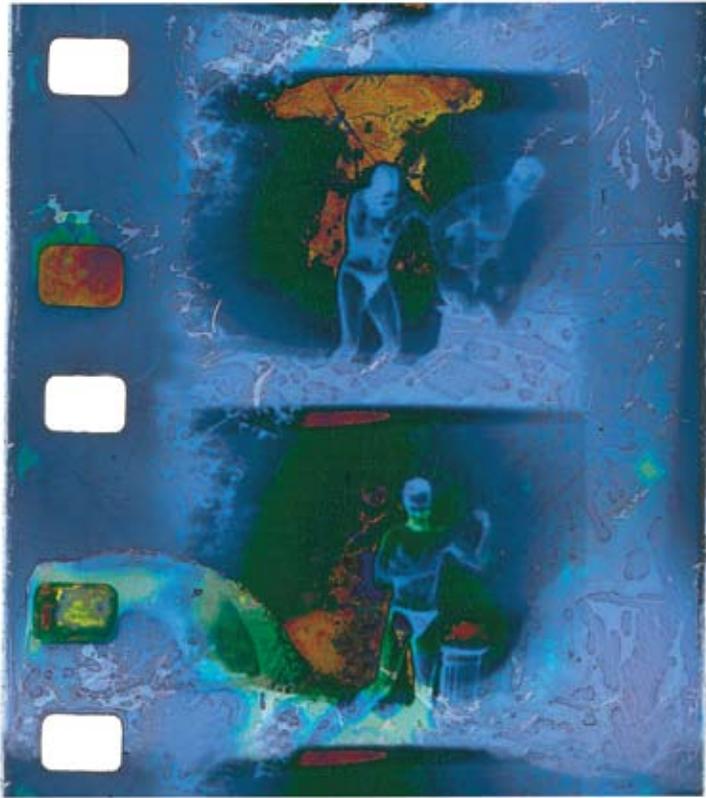


A FUNDRAISER FOR THE LAWRENCE BROSE LEGAL DEFENSE FUND IN TORONTO

Early Monthly Segments #20
Tuesday, September 21, 2010
Lawrence Brose's *De Profundis*



Buffalo-based filmmaker, curator and arts advocate Lawrence Brose's landmark *De Profundis* is a 65-minute meditation on gay desire based on Oscar Wilde's infamous prison letter presented via lush handprocessed imagery. The film utilizes vintage erotica, home movies, radical faerie gatherings, pagan rituals and drag shows alongside a piano score by Frederic Rzewski which incorporates Wilde's text as a means of exploring assimilation and sexuality through hand painted frames and manipulation. The result is an exploding utopia of colour and a layered but equally privileged soundscape. A simply haunting work of terrifying beauty.

Recently the film has come under scrutiny by the US Department of Homeland Security and the US Justice Department as Brose now faces serious charges for allegedly possessing illicit digital images. One hundred of the listed images in the charges are film frames from *De Profundis*. The fact that he is charged with using images made by others to examine the taboos that such laws are meant to prevent is as overreaching as it is disturbing. This prosecution should be viewed as a challenge to artistic freedom, brought by a U.S. Attorney's office that previously unsuccessfully

prosecuted Critical Art Ensemble founder Steve Kurtz. This screening is a fundraiser for Brose's legal defense fund. If travel restrictions are lifted we look forward to welcoming him in person at the screening.

For more information and to donate please visit lawrencebroselegaldefensefund.com

De Profundis, Lawrence Brose, 1997, 16mm,
65 minutes, USA
Music: Frederic Rzewski,
with additional compositions by Lawrence Brose and Douglas Cohen

Early Monthly Segments is a monthly film series named after an early film by Robert Beavers, and is inspired by the immediacy, vibrancy and experimentation found in that film. Programmed by Scott Berry, Chris Kennedy, and Kate MacKay this series features historical and contemporary avant-garde films in a salon-like setting at the Gladstone Art Bar in Toronto, Canada. In this relaxed context with refreshing beverages and food available, we hope to encourage a convivial atmosphere for engaged viewing and post-screening dialogue.

**For interviews, press stills,
or more information:**

earlymonthlysegments@gmail.com
earlymonthlysegments.org

The Gladstone Hotel, 2nd Floor
1214 Queen Street West
September 21, 2010 @ 8:00 pm
\$5-10 suggested donation

