

Artists' Film International: Liu Chuang, Anetta Mona Chişa & Lucia Tkáčová, Dan Finsel and Sriwhana Spong

This season looks at performance and choreography in artists' films – from artists based in Hong Kong, Germany, USA and New Zealand.

In **Liu Chuang's** films *Untitled (The Festival)* (2011), and *Untitled (The Dancing Partner)*, (2010), the artist introduces lightly choreographed poetic sequences into everyday places by using urban materials from roadside litter to cars driven in parallel along a city street.

Interested in the representation of gender in art, **Anetta Mona Chişa & Lucia Tkáčová's** *The Manifesto of Futurist Woman (Let's Conclude)* (2008) sees a group of majorettes broadcasting in Semaphore. Their performance is based on artist and poet Valentine de Saint-Point's 1912 manifesto of the same name, written in riposte to the 1909 Surrealist Manifesto, where she calls for the recognition of strong women in society.

Dan Finsel's video, *I Would Love Farrah, Farrah, Farrah (1)* (2009), shows the artist inhabiting a complex figure delivering an increasingly agitated monologue of repeated fragments of dialogue spoken by TV actress Farrah Fawcett and *Beverly Hills 90210* character, Beverly Walsh. The artist uses performance to explore the construction of identity and emotional truth.

Sriwhana's Spong's film *Costume for a Mourner* (2010), is an imagined reconstruction of a scene from *Le Chant du Rossignol (The Song of the Nightingale)* first performed by the Ballets Russes in 1920. The artist has recreated the choreography and costume, designed by Henri Matisse, using only archival photographs, to examine ideas around translation, distance and archives.

Artists' Film International showcases international artists working with film, video and animation, selected by 12 partner organisations around the world: Ballroom Marfa, Texas, USA; Belgrade Cultural Centre, Serbia; Cinematheque de Tanger, Tangier, Morocco; City Gallery Wellington, New Zealand; Fundacion PROA, Buenos Aires, Argentina; GAMeC, Bergamo, Italy; Istanbul Modern, Turkey; Video Forum of Neuer Berliner Kunstverein (n.b.k) Berlin, Germany; New Media Centre, Haifa Museum of Art, Israel; Para/Site, Hong Kong and San Art, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. See a showreel of all the films at whitechapelgallery.org.