

ART IN SPACE AND TIME

Lecture and Screening

ETH Zürich | D-ARCH
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29 October 2025 — 19:00

Chair of Art in Space and Time, Stefano-Franscini-Platz 5
HIL F 47, ETH Hönggerberg



Still from «Being John Smith» (2024), 27 mins., HD video. © John Smith

Being John Smith

Over five decades, British avant-garde filmmaker John Smith has developed a diverse body of work that subverts the perceived boundaries between documentary, fiction, representation, and abstraction. In his formative years, the artist was inspired by conceptual art and structural film, yet also fascinated by the immersive power of narrative and the spoken word. Often rooted in everyday life and personal experience, his films playfully explore and expose the language of cinema. In this lecture, the artist will present several examples of his work, including the multi-award-winning Being John Smith (2024), his most personal film to date and the central piece of his current solo exhibition at the Secession in Vienna.

Join us for a Tavolata by Nicolas Rolle after the talk.

