

Salon

Spring

2024

**Peggy Ahwesh
Presents:
OR 1 19**



01.25.24

7 - 9pm

Visual Studies Workshop • 31 Prince Street Rochester, NY • Suggested: \$10

VSW Salon - Spring 2024

January 25: Peggy Ahwesh Presents: OR119

7pm: Film Screening

- **The Touch Film (1983), 22 min, 16mm**
From the VSW Film Collection
- **Family in the Sun (1993), 4 min, digital video**
Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum;
Found footage remix by Peggy Ahwesh (2024)
- **OR119 (2023), 60 min, digital video**
Directed by Peggy Ahwesh and Jacqueline Goss

8:30pm: Conversation with Peggy Ahwesh and Jennifer Montgomery

Visual Studies Workshop Project Space Resident and experimental film and video artist Peggy Ahwesh will present her recent collaboration with filmmaker Jacqueline Goss, OR119, a theoretical musical based on the ideas of radical psychologist Wilhelm Reich. As Freud's favorite student, 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 songs and imaginary conversations between Reich and a number of contemporary feminist thinkers.

This event includes a film screening and discussion with Ahwesh and Jennifer Montgomery, filmmaker and longtime collaborator and one of the stars of the film. VSW Curator Tara Nelson will host the post-screening discussion.



Online tickets are available to watch the film for a 24 hour period. The discussion will also be available as a livestream via twitch.tv.

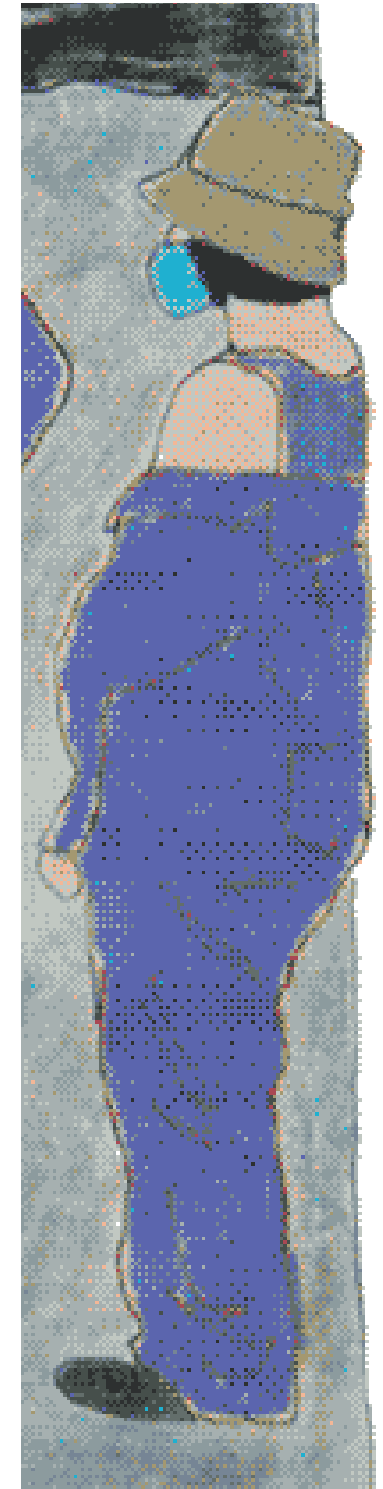
Cover image:
OR119 drawing by Kelly Reichardt



Peggy Ahwesh is a Brooklyn based media artist whose work spans a variety of technologies and styles in an inquiry into feminism, cultural identity and genre. The discourses of film theory are applied to themes of gender subjectivity and social relations through improvised situations, found footage and low end technologies while turning the conventions of realism on end. Ahwesh came of age in the 1970s with 8mm filmmaking, feminism and the punk underground in Pittsburgh. Ahwesh is represented by Microscope Gallery, New York. In 2022, she received The Acker Award that honors contributions to the downtown NYC art community. Find her on the web at Senses of Cinema's Great Directors Critical Database, World Picture Journal #4 and the Brooklyn Museum's Elizabeth Sackler Center for Feminist Art.

Jacqueline Goss makes movies about scientific systems and how they change the ways we think about ourselves. Her work has shown at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, New York Film Festival, and International Film Festival at Rotterdam, among many other venues. She is a recipient of awards from the Alpert Foundation and Creative Capital. Goss teaches in the Film and Electronic Arts program at Bard College in the Hudson Valley of New York.

Jennifer Montgomery's work has been screened internationally at festivals such as Toronto, New Directors New Films (MOMA), San Francisco, Rotterdam, Thessaloniki, Rimini, Edinburgh, and Melbourne. It has also screened at museums such as the Whitney (NYC), the ICA (London), the Museum of Modern Art (NYC), the Walker Arts Center (Minneapolis), and the Pasadena Arts Center, and has had theatrical distribution in American and European repertory theaters. She has received grants from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Jerome Foundation, Art Matters, the New York State Council on the Arts, the Wisconsin Arts Board, and received a Mary L. Nohl Fellowship from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation in 2005. Emanating from the East Coast, she now lives in Chicago.



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.

The VSW Salon is a bi-monthly engagement in the VSW microcinema featuring film screenings, artist talks, Community Curator events, performances, photo presentations and conversations. VSW Salon showcases the work of local and national artists, and invites them to present their work in an intimate “microcinema” equipped to show 16mm, Super 8, digital photography and video on state of the art equipment.



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VSW envisions a society that values the human need to create and share ideas.



31 Prince Street, Rochester, NY

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