

MIT List Visual Arts Center

Media Contact:

Mark Linga

mlinga@mit.edu

617-452-3586

**The MIT List Visual Arts Center
Presents**

List Projects: Narrative Color

April 19-May 22, 2016

March 15, 2016—Cambridge, MA *List Projects: Narrative Color* considers the role color plays in five artists' films and videos made since 1970. While the works are diverse in content and structure, each has a narrative that uses color in a way that both propels the narrative forward and responds to it. Furthermore, speech—spoken on-screen or by an off-screen narrator—is formative to how these moving image address color within their respective narratives. Significantly, these attributes distinguish these works from the legacy of artists' films since the 1950s, which largely treat color as something that exists independent of language. The group exhibition features Bernadette Corporation, Mareike Bernien and Kerstin Schroedinger, KP Brehmer, Derek Jarman, and Bruce and Norman Yonemoto.

Two films that engage color in relation to capital and ideology in 20th Century Germany frame the exhibition. KP Brehmer's *Ideale Landschaft* (1970) considers how landscapes and their color palates function in bourgeois and socialist conditions; *Rainbow's Gravity* (2014) by Mareike Bernien and Kerstin Shroedinger, reflects on how the Agfacolor Neu color film stock operated in Nazi Germany's ideology and warfare. Bruce and Norman Yonemoto's *Green Card: An American Romance* (1982) plays on Hollywood theories of color psychology to form a melodrama about a young Japanese woman whose wish for independence in America leads her to marry an American for a green card. Derek Jarman's *Wittgenstein* (1993) uses a blackened sound stage, brightly colored costumes, and a green Martian interlocutor to form an a-chronological narrative of the philosopher's life and writings, while the Bernadette Corporation describes their *Hell Frozen Over* (2000) as "a fashion film about the poetry of Stéphane Mallarmé and the color white." It juxtaposes takes during a highly stylized fashion shoot with Sylvère Lotringer on a frozen lake lecturing on Mallarmé and the significance of surface.



[List Projects: Narrative Color](#) is curated by Alise Upitis, Assistant Curator, Public Art and Exhibitions, MIT List Visual Arts Center

Related Programs

Artist's talk by Mareike Bernien
Wednesday, April 20, 6 pm

Join Mareike Bernien for a gallery talk, who will discuss her film *Rainbow's Gravity* and other projects. *Rainbow's Gravity* is a cinematic study of the Agfacolor-Neu colour film stock made in Nazi Germany and is featured in the exhibition *List Projects: Narrative Color*. This event is free and open to all but registration is required. Please click [here](#) to register.

Support for this exhibition has been generously provided by the Council for the Arts at MIT, the Office of the Associate Provost at MIT, Terry & Rick Stone, MIT School of Architecture + Planning, the MIT List Visual Arts Center Advisory Committee, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and many generous individual donors.

ABOUT THE MIT LIST VISUAL ARTS CENTER

Located in Cambridge, Massachusetts, the List Visual Arts Center is a creative laboratory that provides artists with a space to freely experiment and push existing boundaries. As the contemporary art museum at MIT, the List presents a dynamic program of six to nine special exhibitions in its galleries annually, a program of evolving site-specific work by emerging artists known as the List Projects, as well as a broad range of educational programs, events, and scholarly publications. Beyond the full slate of special exhibitions and projects it presents each year, the List also maintains and adds to MIT's permanent collection; commissions new works through the [MIT Percent-for-Art program](#), a collection of more than 50 site-specific artworks throughout the campus; and oversees the Student Loan Art Program, which lends more than 500 works of art annually to MIT undergraduate and graduate students.

Originally named the Hayden Gallery, MIT established this center for the visual arts in 1950 to provide a dedicated structure upon which to build the university's existing relationship to the arts. It was renamed the List Visual Arts Center in 1985 in recognition of a gift from Vera and Albert List, and relocated to its current, expanded location in the Wiesner Building on the campus of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which was designed by MIT alumnus I. M. Pei (B.S. Architecture, 1940) and Partners Architects. This year the List Visual Arts Center celebrates 30 years as MIT's contemporary art museum.

For more information, visit: <http://listart.mit.edu>

