

# GTC Medical Anthropology Film & Discussion Group

## FILM PROGRAMME

Michaelmas Term 2018

*'First do no harm?' Mental Health, Healers and Stigma in Ethnographic Focus*

### **Week 2 (Tuesday 16th October) The Bird Dancer (Robert Lemelson, 2010, 40')**

The Bird Dancer is an ethnographic film about Gusti Ayu Suartini, a young Balinese woman living with Tourette's syndrome. Members of Gusti's small rural community regard her with scorn and pity. Gusti begins to question the meaningfulness of her existence after treatment by western and traditional practitioners fails. The film addresses the profound impact of family and community's acceptance or rejection on the life course of persons living with a neuropsychiatric disorder.

### **Week 4 (Tuesday 30<sup>st</sup> October) Sal Anderson presents her film: The Wounded Healer (Sal Anderson, 2017, 30').**

The Wounded healer is a documentary film about Dr Ahmed Hankir, a psychiatrist with first-hand experience of mental health problems. 'Stigma is killing people' Dr Ahmed Hankir says in his passionate crusade fighting for those with mental health issues. Through his personal journey in a life as both 'the wounded' and 'the healer' the film takes us into the subjective experience of 'The Wounded Healer' and Hankir's moving campaign to fight stigma.

After working at the Natural History Museum in Paris and a career producing and directing a number of films, Sal Anderson is now Reader in Film at University of the Arts London

### **Week 6 (Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November) Susan Young presents two short autoethnographic films, 'It Started With a Murder,' (Susan Young, 2013, 2' 50'') and 'The Betrayal' (Susan Young, 2015, 5' 40'').**

In 'It Started With A Murder' a man tries to murder his wife. Memories of the event are explored through the juxtaposition of images of light, flesh, blood and legal documents in this silent film. In 'The Betrayal' a woman trusts her psychiatrist, but becomes enmeshed in his prescriptive web. Terrified of her doctor, and in despair at the possibility of escape, she sees only one way out. At its dark heart, The Betrayal is a twisted, deadly love affair.

Susan Young is a BAFTA-nominated animation director. She is currently working on a PhD at the Royal College of Art, London concerned with animation's capacity as a medium for processing psychological trauma.

### **Week 8 (Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November) Dead When I got here (Mark Aitkin, 2015, 72')**

Josué was mentally deranged, malnourished, and unable to walk. The police dumped him in a mental asylum run by its own patients in Juárez, Mexico. Assisted by patients employing empathy as the only means of survival, Josué transcended certain death by discovering compassion in his darkest hours. Six years later, Josué manages the asylum.

GTC Medical anthropology Film and Discussion Group

Tuesdays 3.30-5pm

GTC Barclay Room (Weeks 2,4,6 and 8)

ALL WELCOME

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