

**Gravitational Lensing: Feminist Film Dialogues  
Program 6: Reproductive Health & Justice  
Shapeshifters Cinema, December 13, 2024**

***Menorrhagia* by Claire Maske, 2023, 16mm film shown on DV, 5:30 mins**

A personal documentary reflecting on shame and menstruation through an experience with a little-researched condition called menorrhagia.

***Cycles* by Zeinabu Irene Davis, 1989, 16mm shown on DV, 17 mins**  
*File provided courtesy of Women Make Movies.*

Rasheeda Allen is waiting for her period—a state of anticipation familiar to all women. Drawing on Caribbean folklore, this exuberant experimental drama uses animation and live action to discover a film language unique to African American women. The multilayered soundtrack combines a chorus of women's voices with the music of Africa and the diaspora—including Miriam Makeba, acappella singers from Haiti and trumpete Clora Bryant.

***Self-Health* by SF Women's Health Collective, 1977, 16mm film shown on DV, 23:26 mins**

A group of women are shown how to proactively care for their own bodies.

***Reversal* by Diane Nerwen, 2023, DV, 6:35 mins**

*Reversal* combines images and sounds from movies released or broadcast in 1973—the year the Supreme Court decided *Roe v. Wade*. In the strange new reality ushered in by the Dobbs decision, the slogan "We won't go back" is recalled with bitter irony. This collage piece evokes the spectre of regression and repression that has followed the Court's decision.

***Hemorrhage* by Ruth Hayes, 2023, DV, 4:07 mins**

Animated agit-prop against the evisceration of American women's reproductive rights. An iterative animation process incorporating rubbings, images, text and voices from the *New York Times* and the Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health arguments before the United States Supreme Court moves the film from formal experimentation to an expression of outrage about the effects of abortion bans on women's health and a eulogy for *Roe*.

\*\*\* INTERMISSION \*\*\*

***The Gallery That Destroys All Shame* by Aurora Brachman & Jessie Zinn, 2021, DV, 11 mins**

One evening in L.A., a group gathers to learn how to take back the speculum.

***Other Reckless Things* by Janis Crystal Lipzin, 1984, 16mm shown on DV, 17:30 mins**

The filmmaker's response to a newspaper account of a self-inflicted Caesarian section.

