

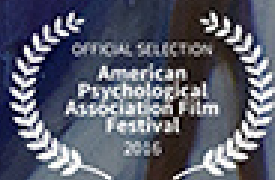
SEE MEMORY

PRESS KIT

See Memory

a film by Viviane Silvera

PAINTED AND DIRECTED BY VIVIANE SILVERA PRODUCED BY JON CORNICK
EDITED BY THOMAS RIVERA MONTES AND MATTHEW CONNELLY



DATA SHEET

SEE MEMORY is a 15-minute animated film about the mind made out of 30,000 hand-painted stills. The film explains our "magical capability" called memory, the essence of what we call "self." Narrator Viviane Silvera describes how memories interact and mingle with imagination, exploring it in shifting layers of imagery with perception interacting with dreams and imagination. The title was inspired by Oliver Sacks' article "Speak, Memory" and narration is based on interviews with neuroscientists and psychiatrists, including Nobelist Eric Kandel.

Directed by: Viviane Silvera

Painted by: Viviane Silvera

Country of Production: United States

Produced by: Jon Cornick

Impact Producers: Evelyn Burke and Lisa Heller

World Premiere: American Psychological Association Film Festival

Genre: Creative Non Fiction

Film Specs: 15-minutes / 16:9 / Stereo / Color

Language: English

Production Company: On Art LLC

Music by: Paul Brill

SYNOPSIS

Logline An artist explores the intimate nature of remembering and new discoveries in the science of memory.

Brief Synopsis SEE MEMORY is a 15-minute film created out of 30,000 hand-painted stills that explores how our memories define who we are, how we remember and the inextricable link between memory and imagination. The title was inspired by Oliver Sacks' essay "Speak, Memory" and narration is based on interviews with neuroscientists and psychiatrists, including Nobel Laureate Eric Kandel.

Full Synopsis SEE MEMORY's main character is a young woman whom we first meet walking through Central Park on a winter's day. She is alone and disconnected, lost within the world of her suffering, unable to decipher reality from dream. She enters the therapy room, and gradually is able to connect with the therapist, who bears witness to her story. She leaves the therapy room and reenters Central Park transformed by the experience of having shared her story. Walking through the same landscape, everything looks and feels completely different.

The action of the film swings between disconnection and connection, with settings taking place between exteriors and interiors: A girl walks through the snowy landscape of Central Park towards therapy; she is isolated in her own thoughts. The therapist awaits her arrival alone in the quiet darkness of the therapy room. The girl and the therapist connect; a relationship is formed between the teller and the listener. Outside and inside start to mingle, snow falls inside the therapy room and flowers float down from the chandelier.

Research in neuroscience has shown that from the moment we recall them, memories are in flux, interacting and mingling with imagination. SEE MEMORY explores this idea in shifting layers of imagery with perception interacting with dreams and imagination.

“SEE MEMORY” PREMIERES AT THE IMAGINE SCIENCE FILM FESTIVAL

NEW YORK, OCTOBER 18, 2016

“SEE MEMORY,” a short film by Viviane Silvera, will have its New York premiere on October 18th at the Imagine Science Film Festival in New York. “SEE MEMORY” is a 15-minute stop motion film made out of 30,000 painting stills. The film explores how our memories define who we are, how we remember, and the inextricable link between memory and imagination.

The title was inspired by Oliver Sacks’ article "Speak, Memory." and narration is based on interviews with neuroscientists and psychiatrists, including Nobelist Eric Kandel. The film explains our "magical capability" called memory, the essence of what we call "self". Narrator Viviane Silvera describes how memories interact and mingle with imagination, exploring it in "shifting layers of imagery with perception interacting with dreams and imagination."

The positive reaction to “SEE MEMORY,” has sparked support for a series currently in development titled "FEEL MEMORY", it will expand upon the themes raised in "SEE MEMORY”.

SEE MEMORY is an On Art LLC production written, produced, painted and directed by Viviane Silvera.

