

The Museum of Modern Art

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FILMS BY EMILE DE ANTONIO AT MUSEUM

The films of Emile de Antonio, whose pioneer political documentaries include such well-known works as "Point of Order," "Rush to Judgment" and "In the Year of the Pig," will be shown from July 10 through July 20 at The Museum of Modern Art. The filmmaker will be present to discuss his work at a showing of his film "Millhouse: A White Comedy" on Thursday, July 10, at 8 P.M., in the Museum auditorium.

Emile de Antonio, whose current project-- a film on the Weather Underground being made with Haskell Wexler and Mary Lampson-- has provoked the interest of the Justice Department, has stirred up controversy ever since his first picture, "Point of Order" (1961-63). The only cinematic record of the Army-McCarthy hearings, "Point of Order" was edited from 188 hours of kinescopes of the hearings and was a critical examination not of McCarthy alone but of the tactics of both sides.

Other subjects which have engaged de Antonio are the 1965 New York mayoral race ("That's Where the Action Is"), the assassination of John F. Kennedy and the Warren Report ("Rush to Judgment"), the 1968 campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination ("America Is Hard to See"), Vietnam ("In the Year of the Pig"), Richard Nixon ("Millhouse: A White Comedy" and "Nixon's Checkers Speech") and the New York art community ("Painters Painting").

De Antonio's films are constructed from stock footage and from long filmed interviews. This way of working is related to that of artists such as Robert Rauschenberg, whose "combines" juxtaposed found objects with created ones, and whom de Antonio knew. The "collage" method, developed by de Antonio, offered documentary filmmakers an alternative to cinema verité and enabled him to edit with an interest in isolating language and gesture. As Mitch Tuchman has written in a forthcoming monograph on the filmmaker: "De Antonio, working beyond advocacy, is that singularly perceptive person who sees a deep, implicit meaning behind the readily observable ('filmable') social details; he uses the ideologies he knows must arise from 'radical scavenging'

(more)

as the eyes of his art on the world."

The schedule follows:

Point of Order. 1961-63. With footage from the 1954 Army-McCarthy hearings. 97 min.

Thursday, July 10, 5:30

Friday, July 11, 2:00

Millhouse: A White Comedy. 1971. 93 min.

Thursday, July 10, 8:00 (The filmmaker will be present)

Saturday, July 12, 5:30

That's Where the Action Is. 1965. Concerning the 1965 mayoral race, New York. 50 min.

Saturday, July 12, 3:00

Monday, July 14, 5:30

Wednesday, July 16, 2:00 (with Nixon's Checkers Speech)

Rush to Judgment. 1966. Concerning the Warren Report and questions concerning the John F. Kennedy assassination. With Mark Lane. 110 min.

Sunday, July 13, 5:30

Monday, July 14, 2:00

Nixon's Checkers Speech. Originally produced by Richard Nixon in 1952; re-released in 1971 by de Antonio. 30 min.

Wednesday, July 16, 2:00 (with That's Where the Action Is)

America Is Hard to See. 1970. Concerning the 1968 campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination. 101 min.

Thursday, July 17, 5:30

Sunday, July 20, 5:30

Painters Painting. 1972. With many contemporary artists, art critics, gallery owners, private collectors, museum personnel. 116 min.

Thursday, July 17, 8:00

Saturday, July 19, 3:00

In the Year of the Pig. 1969. About Vietnam from the early 1930s through the Tet offensive of 1968 and American involvement in that country. 101 min.

Friday, July 18, 2:00

Saturday, July 19, 5:30

Additional information available from Mark Segal, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, New York 10019. Phone (212)956-7296.

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