

Nine Film Endings

September 13th, 2017

7 - 10 pm

Marsèlleria, via privata Rezia 2, Milan

Organized by Francesco Tenaglia

A screening with original music by:

MARK FELL
HEROIN IN THAITI
JAMES LEYLAND KIRBY
WILL LONG
ABUL MOGARD
PANORAM
AKIRA RABELAIS
CLAUDE SPEEED
TELESPAZIO

Zabriskie Point (1970), the second English-language film by Michelangelo Antonioni, had a strenuous gestation because of the turbulent relationships with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and the perfectionism which led to the creation of the soundtrack: the director commissioned a high number of original compositions to the Pink Floyd, to the folk guitarist John Fahey and to the psychedelic band Kaleidoscope, rejecting them in the end. Roger Waters recalls the month spent in Rome with Antonioni as "It was hell, sheer hell"; the collaboration with John Fahey ended instead with a fist fight after a dinner.

Marsèlleria

permanent exhibition

The movie, a reflection on the decline of western society set inside Californian counterculture, was a disaster at the box office and, at least at the beginning, was not recognized by the critics: the attack to consumerism was hurled through metaphors and allusions that were considered wasteful, bland and overambitious. The relationship with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer reached its lowest point when Antonioni discovered that the company, unbeknown to him, included in a scene a track by Roy Orbison - an artist who was represented by the music department of MGM -, ruining his draining research for the perfect soundtrack and offering an ironic counterpart to the idea of advertisement colonizing life that he depicted through the endless sequence of billboards in the streets of Los Angeles.

Nine Film Endings is inspired by Antonioni's zeal in building the score of *Zabriskie Point* as well as by the last minute intervention by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer; by minimalism and repetition; by the relationships between radical politics and the entertainment industry. It is a "screening-shaped" compilation on the occasion of which different tracks, each one long as Roy Orbison's piece "So Young - Love Theme for *Zabriskie Point*", were commissioned to ambient, electro and experimental music artists.