



Yves Klein: The Blue Revolution



Antony Gormley: Making Space



Eileen Gray: Designer & Architect

# CANADIAN ART REEL ARTISTS FILM FESTIVAL

ALBERTA COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN CALGARY



Alice Neel

CANADIAN ART  
REEL ARTISTS  
FILM FESTIVAL

ALBERTA COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN  
ACAD

March 29 to March 31, 2009

[www.canadianart.ca/reelartists/calgary](http://www.canadianart.ca/reelartists/calgary)



The Canadian Art Foundation Reel Artists Film Festival is presented by the Illingworth Kerr Gallery at the Alberta College of Art + Design. It is a delight to present documentary films that feature in-depth profiles of, and interviews with, artists and art collectors who are able to detail the creative process that results in great art. They, along with other art experts and insiders, reveal the formative ideas behind great artworks and collections, and also broader insights into the trends that constantly shape and redefine the contemporary art world.

Revelations about artmaking invariably lead to more questions. As painter Alice Neel emphatically states in an eponymous film on her life and work, "You never know what makes great art!" She's right; the creative process is beguiling and what becomes great art is unpredictable. It took a long life of uncompromising artistic struggle for her art to be recognized and honoured. You'll find that every artist and collector profiled at Reel Artists makes a unique and often surprising contribution to art history.

The lineup of artists and collectors in Reel Artists 2009 is outstanding. Alice Neel, Francis Alÿs, Antony Gormley, Eileen Gray and others share their visions of what great art and design is, what art and design is not and what needs to be said to their moment in contemporary visual languages. The magic of these films is that each showcases a creative struggle as a very different approach to artmaking. They also posit that what is worth doing and doing completely, with passion, will elicit change.

I would like to sincerely thank Ann Webb, executive director of the Canadian Art Foundation, as well as the foundation itself for producing Reel Artists. Ann has curated this film program, co-produced the promotional brochure and will be on hand in Calgary to launch the festival. The foundation continues to present high-quality educational programming on the visual arts to Canadians across the country and my gratitude is extended to the foundation's board of directors for its efforts. Reel Artists remains one of the foundation's most accessible programs, putting viewers in close proximity to the imagined worlds of cultural producers.

In closing, I would also like to thank the Alberta College of Art + Design and the Alberta Foundation for the Arts for supporting the first presentation of Reel Artists in Alberta, and express gratitude to Christine Sammon, director of the ACAD library, and Paula Dozois at the Department of Interior Design and Art History at Mount Royal College.

Wayne Baerwaldt  
DIRECTOR/CURATOR, ILLINGWORTH KERR GALLERY

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It gives the Canadian Art Foundation great pleasure to collaborate with Wayne Baerwaldt, director/curator at the Illingworth Kerr Gallery and the Alberta College of Art + Design, to present selections from the 2009 Reel Artists Film Festival in Calgary.

The Reel Artists Film Festival is just one of the many educational programs the Canadian Art Foundation mounts nationwide to celebrate artists and their creativity. Now in its sixth year, the objective of the Reel Artists Film Festival is to raise the cultural profile of contemporary artmaking and to create an open

and accessible point of entry for audiences to consider some of the key personalities and thoughts behind contemporary art.

One of the highlights of the festival is the Calgary premiere of Andrew Neel's very personal documentary about his grandmother Alice Neel, one of the great portrait painters of the 20th century. We are delighted that Andrew will join us for the screening and a special conversation with Wayne Baerwaldt.

It's also an honour to bring this festival to Calgary, a burgeoning art centre for Canada. From the city's colleges and universities to its artist-run centres and commercial galleries, it's clear there's much enthusiasm here for creative practices, creative people and creative works. We hope that Reel Artists can be an inspiring touchstone for those ever-growing elements of Calgary life.

Since the festival's inception in 2004, Reel Artists has presented more than 50 films by directors from Canada, Denmark, the United States, Great Britain, France and Germany. Through these films, we have gained insight into the lives and works of artists such as Francis Bacon, John Baldessari, Matthew Barney, Bernd and Hilla Becher, Vanessa Beecroft, Louise Bourgeois, Sophie Calle, Robert Mapplethorpe, Janet Cardiff and George Bures Miller, Takashi Murakami, Christo and Jeanne-Claude, Tracey Emin, Lucian Freud, Rodney Graham, Philip Guston, Anish Kapoor, Arnaud Maggs, Agnes Martin, Guido Molinari, Annie Pootoogook, Tony Oursler, Gerhard Richter, Richard Serra, Michael Snow, Jeff Wall and Joyce Weiland.

