



HAMILTON'S CHILDREN

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HAMILTON IN FILM "F-L-A-M-M-A-R-I-O-N"

2009, Blu-ray, Colour, Stereo, 17mins 13secs
In 1931 a 'teleplasm' spelling out the name Flammarion appeared on the wall of a cabinet at a séance in Winnipeg. Camille Flammarion, 1842–1925, was a French astronomer and psychical researcher and his name appeared at Thomas Glendenning Hamilton's sitting of June 10th, 1931. F-L-A-M-M-A-R-I-O-N, which uses this phenomenon as a starting point, is a film by Belfast artist Susan MacWilliam commissioned for her solo show representing Northern Ireland at the 53rd Venice Biennale.

It features a reconstruction of T.G. Hamilton's séance cabinet, the Belfast poet

Ciaran Carson, Atlanta-based Danish-American poltergeist investigator Dr. William G. Roll and Arla Marshall, Canadian granddaughter of Hamilton's Scottish sitter Susan Marshall. Recorded in three cities across the globe Carson, Roll and Marshall come together in F-L-A-M-M-A-R-I-O-N and respond to the image of the teleplasm.

The show is currently at the Presentation House Gallery, Vancouver from May 1st to July 11th, 2010. In October and November F-L-A-M-M-A-R-I-O-N will be showing at aceart, inc. here in Winnipeg. More details to come when we know.

- Shelley Sweeney, Head, Archives & Special Collections



MACPHERSON SÉANCE RECORDS

In 2009 records belonging to Hannah Mary MacPherson were donated to Archives & Special Collections and were recently made available.

Mary and Evan MacPherson lived in Winnipeg and were involved in the instigation and participation in many séances in the 1930s. After

her husband's death in 1938 Mary MacPherson continued to be involved in the Spiritualist movement and she and her brother recorded and transcribed many of the séances that took place in their house in Winnipeg.

Hannah was accredited by

the Spiritualist National Union of Canada and was certified as a Server and Healer at the Universal Temple of Truth Foundation, Ecclesiastical Governing Body.

- Emma Prescott, *Masters of Archival Studies Intern*

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Hamilton featured this spring in Religious Studies class "Death and Concepts of the Future." Over 90 students took part.*
- *Baby Book of Arthur Lamont Hamilton acquired from Janice Hamilton; Arthur's death set T.G. Hamilton to search for life after death*
- *6 new Hamilton photos acquired recently from Janet (Campbell) Grushon*

PRESENTATIONS

University of Manitoba archivist Brian Hubner will be presenting a paper "Archiving of the Paranormal: The Case of Spirit Photography" at the Archival Education Research Institute in Ann Arbor, Michigan this June 20th to 23rd. He will present "The Spirit Photographs of the T.G. Hamilton Family fonds" focusing on the Hamilton Family fonds as a literary and cultural resource for the Winnipeg Symposium "Archives and the Cultural Life of Cities" Nov. 26th, 2010.