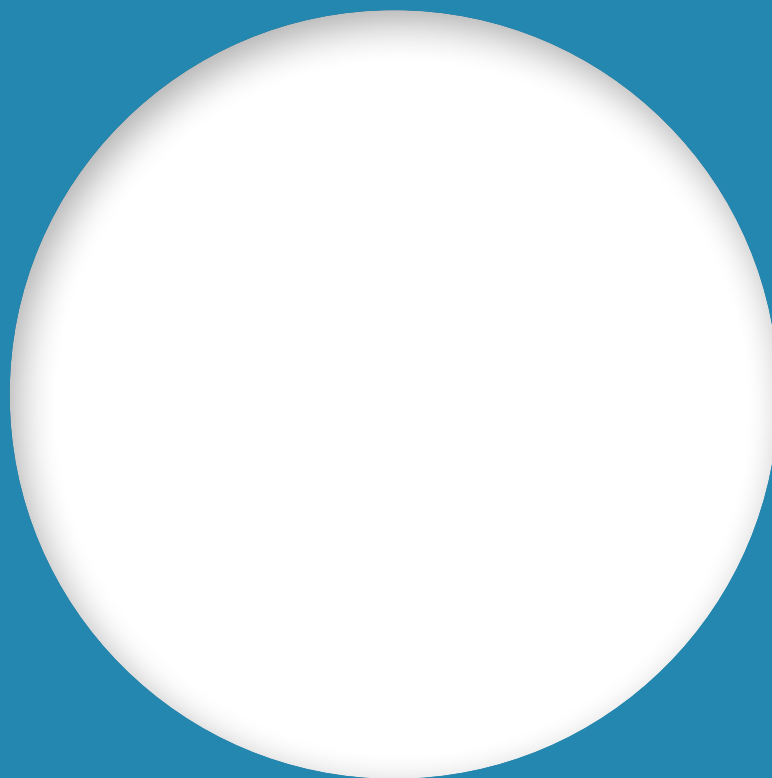


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# TEMPTATION OF MODERNITY

Ukrainian cinema screening  
curated by Tatiana Kochubinska  
and Oleksandr Teliuk



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Manifesta 15 Barcelona public programme in  
collaboration with La Mercè

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**Concrete and Unclear (2019)**  
- Ukraine (31 min)

By Fantastic Little Splash



**Chornobyl 22 (2023)**  
- Ukraine (20 min)

By Oleksiy Radynski



**Stormy Nights (1931)**  
- Ukraine SSR (52 min)

By Ivan Kavaleridze



**Clanking, Hammering, Dispute and Gurgling (2021)**  
- Ukraine (10 min)

By Daniil Revkovskiy and Andriy Rachynskiy



**The Eleventh Year (1928)**  
- Ukraine SSR (59 min)

By Dziga Vertov



**Endless Sea of Sand (2022)**  
- Ukraine (6 min)

By Teta Tsybulnyk and Elias Parvulesco



## Manifesta 15 Barcelona

As the only European nomadic biennial, Manifesta creates site-specific transformative events which re-imagine, with local citizens and communities, how we live, work and see our futures.

For its 15th edition, in 2024, Manifesta will open for the first time in 12 cities in Barcelona's metropolitan region for a period of 12 weeks.

Manifesta 15 wants to experiment with artistic practices which focus on creating long-term sustainable interventions in each participating city.

The power of Manifesta 15 is to revitalise, rethink and reclaim previously closed or unknown striking locations in which to present an innovative programme of performances, workshops, screenings, exhibitions, urban interventions and other activities.

Manifesta 15 Barcelona's headquarters are based in the former publishing house Gustavo Gili. This location will also be one of the venues for the upcoming edition.

