Taking a cue from the Broad's exhibition *Michigan Stories: Mike Kelley and Jim Shaw*, this program presents three films—two of which are Kelley collaborations—that are dark allegories of modern life: *Peggy and Fred and Pete* (1988), *Kappa* (1986), and *Blind Country* (1989). Children raised by television wander a post-apocalyptic landscape. A hedonistic folk demon satirizes the Oedipus myth. And a castrated buffoon is led through a feminine “realm of the senses.” Traditional sources of authority are unmasked, and we are cast into a dystopian present. As the narrator of *Blind Country* recites: “Our experience is surely, but gently, becoming pure absence. That is our evolutionary imperative. All prying objects, all things striving to trespass are diminishing. Now there is only acceptance. Accept, accept your loss.”

—Programmed by Yelena Kalinsky & Ellen McCallum

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