

## UPCOMING FILM/VIDEO PROGRAMS AT REDCAT

FALL/WINTER 2008

**Fri, Sept 26:** Hallucinogenic California: The Alternate Worlds of Craig Baldwin and Damon Packard

**Mon, Oct 13:** Nina Paley: *Sita Sings the Blues*

**Tues, Oct 21:** Antoni Muntadas and Marshall Reese: *Political Advertisement VII (1952–2008)*

**Mon, Nov 10:** Moving Figures: The Animated World of Robert Breer

**Mon, Nov 17:** An Evening with Kenneth Anger: Dangerous Cinema

**Thur, Nov 20–Sat Nov 22:** Paul McCarthy and Damon McCarthy: *Caribbean Pirates*

**Mon, Nov 24:** Sandra Gibson and Luis Recoder: Film Projection Performances

**Mon, Dec 1:** Martin Arnold: Something Hidden

**Mon, Dec 8:** Joan Jonas: Reading Culture through Dante and Aby Warburg

## LEE ANNE SCHMITT: *California Company Town*

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September 22, 2008

8:30 pm

presented by

REDCAT

Roy and Edna Disney/CalArts Theater

California Institute of the Arts

CALARTS

REDCAT

# LEE ANNE SCHMITT:

## *California Company Town*

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Mon, Sept 22, 2008 | 8:30 pm  
Jack H. Skirball Series

World premiere  
2008, 76 min., 16mm

*California Company Town*, the much-anticipated essay film by Lee Anne Schmitt, casts a probing, clear-eyed gaze at the landscape of California towns abandoned by the industries that created them—onetime boom-towns now haunted by the twilight of the American promise. A versatile multidisciplinary artist whose practice extends from film and performance to photography and writing, Schmitt is a member of the faculty of CalArts' graduate Film Directing Program. She creates evocative, deeply felt works that consider everyday elements of American life as cultural ritual, including a series of cinematic investigations of the intersections of landscape with personal memory (*Las Vegas*, 2000), with the history of the American Left (*Awake and Sing*, 2003), and with urban development (*The Wash*, 2005).

Preceded by *Las Vegas* 2000, 7 min., video

'...an intentionally lo-res exploration of the end of a relationship, and the crisis between memory and experience, set amidst the neon lights of Las Vegas.' (*LAS*)

In person: Lee Anne Schmitt

"Schmitt's work is a direct illustration of the connection between the personal and the political, and illuminates the strains created by the many inequities found within America's political and economic systems." – *The Viennale*

### DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I am a writer and director of both film and performance events, working in film, writing, photography, and performance to create work that elevates the everyday elements of American life towards the level of cultural ritual. I have set out to explore the juncture

between fiction and documentary that defines the 'essay film'. All of my work begins with landscape, the experience of living in a particular place at a particular time, the phenomena of time and space, and the space between the ideology and the reality of the spaces we live within.

History is always marked upon the land, a process made remarkable in California, a state whose very geography has been recharted to serve specific uses. While sold as an open space, a limitless land expansive with free opportunity, California was actually, from its beginning, fissured by the interwoven needs of private and state interests. The reality of our world was born out of very specific moments and choices, a construction that is neither organic nor inevitable.

### ADDITIONAL FILMOGRAPHY

*Buffalo Hunt* (co-dir Lee Lynch), feature, 16mm and video  
[work-in-progress]

*The Wash* (co-dir Lee Lynch), 2005, 20 min., super8 film

*Awake and Sing* 2003, 42 min., 16mm

*Nightingale* 2002, 14 min, 16mm

*Las Vegas* 2000, 7 Minutes, video

*Jumping Portrait*, 2000, 8 min., video

*Rise and Shine*, 2000, 16 min, video

Lee Anne Schmitt's films have been shown nationally and internationally in such venues as Museum of Modern Art (New York); FID Marseille; Rotterdam International Film Festival; Pacific Film Archives (Berkeley); Vancouver International Film Festival; Vienna International Film Festival; Echo Park Film Center; Shadow Festival of Documentary Film (The Netherlands); Montreal Festival of New Media and Cinema.

The Jack H. Skirball Screening Series is curated by Steve Anker and Bé'Beré'Benice Reynaud

Funded in part with generous support from Wendy Keys and Donald Pels.

REDCAT is located in downtown Los Angeles at the corner of W. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. and S. Hope St., inside the Walt Disney Concert Hall complex. Tickets may be purchased by calling 213.237.2800 or at [www.redcat.org](http://www.redcat.org) or in person at the REDCAT Box Office on the corner of 2nd and Hope Streets (30 minutes free parking with validation). Box Office Hours: Tue-Sat | noon–6 pm and two hours prior to curtain.