

Monday August 31 – Thursday September 3, 10:30pm PT Meredith Drum Search for Delicious Q&A with the artist via live chat at 8:45pm ET



Still from "If You've Got the Money, Honey" (2014) by Meredith Drum — Courtesy of the artist

Microscope is very pleased to welcome Meredith Drum back to our event series for a solo online screening of her work. The program includes nine short videos made from 2005 to today by the artist addressing issues such as the environment and global warming, feminism, anthropology, and the history of cinema, with particular attention towards endangered species and cultures.

Drum's early videos display the freshness and experimental qualities of works representing an independent and very personal form of cinema. An idea, a script, a couple of actors, and a handheld video camera seem to have been about all that was needed for the making of her 2009 video "The Double" — from her "low-fi sci-fi" trilogy *Ficciones* — a minimalist blending of *The Magic Flute* with Tarkovsky's *Stalker*.

"Search for Delicious" (2005) and "Body Without Organs" (2004) defy simple categorization, as well. In the former, after a preamble devoted to a found film about a night lamp named Bimbo,

the viewers are confronted with a prescient discussion about the disappearance of flora and fauna and space travel, followed by stunning time-lapse sequences of plants growing in a glass bowl and a crane assembling the metal frame of a construction. The latter, a nod to Rosler's Semiotics of the Kitchen, is an ironic re-contextualization of the philosophical concept of "corps sans organes" — used by Deleuze and Guattari and discussed in one of their essays, fragments of which are read aloud in voice-over — within the cooking of a recipe of French haute cuisine, a stuffed chicken carefully prepared by a woman in apron floating against a green-screened video background.

Drum's latest and perhaps most oneiric works, composed through 3D animation, were prompted by her "frustration with the misogynistic, militaristic, racist, and consumer-driven visual culture that dominates many commercially produced virtual worlds." In "If You've Got the Money, Honey," the "wolf of Wall Street" Jordan Belfort is seen on multiple screens of a drive-in theater as a luxury sport car squeals its tires at the rhythm of Wille Nelson's song. The program ends with "Taking Residence: A History of A.I.R. Gallery," a documentary project about the history of A.I.R. gallery, a groundbreaking art space — still active — founded in New York in 1972 exclusively run by and showing work by women artists.

A live Q&A with Drum and the online audience via chat follows the screening at 8:45pm ET.