

# NOISE & VISION: PUNK AESTHETICS, DIY METHODS, AND UNDERGROUND EXPERIMENTS IN ART FILMS.

ARoS Art Museum, Aarhus Denmark, 28 November 2026

In conjunction with the exhibition *UNRULY. The Body in Punk* at ARoS Art Museum, we are organizing a one-day international & public symposium in Aarhus.

At the height of the punk revolt in the 1970s and 1980s, films were used both as subculture documentaries of lives lived on the edge of society, as records of provocative performances, and as boundary-crossing artworks that experimented with sound, body, and vision in the avant-garde tradition.

The *UNRULY* exhibition features a total of seven films spanning the years between 1976 to 1984, by, e.g. Derek Jarman, Bühler & Hormel. They are punk's famous 'three chords' transposed to the medium of film: low-budget, grainy, authentic DIY productions. Using punk filmmaking as a crystallization point, the symposium NOISE & VISION seeks to investigate the different ways in which films capture underground culture and radical art in moving images.

With this symposium, we want to consider a countercultural artistic film practice both within and beyond the punk movement. In art history, film has often been an avant-garde space, characterized by a collective creative drive and collaboration between visual and sonic art forms. From early film experiments with dance and movement to contemporary digital film formats, artists have repeatedly pushed societal boundaries, as well as challenged viewing and listening habits.

We are seeking contributions that reflect the history, contemporaneity, and future; the technique, politics, and aesthetics of rebellious and artistic film making. We are especially interested in papers that focus on films with a thematic connection to the body – subjects and stories surrounding, e.g., sex, gender, identity, kinesthetics, posture, dance, resistance, work, community, pain, pleasure, ageing.

Papers from practitioners as well as scholars from all study fields – film, art history, social, cultural, gender, queer, and performance studies – are welcome. We will be organizing a 'young forum' for emerging researchers under the age of 30 and would like to encourage students to apply.

Abstract proposals should not exceed 250 words. Please also include a short bio of max. 50 words, including affiliation if applicable. All contributors travelling from outside Aarhus can apply for travel grants of 700-900 Euros. Please make a note in your application if you would like to apply for a travel grant and/or you are applying for the 'young forum' session.

**Submission deadline: 31 August 2026**

**Decisions will be sent by: 7 September 2026.**

**Please send proposals to: [mask@aros.dk](mailto:mask@aros.dk)**

In collaboration with The Punk Scholars Network and Aarhus University



The symposium is made possible by the support of



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