

The Magic of Nina Menkes Comes to New York

Written by Chloe Nguyen | March 2012

Photographed by Ian Morrison



As an experimental and independent filmmaker, Nina Menkes has stayed true to her craft without compromising her avant-garde approach and vision. In a bi-coastal celebration of Menkes and her collection of hauntingly poetic films, the UCLA Film Archives in Los Angeles and the Anthology Film Archives in New York present “Cinema as Sorcery,” a comprehensive retrospective dedicated to her work. From March 9th to 16th, admirers of Menkes and advocates of radical cinema have the opportunity to view her two early short films, *A Soft Warrior* (1981) and *The Great Sadness of Zohara* (1983), as well as her feature films, which include *Magdalena Viraga* (1986), *Queen of Diamonds* (1991), *The Bloody Child* (1996), *Massaker* (2004), and *Phantom Love* (2007) at the Anthology Film Archives in NYC. Additionally, Menkes’ most recent feature film *Dissolution*, an exploration of the brutality that plagues contemporary Israeli society, will be screened throughout the week. Single-handedly producing, writing, directing, shooting, and editing each one of her features, Menkes likens her filmmaking process to sorcery and rightfully so for her films behave like magic spells on viewers.

Stay tuned for more on Menkes and her bewitching work in our upcoming issue.