The Labocine and Amazon Video Streamings of SEE MEMORY followed a successful film festival run and outreach program.

Activities to engage communities have included expert panel discussions, on-demand screenings, live performances and YouTube Live sessions.

BIOS & DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Viviane Silvera - Director + Painter

Viviane Silvera works in filmmaking, painting and animation to explore experiences of remembering and scientific discoveries that can change our relationship to memory. She has exhibited her work for 22 years, most recently at Art Basel Miami, Berlin Art Week, the Edward Hopper House, the Albright Knox, Dahesh, and Masur Museums, and El Museo de la Ciudad-Mexico. Her videos have been installed at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, MGM National Harbor, Sarah Lawrence College, University of Mary Washington, The Cube Art Project with



Union Bank, 4Culture Gallery in Pioneer Square, Seattle, Altspace VR (Microsoft's VR Platform), Joe's Pub at the Public Theatre, and Davidson College. She has received numerous grants and awards, including the 2013 Award of Excellence in Painting from the Edward Hopper House, the Chaim Gross, Valerie Delacorte, and Harriet Whitney Frishmuth Awards from the National Academy School of Fine Arts, a Fantasy Foundation Grant, and a Newington Cropsey Grant. Her work is held in the permanent collections of the Clinton Presidential Library & Museum, the Van Every Smith Galleries at Davidson College, Vanderbilt University's "Garden of Great Ideas", the Ziff Davis Corporate Collection and Tribeca Flashpoint Media Academy.

Viviane earned a BS from Tufts University in Political Science and Psychology and an MFA from the New York Academy of Art. She was born in Hong Kong, raised in Brazil and lives and works in New York City.

Viviane Silvera's work:

“ Reflects her wish to contribute to a better understanding of human suffering. I believe she has a unique ability to combine art and science to explore the impact of memory on how we interact in our daily lives and make decisions. Even more impressive is her personal quest to better understand memory and how problems of memory affect each one of us at an emotional and physical level, our essence as human beings. ”

Silvana Riggio M.D, Professor of Psychiatry, Neurology, Human Behavior & Rehabilitation
Mount Sinai Icahn School of Medicine

“ Viviane has an important voice, that needs to be heard. Her work contributes not only to the world of art, but also to the complex interplay of narrative and neuroscience. SEE MEMORY blends art, therapy and science seamlessly, and is not only a work of beauty, but is in itself a tool, for stimulating memory, and grasping this enormous aspect of humanity in a unique and multidimensional way. Her work contributes not only to the world of art, but also to the complex interplay of narrative and neuroscience. ”

Paul Browde, M.D, Psychiatrist, Narrative Medicine Faculty,
Columbia University

Jon Cornick - Producer

Jon is an Emmy-nominated film and television producer. He was executive producer of State and Maine by David Mamet, The Scarlett Letter starring Demi Moore and Nuremberg starring Alec Baldwin, for which he won the Gemini award for outstanding mini series. Jon formed the production company El Dorado Pictures with Alec Baldwin and has worked with Sir Anthony Hopkins, Christopher Plummer, Gary Oldman, Demi Moore, Robert Duvall,



Dennis Hopper, Blake Lively and Burt Reynolds on many other films. His most recent release is the feature film Bolden with executive producer Wynton Marsalis. Jon is a member of the Directors Guild of America and is an avid photographer.

Thomas Rivera Montes - Editor

Thomas edited 'Swarm Season' (Grasshopper Film), '7 Days Out' (Netflix), 'Bronx Gothic' (Grasshopper Film) & 'The Gospel According to Andre' (Magnolia Pictures), a documentary feature about Vogue editor Andre Leon Talley. Films have been exhibited at the Toronto International Film Festival, Tribeca Film Festival, CPH: DOX, Palm Springs International Film Festival, Art of the Real, Maryland Film Festival, Sheffield Doc Fest, Maysles Cinema & the Chicago Museum of Art.



