Documentary Reframed: Process, Politics and Aesthetics

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The documentary has come of age. Once tagged “boring,” documentaries are now box office hits and are beginning to shape mass opinion. PAVED Arts presents a selection of independent Canadian and international documentary films and videos to explore how this surge of interest in the documentary genre is affecting media artists and filmmakers working interstitially, outside corporate-controlled broadcast production systems.

The screenings are structured according to four themes that emerged through research conducted with artists, filmmakers, and independent distributors across Canada and abroad. The themes are Found Footage, Psycho-spiritual Realities, Encountering the Other, and Re-imaging/imagining History.

- **Found Footage** refers to the avant-garde practice of constructing something new from already existing clips borrowed from television, cinema, news media, internet, commercials, video art, animation, art, documentary, and Surrealism to convey psychologi-cal or spiritual conditions. In Encountering the Other, filmmakers are challenged by the visual legacy of exploitation and violence that accompanies ethnographic representations to find new ways to approach foreign or “exoticized” subject matter. An insistence upon remembering forgotten histories is a powerful response to the colonial negation of indigenous and minority experiences in the final theme of Re-imaging/imagining History.

The works test a variety of creative strategies for representing personal, social, and political realities, often pushing the boundaries of what is considered “documentary.” The viewer is invited to consider how the intersection of form, content, and mode of production within the documentary genre influences reception while both masking and revealing ideological assumptions.

Maureen Latta

Wednesday, April 4, 7:00 pm
Panel Discussion
Tuesdays – Saturdays, 12:00 – 6:00 pm
PAVED Arts Media Gallery and Resource Centre
All events at PAVED Arts except as noted. Admission to all events is free.

PAVED Arts
424 20th Street West
Saskatoon SK S7M 0X4
(306) 652-5502
www.pavedarts.ca

PAVED Arts acknowledges the support of our members, volunteers, sponsors, partners, and our trustees and friends, the province of Saskatchewan through SaskCulture, and the Canada Council for the Arts.

This presentation is supported by a Dissemination Project Grant from the Canada Council for the Arts. Technical assistance provided by University of Saskatchewan Television Studio and Technology and Production Department.

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Screenings and viewings of Canadian and International documentaries

March 20 – April 7, 2007
Curated by Maureen Latta

Bear McCreary

Thursday, March 22, 7:00 pm
Found Footage
March 25, Saturday, 1:00 pm
Re-imaging/imagining History
Thursday, March 29, 7:00 pm
Encountering the Other
March 31, Sunday, 1:00 pm
Re-imaging/imagining History

Sunday, April 1, 1:00 pm
Re-imaging/imagining History

PAVED Arts Media Gallery

Screenings:

Thursday, March 22, 7:00 pm
Found Footage
Saturday, March 24, 1:00 pm
Psycho-spiritual Realities
Thursday, March 29, 7:00 pm
Encountering the Other
Saturday, March 31, 1:00 pm
Re-imaging/imagining History

Sunday, April 1, 1:00 pm
Re-imaging/imagining History

Tuesdays – Saturdays, 12:00 – 6:00 pm
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When Canadians Attack
I Thought I was Seeing Convicts
Brett Kashmere (Canada, 2005) 4 min.
7:00 pm

Thursday, March 22

The Phantom of the Operator
Caroline Martel (Canada, 2005) 65 min.
8:00 pm

The Phantom of the Operator

A lyrical narration scripted from interviews with a Sarah Weir accuses the media of its roles of her experiences growing up with an abusive stepfather and the dream of her experiences growing up with an abusive stepfather and the dream world that saved her.

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