

JANIE GEISER is an internationally recognized interdisciplinary artist whose practice includes film, video, performance, and installation. Her work is known for its recontextualization of abandoned images and objects, its embrace of artifice, and its investigation of memory, power, and loss.

Geiser’s collage films and installations mine the space of the film frame through framing and re-framing, concealing and revealing. *“The image trembles, is cropped, elusive, a forbidden sight snatched from darkness; the spectator is invited to trek though the suggested layers of meaning as through the intricate foliage of an enchanted forest.”* ---Berenice Reynaud

Geiser has received numerous grants and fellowships including a Doris Duke Artist Award and a Guggenheim Fellowship. Her film *The Fourth Watch* was selected by Film Comment as one of the top ten experimental films of the past decade, and *The Red Book* was selected for inclusion in the Smithsonian's National Film Registry.

Geiser is an Obie award-winning pioneer of the renaissance of American avant-garde puppet performance. She creates innovative, hypnotic works that integrate performing objects with performers and film, and which have toured the US and abroad. Geiser is the Co-Artistic Director of Automata, a Los Angeles nonprofit dedicated to the creation, presentation, and preservation of puppet and object performance, experimental film, music, and art. Geiser is on the faculty of the CalArts School of Theater, where she teaches object performance and interdisciplinary practices.

“Geiser gives voice to the reaches of the unconscious, pointing to the abandoned splendor that exists prior to the rules of society and language.” (Holly Willis, Res, 2004)

FILMOGRAPHY

2019	<i>Reverse Shadow</i>	(8 min)
2018	<i>Fluorescent Girl</i>	(1:30 min)
2018	<i>Valeria Street</i>	(11:34 min)
2017	<i>Look and Learn</i>	(11:20 min)
2016	<i>Flowers of the Sky</i>	(9:15 min)
2016	<i>Silent Sister</i>	(5 min)
2015	<i>Cathode Garden</i>	(7 min)
2014	<i>The Hummingbird Wars</i>	(10.5 min)
2013	<i>Kriminalistik</i>	(5 min)
2012	<i>Arbor</i>	(7 min)
2011	<i>Ricky</i>	(10 min)
2010	<i>The Floor of the World</i>	(9 min)
2010	<i>Kindless Villain</i>	(4,5 min)
2009	<i>Ghost Algebra</i>	(7.5 min)
2009	<i>Magnetic Sleep</i>	(52 min)
2006	<i>The Spider’s Wheels</i>	(6 minute loop)
2005	<i>Vapor Drama</i>	(6.5 min)
2004	<i>Terrace 49</i>	(5 min)
2002	<i>Ultima Thule</i>	(11 min)

2002	<i>Josiah Meigs</i>	(3 min)
2000	<i>The Fourth Watch</i>	(10 min)
2000	<i>Spiral Vessel</i>	(7 min)
1999	<i>Lost Motion</i>	(11 min)
1997	<i>Immer Zu</i>	(8.5 min)
1996	<i>The Secret Story</i>	(8.5min)
1994	<i>The Red Book</i>	(11 min)
1992	<i>Babel Town</i>	(7 min)
1989	<i>Royal Terror Theater</i>	(3 minutes)

Selected SOLO Screenings and Exhibitions (past 20 years)

2020	Microscope Gallery, Brooklyn NY (online screening)
2020	Rhode Island School of Design
2019	Havana International Festival of Latin American Film
2019	Wexner Center for the Arts, solo screening, <i>Double Vision series</i>
2019	Eyeworks Festival, Redcat; Featured Artist / One-person screening
2019	National Gallery of Art, Film Screening and Artist Talk
2019	Festival Punto de Vista, Navarra, Spain
2018	Teatr Studio, Warsaw, Film screening
2018	Olhar de Cinema, Film Restrospective, Brazil
2018	Track 16, <i>Parallel Storms</i>
2017	Redcat, solo screening, <i>Double Vision series</i>
2017	Big Ears Festival/ Knoxville Museum of Art (one person screening)
2017	Knoxville Museum of Art (Installation <i>Look and Learn, Parts 1 and 3</i>)
2016	Nightingale Cinema, Chicago
2015	The McColl Center, Charlotte NC
2015	Café Futuro, Osaka
2014	<i>Object Permanence</i> , China Art Objects, Los Angeles
2013	Berkeley Museum of Art
2012	Halifax International Independent Film Festival, Halifax (Retrospective)
2012	S8 Festival, La Corunna, Spain
2012	Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
2012	Ann Arbor Film Festival
2011	Caixa Forum Art Center, Catalunya Spain; Tour to 4 cities
2011	CinemaSpace, Montreal (Retrospective)
2011	Redcat, Los Angeles
2011	Fantoche, Baden, Switzerland
2011	Out of the Box Festival, Cape Town, South Africa
2009	Wexner Center, Columbus OH
2008	Cinematheque USC, Los Angeles CA
2008	First Person Cinema, UC Boulder, (2007, 2000)
2007	San Francisco Cinematheque
2006	Women Make Waves Festival, Taipei
2006	The Getty Museum, Distributed Memory
2006	Los Angeles Municipal Gallery 2006 COLA exhibition
2006	Gene Siskal Film Center, Art Institute of Chicago

