



As part of "Estate Fiorentina" 2015

WANTED
and
LO SCHERMO DELL'ARTE FILM FESTIVAL / NOTTI DI MEZZA ESTATE
present
the national premiere of:



# A film by DOUG AITKEN USA, 2014, 78 min.

the artist will be present

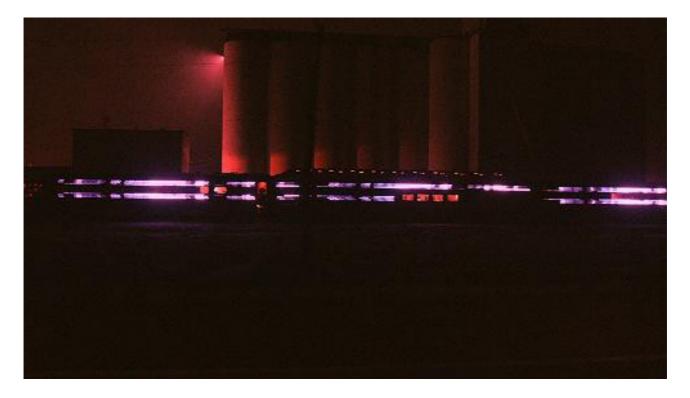
Florence, Piazza SS. Annunziata July 20, 2015 / 9.30 pm

On July 20, in Piazza SS. Annunziata, as part of the *Estate Fiorentina* 2015, the 6th edition of Lo Schermo dell'Arte / Notti di mezza estate presents the Italian Premiere of *Station to Station*, the first feature film produced by American artist **DOUG AITKEN**, who won the Leone d'Oro della Biennale di Venezia in 1999 and is known for his extraordinary work with light, sound and images.









The film is a high-speed train trip from the Atlantic to the Pacific, with encounters and performances by artists, musicians and dancers. In the Summer of 2013, a train designed as a light sculpture by Doug Aitken crossed the USA, from New York to San Francisco in 24 days. The train stopped in 10 stations along the way, and hosted a series of happenings, each one unique and original, due to the special locations and the creative mix of participants.

Portraits, intimate moments, conversations, artistic contributions and performances alternate in the film: artist Ed Ruscha describes the discoveries which can be made in the vast American land-scape; Beck's performance with a gospel choir in the Mojave Desert; Jackson Browne's reflections on the influence of the railway in his music.

Among those appearing in the film: the musicians Cat Power, Thurston Moore, Patti Smith, the Cold Cave, Giorgio Moroder; artists Olafur Eliasson, Urs Fischer, Lawrence Weiner, Thomas Demand, Christian Jankowski, Ernesto Neto; the architect Paolo Soleri.

Station to Station is a live project in continual evolution which explores the various forms of creativity. From June 27-July 26 it will travel to the Barbican Centre in London, where happenings will happen for 30 consecutive days.

The film *Station to Station* is distributed in Italy by Wanted and by Lo schermo dell'arte Film Festival.

Lo schermo dell'Arte / Notti di Mezza Estate is a film series on contemporary art and its protagonists, curated by Leonardo Bigazzi, and is part of the programme for the summer arena Apriti Cinema!, organized by Quelli della Compagnia of FST – Fondazione Sistema Toscana for *Estate fiorentina* 2015.

#### **DOUG AITKEN**

is an American artist whose films and famous video installations modify urban space. He explores the modern condition by creating a totalizing and immersive cinematographic experience. He has collaborated with many artists and musicians, and his works have been shown in major international museums, including: the Whitney Museum of American Art, MoMA, the Sezession in Vienna, the Serpentine Gallery in London and the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris. In 1999, he won the Leone d'Oro at the Biennale di Venezia for his installation "Electric Earth". In 2012, he received the Nam June Paik Art Center Prize and in 2013, the Smithsonian American Ingenuity Award: Visual Arts.

Among his Italian projects: "Frontier" produced in 2009 for Enel Contemporanea, a huge room open to the sky on the Isola Tiberina, with projections, sound and live performance. He has shown his work at Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo (2007, 2003, 2000 e 1998), in Florence at Pitti Discovery (1999) and at the Biennale di Venezia (1999).

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Station to Station by Doug Aitken, USA 2014, 78 min
Italian premiere with the artist present
July 20, 2015, 9.30 pm
Florence, Piazza della SS. Annunziata
6<sup>th</sup> Edition of Lo schermo dell'arte / Notti di mezza estate, curated by Leonardo Bigazzi
www.schermodellarte.org

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## PARTECIPATING IN THE FILM:

#### **SUN ARAW**

Sun Araw is the alias of Cameron Stallones, American musician, a former member of Magic Lantern. He has produced albums of experimental music and has collaborated with the Jamaican reggae group The Congos.

### **ARIEL PINK'S HAUNTED GRAFFITI**

Singer/songwriter, polyinstrumentist, record producer; lives in Los Angeles. With his group, he plays an eclectic mix of psych-pop, indie rock and lo-fi.

#### **BECK**

Singer/songwriter, producer and polyinstrumentist, he's known for his musical collages of many diverse styles: folk, funk, soul, hip hop, alternative rock, country, and psychedelia.

## **BLACK MONKS OF MISSISSIPPI**

Organized by Theaster Gates, The Black Monks of Mississippi is an experimental music ensemble which often collaborates with the artist; they are often joined by music-oriented monks from around the world.

#### **BLOODBIRDS**

Kansas City natives, they play a mix of post-punk, psychedelic blues and space rock.

