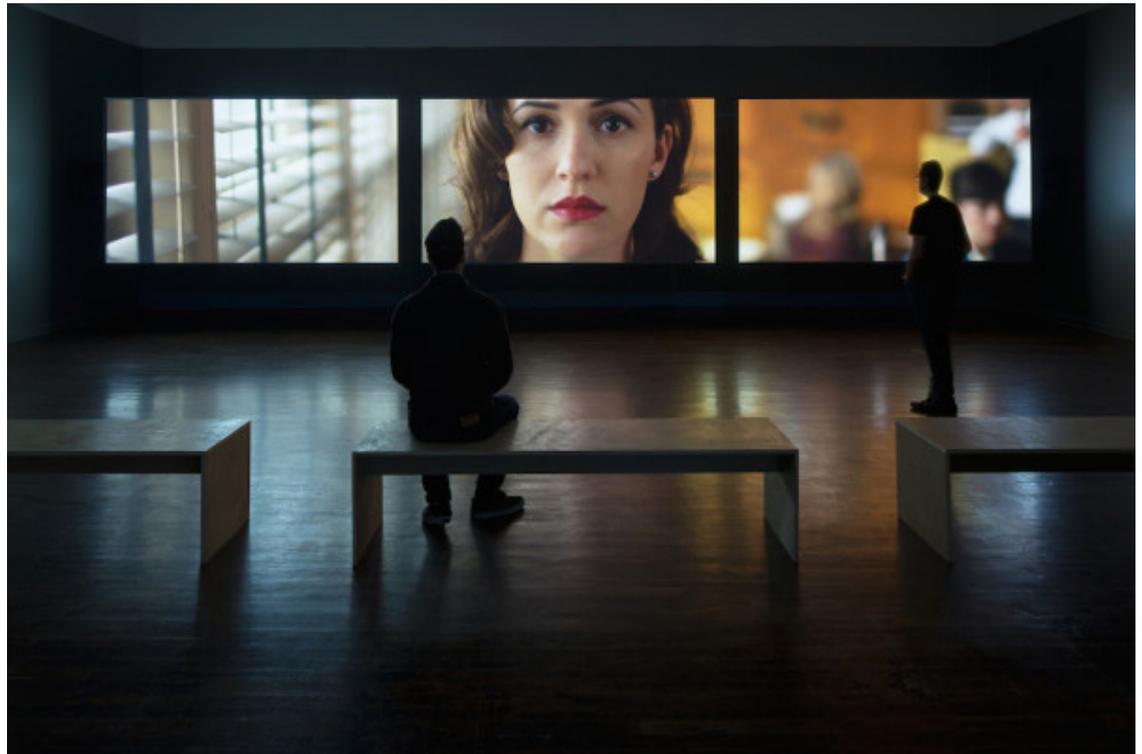


FIND YOUR INNER FILM BUFF IN MARFA

By Jenny Miller – April 24, 2014



It's easy to get lost in the immersive film installations at Ballroom Marfa. Photo: Courtesy of Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York and Lora Reynolds Gallery, Austin

Attend the fourth annual CineMarfa, running May 1 to 4 this year and screening around 20 rare, hard-to-find, or banned films in the Crowley Theater (originally built as a feed store) and other venues around town (free, but register online). On opening night, catch the 1974 flick *Lord of the Universe*, about a 16-year-old guru who tried to levitate the Houston Astrodome; or take in the 1928 Carl Theodor Dreyer work *The Passion of Joan of Arc*, with a score performed live by Cat Power. Later in the summer, check out the Marfa Film Festival, coming up July 2 to 6 (five-day passes from \$275), with an eclectic mix of features, shorts, music videos, experimental pieces, and nightly drive-in-style showings of classics under the stars.

Hit Ballroom Marfa (free admission; \$5 suggested donation), one of the premier arts organizations in town, to view *Sound Speed*

Marker, a video-based exhibit that explores the Southwest as a cinematic site. Through August 10, you can catch the exhibition's three short films, including the 2014 debut of "Giant," a Ballroom Marfa original documentary short that chronicles the decay of the Reata ranch film set, outside of Marfa, which was left neglected for decades after the movie wrapped.

Pop by the Marfa and Presidio County Museum, housed in an attractive onetime bungalow home, to learn about the town and region's history, from the days of Native Americans to early settlers to ranchers and the military presence at Marfa's Fort D.A. Russell, active from WWI to WWII, and nearby Fort Davis. Film buffs will geek out over the collection of photographs offering glimpses of Giant stars like James Dean spending time in town.