

Electrified Shadow Pictures:

Alexandre Estrela in 16 & semi-16 mm

An Evening With Alexandre Estrela

Modern Mondays

The Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 2, MoMA, NY

7.00 pm, November 6, 2023













The Ultimate Relaxing Experience

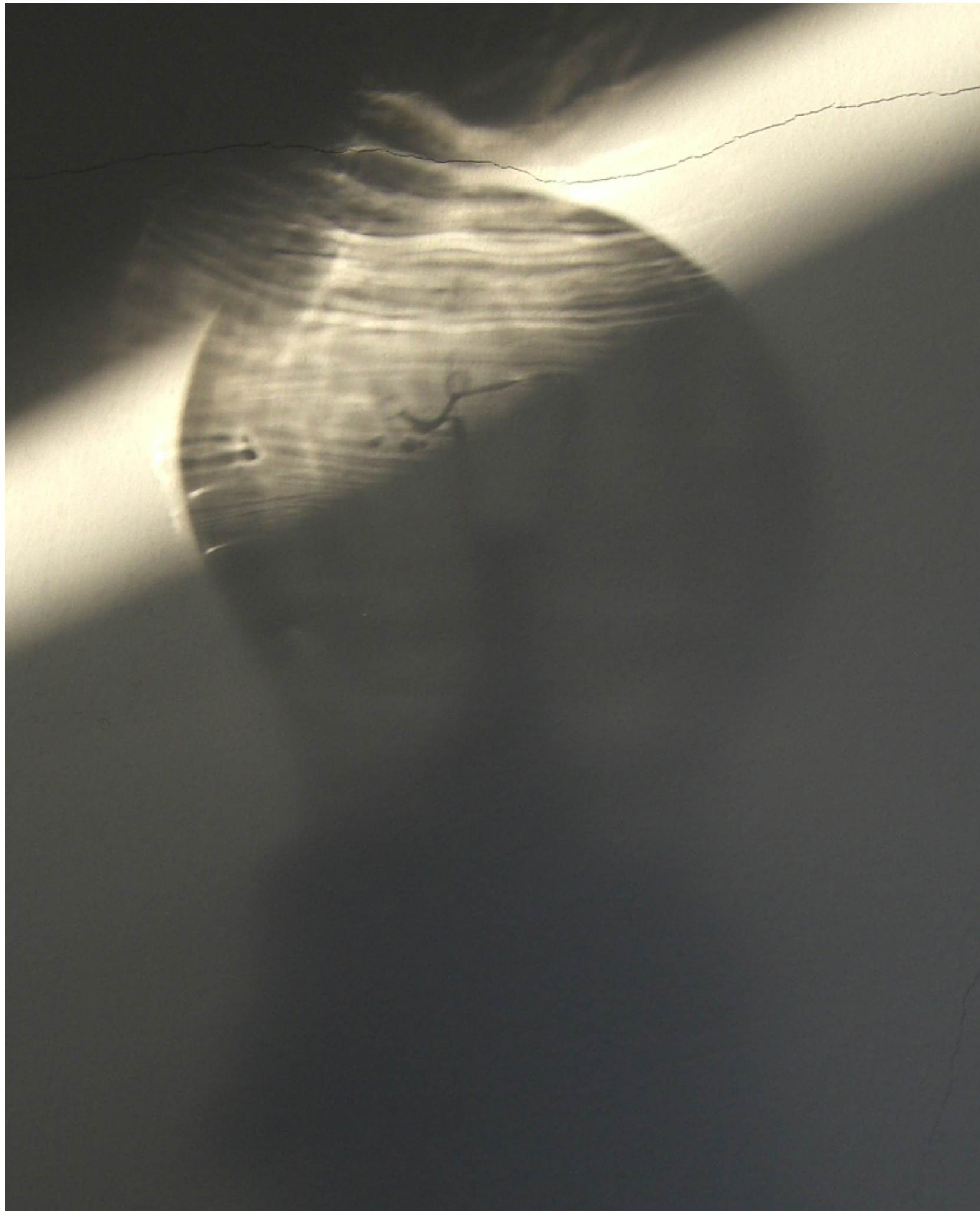
2006

Sound installation

Sound: aiff file, loop, stereo; mastered by Fernando Fadigas

Synopsis

Audio samples of joint-cracking, recorded during various chiropractic sessions, were assembled to sound like the soothing crackling sound of an open fire.



