

# JOAN

## ***Your Mouth A Constellation***

Programmed by Mary Helena Clark

December 8, 7:30pm

A program of film and performance on the themes of breath, voice, and the body as apparatus. Including work by Dana Michel, Julius Smack Ensemble, Laida Lertxundi, Laura Steenberge, and Mary Helena Clark.

Mary Helena Clark is an artist working in film, video, and installation. Her work uses the language of collage to explore dissociative states through cinema, bringing together disparate subjects and styles that suggest an exterior logic or code. Using the transportive qualities of cinema – rhyming sound and image, the constructed spaces of montage – her films explore shifting subjectivities and the limits of the embodied camera.

Laida Lertxundi works with moving image, photography, and printmaking, documenting the California landscape while engaging with questions of affect and subjectivity in relation to geography. Her main body of work is shot on 16mm in a process she calls *Landscape Plus*, which combines filmic records of people and places with an emphasis on diegetic sound and music, resulting in languid passages of cinematic language, bodily desire, and existential awareness.

Dana Michel is a choreographer and performer based in Montreal, Canada. Her practice is rooted in exploring the multiplicity of identity using intuitive improvisation. She works with notions of performative alchemy and post-cultural bricolage – using live moments, object appropriation, personal history, future desires and current preoccupations to create an empathetic centrifuge of experience between herself and witnesses.

Julius Smack is a statue awoken from antiquity. His performances propose a “storybook realness” incorporating vogue-inspired dance and a dissonance between digital textures and classical instrumentation. He has released two albums on Practical Records, an artist-run label that he founded in 2013.

Laura Steenberge is a performer and composer in Los Angeles who researches language and the voice. Influenced by folk music, psycholinguistics, acoustics and medieval Byzantine chant, collectively her work is a study of nonsense and the boundaries of knowledge.

Credit info for the Julius Smack photo: Illustrations by Danny Espinoza. Suit paintings by Dana Dart Mc-Lean.

Credit info for Laura Steenberge photo: Photo by Boris Oicherman.

The other film stills are from the works screened in the program - Dana Michel's Jack Shoes, Laida Lertxundi's Vivir para Vivir / Live to Live, Mary Helena Clark's Delphi Falls. If you use the film still from my film with the woman screaming, please write something like - featuring Bebe Huxley.