

Light Industry

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

No Idle Hands
Curated by Sabrina Gschwandtner

Tuesday, June 10, 2008 at 8pm
55 33rd Street, 3rd Floor
Brooklyn, NY
Ticket Price - \$6

Handcraft--absorbing, obsessive, mysterious, political, communal and mythical--is the subject of these documentaries, which range from exhaustively researched to casually recorded and even imagined.

Works include:

“Kusama’s Self-Obliteration,” Yayoi Kusama/Jud Yalkut, 16mm, 1964, 24 mins
The film was conceived as a portrait of the Yayoi Kusama and her work of two decades, and a progressively involving and engrossing experience that could possibly project the viewer into the screen.

“When This You See...”, Elaine Reichek, video, 1998, 17 min
Nine appropriated film clips from sources such as Heavenly Creatures (1994) and Breakfast at Tiffany's (1961) show women stitching. Each segment reveals a dramatic moment in the movie's story, and then ends with a freeze-frame over which the artist superimposes a single word, cataloging the act ("betrayal," "revolution," "revenge," etc) each woman’s handcraft symbolizes.

“Odd Fellows,” Alee Peoples, Super-8 to video, 2006, 5 mins
A short documentary on the Odd Fellows, a fraternal order begun in England as an offshoot of the Masons.

“Paracas,” Cecilia Vicuña, 16mm to video, 1993, 18 mins
Conceived as a visual and sound poem in seven scenes, this animation of a 2,000 year-old textile now in the collection of the Brooklyn Museum invites entrance into a different visual and sonic space. The textile, interpreted here as a celebration

of the Thread of Life, was constructed in a sculptural, three-dimensional looping technique developed by the ancient artists of the Paracas/Nazca region of Peru.

“Handmade Nation: The Rise of DIY Art, Craft and Design” (excerpt from the feature film to be released 2009), Faythe Levine, video, 20 mins

A documentary exploring the rise of DIY art, craft, and design in the United States. The heart of this new wave of creativity is the community, which is equally influenced by traditional handiwork, modern aesthetics, politics, feminism and art.

The screening will be followed by a Q&A session with Faythe Levine, Elaine Reichel and Cecilia Vicuña.

Curated by Sabrina Gschwandtner, visual artist, author of “KnitKnit: Profiles and Projects from Knitting’s New Wave” (2007), and contributor to the Journal of Modern Craft, Cabinet, and Selvedge, among many other publications. www.knitknit.net/sabrina

Edibles will be available from Sweet Tooth of the Tiger, a renegade bakery project that explores nostalgia for the bake sale through the performance of social engagement over sugary confections. www.sweettoothofthetiger.com

About Light Industry

Light Industry is a new venue for film and electronic art in Brooklyn, New York. Developed and overseen by Thomas Beard and Ed Halter, the project has begun as series of weekly events in Sunset Park this spring and summer, each organized by a different artist, critic, or curator. Conceptually, Light Industry draws equal inspiration from the long history of alternative art spaces in New York as well its storied tradition of cinematheques and other intrepid film exhibitors. Through a regular program of screenings, performances, and lectures, its goal is to explore new models for the presentation of time-based media and foster a complex dialogue amongst a wide range of artists and audiences within the city.