

ARTHEMIS

The Advanced Research Team on History and Epistemology of Moving Image Studies is pleased to present a lecture with

Michael Zryd
(York University)

Experimental Film as Pedagogical Cinema: The
Center for Media Study at SUNY Buffalo

Friday October 10th, 16H00
EV 7-765
Concordia University

This paper examines the problematic mobilization of experimental film in the 1970s as a didactic and pedagogical cinema. After briefly discussing the relationship between this pedagogical impulse and the avant-garde's tradition of negation, the paper will concentrate on the case of the Center for Media Study (CMS) at SUNY Buffalo. Established in 1973 by educator Gerald O'Grady, CMS and its sister organizations (Media Study/ Buffalo and the Educational Communications Center) constituted a simultaneously utopian and pragmatic intervention into media study. The focus of CMS on experimental film, video, and other media -- sometimes seen as elitist forms -- was in fact integral to the democratic ethos of O'Grady's complex vision of media education.

MICHAEL ZRYD is Associate Professor in Cinema and Media Studies at the Department of Film, York University. He is currently Archivist of SCMS and co-chair of the Experimental Film and Media Scholarly Interest Group. He has published essays on experimental film and documentary in journals like *Cinema Journal*, *October*, *Public*, and *The Moving Image*, and is writing a book on Hollis Frampton's *Magellan* cycle, funded by a Major Research Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