Sincere thanks to all the directors, producers and distributors involved for making their extraordinary films and for giving us the opportunity to share them with you. And thanks especially to you for watching and participating. We value your feedback and welcome your comments. Please feel free to contact us anytime at [reelartists@canadianart.ca](mailto:reelartists@canadianart.ca).

Enjoy the films!

Ann Webb  
ORGANIZER, REEL ARTISTS FILM FESTIVAL  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CANADIAN ART FOUNDATION

THE CANADIAN ART FOUNDATION is a non-profit, charitable organization established to foster support of the visual arts in Canada. The foundation unites art, ideas and people from coast to coast through a diverse array of national and international programs and the publication of *Canadian Art*, Canada's most widely read visual art publication. [www.canadianart.ca](http://www.canadianart.ca)

# REEL ARTISTS FILM FESTIVAL CALGARY

## March 29 to March 31, 2009

STANFORD PERROTT LECTURE HALL  
MAIN MALL, ALBERTA COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN  
1407 14 AVE NW, CALGARY AB T2N 4R3

### SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

**SUNDAY, MARCH 29** 1:30 PM Alice Neel  
3:00 PM Yves Klein: The Blue Revolution  
4:15 PM Eileen Gray: Designer & Architect

**MONDAY, MARCH 30** 7:00 PM Wide Details: In the Footsteps of Francis Alys  
8:15 PM Our City Dreams

**TUESDAY, MARCH 31** 7:00 PM Antony Gormley: Making Space  
8:15 PM Herb and Dorothy

Free admission to ACAD students, faculty, staff and the general public.  
Everyone welcome. All seating general admission.

ALBERTA COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN

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- ONLINE [www.canadianart.ca/reelartists/calgary](http://www.canadianart.ca/reelartists/calgary)  
[www.acad.ab.ca/wh\\_2009\\_03\\_ikg\\_raff.html](http://www.acad.ab.ca/wh_2009_03_ikg_raff.html)
- PHONE (403) 284-7633

COVER, top from left: © Yves Klein, ADAGP, Paris Photo: Harry Shunk/John Kender; © Antony Gormley, Courtesy Sean Kelly Gallery, Eileen Gray, Living Room, 1929; Courtesy Alice Neel Estate

### Alice Neel

Director: Andrew Neel  
Production: SeeThink Productions  
Colour, 82 minutes, English, 2007

Introduced by the director Andrew Neel

Alice Neel (1900–1984), one of the great portrait painters of the 20th century, reinvented the genre by expressing the inner landscape of her subjects. Directed by Neel's grandson, this very personal documentary captures the story of Neel's life, exploring the struggles she faced as a woman artist, a single mother and a painter who defied convention. With unlimited access to photos, video, art and letters, Andrew Neel reveals a portrait of the artist consistent with themes of intimacy, family and survival that are so central to her work.



Andrew Neel

**ANDREW NEEL** Andrew Neel was born in Vermont and graduated from Columbia in 2001 with a BA in film studies. He founded SeeThink Productions in 2002 for the making of his first 35mm short film, *billy 528*, which won Best Experimental Drama at the New York Film and Video Festival in 2002 before airing on Showtime in 2003. His first feature-length film, *Darkon*, won the Audience Award at the 2006 SXSW Film Festival and was subsequently acquired by IFCtv. His third feature-length film, *The Feature*, recently premiered at the Berlin Film Festival.

**Sunday, March 29, 1:30 pm**

Stanford Perrott Lecture Hall  
Main Mall, Alberta College of Art + Design



Top: Hillary Spera. Right: Courtesy Alice Neel Estate

## Yves Klein: The Blue Revolution

Director: François Lévy-Kuentz  
Producer: Charles Gillibert  
Production: MK2TV, Centre Pompidou and France 5  
Colour/B&W, 52 minutes, English and French with English subtitles, 2006



Yves Klein, *Anthropométrie sans titre* (ANT 148), 1960

Introduced by Mireille Perron

Yves Klein died at age 34 and his brief career lasted only seven years, from 1955 to 1962. But he nonetheless managed to shake the foundations of modern art, creating works that crossed over many genres. Using archival footage, artwork and fictional re-enactment, director François Lévy-Kuentz has composed a fascinating biography which radiates a powerful consciousness: that of the artist in the intimacy of his creation, his doubts and his disappointments; that of a visionary buoyed by his confidence in his genius. This film follows Klein's life, showing the progress of his career and unravelling the mysterious correlations running through his work.

