartel.com/product/jan-10-hardware-hacking-and-diy-audio-video-synthesis-workshop>

In the galleries of the MAC, an exhibition entitled "Call and Response" will take place. There will be two openings of video and film installations co-curated by Charles Dee Mitchell and Danielle Avram-Morgan. These will take place on January 17<sup>th</sup> and February 13<sup>th</sup>, with new works to be added at the later date. These exhibitions will include works by artists Bruce Nauman, Joe Sola, Francis Alÿs, Gary Hill, and Owen Kydd, among others. To coincide with the opening of the second exhibition, there will be screenings in the black box theater of the MAC which will include a selection of Austin-based experimental films selected by Experimental Response Cinema, an experimental film collective based in Austin, Texas.

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The *Dallas Medianale* will close with a special program curated by Carolyn Sortor in the MAC's black box theater on the evening of February 28th.

(\*\*\*Regarding the name of the *Medianale*, as you may know, the Venice Biennial is probably the oldest and certainly one of the largest and best-known biennial surveys of contemporary art in the world. Many people who follow contemporary art are also aware of its Italian name, la Biennale di Venezia, and some, perhaps wanting to seem "inside," call it the Biennale (say: Bee'-enn-AHH'-lee). The *Dallas Medianale* name is intended to be pronounced similarly, evincing an affectionately tongue-in-cheek attitude [in a way somewhat analogous to the "Milwaukee International Art Fair," Milwaukee being not exactly an international mecca culturally or otherwise].)

### SCHEDULE

#### Fri., Jan. 9

##### **7pm: Seated Screenings in the MAC's Black Box Theater**

*Cybernetic Cinema Revisited: Early Computer Films*, curated by Michael A. Morris

Lillian Schwartz, *Pixillation* (1970), 4 min.

Lillian Schwartz, *UFOs* (1971), 3 min.

Lillian Schwartz, *Olympiad* (1971), 3:20 min.

Stan VanDerBeek, *Symmetricks* (1972), 7 min.

John Whitney (American, b. Altadena, California 1917-1995), *ARABESQUE* (1975)

16mm film, color, sound, 7 min.

Score Manoocheher Sadeghi

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Lillian Schwartz, *Veil of Years* (1977), 11 min.

##### **8:15pm: Seated Screenings in the MAC's Black Box Theater**

*Now You See: Intermedia Performances*, curated by Michael A. Morris

Cracked Ray Tube, 20 min.

Liz Larsen, 20 min.

Half Asexual, 20 min.

Sean Miller, 20 min.

Andrew Blanton, 20 min.

11pm at [Texas Theatre](#), behind the screen: VIDEOBAR with Bart Weiss

#### Sat., Jan. 10

##### **1 - 6pm at Oil and Cotton**

Workshop, *Hardware Hacking and DIY Audio/Video* (REGISTER at [oilandcotton.bigcartel.com](http://oilandcotton.bigcartel.com)), taught by James Connolly + Kyle Evans.

##### **4:30 - 8pm: Seated Screenings in the MAC's Black Box Theater**

Three compilations curated by Michael A. Morris

##### **1. *All that Is Solid***

Jeremy Moss, *The Blue Record* (2013), 16:37 min., 16mm to HD video

Jim Finn, *Encounters with Your Inner Trotsky Child* (2013), 21:10 min., video

Olivia Ciummo, *Over Fractured Water* (2014) 4:55 min., HD video

Alexander Stewart, *Fort Morgan* (2014) 22min., 16mm film to HD video

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### 2. *Nothing Himself, Beholds Nothing*

Michael Robinson, *The Dark Krystal* (2013), 9:34 min., HD video  
Deborah Stratman, *Hacked Circuit* (2014), 15:06 min., HD video  
LJ Freeza, *Nothing* (2014), 6:27 min., video  
Danielle Georgiou, *#hewouldonlyfuckmeintheshower* (2014), 3:54 min., HD video  
Ying Liu, *Ham over Rice* (2014), 3:37 min., HD video  
Ed Rankus, *Thorns vs. Roses* (2014), 14min., HD video  
Hannah Piper Burns, *outer darkness: the rite* (2014), 4:16 min., HD video  
Rhayne Vermette, *Full of Fire* (2013), 2:15 min., 16mm to HD video  
Colette Copeland, *The Victorian Woman Flies a Plane* (2014), 3:44min., HD video  
Ariana Gerstein, *Performance for Perfection 1200* (2014) 13:26 min., HD video

