

AMANDA  
WILKINSON

*Images Disturbed by an Intense Parasite*  
Film and Video Programme  
March – June 2020

**Annie Ratti, *Le Ballon Rouge*, 2008**

**16 mm film, 26 minutes**

**Exhibition dates: 5 May 2020 - 11 May 2020**

**To access the video, please subscribe to the gallery mailing list:  
<https://amandawilkinsongallery.com/mailling-list/>**

This work was made in 2008 for the annual Nuit Blanche festival in Paris. It was shot on 16mm and pays tribute to Albert Lamorisse's much-loved short film *Le Ballon Rouge* (1956). Ratti's works are very often site-specific and respond directly to the context of the exhibition space.

As a red balloon travels around the city of Paris, we see the cityscape shift between the conventional perspective of an earthbound camera and a viewpoint seemingly located inside the balloon itself, as if offering us its perspective on the world. Its journey begins in the Latin Quarter at 9 rue de Condé and ends in the north-east of the city at La Butte Chaumont. The balloon departs from the window of the apartment of the late Félix Guattari, a close friend of the artist, representing a soul wandering through an empty town before disappearing into the sky.

*It is not so much a matter of opposing 'monumentality', of presenting direct resistance to whatever threatens us, but I think that in the fragility of things, in what is tiny and ephemeral, in everything that exists and disappears, one can find an antidote, a poetics, a lightness that the forced imposition of self and will and all those great systems only finds with much difficulty or even systematically denies or overwhelms.*

– Annie Ratti from an interview with Cesare Pietroiusti, 2006