

The Museum of Modern Art

This program of work by independent animators Mary Beams and Emily Hubley celebrates their distinct artistic voices while highlighting common threads of playfulness, introspection, and wonder. Both artists' hand-drawn techniques imbue their films with a rare fluidity and a sense of abstraction.

In films spanning the 1980s through the 2010s, Emily Hubley balances musings on interior life and memory with joyful animation; energetic lines morph into new figures and colorful worlds belie melancholy. Musical scores by her frequent collaborators Yo La Tengo provide aural abstraction in perfect harmony with the images. Her works explore artistic struggle and creation (*And/Or*), the mystical world of William Blake (*Blake Ball*), and lessons of greed and earthly pleasure (*Enough*). A second-generation animator (her parents Faith and John Hubley are also represented in MoMA's collection), Hubley has spent her life immersed in art making; she has been creating short films of her own for nearly 40 years.

Mary Beams's 1970s animations, often created on 4 × 6" index cards, include experiments in motion via minimalist Super 8 and 16mm rotoscoping (*Paul Revere Is Here*, *Whale Songs*, *Going Home Sketchbook*), playful explorations of sexuality (*Seed Reel No. 1*), and hybrids of hand-rubbed animation and live action (*Piano Rub*). Though at times conjuring home movies, documentaries, or diary films, Beams's films are a type of personal filmmaking all their own. Through these nine films, premiering here in new digital preservations, Beams conveys a worldview centered around gentleness and delight in the beauty of being alive.

Titles in this program are all drawn from the Museum's collection. We are also pleased to present the artists in conversation, as they discuss their respective artistic practices.

Organized by Brittany Shaw, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Film.

Program titles:

and/or. 2012. USA. Directed by Emily Hubley. Music by Yo La Tengo. 6 min.

Enough. 1993. USA. Directed by Emily Hubley. Music by Georgia Hubley and Ira Kaplan. Sound design by Don Christensen. 5 min.

Blake Bell. 1988. USA. Directed by Emily Hubley. Conceived with Will Rosenthal. Music by Don Christensen. 16 min.

Octave. 2006. USA. Directed by Emily Hubley. Music by Yo La Tengo. 7 min

Tower. 1984. USA. Directed by Emily Hubley, Georgia Hubley. Music by Don Christensen. 10 min.

Going Home Sketchbook. 1975. USA. Directed by Mary Beams. 1975. 3 min.

Piano Rub. 1975. USA. Directed by Mary Beams. 4 min.

Tub Film. 1971. USA. Directed by Mary Beams. 2 min

Seed Reel No. 1. 1975. USA. Directed by Mary Beams. 2 min.

Paul Revere is Here. 1976. USA. Directed by Mary Beams and Susan (Rubin) Hodara. 8 min.

Rain Seeds. 1976. USA. Directed by Mary Beams. 1 min.

Solo. 1975. USA. Directed by Mary Beams. 3 min.

School in the Sky. c. 1979. USA. Directed by Mary Beams. 2 min.

Whale Songs. 1977-80. USA. Directed by Mary Beams. 8 min.