Reserva't la data: 08.09 - 24.11.2024

Badalona | Barcelona | Cornellà de Llobregat | El Prat de Llobregat | Granollers | L'Hospitalet de Llobregat | Mataró | Sabadell | Sant Adrià de Besòs | Sant Cugat del Vallès | Santa Coloma de Gramenet | Terrassa

For more information head to our website at [www.manifesta15.org](http://www.manifesta15.org) or scan here:



## Manifesta 15 x La Mercè

Every year, the festival of Mercè, the patron saint of Barcelona, comes alive in squares and streets throughout the city, typically around the 24th of September. This year, ahead of Manifesta 15 Barcelona that is set to take place in 2024, the European Nomadic Biennial will bring a public screening programme titled “Temptation of Modernity” in collaboration with La Mercè.

The rich culture, history and traditions of Ukraine, a nation enduring the ongoing impact of the illegal Russian invasion, will be prominently featured throughout the La Mercè programme. A year ago, an invitation endorsed unanimously by all municipal groups of the Barcelona City Council designated Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine, as the guest city for Barcelona’s annual festival in 2023. Linking to this, the Manifesta 15 Barcelona Public Programme titled “Temptation of Modernity” explores modernism within the context of industrialisation and its contemporary failures, particularly in relation to the Russian illegal invasion of Ukraine and its environmental impacts.

## About the programme

The programme features a blend of recent films produced during the ongoing war, earlier works by contemporary artists exploring the idea of ‘imaginary never-ending construction,’ and historical avant-garde films that viewed industrialisation as a means of asserting human dominance over nature.

The historical films from the 1920s and 1930s reveal a utopian vision that portrayed industrial modernisation as a path to liberation and simplification of labour, transforming Ukraine from an agrarian society into an industrialised one. Today, these same industrialised regions are most vulnerable due to shelling and terrorist acts associated with the current war, shedding

light on the military aspect of modernity.

Contemporary filmmakers respond to this historical context, offering insights into the past while grappling with the challenges of the present day, fostering discussions about history, ecology and geopolitics.

“Temptation of Modernity” promises to be a thought-provoking and enlightening experience, celebrating cultural diversity and the power of art to inspire dialogue on pressing global issues. This collaborative effort between Manifesta 15 Barcelona and La Mercè reflects the ability of art to bridge gaps and promote understanding in a world marked by turmoil.

## Programme schedule

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> of September  
18:00 - 20:00h

\*Total Duration (including breaks): 89 min  
\*\*The films are in their original language (Russian and Ukrainian) with subtitles in English and Catalan.  
Free access until maximum capacity.

Programme Introduction (10 min) by Tatiana Kochubinska



**Chornobyl 22 (2023)**  
- Ukraine (20 min)

By Oleksiy Radynski

During the Russian occupation of the Chornobyl Zone in early 2022, a local informant clandestinely films Russian troops. The film delves into the experiences of workers at the Chornobyl Nuclear Power Station during the Russian military takeover, highlighting the threat of another global disaster at this site. This gripping narrative weaves together past and present catastrophic scenarios in the context of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Break (15 min)

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**The Eleventh Year (1928)**  
- Ukraine SSR (59 min)

By Dziga Vertov

Dedicated to the success of the first five years in Donbas, this avant-garde film tells the story of accelerated industrial modernisation in eastern Ukraine. It explores the transformation of an agricultural country into an industrial one, showcasing Vertov's pioneering work in developing a distinct film language, separate from theatre and literature. This film sets the stage for Vertov's future masterpiece, 'Man With a Movie Camera' (1929).

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Break (10 min) and Film Introduction



**Clanking, Hammering, Dispute and Gurgling (2021)**  
- Ukraine (10 min)

By Daniil Revkovskiy and Andriy Rachynskiy

This video explores the history and heritage of industrial cities in Eastern Ukraine's Kryvbas region. It presents a deep reflection on resources, ecology, humanity, and the future through the unique lens of this ecologically threatened yet magnetic region.

Discussion and Q&As

## Programme schedule

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> of September  
18:00 - 20:00h

\*Total Duration (including breaks): 88 min  
\*\*The films are in their original language (Russian and Ukrainian) with subtitles in English and Catalan.  
Free access until maximum capacity.

