

For Immediate Release:

**ARTSPACE**

50 Orange Street  
New Haven, CT 06510  
p: 203.772.2709  
w: artspacenh.org  
e: shannon@artspacenh.org

**Artspace's City-Wide Open Studios Festival Presents the Crystal Palace Experimental Film/Video Festival. Organized by Liena Vayzman.**

Crystal Palace is an experimental film/video festival curated by Liena Vayzman for the fifteenth anniversary of City-Wide Open Studios. In the spirit of fifteenth anniversaries, which are traditionally celebrated with crystal, the festival will feature crystal-themed, crystallizing, and multi-faceted video and films. Crystals, including snowflakes, diamonds, ice crystals, and gems will be highlighted; works will explore these references in both abstract and narrative forms, taking the cultural, scientific, and mathematical associations of crystal as a point of departure. Like the Crystal Palace plate-glass building, a marvel of engineering constructed by Joseph Paxton for the Great Exhibition of 1851 in London, ArtSpace's Crystal Palace aims to illuminate and amaze—the festival, held in Artspace's gallery at 50 Orange Street, will feature non-narrative and experimental video installations, as well as more traditional films. Works in the festival will screen continually during gallery hours (Tuesday–Thursday, 12:00–6:00 PM; Friday, 12:00–8:00 PM; Saturday–Sunday, 12:00–5:00 PM). Each evening, silent works will be projected out of the corner window of Artspace, bringing the festival to nightly passersby throughout October. The Crystal Palace Experimental Film/Video Festival will also be presented at the Kroswork Gallery in Oakland, California on October 13, 2012.

**A Special Festival Screening** of the works will occur on **October 18, 2012 at 7:00 PM** and will be accompanied by a discussion with the curator, Liena Vayzman and a Q & A session with participating artist Bobby Abate. Mr. Abate is an alumnus of New Haven's Educational Center for the Arts (ECA) and will be discussing his work with Dr. Vayzman.

Participating artists include:

Abigail Child (New York)  
Alexander Stewart + White/Light (Chicago)  
Bobby Abate (New York)  
Cade Bursell (Carbondale IL)  
Cara Levine (San Francisco)  
Eric Stewart (San Francisco)  
Filipe Afonso (Lisboa, Portugal)  
Jen Cohen (Oakland)  
Jessica Miller (San Francisco)  
John Stone (New York)  
Kathleen Quillian (Oakland)  
Leigh Orpaz (Tel Aviv)  
Michael Lasater (South Bend IN)

Patrick Tarrant (London)  
Rebecca Najdowski (San Francisco)  
RKDB (Oakland)  
Shambhavi Kaul (India/North Carolina)  
Shana Moulton (Brooklyn)  
Suzy Poling / Pod Blotz (San Francisco)  
Thorsten Fleisch (Berlin)

About the Curator:

Liena Vayzman is a curator, art historian, and artist focused on female avant-garde artists, as well as broader questions of gender, sexuality, and representation. She earned a B.A. from Vassar College and a Ph.D. in the History of Art from Yale, where she specialized in Modern and Contemporary Art and the Histories of Photography. After completing her dissertation on the work of French Surrealists Claude Cahun and Marcel Moore, on whom she is currently writing a book, Dr. Vayzman held curatorial fellowships at the Yale University Art Gallery and taught courses on photography, art history, and gender at the Rhode Island School of Design, the New School, and San Jose State University. She was a co-founder of the MicroClimate Curatorial Collective in San Francisco and organized media art installations for ATA/Artists Television Access before coming to Yale as a Postdoctoral Associate for the Women's Faculty Forum, where she is currently conducting research on gender equity in the academy.



Image: still from the series *Black Sun*, Rebecca Najdowski