

april 21
6 p.m.

spring 2016

conversations
at the edge
experimental media series

lyra hill: three performances

2014–16, USA, multiple formats, ca 60 min + discussion

Comics artist and filmmaker Lyra Hill produces spectacular performances that mix psychedelia with fantastic tales of self-discovery, the body, and the mysteries of nature. She uses multiple film projectors, looping audio effects, and pulsating hand-drawn images to create super-sensory environments of light, color, and sound. For this event she will present six pieces, including four that were created especially for the Gene Siskel Film Center.

Lyra Hill (San Francisco, CA) is an artist and curator living in Chicago. Raised in a neo-Pagan tradition, Hill began teaching at witch camps and leading public rituals at the age of 16. Her 16mm films have screened at festivals internationally. She has presented her hybrid performances at the Chicago Humanities Festival, Chicago Printers Ball, Chicago Underground Film Festival, and Chicago Alternative Comics Festival. She has also presented her work at venues across the country, including Artists' Television Access (San Francisco), Cinefamily (Los Angeles), and Echo Park Film Center (Los Angeles) in addition to countless underground shows in strange, secretive places. Hill works as a teaching artist at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago. She is currently hosting and producing a weekly radio interview show called Magic Chats. She received her BFA from SAIC in 2011.

program

Breathe With Cube

(Lyra Hill, 2015, 16mm projection in anaglyphic 3-D, and performance, 15 min.)

Breathe with Cube is a comedy trance intended to prime the audience for complete immersion into multi-dimensional cinema space. The dual perspectives of the cube gently grow and shrink, drifting in and out of synchronization with one another, creating a hypnotic, confounding effect in addition to the optical illusion of 3-D. remember

remember

(Lyra Hill, 2016, DCP, video, 3 min.)

Cat Tongue

(Lyra Hill, 2014, performative-comix reading, 16mm and video projection and sound performance, 20 min.)

Cat Tongue is an expanded interpretation of a six-page comic. Two girlfriends meet in a wood shop. One woman confesses a disturbing masturbatory experience, and the other (wood working) soothes her lover with a sexual fantasy about jungle cats. Fantasy overwhelms reality until we return to the wood shop, where both women are licking the equipment and whispering, "It's the machines."

this

(Lyra Hill, 2016, DCP, video, 3 min.)

Happy Ending

(Lyra Hill, 2016, 35mm slide animation and performance)

Happy Ending is a beautiful quest for death on a grand scale. Alternately drifting and barreling through shifting landscapes, our anti-hero discovers her life purpose. *Happy Ending* is a stuttering animation performed using three overlapping slide projectors, set to live piano music performed by Tyson Thurston. Informed by dream experience and the aesthetics of underground comics and shadow puppetry, this is a brand new piece created for this show.

feeling

(Lyra Hill, 2016, DCP, 3 min.)