### 3. *The Body Speaking Its Mother Tongue*

Harun Farocki, *Parallel 1* (2012), 15:53 min., HD video  
Eric Stewert, *Wake* (2014), 8 min., 16mm film  
Kent Lambert, *Reckoning 3* (2014), 11:14 min., HD video  
Ian Haig, *Meat Friends on the Internet* (2014), 1:30 min., HD video  
Kristin Reeves, *Threadbare* (2013), 5:41 min., 16mm film  
Eric Souther, *Dissecting Muybridge* (2014), 14:14 min., video  
Jodie Mack, *Let Your Light Shine* (2013), 3:11 min., 16mm Film  
House of Style, *Infinite Leaks in the Memory Palace* (2013), 5:04 min., HD video

### 8:15pm in the MAC's Black Box Theater

The Short Films of Jennifer Reeder, followed by art talk; curated by Michael A. Morris  
*A Million Miles Away*, 27 min.  
*And I Will Rise If Only To Hold You Down*, 24 min.  
*Seven Songs About Thunder*, 20 min.  
*Tears Cannot Restore Her; Therefore, I Weep*, 10 min.

## Sat., Jan. 17

### 5:30 - 7:30pm in the MAC's main galleries

Opening reception: *Call and Response*, video installations; co-curated by Charles Dee Mitchell + Danielle Avram Morgan. Through Mar. 7 except as otherwise noted.  
Gary Hill, *Meditations (towards a remake of Soundings)* (1979/1986) SD Video, 4:17 min.  
Owen Kydd  
Bruce Nauman, *Walking in an Exaggerated Manner Around the Perimeter of a Square*  
Tara Merenda Nelson and Gordon Nelson, *End of Empire* (2014), 16mm film, Super 8 film, slide film and sideo; continuous loop  
Francis Alÿs, *Children's Games* (through Sat., Feb. 7)  
Michael Stansell (Sat., Feb. 13 - Mar. 7)

## Mon., Jan. 26

### 7:30pm CentralTrak

Performance by Roger Beebe, wrangled by Michael A. Morris

## Fri., Feb. 13

### 7:30pm: Seated screenings in the MAC's Black Box Theater

Curated by Michael A. Morris  
*The Lost Worlds* (compilation), curated by Michael A. Morris  
Ben Russell, *Atlantis* (2014), 23:30 min., 16mm Film to HD video

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Harun Farocki, *Parallel II* (2014), 8:23 min., HD video  
Richard Bailey, *The Disappearance of the Grackles* (2014), 8 min., HD video  
Nicky Tavaras, *Call Me By Heart* (2014), 2:22 min., 16mm film  
Dani Leventhal, *Sister City* (2013), 4:40 min., HD video  
Mike Stoltz, *Under the Atmosphere* (2014), 14:30 min., 16mm film

**8:45pm:** *Experimental Response Cinema*, 60 - 90 min.  
Experimental films and videos from Austin, TX [artists and titles t.b.a.]

### Sat., Feb. 28

#### **5:45 - 9:30pm in the MAC's Black Box Theater**

Special closing program of seated screenings, *Existential Virtuality*, curated by Carolyn Sortor

**5:45pm:** (Compilation Screening:) *Death, Desire, + Commerce in 5-D*  
!MedienGruppe Bitnik, video capture from *Random Darknet Shopper* (2014),  
2:30 min.

Laure Prouvost, *Wantee* (2013), 14:22 min.

Sheila & Nicholas Pye, *Loudly, Death Unties* (2007), 11 min.

Harm van den Dorpel, *Strategies* (2011), 5:05 min.

Cécile B. Evans, *Hyperlinks or it didn't happen* (2014), 22:37 min.

Addie Wagenknecht & Pablo Garcia, *Webcam Venus* (2013), 2:41 min.

#### **7:15pm: (Single Screening)**

My Barbarian, *Universal Declaration of Infantile Anxiety Situations  
Reflected in the Creative Impulse* (2013), 30 min.

