



CURRENT PROGRAM

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THE BLUEPRINT PROJECT

ARCHIVES

ABOUT PLEASURE DOME

PUBLICATIONS

PREVIEWS

LINKS

SUBMISSIONS

Saturday, April 8, 8 pm @ MOCCA,
952 Queen St. W.

**"(Mary, Mary) Are these the
hands that cut?"**

***Benefit Screening & Party for Glad
Day Bookshop***

*A co-presentation with Museum of
Contemporary Canadian Art*

The Ontario Film Review Board is addicted to power, and no institution knows this better than Glad Day Bookshop. After an Ontario court ordered the Board to cease their activities when the pioneering gay bookstore successfully appealed their conviction of selling an unclassified porn video, the new Film Classification Act of 2005 not only allowed the Board to continue unabated but effectively broadened their powers of prior restraint. While they pretend that mandatory fees paid by distributors and retailers for the classification of their films is not a form of censorship — which they claim to have abandoned — what else can you call a practice that discriminates against those who can't afford the Board's precious stamp of approval?

Many artist-run centres, including Pleasure Dome, have a policy of refusing to submit the film and video works by artists for prior approval. This is not because of the prohibitive



fees — film festivals have been and continue to be exempt from having to submit work for rating on the condition that they make all of their screenings eighteen and over — but because we firmly believe in artistic freedom and feel that people of all ages should be able to see independent and avant-garde film and video works. All arts organizations should be vigilant watchdogs of the OFRB.

On April 8th, please join us for a benefit program of media art works for the oft-persecuted Glad Day Bookshop — though of course actually patronizing this fine establishment (598A Yonge Street, www.gladdaybookshop.com) would do the most toward easing the pain of their \$100,000 bill for legal fees. By presenting a program of work that confronts the issues of censorship and government control of moving images we want to promote continued awareness to the acts of the current regime. We want to cut back at them. The title of the evening's screening comes from *Snip, Snip* (1981), a hilarious, biting satirical video by Colin Campbell and Rodney Werden. The work colourfully imagines a "cutting party" held by Mary Brown, then head of the Ontario Censor Board, along with some of her concerned friends. Considering that queer work is most often the subject of criminalization, Campbell and Werden's delightfully campy jab at the eagerly snipping censor's hands is the perfect centrepiece to our evening of sharp cinematic protest against the OFRB.

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| SAT. JAN 28, 8PM | SAT. FEB. 11, 8pm | THURS. MAR. 2, 7pm | WED. MAR. 15, 8pm | SUN. MAR. 19, 3pm | FRI. APR. 7, 8pm | SAT. APR. 8, 8pm |
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Pleasure Dome is a year-round film and video exhibition group dedicated to the presentation of experimental film and video. The 2005/2006 Programming Collective is: Scott Berry, Daniel Cockburn, Jon Davies, Claire Eckert, Firoza Elavia, Linda Feese, Graham Hollings, Jean-Paul Kelly, Chris Kennedy, Ben Portis and Michèle Stanley. Tom Taylor is the Program Coordinator. Pleasure Dome acknowledges the support of our members, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council, and the City of Toronto through the Toronto Arts Council.

Pleasure Dome does not submit any of its film and video programming for prior approval by any censoring bodies. We applaud Glad Day Bookstore's successful challenge of the Ontario Film Review Board.

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