

NORTH AMERICAN FILM PREMIERES

Eleni Bagaki, *The Film* (2017)
Zadie Xa, *Moodrings, Crystals and Opal Stone* (2016)

Thursday, November 30, 2017

7pm Screening 1

7:30pm Intermission

8:30pm Screening 2

9pm Drinks

NEW LOCATION

L'INCONNUE
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The Film,
Eleni Bagaki (2017)

27 minutes and 55 seconds

*She wanted to be a filmmaker
She had no idea what to film though*

How can making a film (as a process) become itself a strategy to process?

'A book, a film, and a soundtrack' draws inspiration from a failed romantic relationship between a female artist and a male filmmaker. They meet and try to become a couple. She wants to make a film. His script is bad. They break up. She keeps looking for a story to shoot when she realizes that the relationship itself, and the process of processing it through her art, should be the film. 'A book, a film, and a soundtrack' are brought together to challenge each other's limitations. In the form of an exhibition, they become loosely or closely attached, depending on how and when one encounters them. In the end, the three elements make up a meeting—a meeting of story, scene, and mood.

ELENI BAGAKI

(b.1979, Crete, Greece) Lives and works in London, UK

Eleni Bagaki considers of the body not purely as an image or an object, but also as text, sound, and a story. The works become the space to contemplate on desire and contemporary relationships and emerge as poems, films, sculptures. There is a continuous shift on the form they take, as if it is not only important what they are but also what they could be. The works exist in a state of continuous transition and transformation, searching for meaning.

Eleni Bagaki holds a Master's in Fine Art from Central Saint Martins, London. Recent solo shows include: *Economy Class, Signal, Malmö* (2016–2017); *Now you see me, oh now you don't*, New Studio, London (2015–2016); *Crack, Crack, Pop, Pop...Oh What a Relief It Is!*, Radio Athènes, Athens (2015). Selected group exhibitions include: *Vilniaus kontekstai*, invited by Valentinas Klimašauskas, Vilnius (2017); *Millennial Feminisms*, L'INCONNUE, Montreal (2017); *The Equilibrists*, organized by the New Museum, New York and the DESTE Foundation, Athens in collaboration with the Benaki Museum, Athens (2016).

Zadie Xa,
Moodrings, Crystals and Opal Coloured Stones (2016)
20 minutes and 40 seconds

Found imagery and soundscapes alongside scenes of Xa performing disguised in a self-created garments reenacting rituals in Korean Shamanism are captured in Moodrings, Crystals and Opal Coloured Stones (2016).

"Xa undergoes initiation rituals for Munsin, or Korean shaman, channeling her interest in magic, witchcraft, and astrology. Loosely based on her research on Munsin, Xa learns the steps of the ritual from a female shaman character. Similarly, the artist has recently developed performances in which she 'retraces' and learns traditional 'Korean' movements and practices from other cultural producers from Korea and its diasporas. Superficially, the original fashions and staging of these time-based works strike the viewer as overtly playing to racial and ethnic concerns, when in fact they are premised on invisible, incomplete transfers. Poignantly, in her understanding of Korean culture and identity, the artist considers herself an 'amateur', and therefore uses strategies of mimicry in attempts to perform or attain authenticity."

-Bing Hao "Zadie Xa: EXACERBATION"

ZADIE XA

(b. 1983 Vancouver, Canada) Lives and works in London, UK

Through performance, video, painting and textiles, artist Zadie Xa interrogates the overlapping and conflation of cultures that inform self conceptualized identities, notions of self and her experience within the Asian diaspora. Her intricate hand sewn fabric work stitches together familiar symbols of yin-yangs, knives, lucky numbers and monolid eyes, all operating within a system of personalized semiotics. These exaggerated motifs are utilised by Xa to both combat and engage with perceptions of Asian identity and performativity, aspiring to create new and alternative Korean identity narratives often fantastical and within the realm of the supernatural.

Zadie Xa received an MA in Painting at the Royal College of Art in 2014 and her BFA at Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design in 2007. Recent exhibitions and performances include: The Conch, Sea Urchin and Brass Bell (solo), Pump House Gallery, London UK; HERE, Locating Contemporary Canadian Artists, Aga Khan Museum, Toronto Canada; How to call the spirits, Agustina Ferreyra Gallery at Chapter NY for CONDO NYC; Rehearsals from the Korean Avant-Garde Performance Archive, Korean Cultural Centre UK Crash Boom Hisssssss. Legend of the Liquid Sword, Block Universe 2017, Somerset House Studios; Thomas J. Price /Ebony G. Patterson / Zadie Xa, Hales Gallery; Upcoming exhibitions and performances include; Four Pillars, L'INCONNUE, Montreal CA (2018); Union Pacific, London, UK (solo) (2018); Galeria Agustina Ferreyra,