

Theory/Practice

Expanding Scholarship In
the Age of Digital Media
March 30-31, 2018

This symposium takes as its starting point the evolving dialogue and shared atmosphere among those working in both traditional academic scholarship and alternative forms of inquiry. Looking at a number of modes ranging from documentary filmmaking to digital screen media, this event brings together scholars who can offer first-hand accounts of the conceptual and formal resonance between theory and practice.

Friday - March 30

All events in the Auditorium

3:30 pm Screening

Secrecy (Peter Galison & Robb Moss, 2008, 85 min)

5:00 pm Keynote: Peter Galison (Harvard University)

"Filming and Writing Science: Concrete Abstractions"

Introduced by Charles Musser (Yale University)

7:00 pm Screening

Shoddy Aliens (Hanna Rose Shell, 2015, 15 min)

Locomotion in Water (Hanna Rose Shell, 2005, 13 min)

Secondhand [Pèpè] (Hanna Rose Shell & Vanessa Bertozzi, 2007, 24 min)

Q&A with Hanna Rose Shell following screening

Saturday - March 31

All events in Room 208

10:00 am Hanna Rose Shell (University of Colorado, Boulder/MIT)

"The Skin of Things: An Excursion into Theory as Practice, Practice as Theory"

Introduced by Laura Wexler (Yale University)

11:00 am jub Sankofa (Yale University)

"Imagine Futures: Mobile Filmmaking, Digital Humanities, and Story Maps"

Introduced by John Lucas (Yale University)

1:00 pm Kevin Lee (Merz Academy, Stuttgart, Germany)

"Dreams and Terrors of Desktop Documentary"

Introduced by Swagato Chakravorty (Yale University)

2:00 pm Carolyn Jacobs (Yale University)

"Silent Cinema Scholarship in the Digital Era"

Introduced by Francesco Casetti (Yale University)

3:30 pm Charles Musser (Yale University)

"From Filmmaker-Scholar to Scholar-Practitioner"

Introduced by Rosie Bsheer (Yale University)

4:30 pm Jane Gaines (Columbia University)

"Where Does the Theory Go When You Make a Moving Image Work?"

Secrecy (Peter Galison and Robb Moss, 2008, 85 min) is a documentary about the costs, benefits and history of the vast, invisible world of government secrecy. *Secrecy* competed in the Documentary Competition at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival and at the Berlin Film Festival, among many other venues. It was the winner of the Special Jury Award for Documentary Features at the Independent Film Festival, Boston, and was named Best Documentary at the Newport International Film Festival.

Shoddy Aliens (Hanna Rose Shell, 2015, 15 min) What is a shoddy weed anyway?

Locomotion in Water (Hanna Rose Shell, 2005, 13 min) is an experimental documentary short about seeing movement, doing science and filming fish in Naples, Italy. Moving between past and present, text and image, travelogue and reverie, *Locomotion in Water* interweaves the reflections of nineteenth-century chrono-photographer Etienne-Jules Marey with the animating impulses of a modern-day filmmaker.

Secondhand [Pèpè] (Hanna Rose Shell & Vanessa Bertozzi, 2007, 24 min) is an experimental documentary short about used clothing. Filmmakers Shell & Bertozzi weave two narratives into a visual and sonic journey. The historical memoir of a Jewish immigrant rag picker intertwines with the present-day story of "pepe" — secondhand clothing that flows from North America to Haiti. *Secondhand (Pepe)* animates the materiality of recycled clothes — their secret afterlives and the unspoken connections among people in an era of globalization. Shell & Bertozzi filmed *Secondhand (Pepe)* on location in Haiti, the United States and Canada.

Whitney Humanities
Center
53 Wall Street

Screenings and talks are free and open to the public.