

Gravitational Lensing: Feminist Film Dialogues
Program 7: Everyday Sublime
Shapeshifters Cinema, April 19, 2025

***Miss Jesus Fries on Grill* by Dorothy Wiley, 1973, 16mm film, 12:00 mins**

A mysterious, striking evocation of pain and the short-circuiting sensations of living in this predicament of death.

***Freya* by Elisa Gonzalez, 2022, DV, 21:00 mins**

Tethering falconry and motherhood, *Freya* weaves together themes of death and magic, where seasons re-arrange, just as myth and memory are re-cast through a childhood spell.

***Ningun Lugar Para Morir* by Andrea Novoa, 2019, 16mm shown on DV, 14:45 mins**

Ningun Lugar Para Morir begins from an unexpected change of place. Everyday images in a territory with memories of war in southern Chile coexist with those of a childbirth. Light and darkness meet in colors, blacks and whites. The film portrays a forest, a death, and glimmers of light.

* * * INTERMISSION * * *

***Maternal Filigree* by Sandra Davis, 1980, 16mm film, 18:00 mins**

Maternal Filigree began as an exploration of life in the female body, and led me astray. The film finally led me back to the original question. (Sandra Davis)

***Blue Hour* by J.D. Shields, 2023, DV, 15:00 mins**

Two personal journeys intersect when a struggling young photographer is hired for a cheap last minute portrait gig. The unfolding photo session, while transient, leaves an indelible mark on both women.

***An Odd Pair* by Melissa Friedling, 2021, 16mm & 8mm shown on DV, 29:44 mins**

Exploring human/non-human entanglements and (odd) kinships spawned in assisted reproductive technologies, the film tracks a search for the origin of a fugitive pair of birds that landed one day on the filmmaker's fire escape while investigating the circumstances of her own twin pregnancy. The paired studies riff on doubling puns and human/bird analogies while troubling binary formulations that differentially privilege paired concepts like culture/nature, human/animal, intention/accident, success/failure.

<https://shapeshifterscinema.com/gravlens/>