

**Los Angeles Filmforum presents**  
**Alee Peoples: Something Pretending To Be Something Else**  
**Sunday, June 23, 2024, 7:30 pm**  
**At 2220 Arts + Archives**

Los Angeles Filmforum is the city's longest running organization dedicated to weekly screenings of experimental film, documentaries, video art, and experimental animation. 2024 is our 49th year. [www.lafilmforum.org](http://www.lafilmforum.org)

**In person: Alee Peoples**

Please join us for a program celebrating the weirdly transformative power of analog film as we attempt to elevate the mystical ordinary and conjure the ineffable through the work of the one and only Alee Peoples. Although her wide-ranging art practice spans numerous mediums, Los Angeles-based Peoples' filmmaking perhaps crystallizes her various interests and esoteric notions the most vividly. Working predominantly in 16mm, Peoples' films are full of mystery, confusion, surprise, and revelation, weaving an uncanny emotional collage from deceptively simple or seemingly offhand materials that blur the lines between the willfully formal and the radically informal.

Filled with gloriously strange and surprising humanity (and humans), Peoples' films almost play out like conceptual rebuses, employing a deeply familiar yet totally unpredictable language of social, ritual, and quotidian observation. On the surface, her work is funny, unexpected, seductive, and unabashedly and engagingly odd, but the cumulative effect of each film as it unfolds is to materialize a revelatory present tense embodying complex social, political, and philosophical inquiries.

Program and note by Mark Toscano.

**Alee Peoples** maintains a varied artistic practice that involves screen-printing, sewing, sculpture and film. Currently living in Los Angeles, she has taught youth classes at Echo Park Film Center and shown her sculpture and film work at GAIT, elephant and Insert Press. Peoples has shown her films at numerous festivals including Edinburgh, Images (Toronto) and New York Film Festival, and at museums and spaces including SFMoMA, Brooklyn Museum of Art, The Pompidou Center, Dirt Palace (Providence) and The Nightingale (Chicago). Started in 2022, Arroyo Seco Cine Club is a thematically programmed film series she co-curates with Mike Stoltz. She is inspired by pedestrian histories, pop song lyrics and invested in the hand-made.

**Screening:**

**Them Oracles**

2012, 16mm, color with sound, 7:26

A skeptic investigation of what an oracle can be and what it would sound like. Human desire and blind faith allow, and maybe even will, these mystic soothsayers to exist.

**Boys of Summer**

2009, super 8 to video, color and black and white with sound, 12:22

A pop music essay that is both sweet and serious about stereotypical male and juvenile fun.

Tongue-in-cheek objectifying is mixed with cryptic symbols of longing and desire along with a brief history of a fraternal order.

**Non-Stop Beautiful Ladies**

2015, 16mm, color with sound, 9 min.

Non-Stop Beautiful Ladies is a Los Angeles street film starring empty signs, radio from passing cars and human sign spinners, some with a pulse and some without.

**The Root That Ate Roger Williams**

2011, 16mm to video, color w/ sound, 18:16

A documentary of what happened to the remains of Providence, Rhode Island's champion of free religion and a club based on the actual folklore of the root.

**Crowning Glory**

2008, dual super 8 to video, color and sound, 5 min.

Parallel feelings of pride and rebellion. Attempting to resuscitate political icons by remaking them with my own psychic-punk aesthetic to regain personal ownership.

**Decoy**

2017, 16mm, black and white with sound, 10:37

Decoy sees bridges and walls as binary opposites and relates them to impostors in this world. Humans strive for accuracy. You don't always get what you wish for.

**Hey Sweet Pea**

2023, 16mm, color with sound, 11:11,

Parental aging and an existential wave collide together in funny ways. Hey Sweet Pea borrows scenes from the 1984 children's sci-fi movie *The Neverending Story* to process our collective grief.

**Standing Forward Full**

2020, 16mm, color with sound, 5:26

A helter skelter is an amusement ride with a spiral slide built around a tower. Like this film, an exorcism attempt of an unrequited desire, it's either moving too fast or at a complete standstill. Disorienting but exciting.

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This program is supported by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Arts Commission and the Department of Cultural Affairs, City of Los Angeles. We also depend on our members, ticket buyers, and individual donors.

Coming Soon to Los Angeles Filmforum

June 29 matinee – *American Fabulous*, by Reno Dakota

July 28 – *Richland*, by Irene Lustzig

Memberships available, \$40 Student \$75 Individual, \$125 Dual, or \$225 Silver Nitrate

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