FRANÇOIS LÉVY-KUENTZ Born in Paris in 1960, author-director François Lévy-Kuentz received a degree in cinema from the Université de la Sorbonne Nouvelle. His interest in painting inspired him to make his first film, *Man Ray, 2 bis rue Férou*, in 1989. He has also directed numerous films on art: *L'atelier de Robert Combas*, *Matta*, *Les concessions de Boltanski*, *Le regard rapproché*, *Georges de la Tour*, *Arroyo-Cadaqués*, *Le voyage de Delacroix*, *Les copistes du Louvre*, *Pascin*, *l'impudique*, *Chagall*, *à la Russie aux ânes et aux autres* and *Jean Painlevé, fantaisie pour biologie marine*.

**Sunday, March 29, 3:00 pm**  
Stanford Perrott Lecture Hall  
Main Mall, Alberta College of Art + Design



© Yves Klein, ADAGP Paris Photo: Harry Shunk/John Kender

## Eileen Gray: Designer & Architect

Director: Jörg Bundschuh  
Production: Kick Film  
Distributor: First Run/Icarus Films  
Colour, 52 minutes, English, 2007

Introduced by Laura Vickerson

This film examines the life and work of designer and architect Eileen Gray (1878–1976). Gray studied at the Slade School of Fine Art in London before moving to Paris in 1902 where she continued her studies, mastered lacquer work and established the Galerie Jean Desert, from which she sold her avant-garde, luxury furniture pieces. Her famous *Adjustable Table*, *Lota Sofa* and *Tube Light* as well as her architectural creations, including *E.1027*, a modernist seaside villa built in France in 1929, are discussed. Using archival footage and excerpts from Gray's writings, plus interviews with a museum curator (Jennifer Goff, curator at the National Museum of Ireland), an art appraiser (Philippe Garner of Christie's) and a design manufacturer (Zeev Aram, chairman of Aram

Designs), this film chronicles Gray's artistic formation, her travels and influences and her relations with fellow artists and architects such as Jean Badovici, Seizo Sugawara and Le Corbusier.

JÖRG BUNDSCHUH Director Jörg Bundschuh was born in 1953. He studied philosophy, literature and economics in Heidelberg, Munich and New York. He wrote reviews for the *Süddeutschen Zeitung* culture section as well as culture features for the ARD broadcasting network. Bundschuh has been working as an author and director in theatrical and TV films since 1980, and has been producer on more than 100 films.

**Sunday, March 29, 4:15 pm**  
Stanford Perrott Lecture Hall  
Main Mall, Alberta College of Art + Design



Eileen Gray, Living Room, 1929

**Wide Details:  
On the Traces of Francis Alÿs**

Director: Julien Devaux  
Production: Atlante Productions, 43 Films, Scope Invest Colour, 56 minutes, Spanish, English and French with English subtitles, 2006

Introduced by Rita McKeough

Francis Alÿs, a contemporary Belgian artist, is painter, videomaker and urban interventionist all rolled into one. A resident of Mexico City for more than 15 years, the city has played an important role in his artistic practice, which often examines the act of walking through an urban environment. Julien Devaux delves into Alÿs's unique and poetic work, focusing particularly on the artist's relationship to the city he inhabits.

**JULIEN DEVAUX** Born in Belgium, Julien Devaux moved to Paris after studying fine arts and art history to work as a chief film editor. He has since directed and edited several projects and has frequently collaborated with artist Francis Alÿs. *Wide Details* is his first feature documentary.

**Monday, March 30, 7:00 pm**

Stanford Perrott Lecture Hall  
Main Mall, Alberta College of Art + Design

© Julien Devaux



**Our City Dreams**

Director: Chiara Clemente  
Producers: Chiara Clemente, Tanya Selvaratnam, Bettina Sulser  
Distributor: First Run Features  
Colour, 90 minutes, English, 2008

Introduced by Diana Sherlock

Filmed over the course of two years, Clemente's feature takes viewers into the creative spaces of five women artists spanning different generations and representing different cultures, and all living and working in New York: Marina Abramovic, Ghada Amer, Kiki Smith, Nancy Spero and Swoon share their creative processes and personal stories. The film takes us deep into the city these women inhabit, creating a portrait not only of the artists, but also of New York and its ever-evolving role in contemporary art.



