

A
GLASSHOUSE
SHOULD HOLD
NO TERRORS

AUGUST 18 2016

9 PM



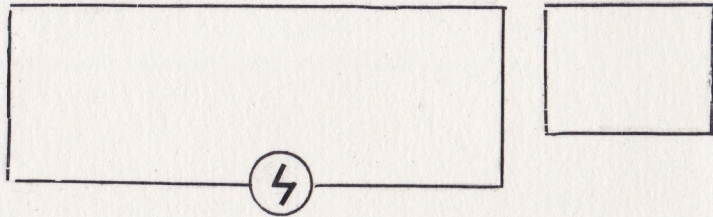
1. Please Report to the Pool

We are standing on the edge of an empty, secret pool. Built in 1961 for the patients and staff of the Royal Victoria Hospital, the pool is cached amidst overgrown foliage on the southern slope of the mountain. The pool was opened to the public in 1994, reputedly known as the "hidden gem" or being lax on regulation, inspiring covert narcotic consumption by light of day, and unsupervised skinny dipping at night. On August 8, 2013, a man who frequented the pool by the name of D. Crabbe suffered an epileptic seizure and sunk to the bottom of the deep-end. The security camera footage showed him underwater for over four minutes before a lifeguard noticed and dove in. The man died in the hospital two days later. Since then, the pool has drained its waters, a crypt on the abandoned grounds of the Victorian hospital. Humble grassroots campaigns were launched to "Save the Secret Mountain Pool" to no avail. This macabre, scandalous history of the secret pool is a resonant vessel for this site-specific installation on the art of the x-ray, exposure, and health in the modern city.

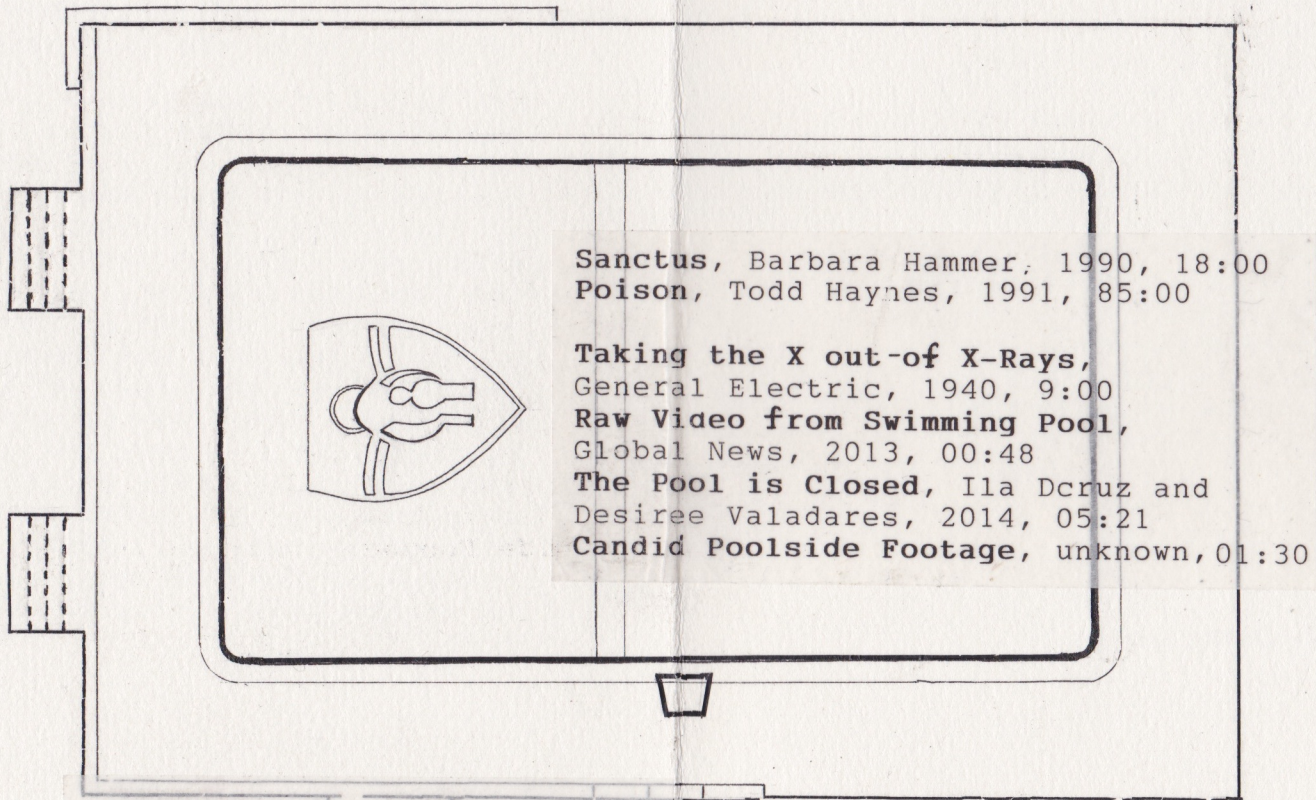
2. X-Ray Architecture

"Health is to modern architecture what religion was to Gothic architecture."

The title of this site-specific installation comes from a rare film by radiographer Dr. J. Sibley Watson created to dissuade the public from fear of the x-ray. The concern was not of radiation - for no seed of this fear had yet been planted, but rather of exposure and indecency. The film was called **Highlights and Shadows** (1937) where the moving image of a woman in a swimsuit under the penetrating eye of the x-ray is shown while the male narrator says: "This young lady, to whom henceforth a **glass house should hold no terrors** will after an examination of her radiographs, be reassured that she is indeed physically fit."



Hera Chan & Linx Selby
A Lady's Hand, 2016



Sanctus, Barbara Hammer, 1990, 18:00
Poison, Todd Haynes, 1991, 85:00

Taking the X out-of X-Rays,
General Electric, 1940, 9:00
Raw Video from Swimming Pool,
Global News, 2013, 00:48
The Pool is Closed, Ila Dacruz and
Desiree Valadares, 2014, 05:21
Candid Poolside Footage, unknown, 01:30

Yen-Chao Lin
Under The Seventh Sun, 2016
installation. various objects



Considered a "wet" disease, 'Licht, Luft Sonne' (light, air, sun) was the accepted regime of treating tuberculosis, iconicized in the 19th century as the endemic disease of the urban poor. These three elements were built into the sanatoria and Nightingale style wards of the time, later inspiring the modernist aesthetic of minimalism that is coveted in design trends today. Beatriz Colomina writes that modern architecture as a discipline was developed in the 1920s by the Surrealist and avant-gardists and was shaped by the dominant medical obsession of the period, tuberculosis, and its primary diagnostic tool, the x-ray.

Kate Whiteway

Sanctus

Barbara Hammer, 1990, 18:00

Poison

Todd Haynes, 1991, 85:00

Taking The X Out Of X-Rays

General Electric, 1940, 09:00

The Pool Is Closed

Ila Dacruz and Desiree Valadares,
2014, 05:21

Swimmer Nearly Drowns In RVH Pool

Global News, 2013, 00:48

Anonymous Poolside Footage

Unknown, 01:30

Under The Seventh Sun

Yen-Chao Lin, 2016, various objects

A Lady's Hand

Hera Chan and Linx Selby, 2016

"All architecture is the result
of panic." -Anthony Vidler



A Glass House Should Hold No Terrors is
organized and curated by
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Thank you Hera Chan, Thy Anne Chu Quang,
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Linx Selby, Devin Wangert

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