Dianying

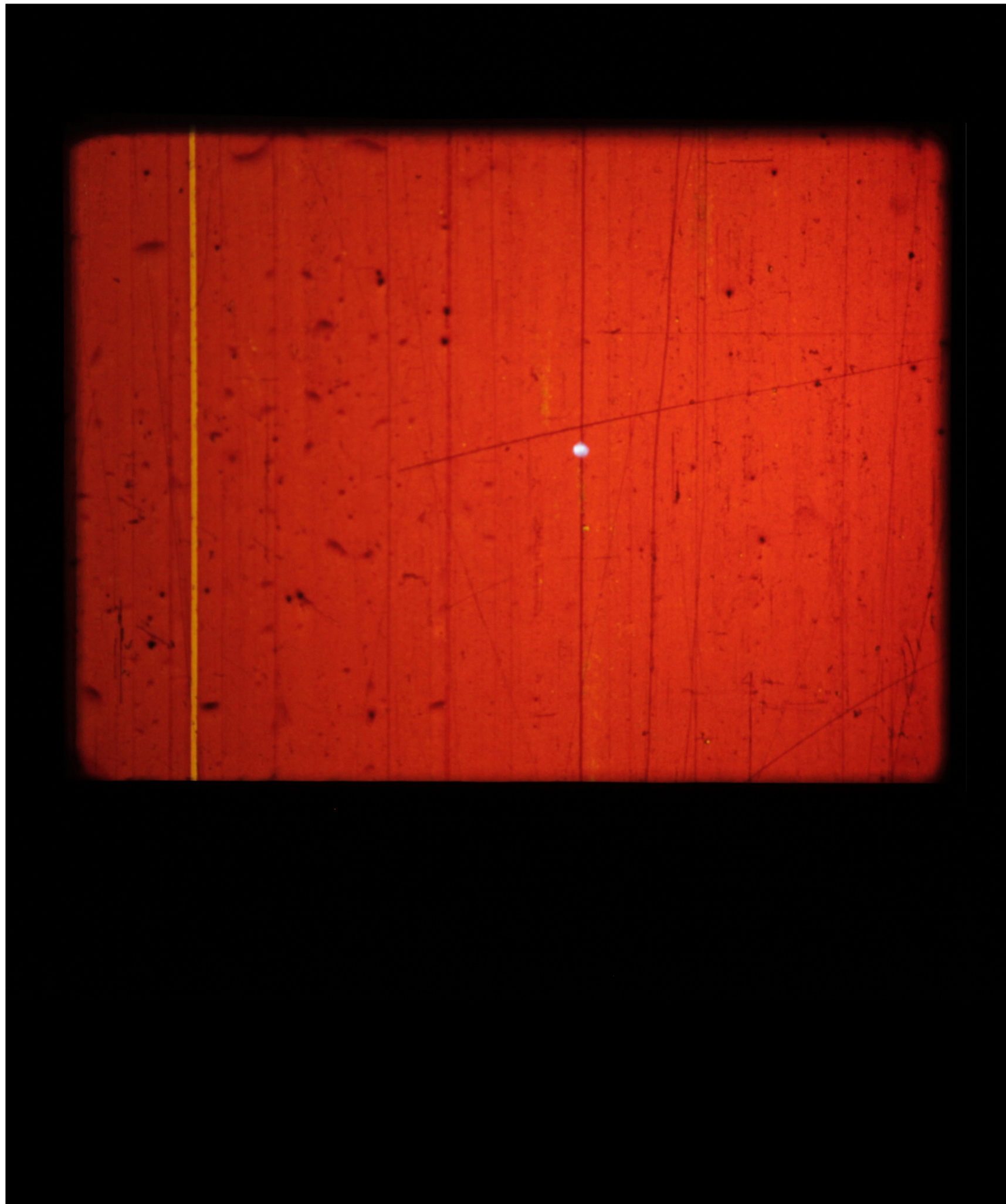
2007

16 mm, color, loop, no sound

Variable dimensions

Synopsis

Dianying is the Mandarin Chinese word for film; meaning electrified shadow picture.



Viagem ao Meio

2010

Superimposed 16 mm film and video projection, two hours, stereo sound; a two-storey bench as long as the film projection cone.

Variable dimensions

Synopsis:

In Sete Cidades (the Azores islands), a twelve-hundred metre tunnel was excavated through the wall of a volcano to avoid floodings. *Viagem ao Meio* [Journey to the Core or to the middle] simultaneously presents a camera-less film made through direct exposure of a six-hundred metre reel of unexposed 16 mm positive film, unwound from the centre of the tunnel towards its entrance; and a two-hour video: a first-person recording of the crossing of the whole tunnel where a small floating light (the end of the tunnel) can be seen in the image for most of the video's length. The film and video projections are superimposed on the same screen. The film provides an indexical and metric reading of the video; whilst the video provides a vanishing point to the structuralist light experience of the film. The video records the entire tunnel, but the film only goes to the centre. When the reel comes to an end in the middle of the video's journey, the film is played in reverse, ascribing to the piece a symmetrical structure. The sound was recorded at the entrance of the tunnel, capturing the reverberations of a sewer valve.

Collections:

Collection Teixeira de Freitas

Galeria Zé dos Bois, Lisbon



Filme Mudo

2007

16 mm, color, loop, no sound

Variable dimensions

Synopsis

There isn't any sound in space, as every good sci-fi film director knows. *Filme mudo* is a 16 mm film which shows a microphone on a boom pole recording the sound of a landscape. No movement is perceivable on the microphone's windscreen-cap, since the film was created by shooting a still image. The lack of real movement in the image leads to the absence of sound, which results in the creation of a silent film.



Inversão Polar

2011

16mm film projection, loop, no sound

Synopsis:

The Greek word *acheiropoieta* denotes an image which is formed without human intervention. Every year, the backyard of a building in Lisbon witnesses a peculiar phenomenon, in which sunbeams pass through a small hole in a tree, projecting a circle on the facade of the nearest building. The resulting effect is not a reflection, but rather a spontaneous image formed by the intervention of a natural camera obscura. This particular setting offers the ideal conditions for the sun to project an image of itself. Like all images produced by means of a camera obscura, this too is an inverted image.

In *Inversão Polar*, this phenomenon was captured on film and reproduced so that the image of the sun is cyclically inverted, thus restoring its original position.