



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MOCA ARTIST FILM SERIES CONTINUES IN 2024
AT MOCA GRAND AVENUE**

Featuring works by Edgar Calel, Seba Calfuqueo, Coco Fusco, Simon Leung,
and Zineb Sedira

Presented by The Edward F. Limato Foundation



Still from Coco Fusco, *La Noche Eterna*, 2023. Image courtesy of the artist.

LOS ANGELES—The **MOCA Artist Film Series**, an active and dynamic platform for the presentation of artist films, continues at MOCA Grand Avenue this May through December 2024. Originally launched in the spring of 2023, the MOCA Artist Film series, presented by **The Edward F. Limato Foundation**, is inspired by film and video works in MOCA's renowned collection. Upcoming screenings in this year's season feature works by **Edgar Calel**, **Seba Calfuqueo**, **Coco Fusco**, **Simon Leung**, and **Zineb Sedira**.

The 2024 MOCA Artist Film Series is organized by José Luis Blondet, Senior Curator, with Alitzah Oros,

Public Programming Associate. Taking place in the cinema capital of the world, these programs explore the critical issues of our time and place and focus on experiments in long-form, narrative, and feature-length films. All screenings take place on Thursday evenings in the Ahmanson Auditorium at MOCA Grand Avenue and feature artists in dialogue with fellow artists, historians, and critics.

“This year's lineup showcases a diverse group of artists spanning different generations, the majority from Latin America. We are thrilled to share with our audiences the works of Edgar Calel from Guatemala, Seba Calfuqueo from Chile, Coco Fusco from Cuba, Liliana Porter from Argentina, and Ana Tiscornia from Uruguay. MOCA is equally excited to screen and host conversations with LA-based artist Simon Leung, and Algerian-French artist Sineb Zedira,” said José Luis Blondet, Senior Curator at MOCA.

The 2024 MOCA Artist Film series commenced in April with a screening of **Liliana Porter & Ana Tiscornia's** *Cuentos Inconclusos (Unfinished Tales)* (2016) and *Actualidades / Breaking News* (2022), which centered on a cast of objects and figurines acquired in flea markets to present a series of tender, humorous, mysterious, and sometimes disquieting encounters among disparate things. The series resumes on May 30 for a screening of **Zineb Sedira's** *Dreams Have No Titles* (2022)—the artist's sprawling, award-winning contribution for the French Pavilion at the 2022 Venice Biennale.

On June 27, the series presents **Simon Leung's** *War After War* (2011), a ninety-minute work offering a portrait of the mythical writer, translator, and art world figure Warren Niesłuchowski. Three videos by **Seba Calfuqueo** feature in the program on October 17, including *TRAY TRAY KO* (2022), *NGÜRÜ KA WILLIÑ (Fox and Otter)* (2022), and *You will never be a Weye* (2015). A screening of **Coco Fusco's** *La Noche Eterna (The Eternal Night)* (2023), based on the true story of Cuban writer and former political prisoner Néstor Díaz de Villegas, follows on November 14. The final screening on December 5 features **Edgar Calel's** *Xar – Sueño de obsidiana (Obsidian Dream)* (2020). Created in collaboration with **Fernando Pereira dos Santos**, the work is inspired by a poem Calel penned during the isolating COVID-19 lockdown.

“The Edward F. Limato Foundation is dedicated to supporting the dramatic arts and LGBT causes through scholarship and endowment. We are thrilled to return for the second year in a row as the lead presenter of the MOCA Artist Film series,” said Richard Konigsberg, President of The Edward F. Limato Foundation. “We are thrilled to be able to collaborate with MOCA to bring these groundbreaking works to new audiences, honoring Ed Limato's legacy and enabling the museum to deliver a diverse array of films that span genres and challenge traditional modes of cinematic expression.”

All MOCA Artist Film series screenings are free with advance reservations. Tickets for each screening are released on a rolling basis and become available up to 21 days in advance. [MOCA Members](#) enjoy early access to ticketing reservations. For complete program and ticketing details, please visit moca.org/artistfilmseries.

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING SCREENINGS:

All screenings are free with advance reservations.

Thursday, May 30, 2024, 6pm

Zineb Sedira

***Dreams Have No Titles*, 2022, 24 min.**

Moderator: Dr. Tiffany E. Barber

Using autobiographical narrative, fiction, and documentary, Zineb Sedira's *Dreams Have No Titles*—her sprawling, award-winning contribution for the French Pavilion at the 2022 Venice Biennale—addresses the history of cultural, intellectual, and avant-garde film production of the 1960s and beyond through the history of filmmaking and its impact on postcolonial movements and liberation struggles. In the film, Sedira mines Algeria's cinema heritage through the archives of the Algerian Cinémathèque, touching upon post-independence cinema in France, Italy, and Algeria and the so-called "Third-World" values and aesthetics they adhered to.

