FIRST FESTIVAL INDEPENDENT BRITISH CINEMA
11–18 FEBRUARY 1975
Organised by ICW ARNOLFINI, BRISTOL
WELCOME to the First Festival of Independent British Cinema

But what is it?

Independent cinema may seem a mysterious phenomenon. Not the commercial cinema, not the amateur film but an area of film work that is not represented on television, that is not represented in the public cinemas! Perhaps it may best be defined as cinema in which the film makers have chosen to make the context of their own work in film rather than submit to the industrial and ideological programming of the film or television industry. Individual film makers and film making groups have had some support in this attempt from the British Film Institute and the Arts Council and the regional arts associations. Others have mortgaged their houses or sold their wives or husbands to finance their work!

All independent cinema operates against a backdrop, a highly conventional landscape, mapped out by the skilled demographers of the television and film industry. Independent cinema is an awkward feature which has not yet been programmed in.

To independent film makers it is where the cinema of the future is conceived. The Festival is an attempt to publicly discover if this endeavour has a response. We hope the audience will find as much determination and creativity as the film makers.

Our thanks to all at the Arnolfini, South West Arts, The Arts Council, and maybe the B.F.I. without whom it would have all happened much later.

David Hopkins
Independent Cinema West
Selection

The work in the Festival comes in 3 categories: 1. The work of individual film makers, very often working entirely on their own, for the conventional screen. 2. The work of groups who see themselves as having a collective identity. 3. Expanded cinema using multi-screen format, no screens or with an unconventional relationship between the projector and the screen. Individual films will be shown in the mornings and evenings, collective work in the afternoons and expanded cinema in the gallery in the early evening. Despite this division which is technical rather than ideological, we have tried to organise varied programmes for each show, rather than to polarise aesthetic and political differences.

Our selection has been based on two principles. First we have selected in order to show the widest possible range of material. Second, given the range we have tried to select what we thought would represent each area most adequately. We have been limited by our own knowledge and expertise in an area of cinema that has been minimally documented and in which, perhaps thankfully, there are few experts. It is probable that one may learn more about independent cinema from the 3 open screenings than from the already programmed material. Don't miss them.

Selection Panel

Tony Rayns (critic and film maker)
Laura Mulvey, William Raban (film makers), Peter Sainsbury (BFI Production Board), Jane Jackson, David Hopkins, David Leescliffe (Independent Cinema Vest)
1. Chris Monger: "COLD MOUNTAIN" 24 mins.
   "Ironic celebration of the process of making a film.
   "A portrait of my three taxidermist uncles in S. India."
   Peter Gidal: "ROOM FILM 1973" 12 mins.
   "The film is not a translation of anything, it is not a
   representation of anything, not even of consciousness." P.G.

2. FORUM
   CINEMA ACTION
   The longest surviving explicitly political film
   making group. They concentrate on direct connections
   with the trade union and working class activity. A
   rare chance to see and discuss their latest work.

   "THE MINERS FILM" 23 mins.

3. ‘structures’
   ron haselden

4. INDEPENDENT
   CINEMA WEST SHOW

5. Animated films
   Peter Nickling: "ENIGMA IN THE AIR"
   Lesley Keen: "GRENDA (Glasgow School of Art)"
   John Gibbons: "A TO A (Yorkshire Arts)"
   Janet Johns: "JUMPING JUAN (KPT, Bristol Univ.)"
   Films of optical effect
   Dennis Lowe: "TERROR" (National Film School)
   Kevin Pither: "FARE GONE, TOO FADE GONE"
   "ELECTRICITY"
   Stuart Pound: "SIMPLEX" (Lincolnshire & South
   Humberside Arts/Gulbenkian Foundation) 45 mins.

6. FORUM
   BERWICK STREET
   COLLECTIVE
   The second of the explicitly political film making
   groups. Berwick St. Collective will represent in
   discussion and film their current work at the
   interface between politics and the cinema.
   "NIGHTCLEANERS" 90 mins.

