ART AND DANCE

FULLY AWAKE: BLACK MOUNTAIN COLLEGE  
by Cathryn Davis Zommer and Neeley House  
60 min, 2008

Black Mountain College (1933-1957) was an influential experiment in education that inspired and shaped twentieth century American art. This film explores the college’s progressive pedagogy and radical approach to arts education. Highly democratic and faculty-owned, the school promoted practical responsibilities and the creative arts as equally important components to intellectual development.

HYMAN BLOOM: THE BEAUTY OF ALL THINGS  
by Angelica Brisk  
57 min, 2010

Hyman Bloom is a forefather of American abstract painting. Bloom’s career flourished in the 1940s and 50s, garnering the highest praise in both art and popular press; his intense beliefs about composition and mastery of color are admired by artists to this day. However, Bloom’s disdain for the public eye, and his decision to explore figurative work when the art world was moving towards total abstraction, left him little known in mainstream art.

AFRICAN DANCE: SAND, DRUM, AND SHOSTAKOVITCH  
by Ken Glazebrook and Alla Kovgan  
70 min, 2002

This documentary explores contemporary African dance through dance companies from Africa, Europe, and Canada at the Festival international de Nouvelle Danse in Montreal, Canada in 1999. This diversity of modern African dance themes and styles, accompanied by interviews with dance historians, offers a unique source of information and inspiration for dancers, dance historians, choreographers, and critics, as well as those interested in African culture, past and present.

MYSTIC VISION, SACRED ART  
by Raju Gurung  
28 min, 1996

Mystic Vision, Sacred Art provides an excellent introduction to the art of thangka, the sacred Tibetan Buddhist painting in the Kathmandu Valley of Nepal. This carefully filmed documentary takes the viewer through each step of the painting process of thangkas. This film offers insight into the symbolic and religious meaning of thangkas and their importance for Tibetan Buddhist life.

MOVEMENT (R)EVOLUTION  
by Joan Frosch and Alla Kovgan  
65 min, 2007

This documentary shows the perspectives and creative processes of modern African dancers and choreographers. It is the artists’ aim to bring their continent’s contemporary identity to life by presenting fresh images of Africa. Through juxtaposing reflection, rehearsal, and performance, the artists open a window into the emergent choreographic landscape of Africa in the 21st century.

AFRICAN CARVING  
by Thomas Blakely and Eliot Elisofon  
19 min, 1974

This film features the sacred ceremonies of the Dogon people of Mali. The center of Dogon ceremonies is the Kanaga mask, carved in a secret cave outside the village. The mask’s creation is as important a ritual as the ceremonies in which it is worn. Although Dogon ceremonies are now performed for the public, the meaning of the Kanaga is retained by the Dogon who fear, respect, and depend on its power.

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