Programme Introduction (5 min) by Tatiana Kochubinska



**Concrete and Unclear (2019)**  
- Ukraine (31 min)

By Fantastic Little Splash

Set in the centre of Dnipro, Ukraine, this film explores the abandoned hotel 'PARUS' (SAIL) that was meant to symbolise the grandiosity of Dnipropetrovsk as the hometown of Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev. Through a mix of analogue and digital mediums, the film captures various interpretations of PARUS and the collective dreaming associated with it.

Break (20 min)



**Stormy Nights (1931)**  
- Ukraine SSR (52 min)

By Ivan Kavaleridze

This film portrays the construction of DniproHES, a significant event in the world of Soviet cinema, showing the victory of man over nature and the power of machinery in the face of conflict between old and new, conservative and revolutionary tendencies.

Break (10 min) and Film Introduction



**Endless Sea of Sand (2022)**  
- Ukraine (6 min)

By Teta Tsybulnyk and Elias Parvulesco

This short film tells the story of the Russian occupation of Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Station and the resulting ecological and humanitarian consequences. It explores the collision between the Soviet modernist project and the grim realities of war.

Discussion and Q&As

## Curators

The programme was brought together by the Manifesta 15 Barcelona team, Tatiana Kochubinska and Oleksandr Teliuk.

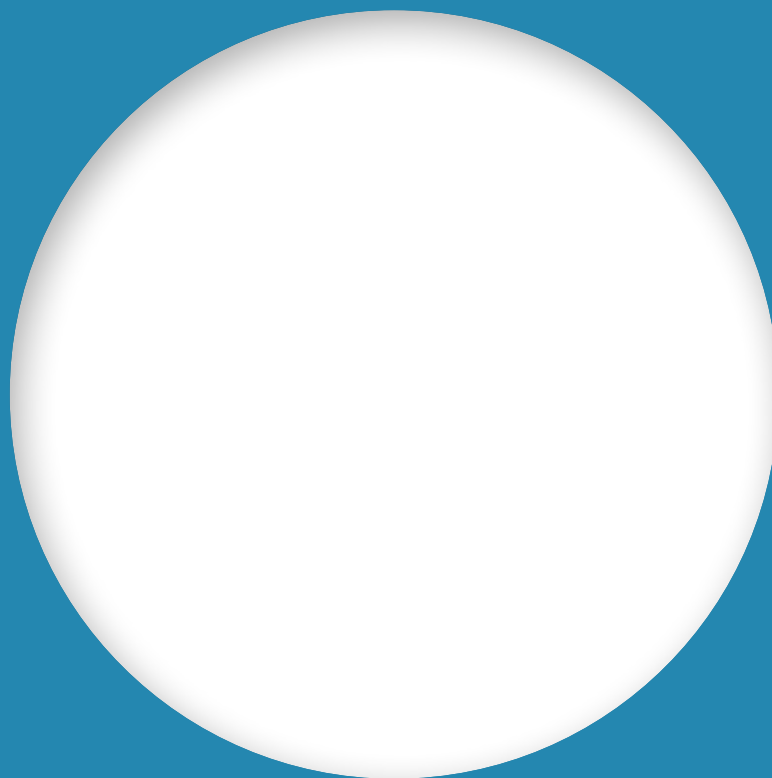
Tatiana Kochubinska is an independent curator, writer, and lecturer specialising in Ukrainian contemporary art. She has curated exhibitions exploring themes of responsibility, Soviet history's relevance to today, and has collaborated with cultural institutions.

Oleksandr Teliuk is a film scholar, director, and Head of the Archive Department at the Oleksandr Dovzhenko National Center. He co-curated film programmes and exhibitions at the Film Museum of Dovzhenko Center, co-edited books, curated numerous film programmes of Ukrainian archival cinema at international festivals, and was awarded the "Kinokolo" prize for achievements in 2022.

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