

## Saturday November 19, 2016 Playlist

### LOOP ONE

- Transmission Ring
- A Totem Pole Journey
- Rent Videos
- My Shoreline
- To Infomercial Actors
- Awareness Technology
- Interview with Jeanne
- This is Not Haifa Street
- To Your Absence
- The Forgotten
- To Whom It May Concern
- What is This Place?
- Wheeling Interview with Sunaura Taylor
- Rent Videos
- Returning
- In-between (False Creek)
- The Forgotten
- Hands to the Sky
- To Whom It May Concern
- Mapping Heritage
- To Your Absence

### LOOP TWO

- Interview with Jeanne
- This is Not Haifa Street
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### LOOP THREE

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## Media Democracy Days 2016 Short Film Exhibition Playlist and Program

*We respectfully acknowledge that the colonial settlement of Vancouver is established on unceded land and that we are holding this event in the occupied territories of the Squamish, Musqueam, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.*

**Special Thanks** to the artists, collectives, and projects represented here. Thank you for your support and participation at Media Democracy Days. We are thrilled to be sharing your work.

**Warm thanks** to SFU Harbour Centre's Meeting Event and Conference Services for providing our venue and to SFU Harbour Centre's IT services for their technical support.

**We sincerely thank** Paul Bennett, Production Technologist with SFU's School of Communication for his help with additional equipment sourcing.

**We continue to thank** the faculty and staff of Simon Fraser University School of Communication for hosting and supporting Media Democracy Days

## Hands to the Sky (4:02)

Elizabeth LaPensée

"Hands to the Sky" is an experimental stop motion animation directed and animated by Elizabeth LaPensée with music by the Metis Fiddler Quartet that passes on stories of thunderbirds and lightning people riding through spacetime to spark transformative healing of the waters.  
<https://vimeo.com/164461521>

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Elizabeth LaPensée, Ph.D. expresses herself through writing, design, and art in games, comics, transmedia, and animation. She is Anishinaabe, Métis, and Irish, living near the Great Lakes as an Assistant Professor of Media & Information and Writing, Rhetoric & American Cultures at Michigan State University.

## In-Between (False Creek) (11:21)

Mariane Bourcheix-Laporte

Excerpts of a multi-channel video installation using manipulated video-documentation of site-specific performances. The work features documentation of the artist rolling across semi-vacant lots around False Creek and on the site of the so-called Olympic Village; a residential complex built for the 2010 Winter Olympics. In 2012, the presence of the lots as “urban voids” was temporary: they had been zoned for redevelopment by the City of Vancouver. In 2016, their transformation into new commercial, residential, and park areas is in progress. The Olympic Village, one of the early phases of the redesign of the area, stands as an image of what these lots have already or will likely become.

Performing in and documenting these sites marks a moment in time. The works visually capture the state of these spaces in the spring and summer of 2012, rendering tangible the tipping point into the actualization of their planned future.

In the work, the action of rolling is a fully embodied displacement through space. The horizontal travels of the body impose a different value system onto the sites. Recomposing the usual co-extensive body/environment relationship, continuous rolling serves as a radically empirical mode of measurement, challenging the more typical measures of land value (rental, capital, and market) and the possibilities of vertical urban development.

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Mariane Bourcheix-Laporte is an interdisciplinary artist, independent curator, and writer based in Vancouver. She completed an MFA in Interdisciplinary Studies at Simon Fraser University in 2012. Recent exhibitions and performances include: Coalesce Performance Festival (Ottawa, 2015), Through a Window (Vancouver, 2015), and Deformes Performance Biennale (Valdivia, Chile, 2014). Recent curatorial projects include 2055 Public Programs (UNIT/PITT, 2014-15), Glissements de terrains (Capture Festival, 2015) and Acts of Spatial Decolonization: On Occupation, Settlement and Ownership (Decoy Magazine, 2015). [www.marianebourcheixlaporte.com](http://www.marianebourcheixlaporte.com)

