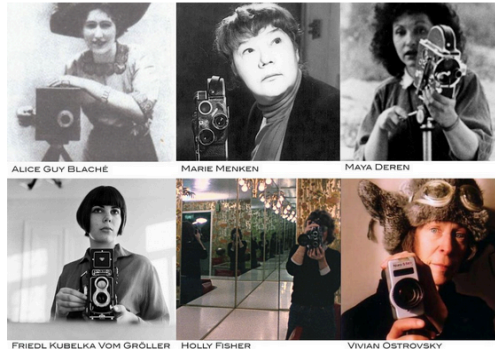


## Women's History Month: GME Features Moving Image Works by Women Filmmakers



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*PLUNGE*, is a double-DVD edition spanning Vivian Ostrovsky's experimental filmmaking career. A citizen of the world, Ostrovsky has made films in Brazil, France, Israel, Japan, the Soviet Union and the United States.

Conversant in the experimental filmmaking practices of such artists as Jonas Mekas (*DIARIES, NOTES, AND SKETCHES*) and Jim McBride (*DAVID HOLZMAN'S DIARY*, 1967), Ostrovsky was inspired to create her own film diaries. She developed a filmmaking technique that initially involved shooting with a silent Super 8 camera; she loved the "gritty...indefiniton" of the images that were exposed on the film's emulsion. She continued with an intuitive editing process, adding in sound originating from vinyl records. (Later, she filmed in MiniDV so as to simultaneously be able to record image and sound together).

As her filmmaking adventures progressed -- combined with her extensive knowledge of other avant-garde filmmakers' works (including Bruce Conner and Jack Smith, as well as Jacques Tati and Jean-Luc Godard) -- she incorporated the cinematic forms of the film diary, found footage, collage, essay film, personal memoir, and political tract to create her own distinct filmic language. As Federico Rossin has written so succinctly in the booklet accompanying this DVD edition: "This indeterminacy, or mixing of genres, provokes a reconsideration of the language of control, of all aspects of "Cinematic machismo"; it indicates the militant and feminist roots of Ostrovsky's practice; her ethical and political commitment. Combining great humility with breathtakingly precise audiovisual montage, Ostrovsky creates a field of artistic expression that escapes and expands beyond its boundaries...her hybrid cinema refuses to be limited by format or convention; with each new film, she liberates powerful new forms and expands her burgeoning creative process."