Sedira will be present for a post-screening conversation with Dr. Tiffany E. Barber, Assistant Professor of African American Art at the University of California.

Additional support is provided by [\[Villa Albertine logo\]](#) [\[Consulate General of France, Los Angeles logo\]](#)

Thursday, June 27, 2024, 6pm

Simon Leung

***War After War*, 2011, 90 min.**

Moderator: Michael Ned Holte

In *War After War*, 2011, artist Simon Leung (Hong Kong, 1964) offers a portrait of the mythical writer, translator, and art world figure Warren Niesłuchowski. The ninety-minute work unravels Niesłuchowski's life in the first decade of the 21st century as a nomad without a home who depended on others to provide him with a bed for the night, week, month, or longer, while he traveled through North America and Europe as a perpetual guest. The work explores notions of hospitality, mortality, vulnerability, resistance, and living itself as an ethico-aesthetic proposition in the residual space of war. Leung's video is also a rumination on friendship and the art world.

Leung will be present for a post-screening conversation with writer and curator Michael Ned Holte, Associate Dean, School of Art at Calarts.

Thursday, October 17, 2024, 6pm

Seba Calfuqueo

***TRAY TRAY KO*, 2022, 6 min.**

***NGÜRÜ KA WILLIÑ (Fox and Otter)*, 2022, 4 min.**

***You will never be a Weye* (2015), 4 min 46 sec.**

Moderator: Carolina Caycedo

Seba Calfuqueo, a Mapuche artist born in 1991 in Santiago de Chile, Ngulumapu/Chile, uses her heritage to critically examine the social, cultural, and political position of Indigenous individuals in modern Chile and Latin America. Presented in Mapudungun with English subtitles, Calfuqueo's videos reinterpret classical Mapuche tales and legends to explore the relationship between the human body and the environment, foregrounding sexuality, land rights, and restitution.

This program includes three videos:

TRAY TRAY KO, 2022, 6 min. Wearing an electric blue garment, Calfuqueo performs a simple and powerful ritual to reach and enter a waterfall, a vital and sacred space in her culture.

NGÜRÜ KA WILLIÑ (Fox and Otter), 2022, 4 min. Made in collaboration with Roberto Riveros A.K.A Neo Cristo, this animation offers Calfuqueo's version of a traditional fable which depicts a sexual encounter between an otter and outspoken trans vixen.

You will never be a Weye (2015), 4 min 46 sec. An early, biographical video performance unveiling the erasure of the history of the Machis Weyes (those who defy gender binaries) due to Catholic indoctrination enforced by colonizers and the politics of the Chilean state.

Calfuqueo will be present for a post-screening conversation with artist Carolina Caycedo.

Thursday, November 14, 2024, 6pm

Coco Fusco

***La Noche Eterna (The Eternal Night)*, 2023, 70 min.**

Moderator: Pablo Baler

In the story told by *La Noche Eterna*, a poet and a young Evangelical man from the countryside, who have both recently arrived at the prison, meet an older actor who had been imprisoned after he was accused of trying to assassinate Fidel Castro. The actor ushers them into the social world of the prisoners, showing them how to resist the authorities' attempt to re-educate them. To enliven the prisoners' evenings, he convinces the warden that screening films would be a more effective means of teaching inmates about the benefits of socialism and creates a cinema inside the prison.

La Noche Eterna is based on the true story of Cuban writer and former political prisoner Néstor Díaz de Villegas. In 1974, Díaz de Villegas was sentenced to six years in prison at the age of 18 for writing a poem. Prior to his imprisonment he had already been subjected to censure several times for his nonconformist attitudes, which were deemed by the revolutionary government to be "ideologically divergent." "Ideological diversionism," a term introduced by Raúl Castro in the early 1970s, functioned as a legal and moral category that criminalized dissent. It was applied to Cuban citizens considered to be too intellectual, to youths who showed interest in American popular culture and music, to those presumed to be gay or lesbian, and to religious people whose faith prevented them from performing political obedience.

Fusco will be present for a post-screening conversation with novelist, art critic, and scholar Pablo Baler, Professor of Latin-American Literature, Visual Arts, and Creative Writing at California State University, Los Angeles.

Thursday, December 5, 2024, 6pm

Edgar Calel

Xar – Sueño de obsidiana (Obsidian Dream), 2020, 4 min.

