

LO SCHERMO  
DELL'ARTE  
FILM FESTIVAL

7th edition  
Florence, November 12 – 16, 2014

**Focus on Hito Steyerl**



Hito Steyerl, *How Not to be Seen A Fucking Didactic Educational. Mov File*,  
copyright Hito Steyerl, courtesy Wilfried Lentz Rotterdam

Lo Schermo dell'Arte Film Festival dedicates **Focus On** 2014 to the German artist **Hito Steyerl**, who is among the most highly acclaimed artist working with video today. Her documentary/essays and writings, which take on themes such as feminism, the proliferation of images, the technological aspects of globalization, and visual culture, represent one of the most influential contributions to contemporary criticism.

A true solo-exhibition of Hito Steyerl will be presented on Saturday, November 15 from 6 p.m. at Odeon Cinema Florence: four films, selected from the artist's most recent production, and the lecture/performance *The Secret Museum* (at 3.45 p.m.), produced specifically for the occasion. The theoretical work of Hito Steyerl has in fact a practical application in the form of lecture/performances, conferences in which the artist, reading a text, interacts with live images and video, and addresses socio-political issues in relation to the world of contemporary visual arts. The lecture / performances are recorded and then themselves become an integral part of exhibitions by the artist.

The films will be subtitled in Italian. The lecture will be in English, with simultaneous translation into Italian.

**Liquidity**, 2014, 30', about the emblematic experience of an ex-financial consultant, who reinvents himself as a martial arts expert after the recent global economic crisis; incorporating visual research and philosophical-existential theorizing, Steyerl reflects on the global concept of liquidity.

**How Not To Be Seen. A Fucking Didactic Educational. Mov File**, 2013, 16', produced for the Venice Biennale 2013, is a tongue-in-cheek set of instructions, replete with demonstrations and virtual simulations, on how to achieve invisibility in the digital age.

**Guards**, 2012, 19', the video's protagonists are two security guards at the Art Institute of Chicago, both with military pasts, who speak of their past experiences while, in the museum's chambers, a series of projections accompanies them through the simulation of a military action.

**Abstract**, 2012, 7', in which, using her own iPhone, Hito Steyerl demonstrates the speculative nature of cinematographic concepts such as shot and counter-shot, insisting on the ambiguity of the English terminology, to create a parallel between aesthetic violence and the violence of war.

**Hito Steyerl** (Munich, 1966. Lives and works in Berlin) is a filmmaker, artist and writer. Her work, which prefers essay films and documentaries, is between cinema and visual arts, with special attention to the use of media and network in globalization era. She has published many books, including *The Green Room. Reconsidering the Documentary and Contemporary Art* (Sternberg Press 2008). She teaches Experimental Film and Video at UdK Berlin and has held courses at the Dutch Art Institute, the Malmö Art Academy, Akademie der bildenden Künste in Vienna, the Royal Art Academy of Copenhagen, and Goldsmiths College of London, among others.

She was Wim Wenders' assistant on his films *Till the End of the World* and *So Far, So Near*.

Among her more recent one-woman shows: ICA, London; Van Abbenmuseum, Eindhoven; and the Künstlerhaus, Stuttgart (2014); Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago (2013); e-flux New York; Wilfried Lentz in Rotterdam (2012). She has shown at Biennales in Venice, Istanbul (2013), Gwangju (2010), Shanghai (2008), Berlin (2004), and at documenta 12 KASSEL (2007), and Manifesta 5 (2005). Her films were presented at Festivals in Oberhausen and Rotterdam (2013), Copenhagen (2010), Loop (2010), as well as in major museums and art centers world-wide, including the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Stedelijk, Amsterdam; MCA, Chicago; HKW, Berlin; the Museum of Photography, Tokyo; MACBA, Barcelona; CCA, Glasgow, and the Tate Gallery, London.

**Lo Schermo dell'Arte Film Festival – Seventh Edition**

Florence, Odeon Cinema and other places

12 to 16 November 2014

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