

Lac Clair

Michael Snow – Clip 7

Lac Clair is a single surface...which manages to remain a painting and not become a wall by the way it's painted and it's not framed but it has brown paper, what's the word, how would you call it, corners I guess....so that there's one at every corner which makes for a sort of rotation around the thing as an object....it's not a frame but in a way it acts as a continuously turning boundary to the square that is the painting....so it has a number of qualities despite its simplicity because it's very fluidly painted and...and yet it's only a surface in a senseso I think the fluidity of it is...kind of helps to make it a painting. I think that even though it's a fairly wide surface you tend to go around it when you follow the strokes in it so it stays within its boundaries like a lake. It's actually named after a lake that's near Chicoutimi which my grandfather, Elzéar Levesque, built a cottage on an island and my sister and my mother and I spent every summer there until we were about thirteen or fourteen and it had a very big influence on me. The cottage basically covered the island so it was like being on a boat.