

A

MONSTER

WITH

ITS

MOUTH

AGAPE

Credits

A film directed by Steven McInerney
Cinematography & Editing by Steven McInerney
Art direction in collaboration with Vincent Rang
Spoken word choreography by Yoshito Ohno
Soundtrack by Howlround & Merkaba Macabre
A Psyché Tropes film production
Commissioned by Rebellious Bodies,
International Butoh Dance Festival
Supported by Dance Archive Network,
Canta Co. Ltd, and Arts Council England

Technical

Running time:	10 min
Shooting format:	16mm
Screening format:	4K DCP
Sound:	7.1, 5.1, 2.0
Aspect ratio:	1.33:1
Colour & BW:	Colour
Content rating:	All Ages
Language:	Japanese
Subtitles:	English
Country of production:	UK

FILM SYNOPSIS

A Monster with Its Mouth Agape is an experimental film inspired by the work of Butoh master Yoshito Ohno, radiating from monochromatic intensity to multihued abstraction. The work features a rare audio recording of Ohno, with each metamorphic state reimagined through the moving image.



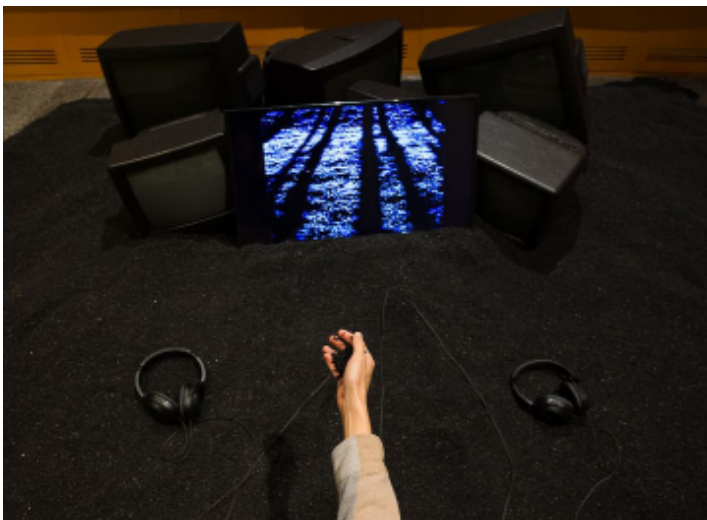
STEVEN MCINERNEY

Steven McInerney (b. Melbourne, 1983) is an artist living in London, combining 16mm, digital media, and sound spatialisation to create expanded forms of cinema, live audiovisual performances, and installations. McInerney's work investigates emergent phenomena, using the time-variant systems of media for exploration. Their cinematic work draws upon dichotomous energies, meditating between the sacred and profane. Live performances utilise multi-channel projection and real-time feedback systems, employing a structuralist methodology that values error and reappropriation. From here, speculative narratives take form, often blurring the lines between science and fiction. McInerney is the founder of Psyché Tropes, an interdisciplinary platform for media archaeological research and publication, with a monthly radio programme on Resonance 104.4 FM.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

A Monster with Its Mouth Agape was originally commissioned as an expanded live performance, for 16mm and digital projection, with a live collaborative soundtrack by Howlround and Merkaba Macabre. Combining analogue film projection with reel-to-reel tape processing, the film was conceived as a tribute to the late Yoshito Ohno, for the **Rebellious Bodies**, International Butoh Dance Festival in November 2023. I was given a rare audio recording from the Dance Archive Network featuring Yoshito Ohno choreographing through various movements.

The film was later reversioned and shortened to 10 minutes for digital projection and surround sound. It had its European premiere at the 54th edition of International Film Festival Rotterdam, was presented as a video installation at Family Film Project 13, and was part of the official selection at Flatpack Festival, Istanbul International Experimental Film Festival and Beijing International Short Film Festival.