## Welcome to Media Democracy Days 2016 Video/Audio Arts Exhibit

The goal of MDD is not only to know and change the media, but to “**be the media,**” sharing works that challenge the dominant tropes of commercial production and offer other means of understanding. At this year’s community-directed Media Democracy Days, we are excited to present a line-up of film and sound work by independent creators from Vancouver, Montreal, and the United States. Our playlist ranges across genres from surrealism to documentary, with each piece presenting experience and knowledge from outside a mainstream media lens. These works uniquely explore urban space, mobility, environmental connection, memory, cultural commentary, resistance, and technology.

The set will air on November 19th in the Media Democracy Days workshop and conference area at SFU Harbour Centre. We invite MDD attendees and the public to enjoy this free exhibition, which will run from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

More information about all the exhibitors can be found at: <http://mediademocracyproject.ca/media-democracy-days-2016/mdd-2016-film-exhibit/> (or find it through the drop-down menu at **MediaDemocracyProject.ca**)

~ *Helena Krobath and Pietro Sammarco, MDD Film Exhibit Coordinators*

## Transmission Ring (6:44)

Alexandra Spence (sound) &  
Katrina Stamatopoulos (images)

Acknowledging and embracing the unique interactions that take place between movement/ vision, sound/ vibration, 'Transmission ring' is located between signals, objects and bodies that are present amongst city spheres. The sensations of this film travel through and amongst flesh, mechanics and ideals of beauty. Whilst the sounds, sourced from electro-optical & electromechanical devices such as radio towers, power stations and mobile phones, reference the elusory electromagnetic spectra of our cities.

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Alexandra Spence is an Australian sound artist/musician currently based in Vancouver. Alex is interested in the relationship between humans and their sonic environments and the idea of listening as an active practice. Alex has performed & presented work in Australia, Canada & Europe, and she is the co-curator of Tidal ~ Signal Festival, which aims to highlight women, transgender, genderqueer & intergender artists working in left-field genres. Alex is a recent graduate of the MFA interdisciplinary arts program at Simon Fraser University. [afivepence.wordpress.com](http://afivepence.wordpress.com)

Katrina Stamatopoulos is a London based photographic artist. Graduating in 2012, Katrina studied Photomedia and Film theory at COFA, University of NSW Sydney, Australia. In 2016, she has participated in *After Eden*, an exhibition held in Budapest (in correspondence with the Annual Degrowth Festival), and *Manpower '16*, an International Art festival held in Lisbon, Portugal. Katrina is a previous resident of the BigCi (Bilpin Ground for Creative Initiatives) Wollemi National Park, Australia, and Haihatu Art Center, Finland. <http://katrinastamatopoulos.net/>

## Returning (3:36)

Elizabeth LaPensée

Stories unravel to "Trade Song" by the Métis Fiddler Quartet in this experimental stop motion animation directed and animated by Elizabeth LaPensée and edited by Sky Hopinka. <https://vimeo.com/126542602>

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Elizabeth LaPensée, Ph.D. expresses herself through writing, design, and art in games, comics, transmedia, and animation. She is Anishinaabe, Métis, and Irish, living near the Great Lakes as an Assistant Professor of Media & Information and Writing, Rhetoric & American Cultures at Michigan State University.

## Wheeling Interview with Sunaura Taylor - From the Bay Area to NYC

Laurence Parent

Interviewee: Sunaura Taylor

Sunaura Taylor and I meet in Washington Square Park on one of the first cold mornings of mid-November. In this short video, Sunaura talks about her move to New York City from Oakland last year. These two cities are worlds apart in terms of physical accessibility.

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Laurence Parent is a PhD candidate in Humanities at Concordia University. She holds an MA in Critical Disability Studies from York University. She lives in Montréal and is passionate about disability activism, disability history and mobility. Laurence's doctoral research examines what it means to wheel and walk from a disability perspective. Her academic and art work has featured in numerous conferences and exhibitions in Canada, the United States and England.

