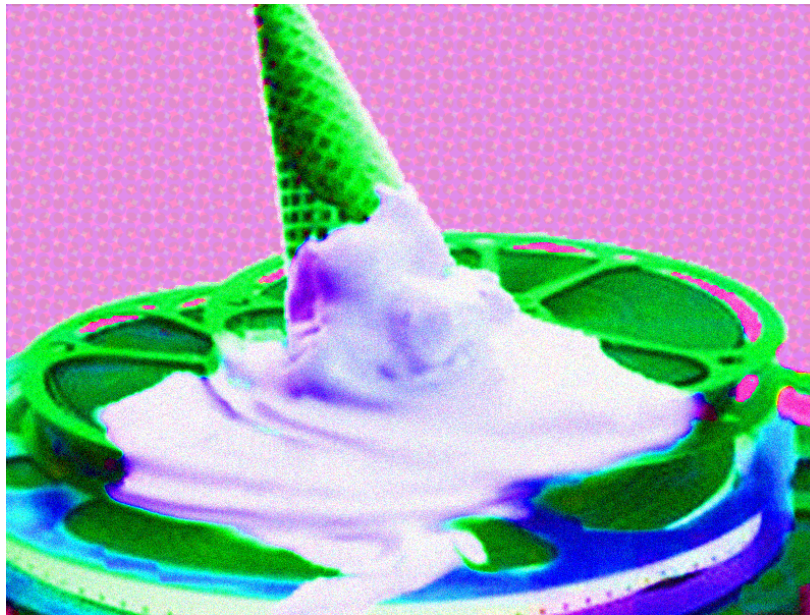


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MEDIA/CALENDAR ALERT

VISUAL STUDIES WORKSHOP HOSTS EXPERIMENTAL 16MM FILM SCREENING –*SLUDGE* Mixes & Mashes Titles & Topics from VSW's Film Collection–



SLUDGE artwork by Mary Lewandowski

- WHAT:** The Visual Student Workshop Film Archive contains more than 5,000 16mm films primarily originating from the Rochester Public Library and regional universities. ***SLUDGE*** takes its name from an extrasensory TikTok fad of simultaneously showing multiple unrelated videos on one screen – an extreme example of the evolution of attention spans. The ***SLUDGE*** Film series offers an evening's experiment of titles and topics from VSW's film collection shown in fresh juxtapositions, finding new interpretations within educational, documentary, propaganda, and animated films of the 1940s-80s.
- WHEN:** Thursday, February 8, 7-9pm and Thursday, April 11, 7-9pm
- WHERE:** Visual Studies Workshop, 31 Prince Street, Rochester, NY

REGISTER: Pay-what-you-choose; suggested \$10 donation. Free for VSW Members. [LINK](#)

ASL interpreters will be made available upon request at least two weeks before the event. Email accommodations@vsw.org with access questions.

EVENT DETAILS: The VSW Film Archive contains more than 5,000 16mm films primarily originating from public and university libraries. VSW values this rare chunk of media and cultural history on behalf of the artists and researchers who find useful information and source material within.

16mm film is media evidence of the cultural values of 20th century America, a format both dictating and reflecting educational standards and national viewpoints of yesteryear. Film archives are left to reckon with this cultural heritage, confronting a varied field of broadcast values that, in 2024, feel strange and distant, yet foundational and familiar.

SLUDGE takes its name from an extrasensory TikTok fad of simultaneously showing two or more unrelated videos on one screen – an extreme example of the evolution of attention spans. How can we confront old media with our new attention spans and global perspectives?

The **SLUDGE** Film series offers an evening's experiment of mashed up titles and topics from VSW's 16mm collection, making new meaning from old formats and playing with new tempos of media consumption. This series is curated and projected by Mary Lewandowski, VSW's Curatorial & Research Associate.

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

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