2005 Redcat, *The Inner World of Janie Geiser* Los Angeles
 2004 Museum of Jurassic Technology, Borzai Kabinet Screening Room
 2004 Portland Institute of Contemporary Art/ Cinema Project ()
 2004 Pacific Film Archives
 2004 San Francisco Cinematheque
 2004 Arteluku, San Sebastian, Spain
 2004 Animac, Lleida, Spain
 2002 Ottawa International Festival of Animation
 2002 Chicago Filmmakers
 2002 Cornell Cinema
 2001 Museum of Modern Art Cineprobe
 2000 Rotterdam International Film Festival
 2000 Walker Art Center Minneapolis
 2001 Pittsburgh Filmmakers
 2000 Images Festival, Toronto

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS AND SCREENINGS

2020 Muta International Festival of Audiovisual Appropriation, Lima, Peru
 2019 Currents: Cineprobe Revisited, MOMA, NYC
 2019 Block Museum, Evanston IL
 2019 Other Cinema, San Francisco
 2019 Campbell River Gallery, British Columbia *Collage: Landscapes of the Interior*
 2019 Muta International Festival of Audiovisual Appropriation, Lima, Peru
 2019 Bristol Expanded Experimental Festival, UK
 2019 Uplink Gallery, Tokyo
 2019 Rosalux Gallery, Berlin; Track 16 in Berlin
 2019 Hong Kong International Film Festival (+2017, 2015, 2014, 2012, 2011, 2004)
 2019 Festival Puto de Vista
 2019 S8 Experimental Film Festival, A Coruna, Spain (+2018)
 2018 MuTA AV Appropriation International Film Festival LIMA PERU
 2018 NY Film Festival Projections (+2016, 2015)
 2018 Women of the Moving Image, Filmmakers Co-op
 2018 Hammer Museum, Canyon Cinema 50 years screening
 2018 Edge of Frame, London International Animation Festival
 2018 Serendipity Arts, Goa India
 2018 Fukugan Gallery, Osaka "Slow Life Avant-Garde"
 2018 Big Ears/Public Cinema
 2017 Curtas Vila do Conde, Experimental Competition (+2016, 2015, 2013)
 2017 The Front gallery, New Orleans
 2016 Camera Obscura Film Festival
 2016 Toronto International Film Festival, Wavelengths (+2004, 2003)
 2016 Havana International Festival of New Latin American Cinema
 2016 University of Chicago Film Studies Center
 2016 Peephole Cinema, Los Angeles
 2016 L'Age d'Or Festival, Belgium
 2016 Traverse City Film Festival
 2016 Ann Arbor Film Festival (+2012,2011, 2003, 1999)

