

Amsterdam, 9 April 2024

## Meet the Archive 2024: pearls from the Eye Collection

Eye Filmmuseum's curators and restorers will present their best discoveries and pieces of research at Meet the Archive. Visitors will be able to find out more about activist film in Amsterdam, the idiosyncratic oeuvre of avant-gardists Paul, Menno and Françoise de Nooijer, the re-use of film in *Obsessed with Light*, and the rectification of the absence of Black women in film archives.

*Meet the Archive*, 25 May, 11h00 – 21h15. Admission free from 11:00 till 17:30, English spoken. Part of Eye International Conference 2024, [eyefilm.nl/meetthearchive](https://eyefilm.nl/meetthearchive)

The sheer size and scope of the Eye Collection is made clear each year when our collection specialists step into the spotlight to talk about their research, restorations and discoveries during Meet the Archive.

Meet the Archive uncovers exceptional stories about the (early) history of film, presents forgotten filmmakers, reports on new cooperations and shows what often remains hidden away behind the scenes. On the programme this year are:

**Screening of *Obsessed with Light*** (Sabine Krayenbühl & Zeva Oelbaum, 2023): a documentary on pioneer of dance and light Loïe Fuller (1862-1928), a prodigiously original performer and inventor who brought about a revolution in the visual culture of the early 20th century. The documentary also reveals the influence Fuller's work continues to exert on contemporary culture, including Red Hot Chili Peppers, Taylor Swift, Iris van Herpen, Shakira, William Kentridge and Studio Drift (in Amsterdam).

*Obsessed with Light* consists of no fewer than 26 clips from the Eye Collection, including *The Twenty-four Dollar Island* (US, Robert Flaherty, 1927), *Le charmeur* (FR, Segundo de Chomón, 1906) and *Les Parisiennes* (US, unknown, 1897).

### Activist film

The collective Amsterdams Stadsjournaal ('Amsterdam City Journal') made 36 short and full-length films on political and socio-economic topics ranging from migrant workers and the housing shortage to drugs problems and innovations in education. Includes a screening of the episode *Privé-eigendom en misdad* (*Private Property and Crime*), on land speculation in Amsterdam. This film by Gerrard Verhage is typical of the early period of Amsterdams Stadsjournaal, when the films still had a pronounced Marxist, political pamphlet style. Also in this block: Utrecht-based film collective De

Rode Lantaren ('The Red Lantern'), and Cinemien with the First International Feminist Film and Video Conference.

### **Exploring the Fantastical World of the De Nooijers**

Their oeuvre is made up of more than 130 films: from music videos to commercials, short fiction, feature-length animation and documentaries. Paul, Menno and Françoise de Nooijer created a cinematic oeuvre like no other. This presentation includes three recent digital restorations of their early work, alongside their latest film *Is Heaven Blue? #2*, followed by the performance *Living Screens* by Paul and Menno de Nooijer. A large number of films from their oeuvre are available on Eye's streaming service, [Eye Film Player](#).

### **Mirella Muroi – Attestatie de vita**

Presentation on filmmakers and visual artists who re-use archival material from the Eye Collection – in particular film material dealing with the former Dutch colonies, East and West. In the project *Attestatie de vita*, filmmaker and screenwriter Mirella Muroi combines historical and archival material with fictional stories about women of colour. Her aim is to retroactively remedy the absence of Black women in archived heritage in the Netherlands through a 10-part series of short films. The filmmaker will share the results of this to date with us in this presentation of her 'work in progress'. Includes screening of a clip from *Stop Bugging Me*.

### **Programme 25 May**

The Meet the Archive day is divided into four themed blocks. You can see the whole [programme here](#).

11h00 – 12h20 Behind the Scenes: Dollywood & The Case of Nathalie  
12h55 – 14h10 Activist Film: de Rode Lantaren & Cinemien  
14h45 – 16h05 Eye beyond Eye, including a presentation of *Attestatie de vita* by Mirella Muroi  
16h45 – 17h35 Exploring the Fantastical World of the De Nooijers  
19h15 – 21h15 Evening screening: *Obsessed with Light* (Sabine Krayenbühl & Zeva Oelbaum, 2023)

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Note to editors, not for publication

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