

TORONTO'S

GALA FUNDRAISER for
CRITICAL ART ENSEMBLE
FOUNDER

STEVEN KURTZ



NOVEMBER 22 + 23, 2007

A Space Gallery and the Department of Film Independents Series present

A FREE RECEPTION AND FREE SCREENING

4:00 – 6:00 p.m

Free reception at A Space Gallery (401 Richmond Street, Suite #110, Toronto).

8:00 p.m

Free screening of *Strange Culture* (75 min, 2007)

Price Family Theatre, Accolade East Building, York University (4700 Keele Street, Toronto).

Q & A with Critical Art Ensemble founder **Steven Kurtz** follows the screening.

Director: Lynn Hershman-Leeson.

Starring: Tilda Swinton (Chronicles of Narnia, Michael Clayton),

Thomas Jay Ryan (Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind), and Peter Coyote (E.T., Erin Brockovich).

Aired at Toronto's 2007 HotDocs festival, *Strange Culture* documents the surreal and nightmarish events following the death of University of Buffalo Professor **Steven Kurtz's** wife Hope. Hope suffers from heart failure while asleep, prompting a distraught Steven Kurtz to call for an ambulance. The arriving paramedics, seeing Petri dishes containing bacterial cultures prepared for an upcoming art exhibition, call the FBI, who charge Kurtz initially with bioterrorism. What follows is Kurtz's ongoing battle against a possible 20 years in jail courtesy of the US PATRIOT ACT, under trumped-up charges of mail and wire fraud for his internationally respected art practice.

For more information, visit: www.aspacegallery.org/events.html

images: *Suspect Culture* comic by Timothy Stock and Warren Heise, in *Suspect* (Alphabet City), by John Knechtel, ed., MIT Press, 2005.
Tilda Swinton in *Strange Culture*, directed by Lynn Hershman Leeson. Courtesy L5 Prods.

design: Tariq Sami of Histrionics