2016 Vancouver Art Gallery
 2016 FilmFest Dresden
 2016 Crossroads Experimental Film Festival, San Francisco (+2011)
 2015 London International Film Festival *Experimenta*, (+2010-2013, 2005,2003)
 2015 Ambulante, Mexico City
 2015 Fronteira Festival, Brazil
 2015 Bienal de la Imagen en Movimiento, Buenos Aires
 2015 Doris McCarthy Gallery/Videofaq, Toronto
 2015 International Shorts Film Festival, Trieste
 2015 Black Maria Touring Program
 2015 San Francisco International Film Festival (+2010, 2003, 1998, 1996)
 2015 Café Futuro (Osaka, Japan)
 2015 FastForward Film Festival, Northampton
 2015 Chicago Filmmakers
 2015 Doris McCarthy Gallery, Toronto (single channel installation)
 2014 Centre Pompidou, *The Minor Cinema*
 2014 Redcat, Los Angeles (+2003)
 2013 Viennale, Vienna
 2013 Oberhausen Short Film Festival
 2013 L'Alternativa, Barcelona (+2009)
 2013 Sharjah Biennial
 2013 NY Film Festival, Views from the Avant-Garde (2011,2010, 2004,2002,2000,1998)
 2013 Strasbourg Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, "Cine-Collage"
 2013 Courtisane Festival of Experimental Film, Ghent, Belgium (2010,2009)
 2012 Charleroi Mediatheque Festival, Belgium
 2012 Brakhage Symposiun, Boulder
 2012 Uplink Theater, Tokyo
 2011 La Casa Encendida, Madrid
 2011 Echo Park Film Center
 2011 Images Festival, Toronto (and 2000)
 2010 Exile Galerie, Berlin
 2010 Rotterdam International Film Festival (2010, 2009, 2003, 2002, 2000, 1999,1998)
 2010 The Film Registry Show, Los Angeles Film Forum
 2010 Austrian Film Museum
 2008 The Silent Movie Theater, Los Angeles
 2008 Printed Matter, New York (2008)
 2007 SFMOMA as part of the exhibition *Joseph Cornell: Navigating the Imagination*
 2006 Getty Center, *Distributed Memory*
 2005 Black Maria Film Festival (Touring Program; *Jurors' Choice Award*)
 2005 Museum of Modern Art, Premieres
 2004 The Robert Flaherty Film Conference
 2004 Xinecitta, Barcelona (2003)
 2003 Track 16 Gallery, Santa Monica
 2003 LA Freewaves
 2003 Museum of Jurassic Technology
 2003 Xinecitta, Barcelona
 2003 Portland International Film Festival
 2000 Taipei International Film Festival

- 2000 Whitney Museum of American Art
- 1999 Guggenheim Museum New York

SELECTED GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, RESIDENCIES, AWARDS

- 2019 Atlantic Center for the Arts, Master Artist Residency
- 2018 MacDowell Colony Residency
- 2018 The Jim Henson Foundation Project Grant
- 2018 Doris Duke Audience Development Grant
- 2017 MediaThe Foundation
- 2016-19 Doris Duke Artist Award—Three-year fellowship
- 2015 Getty Villa Theater Lab Commission/Residency
- 2014 Center for Cultural Innovation (Investing in Artists: Artistic Innovation Grant)
- 2014 Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara (Commission, Fugitive Time)
- 2014 The Henson Foundation
- 2014 Audience Award, Hong Kong International Film Festival
- 2013 Foundation for Contemporary Arts
- 2012 MapFund, for *Clouded Sulphur (death is a knot undone)*
- 2011 Fellowship for Visual Artists, California Community Foundation
- 2011 Center for Cultural Innovation (Investing in Artists: Artistic Innovation Grant)
- 2010 Film Comment: ***The Fourth Watch*** in top ten experimental films of decade.
- 2009 Library of Congress, ***The Red Book*** selected for **National Film Registry**
- 2009 Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, CEI Grant for residency in Russia
- 2009 Durfee Foundation (and 2005)
- 2009 Montalvo Art Center Artist Residency (and 2006)
- 2008 Center for Cultural Innovation (Investing in Artists)
- 2007 Tribeca Films/ReNew Media
- 2007 The Henson Foundation (2004, 2002, 2001,1997, 1994, 1992, 1989)
- 2006 COLA (City of Los Angeles) Artist Fellowship
- 2006 Durfee Foundation
- 2005 Ann Arbor Film Festival, Juror’s Choice Award
- 2002 Rockefeller Foundation Media Artists Fellowship
- 2000 Creative Capital Grant
- 2000 Rockefeller MAPFund and 1997
- 1997 New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship (film)
- 1997 Pew / TCG National Theatre Residency Grant
- 1997 Rockefeller MAPFund
- 1996 Jerome Foundation Film Fellowship
- 1994 ALIVE TV Commission
- 1994 Bessie Award (New York Dance and Performance Award)
- 1994 National Endowment for the Arts
- 1992 Guggenheim Fellowship
- 1991 MacDowell Fellow
- 1989 OBIE Award
- 1988 Bessie Award (New York Dance and Performance Award)
- 1992 Jerome Foundation
- 1989 New York State Council on the Arts

