

# Basic Detail Report

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## Antler

### Date

2018

### Primary Maker

Pour Hosseini, Atoosa

### Medium

Super 8mm transferred to HD

### Description

Atoosa Pour Hosseini's work with Super-8 conjures a mysterious territory that exists between memory, subjective perception and the objective materiality of the filmed image. *Antler* pushes deeper into this realm, seamlessly combining archival footage of animals and reptiles in their habitats with newly filmed material of the artist and an assistant at work in a botanical garden. Inspired by the famous Voynich Manuscript, a 15th century book written in an unknown language and featuring detailed drawings of plants that do not exist, *Antler* transforms a botanical garden greenhouse into a laboratory of perception and a film set. Nature sampled and presented for study in this setting is equated with natural phenomena framed and captured on film. But rather than taming or normalising nature, these study aids function as cues to oneiric immersion in a vivid but utterly elusive world. The sensuous, painterly quality of Pour Hosseini's visual style results in a hauntingly introspective, out-of-time atmosphere that is heightened by Karen Power's unsettling sound track." *Antler* won the special award of The Unforeseen International Film Festival 2018 in Belgrade, Serbia. Here is the jury's response on the *Antler*'s award: "A film of subtle poetics and expressive aesthetics achieved through the hypnotizing intertwining of archive and authorial footage, "*Antler*" erases the boundaries between fiction and documentary, introducing the viewer to a mysterious and, to a certain degree, fairy-tale-ish world of oneiric atmosphere. Formally seductive, and challenging to decipher, this "ecological fantasy" (for the lack of a more precise definition) transforms a botanical garden into a laboratory of evocative images and sounds, in a process that could be identified as alchemy."

### Dimensions

Object: 15 minutes