#### **JACKSON BROWNE**

His contribution to rock and country is legendary; he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2004.

#### **CAT POWER**

AKA Chan Marshall, an American singer/songwriter known for her personal sound, which continually evolves and incorporates punk, folk, blues, soul and electronica.

#### **COLD CAVE**

Their music has been described as a collage of darkwave, noise, and synthpop.

#### **THE CONGOS**

Jamaican reggae vocal group, started in the mid-1970s, best known for their album Heart of the Congos, recorded with Lee "Scratch" Perry.

#### THE CONQUERORS

A Kansas City band that plays a maniacal mix of garage punk and psychedelia.

#### **DAN DEACON**

Composer and electronic musician known for his live shows, which always attract a huge audience.

#### **THOMAS DEMAND**

German sculptor and photographer; he produces colorful models in paper and cardboard, which he photograpsh, then destroys. His pictures are in all the world's major museums of contemporary art.

### **DESTRUCTION UNIT**

Rock group from Phoenix, Arizona. These desert-dwellers have acquired a degree of fame because they're able to hypnotize and terrorize audiences with their power and intensity.

#### **WILLIAM EGGLESTON**

An American photographer whose work is characterized by ordinary, common subjects. His work is present in the collections of major contemporary art museums world-wide.

## **OLAFUR ELIASSON**

A Danish-Icelandic artist whose extraordinary sensory installations are known throughout the world.

## **SAM FALLS**

Using photography, photoshop, drawing, painting and sculpture, he creates works which unite the abstract and figurative, and which explore the natural elements.

## **URS FISCHER**

This Swiss artist's subversive approach is often considered derivative of Neo-dada, or of the international Situationist movement.

## **SASHA FRERE-JONES**

American writer, music critic and musician, she has written for Pretty Decorating, ego trip, Hit It And Quit It, Mean, Slant, The New York Post, The Wire, The Village Voice, Slate, Spin, and The New York Times.

## **ELEANOR FRIEDBERGER**

A singer/songwriter, she performs her pop melodies solo since 2011, after having played with her brother Matthew in the indie rock duo The Fiery Furnaces.

### **LIZ GLYNN**

An artist who lives near Los Angeles, she produces sculptures and installations which incorporte objects and found materials.

## **CORNBREAD HARRIS**

James Samuel "Cornbread" Harris Sr. is a singer and pianist who still plays blues and jazz in Minneapolis at the age of 80. He played on Minnesota's first rock and roll record.

#### **GARY INDIANA**

Novelist, playwright, critic, essayist and director, he lives in New York. Known for his trilogy based on famous criminals, his books are often autobiographical.

#### **CHRISTIAN JANKOWSKI**

A multimedia artist, he works mainly in video, installation and photography. He lives in Berlin and New York.

#### **AARON KOBLIN**

A digital artist, he is best known for his innovative use of visualization data and for his pioneering work in crowdsourcing and interactive film.

#### **LUCKY DRAGONS**

Experimental music group from Los Angeles: Luke Fischbeck and Sarah Rara.

#### **MARK BRADFORD**

Born and raised in Los Angeles, he transforms found materials into large-scale collages and video installations.

## **GIORGIO MORODER**

Italian record producer, composer, performer and DJ, he's one of the most famous architects of the disco sound.

### **THURSTON MOORE**

Best known as singer and guitar player of Sonic Youth, he also performs solo, and collaborates with other musicians; he's a record producer, too.

## **ERNESTO NETO**

A Brazilian artist whose work explores social spaces and the world of nature, inviting the public into sensory experiences. His large-scale installations are soft biomorphic sculptures, which the visitor can touch, smell and move around.

## **NO AGE**

Los Angeles experimental punk duo formed by guitarist Randy Randall and drummer/vocalist Dean Allen Spunt.

## **ED RUSCHA**

Artist: works with painting, engraving and film. Best known for his paintings which incorporate words and sentences, and for his photography books, influenced by Pop Art irreverence.

## **SAVAGES**

Female English post-punk band formed in 2011 which exploded on the international scene in 2013 with Silence Yourself.

## **PATTI SMITH**

Uniting rock and poetry, singer, poet and artist Patti Smith became an influential figure on the New York punk rock scene with her debut album Horses (1975).

## **MAVIS STAPLES**

American rhythm-and-blues and gospel singer, actress and civil rights activist, she began her career in the 50s with The Staple Singers, a band formed by members of her family.

# **PAOLO SOLERI**

An Italian architect who founded Arcosanti and Fondazione Cosanti in the Arizona desert, a laboratory for innovative and communal design.

## **STEPHEN SHORE**

American photographer, his work has been published and shown internazionally for the last 40 years. Known for his pioneering use of color in art photography, in 1971 he became the second living photographer to have a one-man show at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

## **SUICIDE**

This electronic synthpunk duo has been active since 1970; formed by vocalist Alan Vega and Martin Rev on synth keyboards and drum machine.

## **THEESATISFACTION**

A hip hop duo formed by rapper Stasia Irons and singer Catherine Harris-White. they write, produce and play in Seattle.

## **LAWRENCE WEINER**

A central figure in conceptual art since the 60s, his work often takes the form of written texts with typographical characters.

## WHITE MYSTERY

A rock'n'roll duo forme by the siblings Miss Alex White & Francis Scott Key White from Chicago, active since 2008.

## **YOSHIMIO TRIO**

A trio formed by The Yoshimi P-We of the Boredoms, Hisham Akira Bharoocha and Ryan Sawyer, they have played in the train stations of New York and Pittsburgh for the Station to Station project.