Moderator: Beatriz Cortez

Artist Edgar Calel found himself in São Paulo, Brazil, during the isolating COVID-19 lockdown of 2020. Inspired by vivid dreams, he penned a poem that became the script for his video *Xar – Sueño de obsidiana*. A haunting scene features Calel partially covered by a jaguar hide, traversing the empty expanse of the emblematic Cicillo Matarazzo Pavilion, designed in 1954 by modernist architect Oscar Niemeyer for the São Paulo Biennial. This program will showcase *Xar – Sueño de obsidiana*, a video made in collaboration with Fernando Pereira dos Santos, alongside two of Calel's recent video works.

Calel will be present for a post-screening conversation with artist Beatriz Cortez, Associate Professor of Art at the University of California-Davis.

PREVIOUS SCREENING:

Liliana Porter & Ana Tiscornia

Cuentos Inconclusos (Unfinished Tales) and Actualidades / Breaking News

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Moderator: José Luis Blondet

Objects and figurines acquired in flea markets are the main cast of in *Actualidades / Breaking News* (2016) and *Cuentos Inconclusos (Unfinished Tales)* (2022). Co-directed by Liliana Porter (Argentina, 1941) and Ana Tiscornia (Uruguay, 1951), these rudimentary animations—Tiscornia called them once anti-animations—present a series of tender, humorous, mysterious, and sometimes disquieting encounters among disparate objects. MOCA Senior Curator José Luis Blondet led a conversation with the artists after the screening.

Cuentos Inconclusos (Unfinished Tales), 2022, 11 minutes

Cuentos Inconclusos is a sequence of situations, very brief narrations, unrelated to each other, and without resolution. The music and the titles open various potential meanings, the perception of stories that never conclude. The cast of the video is composed with found objects and figurines as well as small replicas of modernist furniture. The titles are mostly appropriated from old children's books and they are in themselves unfinished tales.

Actualidades / Breaking News, 2016, 22 minutes

Following the structure of a magazine, newspaper, radio or TV news show, *Actualidades / Breaking News*, aims to address concerns with time as a non-linear happening, and reality as an ungraspable

concept. The twenty-minute video is composed of 30 consecutive segments, such as “Arts and Leisure”, “Fashion and Style”, “World News”, “Travel”, and “Social Issues.” The cast includes a variety of found objects that range from souvenirs that represent historical political icons to toy furniture, animals, musicians, soldiers, and other mass-produced things. They all have different origins and relate to a variety of circumstances, but in the video, they come together at the same moment. Past and present become simultaneous, and the fragility of the human condition is revealed within the complexity of reality.

MOCA Artist Film Series is presented by The Edward F. Limato Foundation.

ABOUT THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART (MOCA)

Founded in 1979, MOCA is the defining museum of contemporary art. In a relatively short time, MOCA has achieved astonishing growth: a world-class collection of nearly 8,000 objects, international in scope with deep holdings in Los Angeles art; hallmark education programs that are widely emulated; award-winning publications that present original scholarship; groundbreaking monographic, touring, and thematic exhibitions of international repute that survey the art of our time; and cutting-edge engagement with new modes of media production. MOCA is a not-for-profit institution that relies on a variety of funding sources for its activities.

MUSEUM ADMISSION: General admission to MOCA is free courtesy of Carolyn Clark Powers.

Admission to *Paul Pfeiffer: Prologue to the Story of the Birth of Freedom* and other special exhibitions at MOCA is \$18 for adults, \$10 for students with ID and seniors (+65), and free for children under twelve and jurors with ID.

More Information: For 24-hour information on current exhibitions, education programs, and special events, call 213/626-6222 or access MOCA online at moca.org.

Current Exhibitions:

Paul Pfeiffer: Prologue to the Story of the Birth of Freedom

The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA
On view through June 16, 2024

MOCA Focus: Eddie Rodolfo Aparicio

The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA
On view through June 16, 2024

Reverberations

MOCA Grand Avenue
On view through September 29, 2024

Upcoming Exhibitions:

Josh Kline: Climate Change

MOCA Grand Avenue

June 23, 2024-January 5, 2025

Olafur Eliasson

The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA

September 14, 2024-July 6, 2025

Ordinary People: Photorealism and the Work of

Art since 1968

MOCA Grand Avenue

November 24, 2024-May 4, 2025

MOCA Focus: Ana Segovia

MOCA Grand Avenue

November 24, 2024-May 4, 20

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MEDIA CONTACTS:

Danielle Bias
Chief Communications Officer
communications@moca.org

Elizabeth Cooke
Cooke PR
elizabeth@cookepr.com