



## FACULTY NEWS

### BBC Soul Music

Professor Ernesto Acevedo-Muñoz is prominently featured in the *BBC Soul Music* radio show and podcast—with special guests Rita Moreno and Jamie Bernstein—on the history and legacy of the song “America” from *West Side Story*. *BBC Soul Music* is one of the most distinguished music-centered shows in the BBC media universe. The show aired on November 2nd, 2024 and is distributed world-wide through BBC stations and podcast outlets. Professor Acevedo-Muñoz is the author of the best-selling book *West Side Story as Cinema: The Making and Impact of an American Masterpiece*. He is considered an authority on the 1961 film adaptation of *West Side Story* and was a member of the Community Advisory Board for Steven Spielberg’s 2021 remake.



### Comprehending Cinema / The Lanthanide Series

Scott MacDonald's recently released book, *Comprehending Cinema* (Oxford University Press, 2024) features a new interview with Associate Professor Erin Espelle. In November, Espelle flew to Santiago, Chile, for a week-long series of film screenings and talks, co-hosted by La Región Central CineClub, La Universidad Mayor, La Universidad de Santiago, desistfilm, Chute Film Co-op, and laFuga.



### Quantum Cowboys

Associate Professor Geoff Marslett's feature film starring Lily Gladstone, David Arquette, Kiowa Gordon, Gary Farmer, Neko Case, John Doe, Patrick Page and Alex Cox is now available on Peacock for home streaming. The film premiered at the 2022 Annecy Film festival and has earned rave reviews from *The New York Times*, *Variety*, *Film Threat* and more.



## GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

### Being With Blanche

Film MFA Candidate Nicky Pope presented his thesis film *Being with Blanche* on December 6th.

His work is described as: A documentary portrait capturing a glimpse of the everyday life of Blanche Johnson. Surrounded by her caregiving daughter, and grandson, intimate moments of faith and perseverance are archived in this beautiful iteration of the mundane.

See his work featured in the Fall 2024 Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition at the CU Art Museum through Dec 19th.



### The Blob / Proxy / Eutopsie

Film MFA Student Mahda Purmehdi's work was featured in several festivals this past Fall. *Proxy* had its Latin American premiere at the *Festival Fotogenia* (Mexico City, Mexico) on November 22.

*The Blob* also had its Latin American premiere at the *Light Matter Film Festival* (Buenos Aires, Argentina) on December 6.

*The Blob* and *Eutopsie* were both Official Selections at *Little Scuzzy Film Fest* in Carbondale, Illinois on November 2.

## CINE ALUMNI NEWS

### MONO XVIII FESTIVAL OF CINEMA ARTS

CINE BFA Alums Erin Neitzel, Raine Roberts, and Ray Chang had their work featured in the New York based Cinema Arts Festival MONO XVII.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### INTERNATIONAL FILM SERIES (IFS)

Get a sneak peak at IFS Spring 2025! Some exciting things to look forward to are the Oscar Nominated Shorts, Black History Month, a whole week of interesting documentaries, the return of Animation week, and 7 days of movies that came out at the turn of the century, Y2K!



### FIRST PERSON CINEMA (FPC)

All screenings are in the Visual Arts Complex 1B20 at 7 PM. Admission is free

### Kelly Gallagher

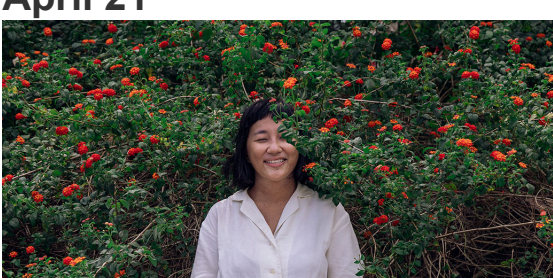
February 17



**Kelly Gallagher** is a filmmaker, animator, and Associate Professor of Film at Syracuse University. She is the recipient of a 2024 Creative Capital award. Her handcrafted films and commissioned animations have screened at venues including: the Museum of Modern Art, the National Gallery of Art, Sundance Film Festival, Tribeca Film Festival, and the Smithsonian Institution. Recent commissioned animations have screened on Netflix and PBS. She's presented solo programs of her work at institutions including: SFMOMA, Close-Up Cinema London, SF Cinematheque, and Wexner Center for the Arts. Kelly enthusiastically organizes and facilitates fun and inclusive film workshops and camps for communities of all ages, from Kentucky to California, from New York to Iowa and beyond.

### Shireen Seno

April 21



**Shireen Seno** is an artist and filmmaker whose work addresses memory, history, and image-making, often in relation to the idea of home. A recipient of the 2018 Thirteen Artists Award from the Cultural Center of the Philippines, she is known for her films which have won awards at Rotterdam, Punto de Vista, Shanghai, Olhar de Cinema, Vladivostok, Jogja-Netpac, and Lima Independent and have screened at New Directors/New Films, Yebisu International Festival of Art & Alternative Visions, Rencontres Internationales Paris/Berlin, and institutions including Tate Modern, UCCA Center for Contemporary Art, Portikus, NTU Center for Contemporary Art Singapore, Taipei National Center for Photography and Images, Museum of the Moving Image, National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art (MMCA), Seoul, Museum of Contemporary Art & Design Manila, and MAIAM Contemporary Art Museum, Chiang Mai. Seno was a 2022 Film Fellow of the DAAD Artists-in-Berlin program and had her first solo exhibition in Europe, *A child dies, a child plays, a woman is born, a woman dies, a bird arrives, a bird flies off* in 2023 at daadgalerie in Berlin. Mostly recently, she was 2023 Visiting Professor for ArteVisione at c/o in Milan.



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