

press release

THE KITCHEN

video • music • dance • performance

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Jean Genet: Un Chant D'Amour

Barbara Rubin: Christmas On Earth

Saturday, December 17, 1983 8:30 p.m.
\$4.00/\$2.50 members
The Kitchen
59 Wooster Street
Reservations: 925-3615

Jean Genet UN CHANT D'AMOUR (1950)

Barbara Rubin CHRISTMAS ON EARTH (1964)

Sexual and formal transgression are married in these two avant-garde films.

UN CHANT D'AMOUR is the only film by the famed French writer Jean Genet. Based on his novel Our Lady of the Flowers, it depicts the fantasy of a gay male prisoner and that of his jailer. It was originally intended for private collectors and limited audiences. While strongly indebted to Jean Cocteau's BLOOD OF A POET, it has influenced such diverse filmmakers as Robert Bresson and Kenneth Anger.

Last spring's screening of CHRISTMAS ON EARTH at The Collective for Living Cinema, the first in roughly fifteen years, made apparent that time had not blunted its transgressive power. Its tangle of bodies etched into the grain of outdated black and white stock functioned as a Rorschach for each person present. CHRISTMAS ON EARTH was Rubin's first film, made when she was seventeen. One of the most active organizing forces of the avant-garde film community in the sixties, she became a member of a Hassidic sect and died in 1979 giving birth to her sixth child.

This program is made possible by the preservation program of the Anthology Film Archives.

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