

**FIRST FESTIVAL
INDEPENDENT
BRITISH CINEMA**

11-18 FEBRUARY 1975



**Organised by ICW
ARNOLFINI, BRISTOL**

10p

FIRST FESTIVAL INDEPENDENT

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 polarize 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 Lascelles (Independent Cinema West)



1. Somebody Help Me



2. Womens Film Group



3. Ian Breakwell

1 11.00

Chris Monger COLD MOUNTAIN 24 mins.
 Ironic celebration of the process of making a film.
 Nick Gifford BURRA SAHIB 57 mins.
 "A portrait of my three taxidermist uncles in S.India!"
 Peter Gidal C/O/N/S/T/R/U/C/T 12½ mins.
 ROOM FILM 1973 52 mins.
 "The film is not a translation of anything, it is not a representation of anything, not even of consciousness." P.G.

**2 FORUM 2.30
 CINEMA ACTION**

The longest surviving explicitly political film making group. They concentrate on direct connections with the trade unions and working class activity. A rare chance to see and discuss their latest work.
 ARISE YE WORKERS 23 mins.
 THE MINERS FILM 45 mins.

3 6.00

'structures'
 ron haselden

4 8.30

**INDEPENDENT
 CINEMA WEST SHOW**

ICW is a confederation of film making groups in the South and West formed in 1973. It is in the process of centralising facilities in the form of a film workshop, distribution centre and eventually a mobile cinema based in Bristol. The show will be interspersed with live music to warm the screen.

Paul Deacon & Chris Garrett: LIVE SHOW
 Ronald Brookes: ISFAHANI A Persian fairy tale.
 Morris Baker: SOMEBODY HELP ME S.W.A. financed musical; a rock concert at a mental hospital.
 Free Prop: KNOW YOUR ENEMY Made by a group of ACTT technicians in Bristol.
 Hilary Thompson, Caroline Sheldon: 2 + 2 or DEATH OF A BULLFIGHTER A feminist film.
 Chris Garrett: SURFACING
 Tony Freeth: LOCKLEAZE ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND
 Bill Mather:) ANIMATIONS
 Adrian Shaw:)
 Paul Deacon TOP HAT TALE

5 11.00

Animated films
 Peter Hickling DECIBELS IN THE AIR
 Lesley Keen ONDRA (Glasgow School of Art)
 John Gibbons A TO A (Yorkshire Arts)
 Janet Johns JUMPING JOAN (RFT, Bristol Univ.)
Films of optical effect
 Dennis Lowe TEMPTAE (National Film School)
 Kevin Pither FAR GONE, TOO FAR GONE
 ELECTRICITY
 Stuart Pound SIMPLEX (Lincolnshire & South
 Humberside Arts/Gulbenkian Foundation) 45 mins.

**6 FORUM 2.30
 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 6.00

malcom le grice

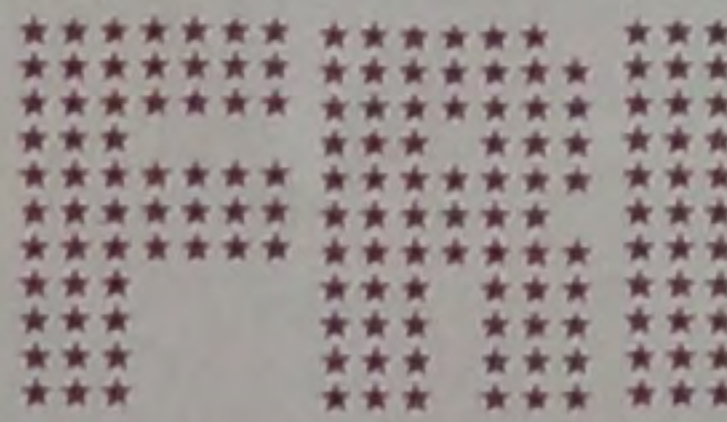
8 9.00

John Crumpton & ONE MORE CHANCE 25 mins.
 Graham Langford (Trent Polytechnic)
 The story of Shane Ventura, legendary English rock n' roller, the Greta Garbo of the Grease.....
 Chuck Despina MOON OVER THE ALLEY 100 mins
 (B.F.I.)
 Feature length musical, set in London showing the disruption (or destruction) of its people by outside forces. First public show.



