



Press Release

March 2006

Smoke and Mirrors

VIVID and *mac*'s third screening collaboration - *Smoke and Mirrors* – is a four day event running from 30 March - 2 April 2006 exploring illusion and visual trickery in moving image; bringing together legends of early cinema such as Méliès, Pathé Frères and Edison, alongside a stunning line up of contemporary UK and international artists, including Igor & Svetlana Kopystiansky, Jason Dee and DeAnna Maganias. The result is a perception-skewing, visually riveting journey through moving image and notions of reality.

The programme, spanning two centuries of production, demonstrates the artistic use of contemporary media to present ideas about the credibility of the image.

The two exhibitions at *mac* and VIVID present moving image work from nine UK and international artists in which the elements of the works' construction, both real and imaginary, are made wonderfully apparent to the viewer at the moment of illusion.

The four screenings at *mac* focus on trickery through camera work and framing, subverting traditional methods of viewing and experiencing moving image, and the use of montage and relationships between image and sound. The final screening on Sunday is of Vertov's *Man with a Movie Camera*, a stunning cinematic reflection of film and film making. Artists and reviewers will be presenting a post-screening discussion addressing the main themes of the *Smoke and Mirrors* events.

A four day, all event pass costs £3 / 2 concessions and can be brought from *mac*'s box office on 0121 440 3838. For full programme information and times visit www.macarts.co.uk

Artists include:

Jonathan Allen, Savinder Bual, Mark Curry, Jason Dee, Thomas Edison, Sara Fletcher & Edward Adam, Michael Francois, Bernard Gigounon, Igor & Svetlana Kopystiansky, Bob Levene, Susan MacWilliam, DeAnna Maganias, Michael Maziere, Elizabeth MacAlpine, Georges Melies, Robert Morris, Pathe Freres, PirateHairWaves, Greg Pope, Gaston Quiribet, Tim Shore, John Smith, Tobias Sternberg, Dziga Vertov, Chris Welsby, Virgil Widrich.

ENDS----- 310 words

Notes for Editors:

1. For further press information and images for *Smoke and Mirrors* please contact Helen Street on 0121 766 1301 or email: helen@vivid.org.uk

2. **Dates:** Thursday 30 March – Sunday 2 April 2006

Venues: **mac** Cotton Gallery, **mac** cinema - Cannon Hill Park, Edgbaston, Birmingham
VIVID 140 Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham, B9 4AR

Tickets: £3/£2 concessions (tickets valid for 4 days for all screenings and accompanying talks/presentations)

3. For Bookings and Information for this event, please visit www.macarts.co.uk or contact **mac** Information & Ticket Office on **0121 440 3838** or email enquiries@macarts.co.uk, minicom 0121 440 4923

4. This project has been supported by Screen West Midlands, Art Council England Grants for the Arts and UK Film Council through the National Lottery

5. This event has been co-ordinated by Catherine Bate. With special thanks to Anke Buxman at Argos, Brussels; Mike Sperlinger and Jackie Holt at LUX; Ivan and Heather Morison

6. Igor and Svetlana Kopystiansky appear courtesy of the Artists and Lisson Gallery London.