

As Seen By Experimenta

Film program of *EXPERIMENTA UTOPIA NOW*: International Biennial of Media Art

Sunday 14 February to Monday 16 March 2010

Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI), Federation Square, Melbourne

Tickets: ACMI 03 8663 2200 and www.acmi.net.au

As Seen by Experimenta is a standout selection cinema of classic, contemporary and cult cinema which will screen at ACMI as part of **Experimenta Utopia Now**, an International Biennial of Media Art from Sunday 14 to Monday 16 February.

Programmed by Kit Van Tempest, **As Seen by Experimenta** is bound to turn a few stomachs and convert a couple of carnivores. From Capra to cannibalism, this program explores cinema's great attempts to highlight the inevitable failures in humanity's quest to manufacture utopia.

The program features the Australian big-screen premiere of *Second Skin* (dir: Juan Carlos Pineiro-Escoriaza), which begs the question: is living in a virtual world virtually living? A refreshingly unbiased documentary, *Second Skin* explores the pros and cons of redetermining reality within the social phenomenon of multi-user online role-playing game World of Warcraft (WOW) and its ilk.

Jonathan auf der Heide's (*Van Diemen's Land*) uniquely apathetic short film *Gristle* will screen alongside Richard Fleischer's 1973 cult science fiction classic *Soylent Green*. Both these films look at a return to primal barbarism forced upon our future selves by our lack of foresight now.

Frank Capra's extraordinary journey into Arcadia, *Lost Horizon* wraps up the dystopic adventure in cinematic wonderland.

Ominous to optimistic, innovative and interactive, **Experimenta Utopia Now** International Biennial of Media Art chases the dream of a perfect world. Showcasing more than 35 works from countries including Australia, Japan, Austria, India, Germany, Canada, France, Taiwan and the UK, **Experimenta Utopia Now** critiques the scope for happiness on earth as we know it, pokes fun at social and physical boundaries and questions the human race's ability to preserve itself.

Experimenta is Australia's leading organisation dedicated to commissioning, exhibiting and promoting the most advanced media and technology based art.

As Seen by Experimenta

Sunday 14 February @ 7:30pm

Second Skin (2008) MA15+

Monday 15 February @ 7:30pm

Gristle (2006) and *Soylent Green* (1973) M

Tuesday 16 February @ 7:30pm

Lost Horizon (1937) PG

www.experimenta.org

For more information regarding this Media Release please call

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