

# WHITNEY

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# MEDIA ALERT

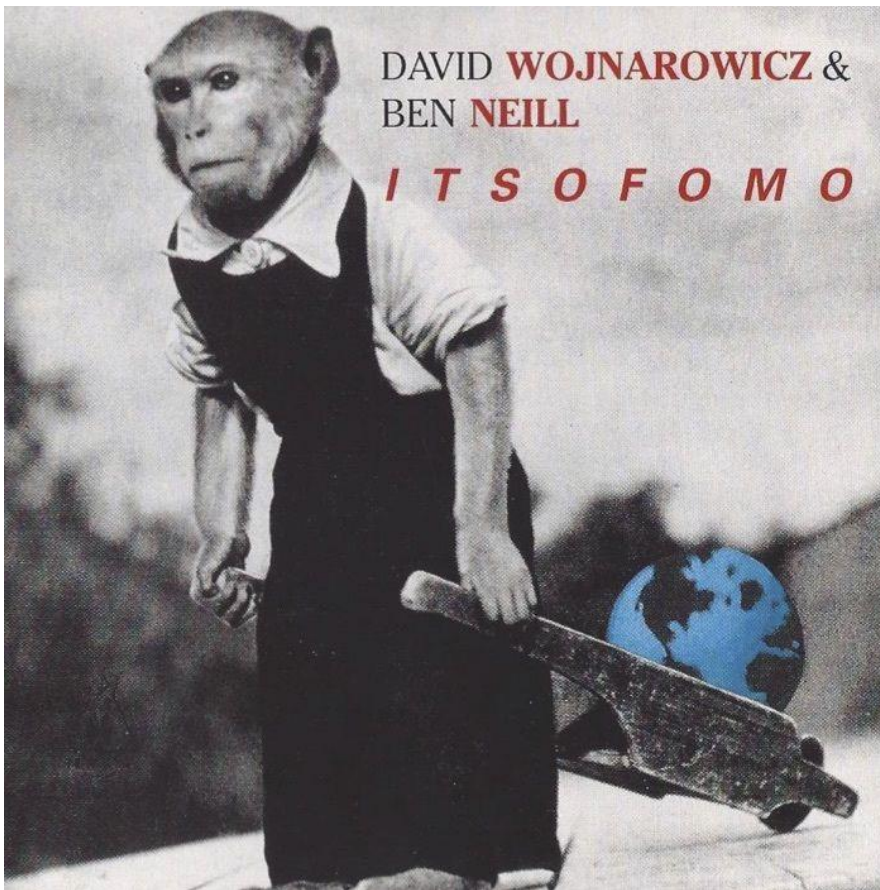


Photo Courtesy Ben Neill

## **TWO EVENTS IN CONJUNCTION WITH DAVID WOJNAROWICZ'S RETROSPECTIVE: THE LEGENDARY PERFORMANCE WORK ITSOFOMO AND AN ENCORE SCREENING OF NEW FILM ABOUT THE ARTIST**

**NEW YORK, August 29, 2018**—This September, the Whitney will mount two major public programs in connection with the retrospective *David Wojnarowicz: History Keeps Me Awake at Night*, on view at the Whitney through September 30, 2018.

### **ITSOFOMO (In the Shadow of Forward Motion)**

Friday, September 14 at 8 pm  
Saturday, September 15 at 8 pm  
Sunday, September 16 at 4 pm

Floor 3, Susan and John Hess Family Theater

The Whitney will present three performances of Wojnarowicz's legendary multimedia work *ITSOFOMO (In the Shadow of Forward Motion)*, made in collaboration with composer and musician Ben Neill. The work debuted at The Kitchen in 1989 and has not been performed live in New York in twenty-five years. *ITSOFOMO* integrates music, text, and video in a multi-dimensional format that embodies acceleration and its sensory manifestations. It is within this framework that Wojnarowicz addressed the acceleration of the AIDS crisis and confronted the politics of AIDS in the U.S. For this presentation, Ben Neill and the percussionist Don Yallech, who played alongside Neill and Wojnarowicz in 1989, will revisit this fierce meditation on history and power.

Tickets are required and are \$25 for adults, \$18 for students and seniors, and free for members.

## **Self-Portrait in 23 Rounds: A Chapter in David Wojnarowicz's Life 1989-1991**

Sunday, September 23 at 7 pm

Floor 3, Susan and John Hess Family Gallery and Theater

*"Marion Scemama has used her unique access to David Wojnarowicz to create a remarkable look into his inner life and artistic process. Fans of the artist will not want to miss Self Portrait in 23 Rounds."* – Cynthia Carr, author of Wojnarowicz's authoritative biography, *Fire in the Belly: The Life and Times of David Wojnarowicz*

The Whitney will present an encore screening of *Self-Portrait in 23 Rounds: A Chapter in David Wojnarowicz's Life 1989-1991*, which premiered at the Museum this July. A portrait of David Wojnarowicz's life and work, this film by Marion Scemama is based on a five-hour interview with Wojnarowicz conducted by Sylvère Lotringer in 1989.

Following the screening, Marion Scemama will speak about her relationship with Wojnarowicz and the making of the film with David Breslin, co-curator of *David Wojnarowicz: History Keeps Me Awake at Night* and De Martini Family Director of the Collection.

Tickets are required and are \$10 for adults, \$8 for students and seniors, and free for members.

### **Exhibition Support**

Major Support for *David Wojnarowicz: History Keeps Me Awake at Night* is provided by the Ford Foundation; The Thompson Family Foundation, Inc.; and The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

Significant support is provided by The Keith Haring Foundation Exhibition Fund, Brooke and Daniel Neidich, the Trellis Fund, and the Whitney's National Committee.

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Additional support is provided by James E. Cottrell and Joseph F. Lovett, the Daniel W. Dietrich II Foundation, and Gregory R. Miller and Michael Wiener.

### **About the Whitney**

The core of the Whitney's mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit American art of our time and serve a wide variety of audiences in celebration of the complexity and diversity of art and culture in the United States. Through this mission and a steadfast commitment to artists themselves, the Whitney has long been a powerful force in support of modern and contemporary art and continues to help define what is innovative and influential in American art today.

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