Self Love, The Love of Others, Public Displays of Affection

In this course we'll examine the cultural role of the individual, identity, empathy, ego, and collective strategies through a highly subjective and eclectic group of texts and films. As art practitioners, we'll pay close attention to the relations between self, group, and audience; as citizens of the planet we'll extend our dialog to consider our relation (of affinity or difference) to public spaces, animals, and incorporated systems of production. Text selections draw from cultural theory, feminist theory, fiction, artists' writing and criticism.

Self Love
Alain Corbin
The Secret of the Individual

Hillel Schwartz
Self-portraits
from: The Culture of the Copy: Striking Likenesses, Unreasonable Facsimiles, Zone Books, 1996

David Galin
excerpt, The Concepts of “Self,” “Person,” and “I” in Western Psychology and in Buddhism

Barbara Bloom, editor

Ingmar Bergman, director
Persona, 1966, 100min film

The Love of Others
Hillel Schwartz
Second Nature
from: The Culture of the Copy: Striking Likenesses, Unreasonable Facsimiles, Zone Books, 1996

Donna Haraway
excerpt, The Companion Species Manifesto: Dogs, People, and Significant Otherness
Prickly Paradigm Press, 2004

Sally Miller Gearheart
Krueva and the Pony
From: The Wanderground: Stories of the Hill Women
Persephone Press, 1978

Luce Irigaray
When Our Lips Speak Together
from: This Sex Which is Not One
Cornell University Press, 1985
Carolyn Korsmeyer
Feminist Aesthetics
The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, 2004
http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/feminism-aesthetics/

Dan Putnam
Virtue Theory and the Self: Thoughts on Addressing Ethical Egoism in Our Students
University of Wisconsin Manitowoc
http://www.manitowoc.uwc.edu/staff/awhite/dan97.htm

Werner Herzog
Grizzly Man
Film, 2005

Amanda Pope and Jeffrey Hayden
Primary Colors (on the life, work, teaching of Sister Corita Kent)
video, 1993

Pedro Almodovar
All About My Mother, 1999, film

Public Displays of Affection
Michael Warner
The Mass Public and the Mass Subject
from: Publics and Counterpublics
Zone Books, 2002

Nato Thompson
Trespassing Relevance, and illustrative excerpts
from: The Interventionists: Users Manual for the Creative Disruption of Everyday Life
Edited by Nato Thompson and Gregory Sholette
MASS MoCA (Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art), 2004

Harrell Fletcher
Towards A Tender Society
http://www.harrellfletcher.com

Michelle Grabner
Thoughts on Artists’ Collectives
X-Tra v6 i2

Jia Zhang Ke
The World
Film 2004

Agnes Varda
The Gleaners and I
Film, 2000

A look at contemporary artists’ collective and/or interventionist strategies, including: Superflex, GranFury/ActUp, Bank, Harrell Fletcher, N55, Sal Randolph, The Yes Men, The Feminist Studio Workshop/Womanhouse, Critical Art Ensemble, RTMark