

Mama Lou and Black Skin, White Masks by Maybelle Peters Programme Notes

About the Animator:

West London-born Maybelle Peters studied animation at the West Surrey College of Art and Design, where she completed A Lesson in History (1990), later broadcast on television as part of BBC2's 10X10 series, and Black Skin, White Masks (1991); upon graduating she directed a film for Channel 4, Mama Lou (1994). Through her work she has explored personal histories, family life and a person's interpretation of events.

About the Films:

Mama Lou (1994) 6 mins

Model animation around a blues singer entering her dressing room between acts in her performance. She is visited by the ghost of her grandmother, Mama Lou, who reminds her of the history of women blues singers.

Black Skin, White Masks (1991)

Black Skin, White Masks was a response to two books by Frantz Fanon: The Wretched of the Earth and Black Skin, White Masks. It was Mayvelle's graduation film and like A Lesson in History, and was shot on 16mm. I had become very influenced by Jan Svankmajer, African masks and the multiplane.

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