VIDEOS AND LINKS

The trailer for SEE MEMORY:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p2EIB7L3awA>

Viviane's Talk at the Friedman Brain Institute:

<https://vimeo.com/462596249>

Viviane's Talk at the University of Sao Paulo:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7K3K_Zd_jiE&feature=youtu.be

About Viviane's new series FEEL MEMORY:

<https://vimeo.com/223531503>

Paul Brill - Composer

Paul has received 3 Emmy Award Nominations for his scores for the films, “Full Battle Rattle” (National Geographic), “The Devil Came on Horseback” (Break Thru Films), and “The Trials of Darryl Hunt” (HBO), which was hailed by Variety as “memorably chilling, sounding notes of purest dread.” Young American Recordings notably released the Hunt soundtrack, curated by Brill, featuring selections from his score and original contributions by Andrew Bird, M. Ward,



The Last Poets, Dead Prez, Califone, and Mark Kozelek among many others. Paul won the first-ever Best Music Award from the International Documentary Association for his score for the film, “Better this World.” He was recently nominated for a Golden Reel Award for his work on the hit Netflix docuseries, “Bobby Kennedy for President.”

Sound Designer - James Guastaferrro

James is founding member of the NYC indie electronic band Tones From The Underground with which he released four albums. He has scored or had his music used in “The Last Ghost of War” and “Behati Supreme” and his songs are used by choreographers in performances at Alvin Alley, Bryant Park, Jacob’s Pillow, Flushing Town Hall and the NYC based dance company Barkin/Sellisen Project.



SCREENING SERIES

“The Elastic Mind”
Broward College
April 20 - September 28, 2023

“Memory and Techne”
The Helix Center
March 18, 2023, 2.30pm

“Time Away From Time”
Art Basel Miami
December, 2022

“Memory Without Walls”
Berlin Art Week x Mauer Digital
Berlin, DE, September 2022

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Seattle, WA
February 2019 - January 2020

“24X a Second”
The Cultural Arts Program, J Contemporary
Maitland, FL, October, 2018

E. Craig Wall Jr. Academic Center Video Exhibition
Van Every I Smith Galleries at Davidson College
NC, November 15, 2018 - January 30, 2019

Iron Gate East Gallery
June 30 - July 30, 2018
280 Elm Street, Southampton, NY

Scenes & Screens Festival
Altspace VR, Microsoft
June 5, 2018

The Cube Art Project
Presented by Union Bank & Trust, Lincoln, Nebraska, Lincoln Partners
for Public Art Development & WRK real estate.
May 2018 - May 2019

A Hazy Shade of Winter
Curated by James Salomon, Judy Black Memorial Gardens
Washington Depot, CT
November 17- December 18, 2017

Awareness Film Festival
Regal Cinemas L.A Live, Los Angeles, CA
October 15, 2017

Artists in Residence
Curated by James Salomon & Carole Reed
Southampton, NY
June, 2017

4Culture Gallery
Pioneer Square, Seattle
June 2017 - June 2018

MGM National Harbor
Washington, D.C
April - September, 2017

Sarah Lawrence College
Bronxville, NY
March 9, 2017

Viten Film Festival
Belgrade, Norway
November 8 -10, 2016

Imagine Science Film Festival
New York, NY
October 18, 2016

Blow-Up Chicago Art House Film Festival
Chicago, IL
November 8, 2016

American Psychological Association Film Festival
Denver, CO
August 4, 2016

University of Mary Washington
Fredericksburg, VA
November 1- 31, 2016

Joe's Pub at The Public Theatre
New York, NY
June 22, 2016

The Art of Change
Marymount California University's Arts & Media Division
San Pedro, CA
June 2 - June 24, 2016

The Journal Club, Department of Psychiatry
Columbia University
June, 2016

The Edward Hopper House
Nyack, NY
May 6, 2016

FEEDBACK

“ **SEE MEMORY is a stunning dramatization of the complexity and emotional power of human memory. In a visual and narrative journey that is as haunting as it is insightful, the film offers nothing short than an entirely new way of imagining memory, trauma, presentness, and emotional experience. Its beauty is matched only by its brilliance. See Memory should be required viewing in every class on memory, consciousness, and phenomenologies of mind.** ”