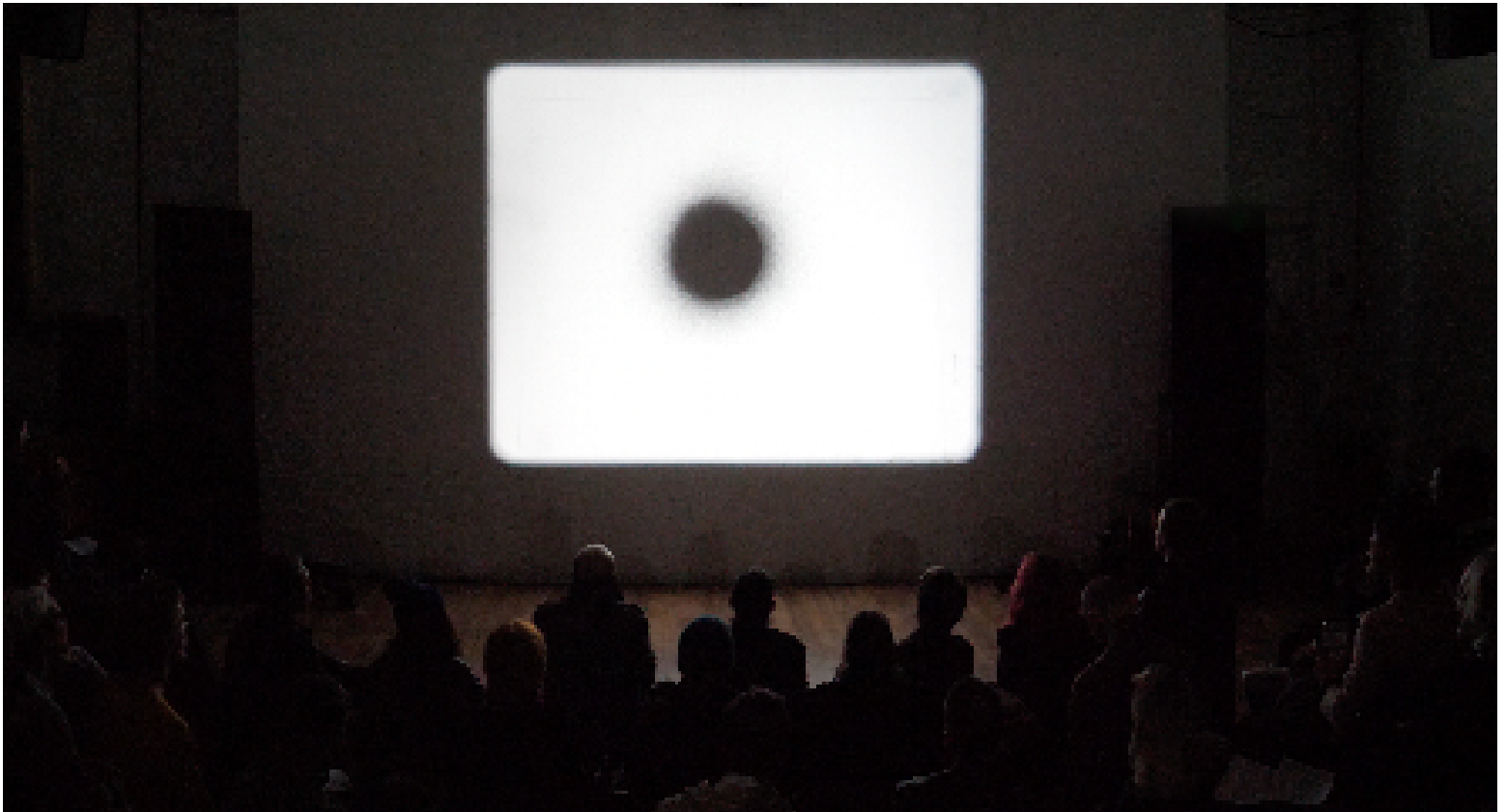


Installation at Family Film Project 13. Porto Portugal, October 2024

FILMOGRAPHY

- 2025 Cathexis (3 min, 16mm, Experimental, Short)
- 2024 A Monster with Its Mouth Agape (16mm, 10 min & 20 min Experimental, Short)
- 2023 Codices (HD Video, 30 min, Experimental, Short, In concert)
- 2023 Chromophobia (Triptych HD Video, 30 min, Experimental, Short, Installation)
- 2022 Trilateral Descent (16mm, 20 min, Experimental, Short, In concert)
- 2021 In Our Mind's Eye (16mm, 4 min, Experimental, Short)
- 2020 Tape Letters from the Waiting Room (16mm, 17 min, Experimental, Short)
- 2020 Slither (HD Video, 2 min, Experimental, Short)
- 2019 Projected Music (SD Video, 60 min, Experimental, Video release)
- 2018 A Creak Retimed (16mm, 3 min, Experimental, Short)
- 2017 A Creak In Time (16mm, 27 min, Experimental, Short)
- 2015 Decomposition (16mm, 20 min, Experimental, Short)

LIVE



Live at IKLECTIK, London, November 2023 – [20-minute expanded version](#) (pw: Yoshito)
Technical Rider & Diagram – [pdf download](#)

LINKS

[Official film page](#)
[Full Film](#) (pw: Yoshito)
[Trailer](#)
[Film stills](#)
[Poster](#)
[Director portrait](#)

SOCIAL

[Instagram](#)
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[Vimeo](#)
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