

# DIM Cinema | Sept 20 | From Aniconism to Bliss: Media art shows its Islamic roots

DIM Cinema Presents

From Aniconism to Bliss: Media art shows its Islamic roots

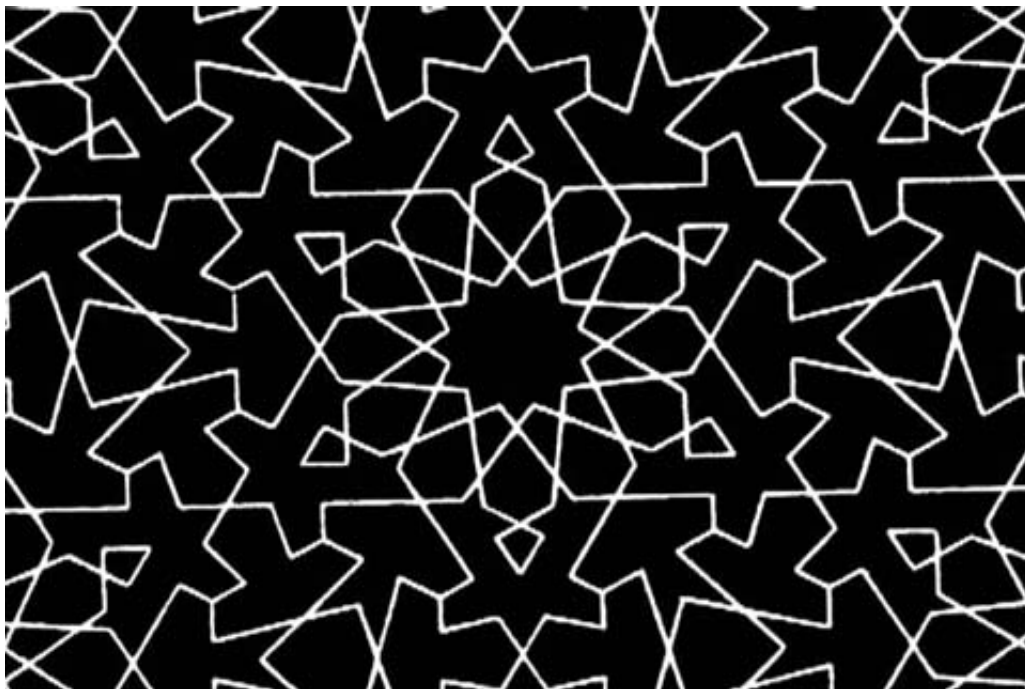
Curated by Laura U. Marks

Monday September 20 2010 7:30pm

Pacific Cinematheque 1131 Howe St. Vancouver

10.50\$/Students 9.00\$ + 3\$membership

[www.dimcinema.ca](http://www.dimcinema.ca) [www.cinematheque.bc.ca](http://www.cinematheque.bc.ca)



Particle bursts, mystical abstraction, and an intelligent suspicion of figurative images—qualities of some of the most thrilling media art works have deep origins in the great arts of Islam. Film, video, and digital works from the 1960s to the 2000 celebrate, knowingly or not, their Islamic origins. Mounir Fatmi and Peggy Ahwesh propose a sober aniconism in response to a contemporary image-world of pornography and murder. In works by Takeshi Murata and Cory Arcangel a giddy iconoclasm takes

over. Doug Richardson's analog vector experiments, Young-Hae Chang Heavy Industries' insistent jazzy textualism, and Usama Alshaibi's shimmying geometries celebrate the liberation from image making. The pixelline universe twinkles in the works of Walid Ra'ad, Paul Sharits, and Gheith Al-Amine, and finally Eric Siegel's analog abstractions take us into the blissful beyond of the image.

Presented in conjunction with the launch of Laura U. Marks' book *Enfoldment and Infinity: An Islamic Genealogy of New Media Art*, at Centre A on Tuesday September 21 from 5-7 p.m. at the Djavad Mowafaghian World Art Centre, SFU Woodward's, 149 W. Hastings St.

Laura U. Marks is the author of *The Skin of the Film: Intercultural Cinema, Embodiment, and the Senses* (2000), *Touch: Sensuous Theory and Multisensory Media* (2002), and *Enfoldment and Infinity: An Islamic Genealogy of New Media Art* (MIT Press, 2010). Dr. Marks is the Dena Wosk University Professor in Art and Culture Studies at Simon Fraser University. [www.sfu.ca/~lmarks](http://www.sfu.ca/~lmarks)

Dieu me pardonne, Mounir Fatmi

She Puppet, Peggy Ahwesh

Untitled (Pink Dot), Takeshi Murata

Low Level All-Stars: Video Graffiti from the Commodore 64 Computer, Cory

Arcangel and Radical Software Group

Visual Piano documentation of realtime vector display, Doug Richardson

Lotus Blossom, Young-Hae Chang Heavy Industries

Allahu Akbar, Usama Alshaibi

Analytic Studies IV: Blank Color Frames, Paul Sharits

Miraculous Beginnings and No, Illness Is Neither Here Nor There, Walid Ra'ad

Ungrateful Ode to Adel Fakhoury and Brion Gysin, Gheith al-Amine

Tomorrow Never Knows, Eric Siegel

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DIM cinema is a monthly evening of contemporary short-form moving images and cinematic collaborations. DIM focuses on expanding the visibility of Canadian and international experimental artists and their practices in the cinema. Programmed by Amy Lynn Kazymierchyk through the Pacific Cinematheque Pacifique.