FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Emily Harvey Foundation is proud to present

Virginia Dwan,
Filmmaker, Videographer, and Film Producer

Monday November 25 – Saturday November 30th – 1 to 7 pm

Reception Tuesday November 26 – 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Emily Harvey Foundation Gallery
537 Broadway – 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10012

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Virginia Dwan, is widely known as a legendary art dealer of the 60's and 70's avant-garde. Her famous Dwan Gallery (1959-1972) was a pioneering force for the American movements of Conceptual Art, Minimal Art and Land Art. But little is Dwan known as a filmmaker, videographer, and film producer. From November 25th until November 30th, The Emily Harvey Foundation presents three films by Virginia Dwan. Screened simultaneously, each film reveals Dwan's personal fascination with repetition and seriality and her continued commitment to exploration of process.

Sturtevant: *Various Beuys Actions,* 1972

16mm flm- DVD transfer – B & W 23:15
Directed and Produced by Virginia Dwan
Filmed by Robert Fiore
Performed by Sturtevant

Sturtevant: Various Beuys Actions was included in the artist's 1973 solo exhibition at the Everson Museum in Syracuse, New York. A large portion of the exhibition was devoted to the work of Joseph Beuys, whose work was largely unknown in the US at that time.

Sturtevant has written: *'It is imperative that I see, know, and visually implant every work that I attempt. Photographs are not taken and catalogues [are] used only to check size and scale. The work is done predominantly from memory, using the same techniques, making the same errors and thus coming out in the same place. The dilemma is that technique is crucial but not important.' 1*

In Study for *Various Beuys Actions,* the memory employed is that of Virginia Dwan who directs Sturtevant through Beuys's actions based on her memory of having seen them performed by Beuys.

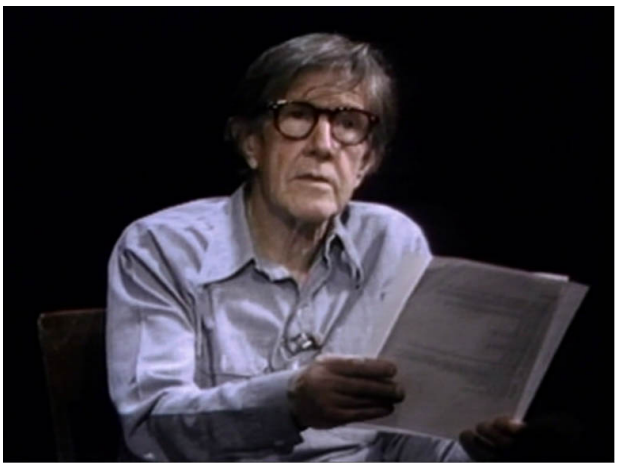
1 Sturtevant, 'Interior Visibilities', Magritte, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Quebec, 1997, p. 124

Carl Andre: *Reconfiguration*, 1976

Video – DVD transfer - 43:00
Filmed, and Produced by Virginia Dwan

In 1976 at the close of the exhibition *ROOMS,* at PS1 in Long Island City, Carl Andre "reconfigures" the concrete bricks from his uninstalled work to establish a new configuration for the making of Dwan's film. Here Dwan captures the repetitive, arduous, precision process employed by the artist to complete his work.

The same year Dwan makes another video of the artist, *Carl Andre: A Video Portrait*



John Cage: J*ames Joyce, Marcel Duchamp, Eric Satie, An Alphabet,* 1982

Video – DVD transfer – Color, 1:10:45
Produced and Conceived by Virginia Dwan
Directed by Barry Harris

This is the first of a 2-part film about John Cage. Part-2 follows Cage's reading of .... *An Alphabet* with an interview that Dwan conducts with the author.

John Cage's *James Joyce, Marcel Duchamp, Erik Satie: An Alphabet* was originally commissioned as a radio play for broadcast by Klaus Schöning and Cologne's West German Radio (WDR). Later that same year, Dwan asks Cage to read the play for the film she makes about him.

As an introductory preface to the play, Cage describes the process of "chance operations" he employs to write his play.

> *... I used the twenty-six letters of the alphabet and chance operations to locate facing pages of an unabridged dictionary upon which I found the nonsentient beings which are the stage properties of the various scenes…that follow. For the sentient beings, the other actors, I also used the alphabet, but only rarely as a means of finding a person I didn't know in an encyclopedia.*

http://johncage.org/pp/John-Cage-Work-Detail.cfm?work_ID=316