

LOVE AND ART

ARTE Sales and Bonne compagnie present
a collection of 26' documentaries

Imagined by Stéphane Colaux François Landesman

Directed by Delphine Deloge

10/ Amedeo Modigliani & Jeanne Hébuterne
9/ Claude Cahun & Marcel Moore
8/ Jean Cocteau & Jean Marais
7/ Edvard Munch & Tulla Larsen
6/ Salvador Dali & Gala 1/1
5/ François-Xavier & Claude Lalanne
4/ Les Delaunay
3/ Berthe Morisot & Édouard Manet
2/ Gerda Taro & Robert Capa
1/ Lee Miller & Man Ray



INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Romantic encounters give meaning to serendipity, turning circumstances into coincidences. They leave a trace, a before, and after, and when fate unites two artists, their emotions leave a imprint on each one of them and on their creation.

The documentary collection *“Love and Art”* tells the story of intimate and tumultuous love stories in the light of art history. The viewer enters intimate artistic collaboration driven by romantic intrigue.

Love stories through a fascinating detour bring us to discover and rediscover artists’ lives and **the art works that are born of their romantic encounters**. They are a filter through which one rediscovers a page of art history, an artistic movement or a moment in time.

They tell us about **Man Ray’s** obsession as his metronome ticked away as time went by, in the absence of his beloved, turning the silence of his absent muse and companion **Lee Miller**, into noise.

They will lead us in the footsteps of the **Delaunays**, **Edvard Munch** and **Tulla Larsen**, but also **Gerda Taro** and **Robert Capa** who together photographed the Spanish War, in a romantic, political and artistic communion.

Love stories become an excuse for telling the story of these artists, their neuroses, their narcissism, confronting them to their duality, their double, their other.

Each one of the couples of this collection brings an answer to one same question: **are love and creation compatible?** Do romantic bonds help artists surpass themselves? Does love give a new impetus to art?

Some evolve towards new creative possibilities while others come to a romantic standstill, but each couple exhibits its art works and strives to reach a perilous equilibrium between love and creation.



THE NARRATION

ROMANTIC INTRIGUE IS AT THE HEART OF THE NARRATION

A detached and factual voice similar to that of the commentator which recites the prologue opening *Antigone* by Jean Anouilh.

A neutral and almighty voice speaks in the past tense, in the same way as Madame Jouve, the narrator of *The Woman Next Door* by François Truffaut. The voice immediately captures our attention. It points us towards our own destiny and fate, our own personal narrative as it is our own medium of expression.

In **“*Love and Art*”**, the main narrator’s voice is **slightly removed**, distant and enigmatic even though the narrator knows the story from beginning to end. The viewer is kept on tenter hooks, caught up in the suspense of the intrigue of a love story that is progressively revealed. The voice knows the final outcome of the story and is a **character in itself**. Addressing the viewer directly, it speaks in a **neutral and benevolent tone** about these couples. It tells us their story without bias, about their love story, their work, and about them.

The second narrator’s voice is that of emotion. It is the voice of an actor who brings life intimate texts, romantic correspondences, manuscripts and work notes which embody the artistic and romantic collaboration of the couple. **It is the voice of the artists.**



VISUAL TREATMENT

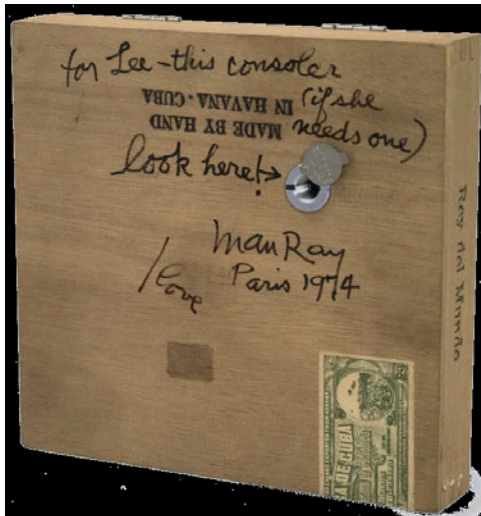
FROM A FICTIONAL RESTITUTION TO AN ARCHIVE DOCUMENTARY

THE AMATEUR FILM ARCHIVES

We wish to **recreate and convey the spirit of the places**, scenes and dramas of each of these love stories by using amateur archives. The archives are not directly linked to the artists but to their environment, the cafes they frequented, the neighborhoods and artist studios... places that were often filmed by amateurs. These archives have an authenticity that "official" archives lack. They allow us to **capture the intimate side of the story**. This narrator, in a voyeuristic approach, is committed to revealing their secrets and their creative process.

