Using a Zen koan from the 13th century, Toronto-based filmmaker and MSU Artist-in-Residence Mike Hoolboom will talk about the practice of attention as it relates to contemporary cinema practice. What if gender was a question we didn’t have to answer every morning? We are living in a culture of the archive, promoted by electronic devices that automatically collect and sort data. What implications do our devices have for producing a new cinema or even new forms of sexual difference and pleasure? “In the beginner’s mind there are many possibilities, but in the expert’s mind there are few.”

Hoolboom is an award winning artist, critic, and teacher, having twice received top prizes for short films at the Toronto International Film Festival.

Hoolboom will be at Michigan State University from March 2-20, teaching a class and giving a series of lectures and screenings as part of the Artist-in-Residence Program, coordinated by the College of Communication Arts & Sciences and the College of Arts & Letters.