R. John Williams, Professor of Film, English & Media, Yale University

PROFESSORS

“ **Truly a magnificent piece; beautiful, ethereal, dreamlike.** ”

Simon Fortin, New York University

“ **One of the most beautiful things I've ever seen. I was struck by the extraordinary artistry, deeply moved by the beauty of the painting, awed by the delicacy and painstaking attention to detail that was clearly involved in creating such images. I was also struck by the power of the medium for communicating aspects of the worlds of memory and psychotherapy that are often ineffable.** ”

Paul Browde, M.D, Psychiatrist, Columbia University School of Medicine

NEUROSCIENTISTS AND PSYCHIATRISTS

“ As a neuroscientist who studies how emotional memories are represented in the human brain, I was thoroughly impressed by the film's insights about the dynamics and subtleties of memories, and I was deeply moved by the artful way these ideas were expressed. The filmmaker was able to express scientific concepts and biological mechanisms of memory using art. During the last decade there has been tremendous interest in the science of memory, particularly in light of new discoveries on the biology of memory storage and retrieval, which may allow modifying traumatic memories. See Memory expresses these ideas in a very intuitive and artistic way. ”

Daniela Schiller, PhD, Professor of Psychiatry and Neuroscience, Mount Sinai Icahn School of Medicine

“ The response has been outstanding. SEE MEMORY facilitates discussion about memory and the impact of both physical and psychological trauma on memory in a very humanistic and personal way. It allows viewers to reflect on and share their personal experiences. It opens the door to understanding the science of memory and it promotes an understanding of personal trauma and equally important an understanding about the important role of the community in helping victims of trauma through their healing process. ”

Silvana Riggio M.D, Professor of Psychiatry, Neurology, Human Behavior & Rehabilitation
Mount Sinai Icahn School of Medicine

“ The film is perfect. This affects everyone. The way the images come and go depicts what happens in therapy. ”

Shabnab Shakibaie Smith, M.D., Psychiatrist, Columbia University Irving Medical Center

“Beautiful. I've never seen anything quite like it. You've demonstrated what a collaborative experience it is to work with memory and how collaborative experience can alter memory to our benefit.”

Robert Elvolve, M.D, Columbia University Irving Medical Center

“A reverie about memory; a beautiful tone poem”

Peter A. Shapiro, M.D, Professor of Psychiatry, Columbia University Irving Medical Center

MEDIA

“SEE MEMORY reveals and decodes the powerful impact of memory on our lives in ways that are equally monumental and graceful. The enormity of execution through thousands of painting humanizes the universal experience of suffering and healing and the role of memory in this process. Cerebral yet profoundly emotive; colossal yet universal and relatable.”

Iana Grossman, Co-Founder of Pinktada, Former CMO of Artsy

“The insights that are offered are both powerful and meaningful. A lovely presentation of profound ideas that are exceedingly difficult to explore in any medium, including film. The real genius of this film is a clever way of framing what are very profound statements, narrated in a careful, thoughtfully-paced way, against the backdrop of changing watercolor images.”

D.C.Shorts Film Festival

“ Artist Viviane Silvera didn't know what SEE MEMORY, a film composed of a series of paintings about a young woman's journey through her own memories, would become when she began. The idea slowly crept up on her, piece by piece, just as one recollects a memory while going through old photographs. ”

27 East

“ I am not a psychiatrist, a gerontologist, or a social worker; I'm a filmmaker. And as an observer of life, I witnessed how SEE MEMORY, unlike any other film I've watched with my mom, allowed her and her friends (who suffer from memory loss) to share their emotions behind the words and images. To fully embrace the moment in all its textures. SEE MEMORY is a testament to the power of art and story to enrich and revive the human spirit. ”

Andrea Kalin, CEO of Spark Media, Caregiver

AUDIENCES

“ Memory could not have been described better, the art is magical. ”