ENHANCING THE VIEWER'S EXPERIENCE WITH DIGITAL ANIMATION OF WORKS

Digital animation brings the viewer directly into the heart of the art works: we see artistic resemblances between the works, mutual inspirations between artists; we walk inside a photography, looking for clues and details that we would notice in the context



of a love story. **The motion design techniques give additional texture to this inquisitive voice.** Small details become visible and a new light is cast on the works. There is for example a photography of a trivial, daily love scene in which Man Ray wears a simple bathrobe, sublimated by Lee Miller's lens. But there is a photo within the photo, a *mise en abyme*, of the couple in its early days : in the background, hanging on the closet door, Man Ray's famous portrait of Lee Miller is turned, through her own lens, into a simple detail of everyday life.

ANIMATIONS AND PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPOSITIONS

Graphic animation sequences based on art works, archives and illustrations play an important role in the story. They bring context to the works in a given scene and at key moments of their creation.

The couple is staged through the **animation of photographic portraits** which give life to each protagonist. This collection reveals the lack of footage on artists' daily life, experiences and romantic stories. To overcome this, a collage from various photographic portraits will animate different sequences. **Combined with amateur archive images, this process will give an extra touch of subjectivity** and vitality to our reconstitution of the artists' career.

Man Ray and Lee Miller's discovery of the solarization process is captured in amateur archive films from a photographic development laboratory in the 1930s: the silhouettes of Man Ray and Lee Miller at work are embedded in the images.

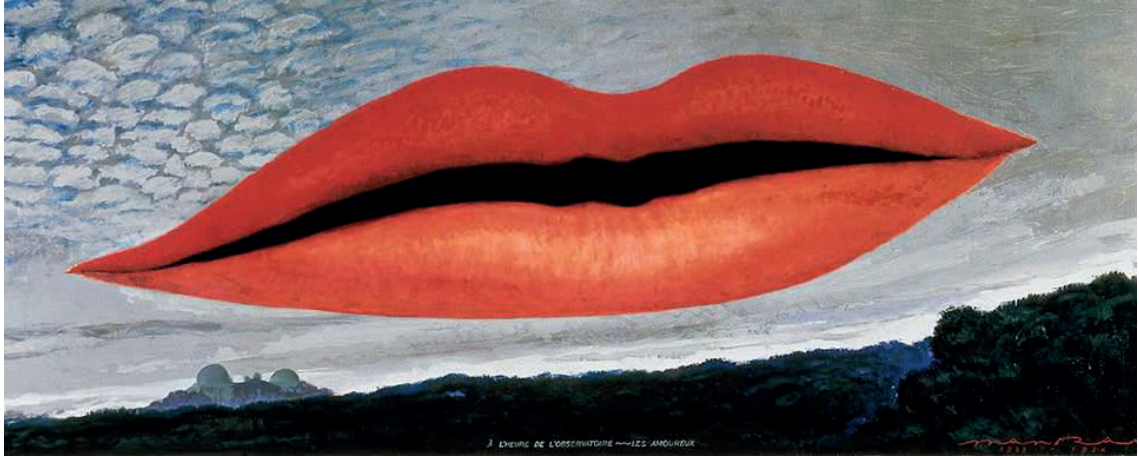
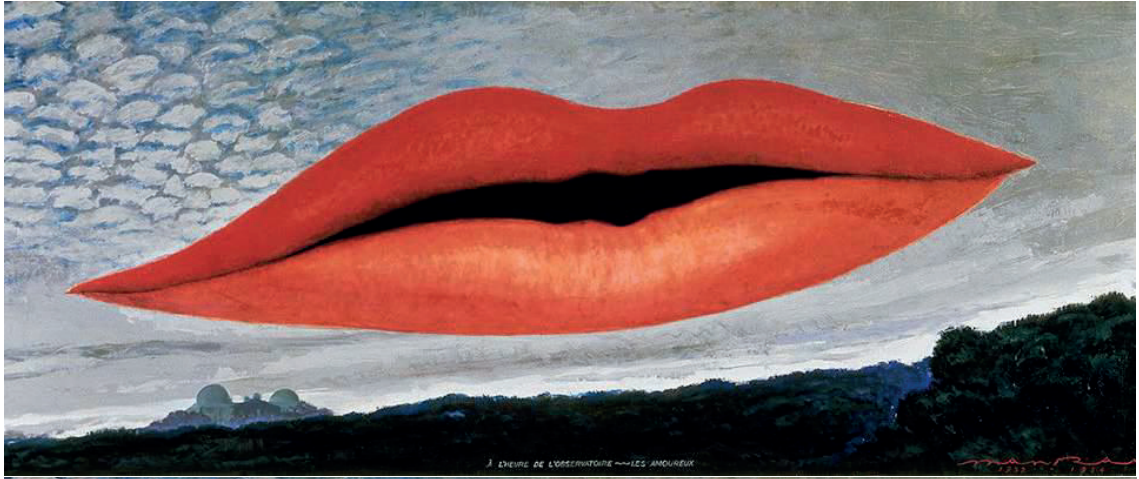
These photographic compositions and animation sequences provide texture and rhythm to those the passages in which the narrator analyses the artists' work.

