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### MEDIA/CALENDAR ALERT

### VISUAL STUDIES WORKSHOP HOSTS EVENT WITH FEMINIST FILMMAKER PEGGY AHWESH



*Still from OR119 by Peggy Ahwesh and Jacqueline Goss, courtesy of the artists.*

**WHAT:** Visual Studies Workshop Project Space Resident and experimental film and video artist Peggy Ahwesh (Brooklyn, NY) will present *OR119*— her recent collaboration with filmmaker Jacqueline Goss (Tivoli, NY) — a theoretical musical based on the ideas of radical psychologist Wilhelm Reich.

**WHEN:** Thursday, January 25, 7-9pm

**WHERE:** Visual Studies Workshop, 31 Prince Street, Rochester, NY

**REGISTER:** [\[Tickets\]](#) Pay-what-you-choose; suggested \$10 donation.

*ASL interpreters will be made available upon request at least two weeks before the event. Email [accommodations@vsw.org](mailto:accommodations@vsw.org) with access questions.*

**EVENT DETAILS:** As Freud's favorite student, Wilhelm Reich centered his study on the intersections of psychoanalysis and Marxism. Reich's work advocates for a re-imagining of family structure and gender roles, sexual liberation for younger people and the working poor, and a deep understanding of the effect of fascisms on the body. *OR119* includes quotations by Reich set to song and imaginary conversations between Reich and a number of contemporary feminist thinkers.

This event includes a film screening and discussion with Ahwesh and one of the stars of the film: filmmaker and longtime collaborator Jennifer Montgomery (Hyde Park, MA). VSW Curator Tara Nelson will host the post-screening discussion with Ahwesh and Montgomery. [Link to event website](#)

## **BACKGROUND:**

**About Peggy Ahwesh:** Peggy Ahwesh is a Brooklyn based artist whose work spans a variety of technologies and styles in an inquiry into feminism, cultural identity and genre. Selected exhibitions include: "Vision Machines," Spike Island, Bristol (2021) traveled to Kunsthall Stavanger, Norway (2022); "the third body," BFI, London (2013); "Heart\_Land," JOAN, Los Angeles (2020) and "Laugh My Darling," Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao, Spain (2009). Recent screenings of *OR119* at Anthology Film Archives, Pacific Film Archives (BMPFA), Berkeley and Rencontres Internationales, Paris. Ahwesh is represented by Electronic Arts Intermix and Microscope Gallery, New York.

**About Jacqueline Goss:** Jacqueline Goss makes movies and web-based works that explore how political, cultural, and scientific systems change our sense of self through animation and live action in documentary and essay forms. Her work has shown at Eyebeam Atelier, The Wexner Center for the Arts and festivals in New York, London, Rotterdam. Goss has received awards from the Tribeca Film Institute, Creative Capital Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, Jerome Foundation, Herb Alpert Foundation, the United States Artist Award and the Berliner Künstlerprogramm. Her videos are distributed by Video Data Bank in Chicago. She teaches Media at Bard College.

**About Jennifer Montgomery** Jennifer Montgomery's film titles include *Allocution* (2022), *One Species Removed* (2015), *The Agonal Phase* (2010), *Deliver* (2008), *Notes on the Death of Kodachrome* (2006), *Threads of Belonging* (2003), *Transitional Objects* (2000), *Troika* (1998), *Art For Teachers of Children* (1995), *I, a Lamb* (1992), *Age 12: Love With a Little L* (1990), and *Home Avenue* (1989). These films range from experimental essays to experimental features, and are distributed by Zeitgeist Films, Waterbearer Films, Women Make Movies, and Video Data Bank. Her work has shown at international festivals, as well as the 2008 Whitney Biennial (NYC),

MoMA (NYC), the Brooklyn Academy of Music, the Gene Siskel Film Center (Chicago), the ICA (London), and the Walker Arts Center (Minneapolis). She has been the recipient of many grants, including a Guggenheim Fellowship.

Montgomery has taught filmmaking and film theory for three decades. She now teaches in the Department of Modern Culture and Media at Brown University, and lives in Hyde Park, MA.

***About Visual Studies Workshop:*** Visual Studies Workshop nurtures experimental and expansive approaches to photography and media arts, and builds community among artists and the public through exhibitions, publications and residencies. VSW was founded in 1969 in Rochester, NY by artist and curator Nathan Lyons (1930–2016), and became one of the earliest independent, not-for-profit, artist-run spaces in the country. More than 50 years later, the organization’s mission is reflected in its core programs: VSW Salon, Project Space Artist Residencies, and VSW Press. In support of VSW programs, the organization holds photography and moving image research collections and an art library for artists, critics and the general public to explore, research and reuse. [vsw.org](http://vsw.org)

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