



Art Class

A performance lecture by: Andrea Luka Zimmerman

UK 2020

49 mins

Digital

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EXPERIMENTA: ANDREA LUKA ZIMMERMAN

Art Class

+ discussion with Andrea Luka Zimmerman and filmmaker Penny Woolcock

Art Class is a filmed performance lecture playing on, and exploring, the perennial tension between the two key words in its title. It uses the tropes of scholarly presentation and personal confession alongside extracts from the artist's work, guest interventions, martial arts and meditation exercises and evidentiary found material.

The sequence tests the limits of access that working-class artists have to cultural production and to the relevant institutions circulating these outcomes. Alternately playful and provocative, serious and satirical, *Art Class* favours wit over weaponising and reflection over rhetoric but does not pull its punches when it comes to the real obstructions to working class creative progress, or to the strategies necessary to overcome such outmoded hindrances.

fugitiveimages.org.uk

Andrea Luka Zimmerman is a Jarman Award winning artist, filmmaker and cultural activist whose multi-layered practice calls for a profound re-imagining of the relationship between people, place and ecology. Andrea asks how we might resist being framed exclusively through class, gender, ability or disability, and event through geography. Andrea's films employ imaginative hybridity and narrative re-framing, alongside reverie and a creative waywardness.

Andrea's films include: the award-winning, Artangel-produced *Here for Life* (2019), which received its world premiere in the Cineasti Del Presente international competition of the Locarno Film Festival; *Erase and Forget* (2017), which premiered at the Berlin International Film Festival (nominated for the Original Documentary Award), *Estate, a Reverie* (2015) (nominated for Best Newcomer at the Grierson awards) and *Taskafa, Stories of the Street* (2013), written and voiced by the late John Berger.

Andrea co-founded the cultural collectives Fugitive Images and Vision Machine (with collaborators on the Academy Award nominated feature documentary *The Look of Silence*). Andrea's work is held in the Arts Council Collection, the BFI National Archive, and is distributed by Modern Films, LUX, Grasshopper Films and Second Run DVD internationally.

Penny Woolcock is a writer and director working across genres, making documentaries and fiction for cinema and television, opera and art installations. Her films are inspired by the world around us including hybrid films like the *Tina Trilogy*, *1 Day and Trapping*, street casting people to produce fictions about their own communities. She has made observational documentaries including *The Wet House* and *Going to the Dogs*, archive films *From the Sea to the Land Beyond* and directed a film of John Adams' *The Death of Klinghoffer* and *Doctor Atomic* for the stage and *The Passion* working with Streetwise and The Sixteen. 'It's all about finding the best way to tell a story, the stories we tell about each other shape the world we live in. Stories matter.'

Programme notes and credits compiled by Sight and Sound and the BFI Documentation Unit

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