**8:15pm:** (Compilation Screening:) *Death, Desire, + Commerce in 5-D*  
(See description above under 5:45pm.)

**10pm:** After-party [venue t.b.a.]

### Curators:

**Charles Dee Mitchell** is a freelance writer. Locally he has been a contributor to The Dallas Observer and The Dallas Morning News, and he is a frequent contributor to Art in America. He has written essays for exhibitions at The Dallas Museum of Art, The Columbus (Ohio) Museum of Art, The UCLA Armand Hammer Museum, and many other commercial and non-profit exhibition spaces. In 2008 he retired from Half Price Books, Records, and Magazines, where he was Executive Vice President of New Media Purchases and Proprietary Publishing. He is president of the board of the Dallas literary organization WordSpace. He is also active on the Dallas Video Festival board. Read Dee's Blog at [www.potatoweather.blogspot.com](http://www.potatoweather.blogspot.com).

**Danielle Avram Morgan** is a curator and writer based in Dallas specializing in photography and video art. She was previously manager of The Power Station in Dallas and a curatorial assistant for the Photography Department at the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, GA. She has worked with artists such as Martin Parr, Alec Soth, and Matias Faldbakken, and organizations such as SPE, Atlanta Celebrates Photography and Photolucida, among others. She holds an MFA from Tufts University and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts.

**Michael A. Morris** is an artist and educator. He has been a programmer of experimental film and video art for the Dallas VideoFest since 2011 and has curated several other programs and exhibitions around Dallas. He has screened his films and videos and performed at museums, galleries, festivals, and micro-

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cinemas internationally. He teaches new media, multimedia, and video art at University of North Texas, Richland College, and University of Texas at Dallas. His website is [michaelalexandermorris.com](http://michaelalexandermorris.com).

**Carolyn Sortor** is an artist whose practice includes video, relational strategies, and curation. Her work has been shown in New York, San Francisco, Dallas, Austin, and elsewhere. In 2013, she received a *Dallas Observer* "Mastermind" award. Her projects have included the [OccuLibrary](#) (2001-present); co-curating and directing the first [Expanded Cinema](#) (2012); [The Wedding Project](#) (2011); [Grace at Camp Casey](#) (2005); [Creamistress 6: "The Centered Polenta"](#) (2003); and co-curating [The Program](#) in 2008 and [Co- Re-Creating Spaces](#) in 2012, among others. She has curated video and new media art for the Dallas VideoFest and other venues since 2004. She holds a B.F.A. purchased in 2004 from someone who earned it in 1983 and is currently working on an artificial M.F.A. Her website is [sortor.com](http://sortor.com) (a.k.a. c-cyte.com).

### **Video Association of Dallas:**

**Barton Weiss**, Artistic Director of VAD, is an award-winning independent film and video producer, director, editor, and educator who has lived in Dallas since 1981. Mr. Weiss has taught film and video production at Texas A&M's Visualization Lab, Southern Methodist University, the University of Texas at Austin and Arlington, Dallas Community College District and West Virginia State College. He currently serves as President of the Board of Directors of the Association of Independent Video and Filmmakers, serves on the Board of Directors of the University Film and Video Association, is a past Vice President of the Texas Association of Film and Tape Professionals, founder and past president of the West Virginia Filmmakers' Guild, and co-founder of VideoFest and the Video Association of Dallas. He has been a video columnist for The Dallas Morning News, The Dallas Times Herald, United Features Syndicate and KERA 90.1 FM Radio in Dallas. Mr. Weiss received an MFA in Film Directing from Columbia University in 1978 and a B.A. from Temple University in 1975.

**Raquel Chapa**, Managing Director of VAD

**Leslie Oschmann**, Director on the Board of VAD and Liaison for the *Dallas Medianale*

**About the Video Association of Dallas.** The Video Association of Dallas is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and is widely recognized as one of the first and most important proponents and exhibitors of video and new media art in the world. VAD's mission is to promote an understanding of video as a creative medium and cultural force in our society and to support and advance the work of artists working in video and the electronic arts. The Video Association of Dallas also produces the Dallas VideoFest. Its website is at <http://www.videofest.org>.

Please contact the individual curators with respect the works they are respectively curating:

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**Please check the [Dallas Medianale website](#)  
at [www.c-cyte.com/Dallas\\_Medianale\\_2015](http://www.c-cyte.com/Dallas_Medianale_2015) for updates.**