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FILMS IN COLLECTIONS

Library of Congress
Academy Film Archive
Austrian Film Museum
The Museum of Modern Art
Donnell Media Center, NY Public Library
The Art Institute of Chicago
Pacific Film Archive/Berkeley Art Museum
University of Colorado, Boulder
California Institute of the Arts
Sarah Lawrence University
Rhode Island School of Design
Massachusetts College of Art and Design
University of Wisconsin
University of New Mexico
Dalousie University (Halifax)

PERFORMANCE WORKS

2017-20 Here/There (in progress)
2017-20 Sound House (durational performance /John Eagle and Cassia Streb)
2015 Tungsten (artery)
2014 Fugitive Time
2013 Clouded Sulphur (death is a knot undone)
2009/11 The Reptile Under the Flowers
2009 The Griffith Park Inferno
2006/8 Frankenstein: Mortal Toys (with Susan Simpson)
2007 Stolen Archives of the Vanished Ice-World
2005 Invisible Glass
2004 Evidence of Floods
2002 Ether Telegrams
2001 Josiah Meigs and Me
2000 Night Behind the Windows
1996 Some Dark Morning
1994 Evidence of Floods
1992 When the Wind Blows
1990 Half a World Away
1989 The House (with Neill Bogan)
1989 The Fish
1987 Burning in the Dark
1986 The Third Bank of the River
1985 Hangman
1984 Blue Night
1983 Looking for Penguin Film

1983 The Glass Dream
1981 Sleep
1981 Little Eddie

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Selected Performance Venues

2018 Automata, Here/There (work in progress)
2017 Automata, Sound House (in progress)
2016 Live Arts Exchange Festival, Los Angeles
2015 The Yard, Martha's Vineyard
2015 Getty Villa, Los Angeles (commission)
2014 Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara
2014 Automata (Fugitive Time)
2014 The Wonder Room, Santa Monica
2013 Radar LA Festival
2013 ST Ann's Warehouse, Brooklyn
2012 Automata at The Box, Chinatown, Los Angeles
2011 The Giraffe Space, Los Angeles
2011 Open Eye Theater, Minneapolis
2010 Katonah Museum of Art
2009 Museum of Jurassic Technology/Foshay Masonic Lodge
2008 Santa Monica Museum of Art
2008 St. Ann's Warehouse /GSW Toy Theater Festival, New York
2008 HERE Arts Center, New York
2008 The Velaslavasay Panorama, Los Angeles
2006 St. Ann's Warehouse /Toy Theater Festival, New York
2006 The Velaslavasay Panorama, Los Angeles
2005 Redcat, Los Angeles (2005)
2005 The Velaslavasay Panorama, Los Angeles (2005)
2005 St. Ann's Warehouse, Brooklyn, NY (also 2005, 2001,1998, 1999)
2002 Museum of Jurassic Technology/Foshay Masonic Lodge
2002 Henson International Festival of Puppet Theater, New York
2001 St. Ann's Warehouse, Brooklyn, NY 2000 LaMama, New York ()
2000 Art Institute of Chicago (2000)
1999 St. Ann's Warehouse, Brooklyn, NY
1998 St. Ann's Warehouse, Brooklyn, NY
1996 Phenomena Festival, Jerusalem (1996)
1996 Dance Theater Workshop, New York (1996, 1994, 1992, 1990, 1989, 1986)
1994 PS 122, New York (1994, 1992,
2002 International Festival of Puppet Theater, New York1991, 1990)
1993 Walker Art Center, Minneapolis
1992 The Public Theater, New York (1992)
1990 Creative Time/Battery Maritime Building

TEACHING

1999-current Faculty, CalArts School of Theater

1999-current Visiting artist lecturer, critiques, or artist in residence (1 to 10 days) at art schools and colleges including Brown, NYU, RISD, Ohio State, Arizona State, Academy of Visual Arts Leipzig, Mass Art, Boston Museum School of Fine Arts, UConn, U of Florida, U of Minnesota, U of Michigan, UC Boulder, and others.

CURATORIAL / Programming

2004—current Automata Co-Founder/Co-Artistic Director of Automata, an artist-run non-profit organization, based in Los Angeles, committed to the creation and presentation of experimental puppet and object theater, experimental film, music, and art.