ANIMATION PROCESSES THAT GIVE AN ARTISTIC IDENTITY TO EACH EPISODE

Finally, "filters" will help animate the works, using the artist couple's signature or that of the artistic movement which they belong. Each episode becomes an **artistic object in its own right** where one can find the soul of an era and the special touch of the artist.

For Man Ray and Lee Miller, the effects of animated collages in stop motion echo the surrealist movement in which they used to evolve. For Pablo Picasso and Dora Maar, the blue period that marked the painter's creations during his relationship with Dora, taint some amateur film archives in the most impromptu way.

The deliberate staging choices of this animation give an artistic signature to the narrator's story. While the tone remains neutral, the images, the animation and the staging choices strengthen the presence of the narrator's voice which impregnates the visual process and transforms each episode into an artistic object in its own right. Each episode of the collection is an original composition with its own graphic and artistic identity.



THE COUPLES OF THE COLLECTION

This is a non-exhaustive list of 26-minute episodes, which will be reworked in the light of our collaboration with Robert Rocca and Dominique Marny, curators of *the exhibition on the mythical artist couples programmed for 2019 at the Montmartre Museum*. Robert Rocca will for example give us access to the private archives of Jean Cocteau's granddaughter as early as September.

EPISODE 1

AMEDEO MODIGLIANI AND JEANNE HÉBUTERNE / DEATH AT THE END OF THE PAINT BRUSH

EPISODE 2

LEE MILLER AND MAN RAY / SURREALIST LOVE

EPISODE 3

ROBERT CAPA AND GERDA TARO / PHOTOGRAPHY OF LOVE AND TEARS

EPISODE 4

GEORGIA O'KEEFFE AND ALFRED STIEGLITZ / TIMELESS LOVE

EPISODE 5

PAULA MODERSOHN-BECKER AND OTTO MODERSOHN.

DELPHINE DELOGET

Author-filmmaker

A winner of **Albert Londres prize**, of the *Villa Medici Hors les Murs prize* and the *Beaumarchais Foundation prize*, Delphine Deloget works as a documentary filmmaker and reporter all around the world.

Her films have been broadcast on different channels. They have been selected and awarded in festivals in France and abroad. Her first short fiction film won the **CNC Quality Award**.



arteSALES

Céline Payot-Lehmann

Head of International Distribution

c-payot-lehmann@arteFrance.fr

Audrey Kamga

Sales Manager

Territories: Canada, Ireland, MENA region,
Portugal, South America, Spain,
UK and USA
Worldwide Inflight

a-kamga@arteFrance.fr

Isabelle Monteil

Sales Manager

Territories: Asia, Greece
Oceania, Africa,
Language versions

i-monteil@arteFrance.fr

Franka Schwabe

Sales Manager

Territories: Austria, Belgium, France,
Germany, Scandinavia, Iceland,
Switzerland, Netherlands

f-schwabe@arteFrance.fr

Sophie Soghomonian

Sales Manager

Territories: Eastern Europe,
Israel, Russia,
Worldwide Non-Theatrical Rights

s-soghomonian@arteFrance.fr

Florent Rocchi

Sales Assistant

f-rocchi@arteFrance.fr