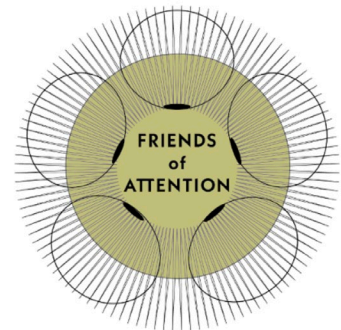
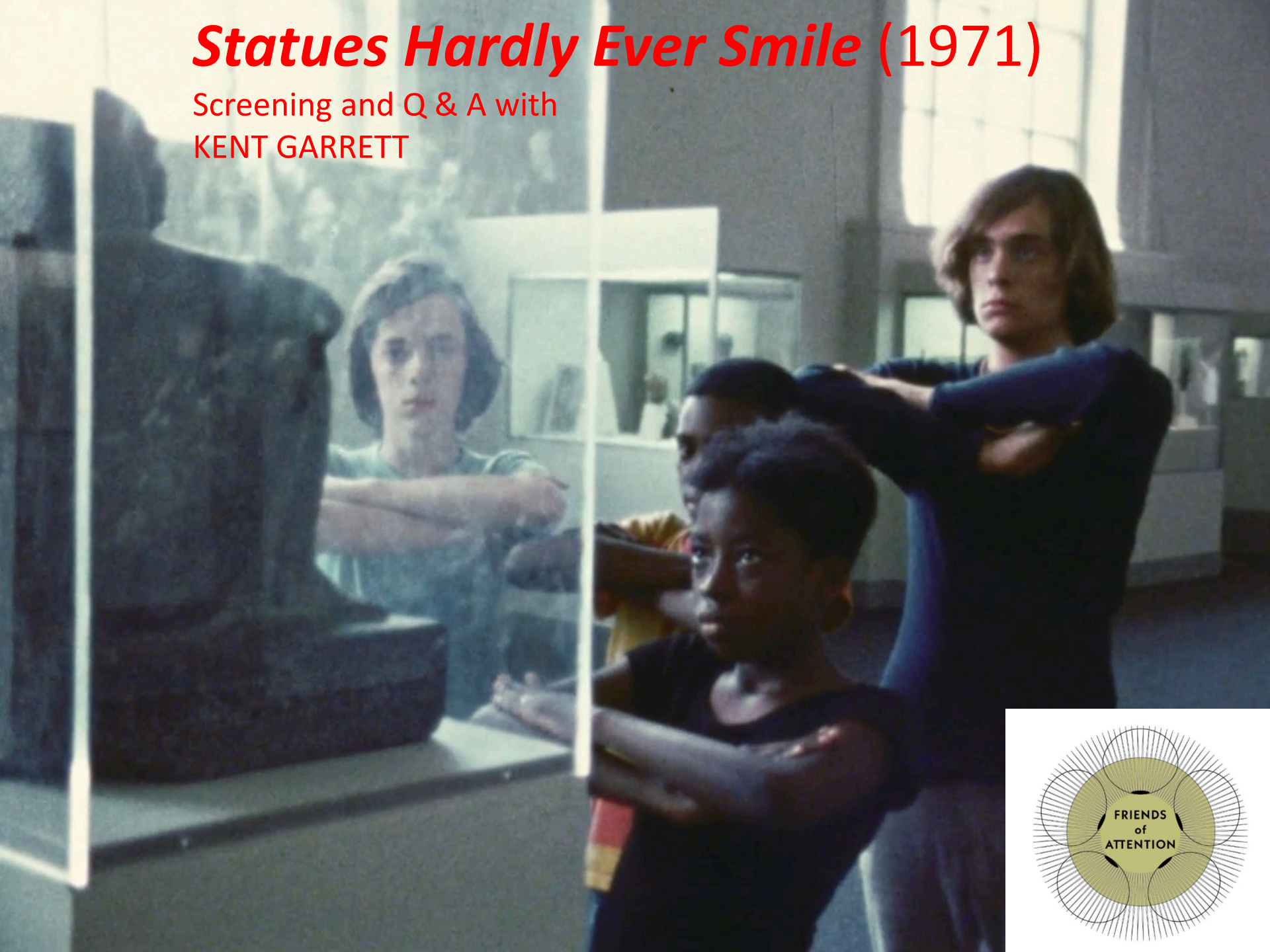


# *Statues Hardly Ever Smile* (1971)

Screening and Q & A with  
KENT GARRETT



## OPENING EXERCISE



# EXERCISE of the ZOOM-BUDDHA

*(in the spirit of NJP)*

led by Alyssa Loh

In the context of the recent ESTAR(SER) “Scenes of Attention” event with Natalie Harren, “The View from Everywhere: Media, Meditation, Surveillance,” we have all been thinking a lot about Nam June Paik’s “TV-Buddha” series (1974ff). And only in the wake of the event did a few of us notice that Paik was remarkably prescient: how did he know that, across the pandemic, Zoom (and Meet and FT) would turn us all into versions of his closed-circuit Buddha-being, *endlessly looking at ourselves on screens that are topped by cameras!*

And so we thought we would run a quick opening exercise today at this FoA First Friday in which we settle-in to the *Zoom Condition* in the spirit of the TV Buddha”...





# EXERCISE of the ZOOM-BUDDHA

1

Take a moment to examine the image of Nam June Paik's "TV-Buddha."

2

Set up your Zoom so you can see your own face (you may "pin" yourself, or look at yourself in the full array of the group, or configure things in any other way that you choose...)

3

At the bell, look on, in the spirit of the TV-Buddha (narcissism? complacency? self-surveillance?)

4

A final bell marks the end of the exercise...