

The Museum of Modern Art

West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Circle 5-8900 Cable: Modernart

(THE REVOLUTIONARY MAN) (LE REVOLUTIONNAIRE)- Canada, 1965

Directed, written and produced by Jean-Pierre Lefebvre

Photography: Michel Regnier

Sound: Roger Leclerc

Music: Folkloristic

Cast: Louis St. Pierre, Louise Rosselet

In French, with no English subtitles

Black and white

Running time: 74 minutes

"In THE REVOLUTIONARY MAN, I attack...the Canadian cinema by trying to break completely with our traditions (particularly the very powerful tradition of editing); I attack also certain preconceived ideas, one being that in order to establish a sound industry, it is necessary to make films popular with the public; the other is that to make an interesting film one needs the help of an impeccable technique.... THE REVOLUTIONARY MAN was shot in 16mm in six days, without professional actors but with professional equipment.

"I made the film against the audience, believing on the one hand that it is to despise them to give them films that they will praise, and wishing, on the other hand, to provoke an indignation which could serve as a point of departure for a discussion of my film, the reaction of the public, and other Canadian films.

"If it were essential in my eyes that the film be plastically beautiful, it was in large part to make glaringly obvious the intentional awkwardness of the dialogue, the false tone of the characters, the awkwardness of their gestures, their attitudes, and their ideas. When you look at a snow storm from inside of a warm house, it is beautiful; if you go out, the storm remains beautiful in itself, but your emotions are transformed. What I wanted to do was to show at the same time that winter is beautiful and disgusting, and that our situation is similar to this. I wanted THE REVOLUTIONARY MAN to be a fuse and the spectator to be the bomb."

-- Jean-Pierre Lefebvre

Director Jean-Pierre Lefebvre was born in Canada in 1941. Since 1961 he has been the editor of the Canadian film magazine Objectif. He has published stories in commercial magazines and a collection of poems, "The Time that Lasts the Future." He has made three short films. LE REVOLUTIONNAIRE is his first feature film.