

FILMING FAMILY



AN EVENING WITH SU FRIEDRICH Monday, January 30, 2017, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Double Feature with Filmmaker in Attendance. Theatre opens at 5:20 p.m.
Media Commons Theatre, 3rd Floor, Robarts Library
130 St. George Street, University of Toronto

The Ties That Bind, 5:30 p.m. (1984, 55 min.)

Experimental filmmaker Su Friedrich crafts an evocative personal film from her émigrée mother's recollections of growing up in Nazi Germany. Questions and responses are etched onto the film emulsion and interleaved with black and white imagery. Poetic enactment, glimpses of her mother at work and leisure, and footage both of populist American patriotism and women's activist protest alike convey the sense that mechanisms of survival and political resistance have been transmitted from mother to daughter across the divides of history and culture.

I Cannot Tell You How I Feel, 6:30 p.m. (2016, 44 min.)

Friedrich takes up the camera again to document a new stage in family life. Her mother, Lore, again occupies the lead role, unhappily relenting to join an "independent living" facility. Together with her two siblings, the filmmaker struggles to come to terms with her mother's resistance to this transition, employing both humour and compassion to comment on human frailty more generally.

Su Friedrich is an American filmmaker whose films and videos have been instrumental in shaping the feminist avant-garde and have featured in eighteen retrospectives at major museums and film festivals, including at the MoMA in 2007. She is Professor of Visual Art at Princeton University, where she teaches film/video production.

