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Popeye Sees 3D

Ken Jacobs

2016, color, 21 min., silent. **Producer** Ken Jacobs. **Production company** Ken Jacobs (New York, USA). **Director of photography** Ken Jacobs. **Editor** Ken Jacobs. **Production manager** Ken Jacobs.

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Studying painting with Hans Hofmann had sensitized me to depth phenomena, to strange readings of depth including the most unnatural: flat. In 1964, I learned of the Pulfrich Effect and gained access to wholly illusionistic depth way beyond indication. This led in 1975 to my partner Flo and I beginning to explore the *Nervous System*, performing with two stop-motion film projectors to superimpose sequential film frames showing different perspectives for extended periods of time. A spinning shutter between projectors activated the compound image onscreen, introducing depths available even to a single eye but strange, uncanny; nuts. In 2000 we switched to digital processes, we patented our discoveries for the new medium and exploration continued, continues. Eternalisms show stereo photographs, their two close perspectives joined via computer to display as a single ongoing dimensional image that can be seen without glasses. Not to be trusted for a moment but interesting. *Popeye Sees 3D* is a display of some of these images.

Ken Jacobs

Ken Jacobs was born in 1933 in New York, USA. He studied painting with Hans Hofmann from 1956 to 1957. He started making films in 1955. In 1966, Jacobs founded the Millennium Film Workshop, of which he was the director until 1968. A year later, he started the Department of Cinema at the State University of New York in Binghamton. He taught there from 1974 until his retirement in 2000. Along with teaching cinema, he has made a number of experimental films and videos, which have been shown worldwide. In addition, he has presented a series of film performances under the names *The Nervous System* since the mid 1970s and *The Nervous Magic Lantern* since 2000.

Films (selection)

1955: *Orchard Street* (12 min., Forum Expanded 2015). 1959: *Star Spangled to Death*. 1963: *The Whirled* (27 min.). 1960: *Little Stabs at Happiness* (18 min.). 1963: *Blonde Cobra* (30 min.), *Baud'larian Capers* (25 min.). 1964: *Window* (12 min.), *The Winter Footage* (50 min.). 1967: *Air Shaft* (4 min.). 1968: *Soft Rain* (12 min.), *Nissan Ariana Window* (15 min.). 1969: *Tom, Tom the Piper's Son* (115 min.), *Globe* (22 min.). 1975: *Urban Peasants* (50 min.). 1978: *The Doctor's Dream* (27 min.). 1985: *Perfect Film* (27 min.), *The Winter Footage* (50 min.). 1990: *Opening the Nineteenth Century: 1896* (11 min.). 1991: *Keaton's Cops* (23 min.). 1995: *The Georgetown Loop* (11 min.), *Disorient Express* (30 min.). 1999: *Flo Rounds a Corner* (6 min.). 2002: *A Tom Tom Chaser* (10 min.), *Circling Zero: Part One, We See Absence* (114 min.). 2003: *Keeping an Eye on Stan* (117 min.), *Capitalism: Slavery* (3 min.). 2004: *Celestial Subway Lines/Salvaging Noise* (108 min.), *Mountaineer Spinning* (26 min.), *Star Spangled to Death* (420 min.). 2006: *New York Ghetto Fishmarket 1903* (132 min.). 2007: *Let There Be Whistleblowers* (18 min., Forum Expanded 2007), *Razzle Dazzle (The Lost World)* (92 min.), *Capitalism: Child Labor* (14 min.), *Anaglyph Tom (Tom with Puffy Cheeks)* (108 min.). 2009: *What Happened on 23rd Street in 1901* (14 min.). 2011: *Seeking the Monkey King* (39 min., Forum Expanded 2012). 2012: *Street Vendor* (6 min.), *Cyclopean 3D Life with a Beautiful Woman* (47 min.), *Blankets for Indians 3D* (57 min.). 2013: *A Primer in Sky Socialism* (58 min., Forum Expanded 2014), *Joys of Waiting for the Broadway Bus* (180 min.), *The Guests* (73 min., Forum 2014). 2014: *Pygmalion Cubed* (100 min.), *Canopy* (4 min.), *Cyclops Observes the Celestial Bodies* (15 min., Forum Expanded 2015). 2016: *Ulysses in the Subway* (59 min., Forum Expanded 2017), *Popeye Sees 3D*.