

**T. J. WILCOX**

**24 Jan to 3 Mar 2001**

***Hadrian and Antinous and The Little Elephant***

*Hadrian and Antinous* and *The Little Elephant* are two new 16mm films by American artist T.J. Wilcox, whose *Funeral of Marlene Dietrich* was shown at HQ in 1998.

Wilcox's films collage his own footage with images from cinema, television, and handmade animation into mythical romantic narratives. *Hadrian and Antinous* is the story of the extraordinary passion that existed between the Roman Emperor and a thirteen year old Greek boy, an 'ideal contained in beauty'. Passion and immortality are united as Antinous offers his beauty and youth as a sacrifice to save the sick and dying Hadrian. The 10-minute film includes shots of ancient sculptures and Roman architecture, extracts from the movie "Cleopatra", cartoons and a contemporary reconstruction of Antinous's moment of immolation.

*The Little Elephant* combines the story of the children's classic, *Babar the Elephant*, with *The Elephant Man* and *The Man Who Fell to Earth*. This construct tells a universal tale of the terrified alien lost in the metropolis. The frightened and tormented 'elephant' finds redemption only through the love and care of a kindly stranger.

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