18 11.00

23 11.00



9 11.00

David Hall
Tony Sinden
Hall/Sinden

Liza Ridley
Gill Eatherley

Rob Gawthrop

PHASED TIME
WET WIPE
THIS SURFACE
BETWEEN
WAVE BREAKING
CHAIR FILM
HAND GRENADE
LIGHT OCCUPATIONS
MOBIUS MIRANDA

10 FORUM 2.30
BASEMENT PROJECT



TUNDES FILM
JUNK
BLACK & WHITE

11 6.00

'hand held projector with mirrors'
david dye

12 9.00

Michael Joyce NICE TRY 90 mins.
A rather ordinary girl sees no way out of her boring existence firstly as a secretary, then as a wife. Finally she escapes, and is forced to find out what this entails. The film was made for £3,000 at weekends, over a period of 2 years.

Liz Rhodes Animated shorts

Postscript

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

13 11.00



14 FORUM 2.30

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

FLIX

16 8.30

Ann Rees Mogg	REAL TIME	
Lorraine Leeson	TV	(Reading Univ.)
	EATING/EXCRETING	
Group 5 Film Unit	VORTEX	(from Aberdeen)
William Diver & Simon Mallin	ENVEROUNEN	(B.F.I.)
Jill Daniels	DESCRIPTIONS	(RCA)
Clive Walley	THIS IS LIFE	(Welsh Arts)
Ian Woodcock	VARIATIONS ON A DREAM	

17 11.30
ARTS CENTRE

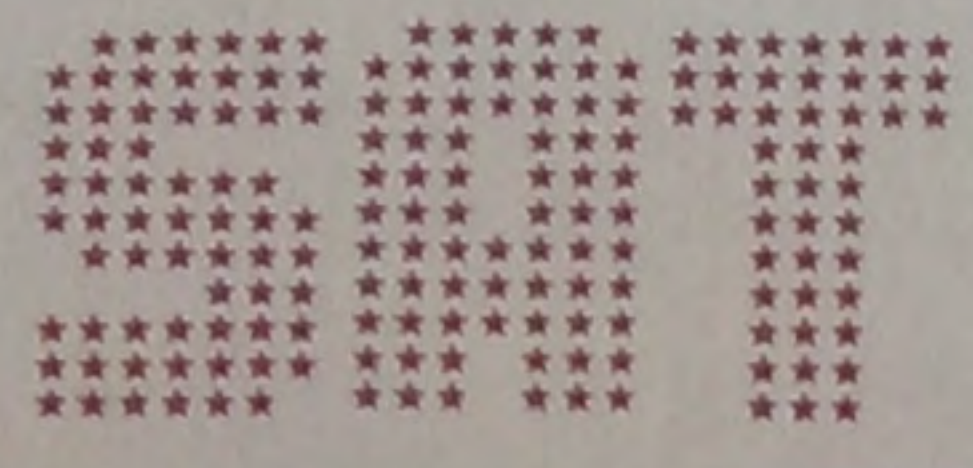
Steve Dwoskin	GIRL	30 mins.
	LABOURED PARTY	20 mins.
Ron Haselden	TRACKING CYCLES	12½ mins.
Chris Welsby	FOREST BAY 2	
	ANEMOMETER FILM	



28 11.30

33 EXPERIMENTAL 11.30

technicians in Bristol.
 Hilary Thompson, Caroline Sheldon: 2 + 2 or DEATH OF A BULLFIGHTER A feminist film.
 Chris Garrett: SURFACING
 Tony Freeth: LOCKLEAZE ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND
 Bill Mather:) ANIMATIONS
 Adrian Shaw:)
 Paul Deacon TOP HAT TALE



