Exhibition dates: Friday, November 22, 2019 - Monday, January 6, 2020

This program features select works made in DoVA Lecturer Scott Wolniak’s 2018 Video course, which promotes diverse, experimental and short works, made in response to the history of video art and media technology.

Order of screening:

2. Alexandra Epstein, “The Modern Woman at Home” [04:01]
3. Willa Schwabsky, “Wind (Monster)” [04:52]
4. Daisy Schultz, “egg” [02:32]
5. Ella Sperling, “Behold! (The Sink)” [03:12]
6. Zola Yi, “1 Reason to Move to an Island” [03:49]
7. Pirachula Chulanon, “The Emperor of Ice Cream” [06:41]
8. Ella Sperling, “Transition to Work: Professional Etiquette Dinner” [03:41]
9. Pirachula Chulanon, “Fall ab, Herz” [02:17]
10. Willa Schwabsky, “Dress Up” [03:54]
11. Holden Head, “HOW TO FRY AN EGG” [04:44]
12. Zola Yi, “Room Narratives” [03:59]
In the first two works, I investigate the relation between language and visual media, taking as my point of departure the medium of poetry. What does it mean to read? What is the relationship between reading and imagining or visualizing? Such questions gain particular poignancy with poetry—we are used to talking about a poem in terms of its “imagery” and “figures.” Spatial and temporal configuration, moreover, is essential to the construction of a poem in a more salient way than with any other use of language. “The Emperor of Ice Cream” seeks to visualize Wallace Stevens’s poem of the same name, giving visual articulation to its visceral and ritualistic qualities. “Fall ab, Herz” is based on a famous poem by the Austrian poet Ingeborg Bachmann. The poem provides an occasion for a visual contemplation on time and impermanence.

In “A Study in Morphology,” I move toward music in my attempt to understand the relation of images to the other modes of articulation, using Richard Strauss’s “tone poem,” Metamorphosen as my material. The work provides an interlinear visual commentary to an excerpt of Strauss’s score. As the title of the work suggests, the key theme is “transfiguration,” which connects the work to the tradition, beginning with Ovid’s Metamorphoses, of conceiving of poetry and music as an art of transfiguration. But isn’t video art also an art of transfiguration?

**Alexandra Epstein (’19)**

“The Modern Woman at Home”

Filmed in one continuous take, “The Modern Woman at Home” plays with our expectations: employing filmic tropes in unexpected ways, blending genres and questioning societal assumptions of beauty and gender roles.

**Holden Head (MFA ’20)**

“HOW TO FRY AN EGG”

Relearning how to do something very simple. When you get out of the shower for instance and you dry yourself off, there is a pattern that one follows over and over again. Attempting to learn a common task in a new way is interesting to me and can be seen in this work.

**Daisy Schultz (MFA ’20)**

“egg”

Playing god with an egg.

“Wind” was my first work made for Scott Wolniak’s class. Using a velvet shawl and a floor fan (that generated fake wind), I developed a monster/apparition. I was interested in how a natural force like wind could create movement, shape, and, eventually, some sort of character through the texture of the shawl. I found that when both elements (the shawl and the fan) were on me, I could comfortably live within this character—but I didn’t have to “perform” because the force of the wind was creating the monstrous appearance in the shawl for me. Additionally, I pointed the camera at two mirrors, destabilizing the setting for the viewer and also for me, who, in order for the camera not to be seen, had to stand in a way that didn’t allow me to see myself as I was filming.

“Dress Up” was my final video for Scott’s class. I wanted to continue my exploration into performance and character-building, but additionally I wanted to add the element of memory. I filmed myself “dressing up” as my Great Aunt Harriet, which I combined with shots of emails from my cousins, who were sending pictures of her and giving updates to the family. I ended the video with me abstractly performing as her (instead of just putting on her costume), also referencing the last photo of us taken together which was on a beach.

**Ella Sperling (’19)**

“Behold! (The Sink)”

“Transition to Work: Professional Etiquette Dinner”

“Behold! (The Sink)”

Sinks are a wonderful source of entertainment for the whole family!

“Transition to Work: Professional Etiquette Dinner”

Do you want to learn how to navigate professional dining experiences? Join us for this delicious 6-course meal.

**Zola YI (’20)**

“1 Reason for Moving To an Island”

“Room Narratives”

“1 Reason for Moving To an Island” utilizes old video footage and images in order to create an absurd dream-like narrative. A digitized voice takes the viewer through the strange logic and purpose behind the story.

“Room Narratives”

Drawing inspiration from John Smith’s work, explores the singular space of a bedroom. Moving through mundane and strange actions, the unpredictable and unjustified explanation of the order of events creates a sense of unease.