X (Unknown Quantity) Presents:
CORRESPONDENCES
An Evening of Filmic Epistles, Odes, and Documents by Joel Schlemowitz
Tuesday, September 27th, 7:00 PM
Keefe Campus Center Theater

I. “Bagatelle Biologique,” 2000, 16mm, b&w, sound, 4 min
“Corpuscles dash about. Nerves twitch. Neurons fire. Anatomical illustrations, overlaid with the body's activities scratched and hand painted directly onto the film.” -JS

II. “In the Orbit of Marie Menken,” 1998, 16mm, color, silent, 3 min
“My tribute to the filmmaker whose works helped give birth to my inspiration and my joy in experimentation with the medium of film. As a filmmaker, I am in the orbit of Marie Menken.” -JS

III. “Camera Roll (for Taylor),” 2008, 16mm, b&w, sound, 3 min
“A camera roll cine-poem, filmed in Brooklyn in the vicinity of the Gowanus Canal.” -JS

IV. “Boulder-Brooklyn, a correspondence film,” 2001, 16mm, color, sound, 3 min
Co-maker, Nicole Koschmann. A three-minute roll of film shot by Joel Schlemowitz of Brooklyn, NY and mailed to Nicole Koschmann in Nederland, just outside Boulder, CO. The two collaborators shot images on the same undeveloped film, fusing together images from New York and Colorado.
-The Film-Makers’ Cooperative

V. “Morris Engel Time Sculpture,” 1994, 16mm, color, sound, 3 min
“A short abstract portrait of Morris Engel's watch-part collages. The in-camera superimpositions and dissolves are intended to convey the feeling of density within these precious little creations in a way that would satisfy the large flat movie screen.” -JS

VI. “Dame Darcy,” 2007, 16mm, b&w, sound, 5 min
“A short and lively 16mm portrait of comic book artist and performer Dame Darcy, seen through a filmic rollercoaster tour of her comic book, "Meat Cake," and ending with the artist herself. On the soundtrack, a turn-of-the-last-century recording from a 78rpm Victrola record.” -JS

VII. “Loudmouth Collective/Ugly Duckling Presse,” 2003, 16mm, b&w, sound, 20 min
“A film-portrait of the Loudmouth Collective and Ugly Duckling Presse. These poet-provocateurs are the creators of the infamous "Anti-Reading" series, a carnival-like alternative to the traditional poetry reading. On the film's soundtrack we hear how the Anti-Readings were started, descriptions of various Anti-Reading activities including the Poetry Fishing Pond, the Typewriter Inferno, Poetry-Poker, Poem Portraits, the smokable poems known as Poetry Cigarettes, the memory tester called "I Forgot," and the Diary in the shape of a Bunny. The film includes footage shot at Anti-Readings, with time-lapse, double exposures, distorting lenses, and frenetic non-traditional camerawork evocative of the playfully chaotic spirit of the events.” -JS
VIII. “Moving Images, the Film-Makers’ Cooperative relocates,” 2001, 16mm, color and b&w, sound, 14 min
   “Jonas Mekas, one of the Film-Makers' Cooperative's founders, and MM Serra, the current executive director, describe the Coop's beginnings, the organization's recent struggles, and the difficulties of finding space for the arts, over richly layered images of the Coop’s recent move. The Film-Makers' Cooperative, founded in 1962 as a filmmaker-run distribution center, is now the largest archive and distributor of independent and avant-garde films in the world, with over 5,000 films and videos. Since 1967 the Coop had its offices at Lexington and 31st Street, but as documented in this film, it has now relocated to the Clocktower Gallery at 108 Leonard Street, New York City." -JS

IX. “Louis Armstrong Obon,” 2015, HD and super-8 on video, color, sound, 14 min
   “A short documentary portrait of Japanese jazz musicians Yoshio and Keiko Toyama, seen through their annual visit to the grave of Louis Armstrong at Flushing Cemetery in Queens, NY.” -JS

TRT ca. 70 min