

The Film & Media Studies Program at Amherst College Presents:

THE WASHING SOCIETY

screening and discussion with
filmmakers Lizzie Olesker & Lynne Sachs

February 27, 2018, 7:00pm
Amherst College
Keefe Campus Center Theater
Free and open to the public!

everyfoldmatters.com

When you drop off a bag of dirty laundry, who's doing the washing and folding? *The Washing Society* brings us into New York City laundromats and the experiences of the people who work there. A collaboration between filmmaker Lynne Sachs and playwright Lizzie Olesker, the film observes the disappearing public space of the neighborhood laundromat and the continual, intimate labor that happens there. *The Washing Society* combines interviews and observational moments, re-enactment and choreography to produce a stark yet poetic vision of underpaid work, immigration, and the sheer math of doing laundry. Inspired by *To 'Joy My Freedom* author Tera Hunter's depiction of the 1881 organization of African-American laundresses in Atlanta, the filmmakers interweave dirt, skin, lint, stains, money, and time into the fabric of their film to create a dream-like, yet hyper-real portrayal of a day in the life of a laundry worker, both past and present.

After the film screening (44 mins), the filmmakers will join the audience for a conversation.

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