

**LO SCHERMO
DELL'ARTE
FILM FESTIVAL**

**Lo schermo dell'arte Film Festival
8th edition
November 18 – 22, 2015**

**“Tribute to Martial Rayse”
in collaboration with Palazzo Grassi – Punta della Dogana and Gucci Museo
Florence, Cinema Odeon
Saturday November 21, 6 p.m.**



Martial Rayse devant Ici plage terminée

Lo Schermo dell'arte Film Festival 8th edition (Florence, November 18-22), presents a **“Tribute to Martial Rayse”** in collaboration with **Palazzo Grassi – Punta della Dogana** and **Gucci Museo**, following last year special screening of works from the Pinault Collection.

On the occasion of Rayse's major retrospective at Palazzo Grassi in Venice, Saturday November 21 from 6 p.m. at Cinema Odeon, the artist **Martial Rayse**, in conversation with **Martin Bethenod**, director of Palazzo Grassi – Punta della Dogana, will present a selection of six short films made between 1967 and 2005.

Rayse's work uses different media: from sculpture to neon, huge canvasses saturated color to poetry, on to video, which shows his libertarian instincts and experiences through color and editing.

The films which will be presented are: *Portrait Électro Machin Chose* (1967), in which Raysse emphasizes his skills as tireless experimenter, appropriating television to create with contrast and distortion effects, the portrait of a woman seen in the atelier; *Camembert Martial Extra-Doux* (1969), in which he blends with subtle irony the music of Offenbach and The Who to produce a soundtrack for a group disquisition on Camembert Martial's hallucinogenic effects; the primitive rhythms of *Pig Music* (1971) document the climate of the community experience PIG, within which Raysse produced paintings, photos and newspapers until 1973; rarefied atmospheres leading up to total abstraction of the image are the focus of *Intra Muros* (1977); *Mon petit cœur* (1995), produced for the exhibition "*Féminine Masculin*" at the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris, is 40 seconds of poetry and beauty, built of rhythm and words, comparable to the composition of a sonnet; *Ex-Voto* (2005), reflection on beauty seen through works of art, creation and things found in nature.

Martial Raysse, one of the most important French figurative artists from post-war, works in different media, from huge canvasses covered with pure pigments to neon sculptures, cinema and poetry, investigating issues such as the relationship of history with art, the artist's role, policy. Martial Raysse was born in 1936 on the Cote d'Azur. He joined the New Realism movement, and signed the founding declaration. In 1963 he moved to Los Angeles, where he continued to create multilingual installations; he is among the first artists to experiment with the interactions of moving images. In 1966, he represented France in the 33rd Biennale di Venezia, and won the Special Prize for artists under 45. In 2007, he participated in the show "Sequence 1" at Palazzo Grassi, Venezia, where he returned in 2009 for the group show "Mapping the Studio: Artists from the François Pinault Collection". In 2014, the Centre Pompidou in Paris mounted the show "Raysse: Retrospective. 1960-2014".

Martin Bethenod

Director of Palazzo Grassi-Punta della Dogana, he has previously carried out many jobs and functions in the fields of culture and contemporary art. He began his career producing special projects at the Direction des Affaires Culturelles for the City of Paris (1993-1996); he then became chief of the Cabinet of the President of the Centre Georges Pompidou (1996-1998), before creating and directing the publications of Centre Pompidou (1998-2001). He has been chief editor to the magazine *Connaissance des Arts* (2001-2002), and later chief editor of the monthly *Vogue France*. In 2003, he was called to join the Minister for French Culture and Communication as a delegate for Visual Arts (2003-2004).

From 2004 to 2010 he was general director of FIAC, the international contemporary art fair in Paris; under his direction, it became one of the most important artistic appointments on the international scene. The city of Paris charged him with the artistic direction of the *Nuit Blanche*, 2010.

In 2014 he curated the exhibition in Monaco "*ArtLovers, histoire d'art dans la collection Pinault*", with a selection of works from Pinault Collection. At Gucci Museum, Florence, he curated the exhibition "*Femminilità Radicale*" and the presentation of the video "*Grosse Fatigue*" by Camille Henrot.

Martin Bethenod is also President of CREDAC (Ivry) and the cultural Committee of Fondation de France.

"Tribute to Martial Raysse"

and a conversation between Martial Raysse and Martin Bethenod

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Florence, Cinema Odeon, Palazzo Strozzi - Strozzi, Aula Magna of Rettorato of University of Florence

November, 18 – 22 2015

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