## The Shoreline Project: A Totem Pole Journey (3:15)

Elizabeth Miller (cinematographer, editor)

Nicole Robicheau (Lead Researcher)

Deborah Vanslet (co-editor)

Kyle Stansfield (Sound Mixer)

In this short film, Amy George, a Tesleil-Waututh elder, challenges her community to defend the British Columbia coast from plans to expand petroleum pipelines. She joins forces with Master Carver Jewell James and Muralist Melanie Schamback on a Totem Journey. <http://theshorelineproject.org>

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The Shore Line is a collaborative documentary profiling how educators, artists, architects, scientists, city planners, and youth organizations from Canada, the U.S., Panama, India, Bangladesh and New Zealand are confronting coastal challenges with innovation.

## Rent Videos (2:06)

Leftover Crafts

(Marita Michaelis, Saoirse Soley, Eyvan Collins)

The first of each month marks the day we empty our pockets. It is a ritual we all take part in quietly, privately, and without disruption. Though it is no cause for celebration, rent day should not be passively accepted as routine. We chose to come together on the first of each month, in order to pay our respects to the hard-earned money we are forced to release. This is a tribute to our labour, and a public confrontation: rent is theft. Where does it go when it leaves our hands? How can we say goodbye? Rent Videos is our sometimes absurd, mostly playful response - our way to alleviate the pain.

rent is vacuumed into the void

rent is a funeral

rent is money down the toilet

rent is set free

rent is recycled debt

rent is a bbq

rent is theft.

We invite everyone to create a rent ritual.

Leftover Crafts are renters on unceded coast salish territories.

[https://www.instagram.com/leftover\\_crafts/](https://www.instagram.com/leftover_crafts/)

## What Is This Place?

NNFB (New National Film Board)

Commentary by Beshele Caron, Michelle Furbacher, Adrienne LaBelle, Dan Loan, Ryan McCormick, Marita Michaelis-Webb, Tom Prilesky, and Enzo Verster

Theme music by Adam Horn

Filmed and edited by Sean Travis Ramsay

Eight Vancouver-based musicians discuss the state of the city and its do-it-yourself music and arts scene circa 2015.

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We are the New National Film Board of Canada, a DIY film studio dedicated to documenting everything that the established NFB cannot or will not. [nnfbcanada.tumblr.com](http://nnfbcanada.tumblr.com)

## Not Sent Letters Project: To Whom it May Concern (1:02)

Jeremy Todd

Graham Meisner (music/soundscape/scoring in collaboration)

These videos are part of Jeremy Todd's ongoing Not Sent Letters project, an entanglement with the production of meaning, self and cultural memory, involving image/text epistolary detours online (since 2005), digital shorts, interdisciplinary performance works and cooperatively realized public events:

<http://notsentlettersproject.com>

## My Shoreline (4:20)

Aimee Louw

Rose Maundcote (second camera)

Mark Beach (captioning)

Liz Miller (special thanks)

Attempting to reach the Saint Laurence River boardwalk in Montreal proves to be an impossible task when Aimee spends an afternoon in minus 20 weather waiting for buses that have ramps that aren't broken. My shoreline is at once an exposé into an element of infrastructural discrimination in Montreal, Quebec, and a meditation on the joys and pleasures of being in, and near water

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Aimee Louw is a writer, filmmaker, communications scholar, and radio host. Her media practice spans topics of accessibility, sexuality, Canadian cultures, and feminism. In recent years, Aimee has been a part of the growing accessibility advocacy community in Montreal, Canada, focusing on accessible transit and cultural spaces. <http://aimeelouw.com/>

## Not Sent Letters Project: To Infomercial Actors (3:17)

Jeremy Todd

Graham Meisner (music/soundscape/scoring in collaboration)

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## The Forgotten (1:44)

Sundus Abdul Hadi

Sound: Produced by Sundus Abdul Hadi and The Narcicyst

This video is adapted from the original mixed-media painting and sound installation "The Forgotten" from the Warchestra series. Culture, as a casualty of war.

