

Thollem's Hot Pursuit Of Happiness

with the films of Martha Colburn, ACVilla and Tuia Cherici

U.S. Tour

April - November, 2018

www.thollem.com/hot-pursuit-of-happiness

Once again, **Thollem's** bringing a new show around the country, this year pairing his "*unreal linear explosions and extreme imagination*" (LA Weekly) with the work of 3 unique filmmakers: Martha Colburn, Tuia Cherici and ACVilla. The keyboardist/composer is touring throughout the US with songs composed and arranged specifically for the films on a new analog synth, percussion and a microphone.

Thollem's in hot pursuit: the pursuit of happiness. True to his nature of "*serious playfulness*", **Hot Pursuit of Happiness** is chock full of rhythmic insanity, heady lyrics and mind-popping visuals - with the keyboardist at the center guiding us on an unforgettable trip. "*Thollem might be a musician, or he might be some kind of wizard scientist...the experience might melt your mind.*" (The Denver Westword) With new songs, he spins music for the now, jumping from an electric diving board into reality and imagination, landing squarely in the midst of the time of our lives at the center of a world on the edge.

Thollem has worked with filmmakers Colburn, ACVilla and Cherici separately on various projects for years, including live performances, music videos and documentaries throughout North America and Europe including Maxxi Museum in Rome, Philadelphia Museum of Art, New Museum, SF MOMA, Crowley Theater, San Diego Institute of Art, Crystal Bridges, Toledo Museum of Art, Trinosophes, Pioneer Works, Northwest Film Forum, Sundance, Rotterdam Film Festival and more.

"The kind of fiercely independent artists the world needs more of"

LiveEyeTV

"Martha Colburn's 8mm animation invites you into a kaleidoscopic puppet show in which pop culture and historical trauma engage in aestheticized warfare. The Pennsylvania born artist is known for her creative use of Super 8 stop motion animations, crafting scenes somewhere between battle and ballet. Paper dolls emerge, multiply, grope, bleed and slip away as with the rhythm of a synchronized swimming routine. The moving collages contain a DIY roughness to them, yet also an unplaceable magic that mystifies their construction." - Huffington Post

Tuia Cherici was born and raised in Italy and presently lives in Marseille. "I create videos using handcrafted techniques of stop-motion, projection, and objects' manipulation. The whole process of creation I do in a small space using a miniDv camera, a projector, one lap-top. Most of their contents result from my fascination with experienced dreams and puzzling mental images associations inspired by everyday materials. Besides producing videoclips, movies and documentaries, my practice extends to approach the audience and partners more directly through the cinematic apparatus I call "Manucinema".

Since 2008, **ACVilla** has focused her time as a peripatetic traveler, musicians' representative, photographer and video artist. Looking at a scene both as a whole and as a unique union of colors, shapes, textures and circumstances, ACVilla brings the viewer into her present moment. Her photography morphed into video art when she brought movement to her stills. Possessing a sense of curiosity in the common, she trains the camera on a scene and lets it unfold. Her patience allows viewers to be in the 'now', to experience what would otherwise be lost in the momentum of daily life.

As a songwriter and singer **Thollem's** released albums with long-term and ad hoc bands including his Italian Post-Punk Tsigoti (Jacopo Andreini, Andrea Caprara, Piero Spitilli and Matteo Bennici), The Hand To Man Band (Mike Watt, John Dietrich, Tim Barnes) and The Whistling Joy Jumpers (Jad Fair and Brian Chase).

CONTACT

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"Fluid keys pulverization"
- Brad Cohan, Spin Magazine

"Thollem welds elements of blues into a mighty tower of song,
then shatters his construct with the breathless bull-rush of
a mystic improviser." - Riverfront Times

"...a relentless zigzag of rhythms, densities, and moods that ranges
from kinetic, tightly wound flurries to calm, meditative queries."
- Peter Margasak, The Chicago Reader

"Unreal linear explosions, extreme imagination"
- Greg Burk, LA Weekly

"An intense keyboardist"
- TimeOut, New York



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