7. malcolm le grice

8. John Crampton &
   Graham Langford: "ON NO FUTURE"
   The story of Shane Ventura, legendary English rock n' rollin',
   the Grease Garbo of the Grease..."

   Chuck Despsin: "MOON OVER THE ALLEY"
   (B.P.I.)
   Feature length musical, set in London showing the
   disruption (or destruction) of its people by outside
   forces. First public show.

9. NOD"
**THURS**

**10 FORUM**

**BASEMENT PROJECT**

**TUNDES FILM JUNK**

**BLACK & WHITE**

**11 6.00**

‘hand held projector with mirrors’

david dye

**12 9.00**

Postscript

Further and detailed notes on each programme will be available by the time of the Festival.

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**FRI**

**14 FORUM**

**OPEN SCREEN**

**LONDON WOMENS FILM GROUP**

**THE AMAZING EQUAL PAY SHOW**

A political burlesque, incorporating elements from the musical, the horror film and crazy comedy which examines equal pay, the status of women’s work in capitalism and participation in the unions. The film was made collectively by the film group, working in close collaboration with the Women's Street Theatre Group.

**15 6.00**

jeff keen

**FLUX**

**16 8.30**

- Anna Reece Mogg
- Lorraine Leeson
- Group 5 Film Unit
- William Diver & Simon Mallin
- Jill Daniels
- Olive Walley
- Ian Woodcock

**REAL TIME**

- TV
- EATING/EXCRETING
- VORTEX
- ENVIRONMENT
- DESCRIPTIONS
- THIS IS LIFE
- VARIATIONS ON A DREAM

**17 ARTS CENTRE**

**11.30**

- Steve Dwoskin
- Ron Haselden
- Chris Wellsby

**GIRL**

- LABoured PARTY
- TRACKING CYCLES
- FOREST BAY 2

**30 min.**

- **20 min.**

- **12½ min.**

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**MON**

**TUES**

**THURS**

**FRI**
SAT

18
11.00

OPEN SCREEN

19 FORUM
LIBERATION FILMS

STARTING TO HAPPEN 42 mins.
This film demonstrates the potential of portable video and film to arouse and involve the people of a community in South London.
The film contains sections of the video tape material made by the local people. One of the interesting points is that conducting their own interviews enabled them to talk to each other "in a different way to the way someone from the BBC might interview us".

20
6.00

‘performance pieces’
tony hill
marilyn halford

21
8.30

Mike Dunford
MCA (Prize winner)
Edwin Maynard
Mark Trompeter
Steve Edgell
Francine Wimbush &
Women’s Workshop
John Smith
Adrian Shaw
Robert Short

STILL LIFE WITH PEAR
Knokke International Festival
CRODA (Bristol)
EVERY HEDGES CAN READ
ZAP CINO & THE GATEWAY TO THE GOGGS
HELL GIRL HOUSE (National Film School)
HUT
Animations (Newport College of Art)
BARBAREUSE (Norwich)

ARTS CENTRE

22
11.30

David Woods
Peter Whitehead

TURNIP
DADDY

23
11.00

Tony Trafford
(East Midlands Arts & Yorkshire Arts)
Margaret Tait
THE BIG SHEEP }Ancona Films
COLOUR FORMS }(Cronen) C
Philip Thompson
TOLMERS, BEGINNING OR END?
Gerry Malir
SQUAW (RIT course, Bristol
University)

24
3.00

INDEPENDENT FILM MAKERS ASSOCIATION
General Meeting

25
6.00

ian kerr
liz rhodes
anabel nicolson

26
9.00

OPEN SCREEN

27
11.30

ARTS CENTRE
Berwick Street
IRELAND ’73
Postscript
Further and detailed notes on each programme will be available by the time of the Festival.