This particular painting visually emulates Hostage Videos and cross references that composition with that of a traditional Iraqi "Chalghi" band posing for a photograph. The text in the painting reads the lyrics of a traditional Iraqi folk song:

"Those who have forgotten us, when will you remember us? When will we cross your mind? When will you help our situation? Love, you have left us with no explanation; You shut the doors in our face and abandoned us. Where did you come from on the day you set your eyes on us? Where did you find us? Your eyes have scarred us. You who have forgotten us, when will you remember us?"

The sound samples the song, but is overpowered by the silence of a forgotten record spinning.

[www.sundusabduhadi.com/warchestra](http://www.sundusabduhadi.com/warchestra)

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Sundus Abdul Hadi is an Iraqi-Canadian multimedia artist. She was born in the UAE, raised and educated in Montreal, where she earned a BFA and is currently working towards a Masters in Communication Studies. Her work is a subversive and sensitive documentation of current crises in the Middle East, often using manipulated photographic imagery, mixed-media painting, artist books and sound. Abdul Hadi is the co-founder of The Medium, a global multidisciplinary artist collective. [www.sundusabduhadi.com](http://www.sundusabduhadi.com)

## Not Sent Letters Project: To Your Absence (1:44)

Jeremy Todd

Graham Meisner (music/soundscape/scoring in collaboration)

These videos are part of Jeremy Todd's ongoing Not Sent Letters project, an entanglement with the production of meaning, self and cultural memory, involving image/text epistolary detours online (since 2005), digital shorts, interdisciplinary performance works and cooperatively realized public events:

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## Awareness Technology (9:28)

Kate Henderson

Awareness Technology investigates the hierarchy of vision and omnipresence of surveillance in our current historical moment. Through appropriated YouTube instructional videos and advertisements selling "do-it-yourself" home surveillance camera kits, this montage navigates modes of seeing, systems of knowledge, and visual power in societies shaped by fear and governmental control.

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Kate Henderson is a Vancouver-based artist who works with video, projection, photography, collage, and installation. She received her Master of Fine Arts from the University of British Columbia (UBC) in 2013 and her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Photography from the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design in 2007. She has exhibited at the Burrard Arts Foundation, The Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery, Belkin Satellite, VIVO, Access Gallery, Gallery 295, and the AHVA Gallery at the Audain Art Centre at UBC.

## Interview with Jeanne (4:03)

Laurence Parent

Interviewee: Jeanne L'Hermite

Jeanne is blind. I use a wheelchair. What does it mean for us to get from Manhattan to Forest Hills, Queens where she lives? In these two short clips, Jeanne talks about her experience in navigating streets she is not particularly familiar with, like this one. She says she always tries to keep a map in her head as much as possible.

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Laurence Parent is a PhD candidate in Humanities at Concordia University. She holds an MA in Critical Disability Studies from York University. She lives in Montréal and is passionate about disability activism, disability history and mobility. Laurence's doctoral research examines what it means to wheel and walk from a disability perspective. Her academic and art work has featured in numerous conferences and exhibitions in Canada, the United States and England.

## This is Not Haifa Street (3:01)

Sundus Abdul Hadi

Sound: Produced by Sundus Abdul Hadi and The Narcicyst

Saxophone performed by Nathaniel Marro

This video is adapted from the original mixed-media painting and sound installation "This is Not Haifa Street" from the Warchestra series. Haifa street is located near downtown Baghdad. In 2004, U.S. soldiers killed 13 Iraqi civilians and wounded 60 in a helicopter missile strike. That crime has been dubbed the "Haifa Street Helicopter Massacre". At the height of the invasion and subsequent civil war, Haifa street was one of the most dangerous and destructed streets in the city.

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