

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 956-6100 Cable: Modernart

NO. 76
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:
Lillian Gerard (212) 956-7296
Patricia Rosen (212) 956-7298

MUSEUM SHOWCASE FOR INDEPENDENTS

CINEPROBE NOW MARKS TENTH YEAR

CINEPROBE, a showcase designed by The Museum of Modern Art's Department of Film to exhibit the work of independent and experimental filmmakers, will now mark its tenth season. Described as a program of discovery and introduction, it starts on Monday, October 17, at 6:00 p.m. with the short works of Charlie Ahearn, who invests common spaces, such as quarries and stairways, with a mystery that arrests the viewer. Other avant-garde filmmakers from New York, Ohio, and California will also be presented.

Made possible by a grant from the National Endowment of the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts and the Jerome Foundation, CINEPROBE attracts an informed public because it provides a forum. A discussion with the filmmaker is followed by a question and answer period, welcomed by both filmmakers and the audiences with the latter often consisting of other filmmakers.

"Alternative cinema continues to grow in popularity," comments Adrienne Mancina, Curator in the Department of Film, who programs CINEPROBE with Larry Kardish, Associate Curator. "We would not be celebrating the 10th season of CINEPROBE if it were not for all those independents who are continuing to work out there. They are so committed to film and so persistent that we cannot handle the increasing number of unusual films submitted each year to CINEPROBE." CINEPROBE's popularity indicates the need for more showcases, patterned after this successful Museum program, the Curator said. Occasional festival showings do not provide adequate outlets; more consistent viewing like CINEPROBE is needed.

This season's CINEPROBE program includes: Peter Hutton's "Diary films" in black and white, which have a meditative quality and provide a stunning

(more)

tranquil vision of Asian rivers and New York roof tops.

Yvonne Rainer, considered a generative force in the modern dance of the '60s, will present her feature "Kristina Talking Pictures," a loose narrative with a touching refrain upon the disparity between public appearance, private will and fate. It is her third picture.

The first dual CINEPROBE to be presented will feature James Broughton, who received a full retrospective of his work in 1974, and Joel Singer whose films have not been seen in New York. Both filmmakers will screen their individual works as well as those on which they have collaborated. The audience will be able to judge how each artist has influenced the other.

Kon Petrochuk, a filmmaker from Kent, Ohio, will have his first New York screening of his stylistically adventuresome and humorous short films. In addition, "Independence Day," written, directed and produced by Bobby Roth of Los Angeles, will be presented. It is a UCLA thesis film which the filmmaker has extended, and it is described as one of the few films about young blacks which is "positive about black working people."

On the CINEPROBE program for 1978, the work of the foremost Australian avant-garde filmmaker Paul Winkler will be shown. He will join those outstanding experimental filmmakers who have appeared on the program in the past ten years, among them, Paul Morrissey, Nam June Paik, Amalie Rothschild, Martha Coolidge, Hollis Frampton, Jim McBride, Tony and Beverly Conrad, Ed Emshwiller, Nancy Graves, Bruce Conner, Robert Nelson, Mark Rappaport and others.

The fall schedule follows:

October 17 -- Charlie Ahearn and his films
October 31 -- Peter Hutton and his "Diary" films
November 14 -- Yvonne Rainer "Kristina Talking Pictures"
November 28 -- James Broughton and Joel Singer
December 12 -- Kon Petrochuk
December 19 -- Bobby Roth "Independence Day"