

BIO: ALEX MACKENZIE

WWW.ALEXMACKENZIE.CA



Alex MacKenzie is a Vancouver-based media artist working primarily with 16mm analog film equipment and hand processed imagery. He creates works of expanded cinema, light projection installation, and projector performance. His work has screened at the Rotterdam International Film Festival, the EXiS Experimental Film Festival in Seoul, Lightcone in Paris, Kino Arsenal in Berlin and many other festivals and art spaces worldwide. Alex was the founder and curator of the Edison Electric Gallery of Moving Images, the Blinding Light!! Cinema and the Vancouver Underground Film Festival. He was an artist in residence at Atelier MTK in Grenobles France, the Struts Gallery/Faucet Media in New Brunswick, Cineworks' Analog Film Annex in Vancouver and Daimon in Gatineau. Alex co-edited *Damp: Contemporary Vancouver Media Art* (Anvil Press 2008), and interviewed David Rimmer for *Loop, Print, Fade + Flicker: David Rimmer's*

Moving Images (Anvil Press 2009). Commissions include *Portal*, (Situated Cinema WNDX Winnipeg 2012), *Auroratone: Digitalis* (FilmPop Montreal 2012), *The Film That Buys The Cinema* (Cube Bristol 2013) and *Hyborian Witch* (Wrong Wave/Kensington Gore 2013). Alex is a founding member of the Iris Film Collective in Vancouver.

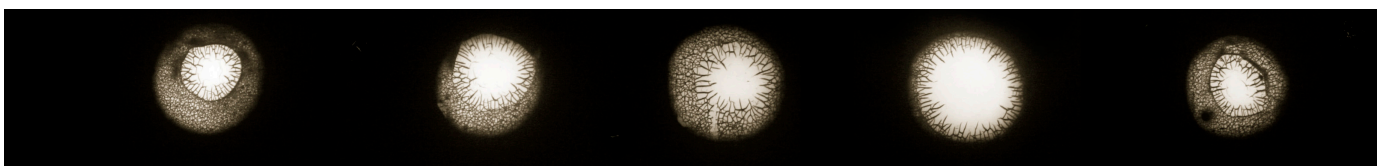
“Alex MacKenzie is the unequivocal master of contemporary Canadian expanded cinema: using rare and outdated technology with the deft touch of a visual alchemist, MacKenzie spins his stunning and mesmerizing anti-narratives using the detritus of cinematic history to create a completely unforgettable, and undeniably powerful, alternate vision.”
Antimatter Film Festival

“MacKenzie is a key player in the revival of expanded cinema forms, having performed an array of super 8 and 16mm multiple projection works over the last twenty-five years. His projects stretch the possibilities of the analogue form, manipulating images to beyond our received expectations.”
Chris Kennedy, *Early Monthly Film Segments* (Toronto)

Phosphene (expanded cinema, 45 minutes, 2018)

“...Alex MacKenzie's two-projector light performance breathes with life as he transforms the image from a simulation of shifting patterns created by optic nerves on the surface of the eye to bursts of illumination and shimmering, vibrating suggestions of emergent form that unite the cosmic with the microscopic. Radiance flows as if like water, enveloping possible micro-organisms, the spark of life at source, moving, growing, expanding outward again, exploding into the burning sun and pulsating as if through circulatory systems of living creatures, all suggestive of heat, energy, vision, uniting inner and outer worlds, all being, the known and the vast unknown, in an ecstatic splendour of light.”

Marilyn Brakhage, programmer, writer, archivist



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