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Invention

Mark Lewis

2015, DCP, color, 87 min., without dialogue. **Producer** Eve Gabereau, Gerry Flahive, Anita Lee, Emily Morgan. **Production companies** Soda Film + Art (London, Great Britain), National Film Board of Canada (Montreal, Canada). **Written and directed by** Mark Lewis. **Director of photography** Martin Testar, Bobby Shore. **Editor** Andrew Hulme. **Visual effects** Kathrin Kur. **World sales** National Film Board of Canada.

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From famous corners of the Louvre Museum to the modernist buildings of Oscar Niemeyer in Brazil and Mies van der Rohe in Canada: *Invention* takes us on a dynamic tour of fluctuating cityscapes, capturing the texture of these places, their landmarks, and the people who inhabit their streets and buildings, with images of glass, light, shifting reflections, hard concrete, spiral staircases – and paintings. Shot in Lewis's signature style of long, meandering takes using an almost free floating camera, the film juxtaposes architecture, urban life, and art. The camera drifts along buildings and streets, lingering on structural details, before swirling off into a different direction, creating surprising patterns and vantage points.

"Invention boldly posits the modern city as the prototype for cinema in its perspectival play, panoply of reflective surfaces, and dramatic contrasts of light and shadow. Lewis prompts us to experience the wonder and awe of moving images not from the subjective/voyeuristic perspective provided by our assorted mobile devices, but as if we are a disembodied presence navigating our way through modernist form."

Andréa Picard

Mark Lewis, born in 1958 in Hamilton, Canada, is a visual artist who lives and works primarily in London, UK. He attended London's Harrow College of Art and the University of Westminster (then PCL) London, where he studied with artist and writer Victor Burgin and worked with film theorist Laura Mulvey. Lewis started as a photographer, then moved into making film-based installations, forming part of the 1980s photo conceptual movement "The Vancouver School." Much of his work focuses on the technology of film and different genres in film history. His work has been shown in festivals, group and solo exhibitions around the world. He is co-founder and editorial director of the research and publishing organization Afterall, and teaches at Central Saint Martins in London.

Films

1995: *Two Impossible Films* (28 min.). 1996: *Disgraced Monuments* (50 min.). 2001: *Windfarm* (5 min.), *Jay's Garden*, *Malibu* (10 min.). 2005: *Rush Hour*, *Morning and Evening* (4 min.). 2007: *Isosceles 2007* (4 min.). 2009: *Backstory* (39 min.). 2010: *Reverse Dolly*, *Pause*, *Pan Right*, *Friday Prayers* (Forum Expanded, 4 min.), *Gasometer: Pull Focus* (Forum Expanded, 2 min.). 2011: *Black Mirror at the National Gallery* (7 min.). 2012: *City Road* (4 min.). 2013: *23rd August 2008* (in collaboration with Laura Mulvey, Faysal Abdullah, Forum Expanded, 22 min.). 2015: *Invention*.