Chantal Akerman
A Family in Brussels
Thursday–Saturday, October 11–13, 2001 6:30 pm
Sunday, October 14, 2001 5 pm
selected general bibliography, alphabetical


selected interviews, chronological


Renowned filmmaker Chantal Akerman presents *A Family in Brussels* (1998), a stream-of-consciousness text, laced with autobiographical references, which encompasses multiple subjectivities. This is the first English-language production of this work, which Akerman wrote and performed as a monologue in Paris and Brussels.

Chantal Akerman was born in Brussels, Belgium, in 1950. In the early 1970s, when she was living in New York, she encountered the experimental cinema of Jonas Mekas, Michael Snow, and Andy Warhol. Employing similar approaches—with lingering shots, minimal dialogue, deserted spaces, and symmetry—her films explore such themes as the passage of time and ritualistic behaviors. In 1968, Akerman, aged eighteen, made her first short film, *Saute ma ville*, inspired by Jean Luc Godard’s film *Pierrot Le Fou*. Her many other films include *Hôtel Monterey* (1972), one of two short films she made during her first trip to New York; *Je, tu, il, elle* (1974), her first feature-length film, which is now considered a classic in its exploration of female desire; *Jeanne Dielman, 23 Quai du Commerce, 1080 Brussels* (1975), her most celebrated work; *Toute une nuit* (1982); *Nuit et jour* (1991); *Portrait d’une jeune fille de la fin des années 60 à Bruxelles* (1993); *Un divan à New York* (1996); *Sud* (1999); and the recent feature film *La Captive* (2000), based on one part of Marcel Proust’s *À la recherche du temps perdu*. Akerman exhibited *D’Est* (1993), a multiprojection portrait of Eastern Europe, at the Jewish Museum in New York in 1997. She was included in the 2001 Venice Biennale; the XVI International Video and Multimedia Arts Festival at the Musée d’art moderne de la ville de Paris in 2001; and the Media City Seoul 2000 biennial, in Korea. Akerman lives and works in Paris.

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