

Lynn Hershman Leeson

Film & Videography

- 2010 **!Women Art Revolution** - A Secret History trt 83 min.
Director, Writer, Editor, Producer
World Premier - Toronto Film Festival September 2010
US Premier - Sundance 2011,
European Premier - Berlinale International Film Festival 2011
BEST FILM ON ART, MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL FEST
ONE OF 3 BEST FILMS 2011, MOMA NY
Distributed by Zeitgeist
- 2007 **Strange Culture** trt 83 min.
Director, Writer, Editor, Producer
Starring Tilda Swinton, Thomas Jay Ryan
World Premier - 2008 Sundance Film Festival,
European Premier 2009 Berlin Film Festival,
Human Rights Watch Festival and others
Marlon Riggs Award for Courage and Innovation
Distributed by New Video
- 2002 **Teknolust** trt 83 min.
Director, Writer, Producer
Starring Tilda Swinton, Jeremy David, Karen Black
2002 Sundance Film Festival,
2003 Berlin Film Festival,
2002 Toronto International Film Festival
Distributed by Think Film, MicroCinema
Alfred P. Sloan award for Writing and Directing
- 1998 **Conceiving Ada** trt 82 min
Director, Writer, Producer
Starring Tilda Swinton, Karen Black, Timothy Leary
1998 Sundance Film Festival,
Toronto International Film Festival
1999 Berlin Film Festival,
NOMINATED FOR INDEPENDENT SPIRIT AWARD
Distributed by Fox Lorber, Microcinema

1984-1985

First Person Plural - trt 84 min.

Berlin International Film Festival Forum

Rotterdam Film Festival

Prizes - Locarno S.F. International Film Festival

Documentation of Early Performances and Installations

1974 **Commercials for Forming a Sculpture Drama in Manhattan**

Four 30-second spots, trt 2 min.

Broadcast on ABC in New York in October 1974, these commercials advertise the site-specific hotel installations of Forming a Sculpture Drama in Manhattan.

1976 **25 Windows: A Portrait of Bonwit Teller** trt 16 min

This documentary of 25 Windows: A Portrait of Bonwit Teller details the site-specific installation at the Bonwit Teller department store in New York, which examined the future of shopping through photography, film, holograms, live action, and fashion.

1978 **Commercial for Myself** trt 1 min

This short "portrait" of the artist was screened on public television.

Lynn Turning into Roberta trt 5 min.

In collaboration with Eleanor Coppola

This short film documents of the transformation of Lynn Hershman into her performance persona, Roberta Breitmore.

1985 **Proxemics: The Study of Body Language** trt 5 min.

This video is an adaptation from the performance New Acquisitions commissioned by the Santa Barbara Museum of Art. The dancers, dressed in plaster-soaked clothing to resemble Greek statues, performed a slowmotion ballet on the street and in the museum. Features the Valerie Huston Dance Theatre; music by Mediazone.

1979 **Test Patterns** trt 16 minutes

In this "factional docudrama," a "test pattern man" personifies television media. When an interviewer asks him about his memories of the Kennedy assassination (which is shown in reenactment), he references the vapid content on other channels that day. Features Timothy Leary.

1982 **The Making of the Rough and (Very) Incomplete Pilot for the Videodisk on the Life and Work of Marcel Duchamp According to Murphy's Law**

Trt 16 minutes

This quasi-documentary about change and accident deconstructs the events that took place during the making of the videotape, which was originally intended to be an interactive videodisc. Features Jack Burnham, John Cage, Marcel Duchamp, Walter Hopps, Brian O'Doherty, Nam June Paik, Pierre Restany, Arturo Schwarz, and Calvin Tomkins.

- 1984 **Prisoner of Paradise** trt 6 minutes
Originally presented as an installation with two synchronized videos playing on monitors sitting on two “electric chairs,” this video offers a study of personality contrasts that typify American stereotypes and values. Features Debora Iyall and Blaise Simpson.
- Rebecca 28-30: The Evolution of an Unknown Woman** trt 30 minutes
This video offers an intense look at a young woman’s fight against alcoholism and memories of her battered childhood. The central character becomes involved in the taping of the video, and her involvement shapes her awareness of herself.
- Verbatim Transcription of the Last Words of Jim Jones** trt 13 minutes
This video showcases a performance based on the last recorded audiotapes of Jim Jones before the mass suicides in his camp. Features performance and music by Michael Peppe.
- 1989 **Longshot** trt 58 minutes
A video editor obsessively tries to capture and then possess the image of a young woman he has been secretly shooting with his camera. As he attempts to edit the footage, he also tries to control her destiny. During the process, the woman’s sense of reality becomes fractured and fragile. Winner, Belfort, France.
- 1990 **Desire Inc.** trt 26 minutes
Seduction advertisements, aired on television, asked for responses from viewers. Those who replied were interviewed as to why they wanted to meet a fantasy or artificial person. The footage was woven into a narrative about desire.
- 1991 **Seeing Is Believing** trt 58 minutes
A thirteen-year-old girl uses a camera to search for her missing father, hoping that finding him will clarify her lapsed personal history. The video uses the film negative as a metaphor for her lost history and its negative psychological impact. The positive of the film represents the retrieval of her memory and, consequently, a positive self-image. Includes Rachel Rosenthal and Guillermo Gómez-Peña.
- 1992 **Shooting Script: A Transatlantic Love Story** trt 52 minutes
This work addresses documentary elements of fiction in a story about video letters between a Danish man and an American feminist. Created by three artists from two different countries, this video focuses on gendered systems of representation, the construction of sexuality, and the loss of identity due to omnipresent surveillance and data systems in the modern world.
- 1993 **Virtual Love** trt 73 minutes
A shy woman, Valerie, discouraged by her plain looks, implants a beautiful woman’s image into the computer of one of two identical twins with whom she is infatuated. This surrogate becomes a perfect simulated, virus-free mate in this modern version of Cyrano de Bergerac.
- 1994 **Found Footage** trt 75 minutes
Formally titled: Beautiful People ... Beautiful Friends
The cycle of domestic violence becomes more and more apparent as we see the relationship of a couple unfold before the watchful eye of a video camera.

Seduction of a Cyborg trt 7 minutes

The premise of this digital video1 is that technology can infect the body through manipulated computer chips and invisibly seduce women into cyborg-hood.

Twists in the Cord (or) ... Other Extensions of the Telephone trt 55 minutes

This docudrama presents the history of the telephone, updated and told from the point of view of a character who uses the screen as both a connection to intimacy and a condom for safe sex.

Virtual Voices trt 10 minutes

Several virtual reality experts talk about technology as their images warp in a counterpoint rhythm to the text. Features Jaron Lanier, Arthur Kroker, Marilouise Kroker, and Sandy Stone.

1995 **Double Cross Click Click** trt 29 minutes

This video noir comedy is about the RAMifications of cross-dressing on the Internet. The characters use the screen as a mask to conceal their true feelings from each other.