BROAD UNDERGROUND FILM SERIES

Tracked and Traced: Nowhere to Hide

7:00PM • Friday, October 22, 2021 • MSU Broad Art Museum New Media Gallery • Programmed by Kaveh Askari, MSU Film Studies Director and Antajuan Scott, Head Programmer at Science Gallery

This screening intersects with themes in the exhibitions on mass incarceration on view during the Fall 2021 semester at the MSU Broad Art Museum, as well as the exhibition *Tracked and Traced*, presented by the MSU Science Gallery and on view through December 11 at the MSU Museum. Science Gallery is a programmatic division of the MSU Museum aimed at experimentation and innovation at the intersection of science and art.

Please visit broadmuseum.msu.edu and detroit.sciencegallery.com for more information.

I Thought I was Seeing Convicts (Harun Farocki, 2000, 25:00)



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Images from the maximum-security prison in Corcoran, California. The surveillance camera shows a pie-shaped segment: a concrete-paved yard where the prisoners, dressed in shorts and mostly shirtless, are allowed to spend a half an hour a day. A convict attacks another, upon which those uninvolved lay themselves flat on the ground, their arms over their heads. They know what comes now: the guard will call out a warning and the fire rubber bullets. If the convicts do not stop fighting now, the guard will shoot for real. The pictures are silent, the trail of gun smoke drifts across the picture. The camera and the gun are right next to each other. The field of vision and the gun viewfinder fall together...

--Harun Farocki

In Order Not to Be Here (Deborah Stratman, 2002, 33:00)



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An uncompromising look at the ways privacy, safety, convenience, and surveillance determine our environment. Shot entirely at night, the film confronts the hermetic nature of white-collar communities, dissecting the fear behind contemporary suburban design. An isolation based fear (protect us from people not like us). A fear of irregularity (eat at McDonalds, you know what to expect). A fear of thought (turn on the television). A fear of self (don't stop moving). By examining evacuated suburban and corporate landscapes the film reveal a particular 21st Century hollowness... an emptiness born of our collective faith in safety and technology. This is a new genre of horror movie, attempting suburban location as states of mind.

--Deborah Stratman

A special thanks to Video Data Bank for supporting this screening. www.vdb.org