



Terra Workshops

The Terra Foundation for American Art is dedicated to fostering the exploration, understanding, and enjoyment of the visual arts of the United States for audiences worldwide. Its Paris center organizes exhibitions, research, and academic programs such as the Terra Workshops which highlight current research by emerging scholars in American visual arts and culture. These monthly workshops include works in progress, articles, papers, and archival research reports.

Spring 2011/2

Thursday February 3 at 1 pm

David Lynch and his Audiovisual Practice: The Crossfire of Cinema and Painting

Jean Foubert, Université Paris Diderot – Paris 7 – HIMAN

In the early 1960s David Lynch studied painting at art schools in Boston and Philadelphia. One afternoon while painting he imagined he heard the rustling of the wind, as under its effects the canvas appeared to move. Struck by this momentary illusion of the senses, Lynch began to reflect upon the aesthetic opportunities that putting his pictorial universe into motion might offer. As he later explained to Chris Rodley, "I began asking myself whether film might be a way to animate paintings." In 1967 he created *Six Men Getting Sick*, an experimental film that constituted his first step into the world of cinema. Although for David Lynch cinema thus represented a detour from the path carved out by his work in the fine arts, the fine arts never stopped intersecting with his audiovisual practice as he toyed with various references. Concentrating on the evocation of links made by the filmmaker to certain artists (Francis Bacon, Edward Hopper, Jackson Pollock), this paper aims to elucidate these interactions by means of an interdisciplinary problematisation of the abstract and hyperrealist dimensions of the filmmaker's audiovisual endeavors.

This workshop will be held in English.
Free admission

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