

Te Adam
Pātaka Art
Toi Gallery

Tuesday–Sunday, 11am–5pm
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Te Adam
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**ADAM ART GALLERY
BEAUTIFUL CREATURES:
JACK SMITH / BILL HENSON
/ JACQUELINE FRASER**

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**3 MAY — 7 JULY 2013
PUBLIC PROGRAMME**

EVENING FLIX

The primitive allure of the movies is a thing of light and shadows.

—Jack Smith

The Adam Art Gallery with Salient and VBC 88.3fm present a film series to accompany the exhibition *Beautiful Creatures: Jack Smith / Bill Henson / Jacqueline Fraser*

All films will be screened in the Memorial Theatre, Student Union Building Kelburn Campus, Victoria University of Wellington

\$5 ticket includes refreshments in the Adam Art Gallery between 5 and 6pm

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SALIENT
1938



TABLEAU

Maria Montez's...effect cannot be known by words, described in words, flaunts words (her image spoke).

—Jack Smith

Derek Jarman, *Caravaggio* (1986)

90mins, colour, sound, UK

Part biopic and part homage, Derek Jarman's *Caravaggio* turns to the life of Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio (1571–1610) for source material and as a font of aesthetic inspiration: incorporating details of the director's own life into a script toying with themes of blasphemy, violence, homosexuality, languor, and the relationship between film and painting. Jarman's identification with the most influential painter of the Italian Baroque extends into questions of form. The film deploys Caravaggio's distinctive *chiaroscuro* (light and dark) as a principle of cinematic lighting, and experiments with reconstruction by animating the style, mood and composition of the artist's most famous paintings into tableaux that hover expressively between stillness and motion.

Wednesday 8 May, 6 PM

Memorial Theatre, Victoria University of Wellington

MILIEU

It was like directing the wind.

—Ken Jacobs on Jack Smith

Mary Jordan, *Jack Smith and the Destruction of Atlantis* (2006)

94mins, black-and-white and colour, sound, USA

Mary Jordan's portrait of Jack Smith is also the biography of a milieu: the underground film, art, and performance scene that animated downtown New York City in the 60s, 70s, and 80s. Smith was a key figure in both art and cinema worlds. The auras and afterimages that crowd around his legend can be tracked through the work of several generations of artists, including Andy Warhol, John Waters, Richard Foreman, Ken Jacobs, Cindy Sherman and Nan Goldin. Jordan's film explores Smith's life and output beyond the legal storm that grew around *Flaming Creatures* (1962–63), attending to his largely unseen corpus of photographs, midnight performances improvised in his Lower East Side loft, film clips and other fragments of an interior landscape. The Atlantis of the title refers to *The Siren of Atlantis*: a vehicle for the B-movie muse Maria Montez, who Smith worshipped. Jack Smith died of AIDS-related causes in 1989. But Jordan's interviews with luminaries ranging from John Zorn to John Waters attest to the persistence of his influence on film, performance, installation, photography, and a radical queer aesthetic. As the playwright Richard Foreman put it 'everybody stole from Jack'.

Wednesday 22 May, 6 PM

Memorial Theatre, Victoria University of Wellington

INCANDESCENCE

Girl of the Year 1965

—New York Herald Tribune

Ronald Nameth, *Andy Warhol's Exploding Plastic Inevitable* (1966)

12mins, black-and-white and colour, sound, USA

John Palmer, David Weisman, *Ciao! Manhattan* (1972)

92mins, black-and-white and colour, sound, USA

Starring Edie Sedgwick, Wesley Hayes, Isabel Jewell, Paul America, Viva!, Brigid Berlin, Baby Jane Holzer, Geoffrey Briggs, with Roger Vadim, Allen Ginsberg, Jean Margouleff

Edie Sedgwick features in Ronald Nameth's memorable celluloid document of Andy Warhol's expanded cinema event *AW's Exploding Plastic Inevitable* and as the subject of John Palmer and David Weisman's *Ciao! Manhattan*. Both films provide fascinating insights into the 60s' scene in which she starred, and capture in the language of film the metaphorical and literal means by which Warhol's first superstar's mind was blown.

Wednesday 5 June, 6 PM

Memorial Theatre, Victoria University of Wellington

The film series *Evening Flix* is presented in conjunction with the Adam Art Gallery's current exhibition, *Beautiful Creatures: Jack Smith / Bill Henson / Jacqueline Fraser*, on view until 7 July 2013.

Feel free to pass this information on to anyone who may be interested in attending.

DID YOU KNOW there are a number of ways you can become a Supporter of the Adam Art Gallery? Get a range of benefits and help us realise our vision. Visit our website for more information.

SWANSONG

You don't know what you really want.

—James Murphy

Will Lovelace, Dylan Southern, *Shut Up and Play the Hits* (2012)

110mins, colour, sound, USA

Following the final concert of LCD Sound System this documentary-cum-concert movie shifts between instigator and lead singer, James Murphy, and his angst-ridden decision to wind up the band at the very height of its success through the glorious event of his final performance. Poised between the sheer joy of the moment and the real conditions of growing older, we are shown with great pathos how much it means to commit to a certain kind of music when one is young and the challenge, or impossibility, of holding on to that magic.

Wednesday 26 June, 6 PM

Memorial Theatre, Victoria University of Wellington