18 **11.00**

OPEN SCREEN

19 FORUM **2.30**

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	STILL LIFE WITH PEAR	
RCA (Prize winner,	Knokke International Festival)	
Edwin Maynard	OMEGA	(Bristol)
Mark Trompeteler	EVEN HEROES CAN READ	
Steve Edgell	ZAP ZERO & THE GATEWAY TO THE COSMOS	(Trent Poly)
Francine Winham & Women's Workshop	HELL GIRL HOUSE	(National Film School)
John Smith	HUT	
Adrian Shaw	Animations	(Newport College of Art)
Robert Short	BARBAREVEUSE	(Norwich)

22 **11.30**
ARTS CENTRE

David Woods TURNIP
 Peter Whitehead DADDY

23 **11.00**

Tony Trafford	STAINSBY FOLK FESTIVAL	
	(East Midland Arts & Yorkshire Arts)	
Margaret Tait	THE BIG SHEEP	Ancona Films
	COLOUR POEMS	(Orkneys)
Philip Thompson	TOLMERS, BEGINNING OR END?	
Gerry Malir	SQUAT	(RFT 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

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ARTS CENTRE

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	LABOURED PARTY	20 mins.
Ron Haselden	TRACKING CYCLES	12½ mins.
Chris Welsby	FOREST BAY 2	
	ANEMOMETER FILM	

28

11.30

Ray Johnson	THERE'S DIAMONDS UNDER DIRT	
Sue Crockford	ONE, TWO, THREE	
Mary Dickinson	THE PREPARATION ROOM	(RCA)
Mike Henley	SUNLIGHT	(RCA)
	OFF SCREEN	
David Pearce	STUDIO FILM	(RCA)
	SIX LOCATIONS	
Brian Trenerry	BOUT FILTRE	(RCA)
Will Milne	JOE WENT	(RCA)

29 FORUM 2.30

AMBER FILMS

HIGH ROW LAUNCH

& 2 Animations, Short Feature &

Philip Trevelyan's
SHIP TYNE MAIN

30 6.00

derek jarman
'burning
the pyramids'

31 8.30

William Raban 1 hour of films.

Roger Lambert SPLIT 55 mins.
 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

Anthony McCall LINE DESCRIBING A CONE
 Wander through on your way out.

32 11.30

ARTS CENTRE

Peter Sylvester IMAGE
 James Scott ADULT FUN

33 EXPERIMENTAL 11.30

Tim Cawkwell	A + B	(Malden)
John Du Cane	RELATIONS	
Steve Coulson	10 MINUTE BALLET REALITY	(Edinburgh)
Ian Breakwell	REPERTORY	(Arts Council)
Mike Leggett	EROTA/AFINI	(Exeter)

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 unshown works and excerpts from work in progress:- ELLEN, JOYCE, BUSES, HOUSING, UNEQUAL BROTHERS, THORNCOMBE.

35 6.00

'my magic self'
glen mciver
peter hatton

36 8.30



Laura Mulvey & Peter Wollen PENTHESILEA 90 mins.

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.....!

INFORMATION

0272 - 20142

The Festival box office will be open from Wed. 5th February in the Arnolfini bookshop.

40p

20p for O.A.P.'s, Claimants, 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).

CLUB SHOWS

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.**

OPEN SCREEN

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: 20142) 48 hours before the show.

Films for open screenings must be left at the Arnolfini box office 4.30 to 6.00 Thurs, Fri, Sat. They will be slotted 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 Tavern 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 to facilitate and fertilise their film work. The organisation is non-profit making and run collectively by the members.

Meetings take place regularly on a Monday evening at 8.00 p.m. at
INDEPENDENT CINEMA WEST,
132A Queens Road,
Clifton,
Bristol.