28 11.30
Ray Johnson
Mary Dickinson
Mike Henley
David Pearce
Brian Tremery
Will Kilme

WHERE'S DIAMONDS UNDER DIRT
THE PREPARATION ROOM
SUNLIGHT
OFF SCREEN
SIX LOCATION
BUT FIlTER

29 FORUM 2.30
AMBER FILMS
HIGH ROW LAUNCH
& 2 Animations, Short Feature &
Philip Trevelyan
SHIP TYNE MAIN

30 6.00
derek jarman
‘burning the pyramids’

31 8.30
william Raban
Roger Lambert
Anthony McCall
1 hour of films.
The film was made by a Co-operative Cherwell Films;
neither the actors (all amateurs) nor the technicians
were paid; sponsored by Southern Arts. It tells
the story of a lonely boy at school who insists he's
in contact with a being from outer space: no one
believes him. 10.30 in the gallery

32 ARTS CENTRE 11.30
Peter Sylvester
James Scott
IMAGE
ADULT FUN

33 EXPERIMENTAL 11.30
Tim Cawkwell
John Du Cane
Steve Coulson
Ian Breakwell
Mike Leggett
A + B
RELATIONS
10 MINUTE BALLET REALITY
REPERTOIRE
EROTICA/AFINSI

34 FORUM 2.30
PORTSMOUTH POLYTECHNIC GROUP
"There is an identity to what we are doing,
... the main influence is the work of the Grierson
school. It's all socially concerned but rarely so
totally committed that the film makers feel they have
to tell you what to think." Trevor Vibert.
Programme will include previously unknown works and
excerpts from work in progress: - ELLEN, JOYCE,
BUDDIES, HOUSING, UNEQUAL BROTHERS, TRICOMICHE.

35 6.00
‘my magic self’
glen mciver
peter hatton

36 8.30
Laura Malvey &
Peter Wollen
PENTECOSTAL
A film in five sequences on the iconography of the
woman as warrior: a work of theoretical cinema.
Tony Rayns
KILLER FROM DEGREE ZERO
A structuralist thriller......
The Festival box office will be open from Wed. 5th February in the Arnolfini bookshop.

20p for O.A.P.'s, Claimsants, Children.
30p for students, please bring your card.
35p for Party bookings.
£3.50 for season tickets. This includes all shows at the Arnolfini, and incorporates temporary membership of the Arnolfini Cinema Club (for open screenings).

On Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday we are presenting late night shows at the Bristol Arts Centre, in King Square. THESE ARE CLUB SHOWS. Please join at the Arnolfini box office (not the Arts Centre) and buy tickets IN ADVANCE.

All open screenings are club shows

Members of the public who do not have season tickets and wish to attend open screenings should leave their name and address at the Arnolfini box office (Tel: 207142) 48 hours before the show. Films for open screenings must be left at the Arnolfini box office 4.30 to 6.00 Thrus, Fri, Sat. They will be allotted in as they arrive with as much diplomacy as we have available. No prior booking will be accepted.

Financial arrangements with film maker

25% of box office take will be distributed equitably amongst all participating film makers after the Festival, when all expenses have been settled. Each film maker will be paid a fee, the amount of which will depend on the final level of grant aid that we are able to raise.

Arnolfini Food & Drink available always.
The nearest cafes to the Arnolfini are at
Park Street and the city centre.
The nearest pubs to the Arnolfini are The Drawbridge,
The Quay Bar, Berni Taverns in the Centre and the Bunch of
Grapes in Denmark Street.

ICW

The First Festival of Independent British Cinema is
organised by INDEPENDENT CINEMA WEST, which is an open
organisation of individuals from the whole South West region - independent film makers and those who wish to
make films - who have come together in order of facilitate
and finance their film work. The organisation is
non-profit making and run collectively by the members.

Meetings take place regularly on a Monday evening at
6.00 p.m. at
INDEPENDENT CINEMA WEST,
132A Queens Road,
Glinton,
Bristol.