Chiara Clemente

**CHIARA CLEMENTE** Chiara Clemente directed her first art documentary for the RaiSat Art channel in Italy in 2000. Based on the success of that film, she was invited to direct 12 more. Commissions have included documentaries on artists and architects such as Jim Dine, Frank Gehry and Brice Marden. Clemente also began collaborating with artists on short films, such as *These Imaginary* Boys and *Know Yourself* with Adrian

Tranquilli. In 2002, she directed and photographed *Three Worlds: A Portrait of Francesco Clemente*. She is currently working on another collaboration with Adrian Tranquilli.

**Monday, March 30, 8:15 pm**

Stanford Perrott Lecture Hall  
Main Mall, Alberta College of Art + Design



Right and top right: Our City Dreams ©DI Sun Luca Films



Antony Gormley, *Refer Zero*, 2004, cast iron, 181 x 45 x 111 cm. Edition of 5, Private collection, Germany. © 2007 Courtesy: Sean Kelly Gallery

## Antony Gormley: Making Space

Director: Beeban Kidron  
 Producer: Fran Robertson  
 Production: Cross Street Films  
 Distributor: Indigo Film  
 Colour, 48 minutes, English, 2007

Introduced by Gord Ferguson

Filed over several months, *Making Space* is an intimate portrait of sculptor Antony Gormley, one of Britain's most celebrated artists, as he prepares for a major exhibition. The film follows Gormley as he makes three ambitious new works and shows how he produces his art—from casting moulds of his own body to collaborating with makers and eventual installation in the gallery. Exploring both the premise of his sculptures and the ups and downs of the creative journey, *Making Space* gradually builds a picture of both the pressures and the compulsions that lie behind Gormley's work.

**BEEBAN KIDRON** Beeban Kidron is an acclaimed filmmaker and director of drama and documentaries. Her television work includes the BAFTA-award-winning *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit* and the documentaries *Carry Greenham Home* and *Hookers, Hustlers, Pimps and their Johns*. Feature films include *To Wong Foo, Swept Away* and *Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason*.

### Tuesday, March 31, 7:00 pm

Stanford Perrott Lecture Hall  
 Main Mall, Alberta College of Art + Design



Beeban Kidron

Courtesy of Cross Street Films

## Herb and Dorothy

Director: Megumi Sasaki  
 Producer: Megumi Sasaki  
 Distributor: Mongrel Media, Arthouse Films  
 Colour, 91 minutes, English, 2008

Introduced by Nancy Touseley

Director Megumi Sasaki tells the extraordinary story of Herbert Vogel, a postal clerk, and Dorothy Vogel, a librarian, who managed to build one of the most important contemporary art collections in history with very modest means. In the early 1960s, when very little attention was paid to minimalist and conceptual art, Herb and Dorothy Vogel quietly began purchasing the works of then-unknown artists. Their circle includes Sol LeWitt, Christo and Jeanne-Claude, Richard Tuttle, Chuck Close, Robert Mangold, Sylvia Mangold, Lynda Benglis, Pat Steir, Robert Barry, Lucio Pozzi and Lawrence Weiner. Through interviews and footage, this film explores the amazing story of these curatorial visionaries and documents the donation of their enormous collection to the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC.

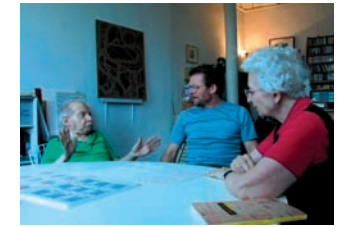


Megumi Sasaki

**MEGUMI SASAKI** Born and raised in Japan, Megumi Sasaki has lived in New York City since 1988. Originally a freelance journalist, her coverage of the fall of the Berlin Wall garnered her great success in Japan. She worked for several years as a freelance television documentary news director and field producer, developing programs for Japan's documentary series *NHK Special*. In 2002 Megumi founded a production company, Fine Line Media. *Herb and Dorothy* is the first feature documentary project of the company.

### Tuesday, March 31, 8:15 pm

Stanford Perrott Lecture Hall  
 Main Mall, Alberta College of Art + Design



Top and middle: © Arthouse films. Right: © Arthouse films. Photo: Katayoshi Tanaka

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