

The Museum of Modern Art Department of Film

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#67

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART OFFERS A BIRTHDAY SALUTE TO APPALSHOP--WHITESBURG, KENTUCKY

Founded in 1969 with a staff of one, Appalshop Inc. has become one of the leading media centers in the United States. Its films regularly win awards at festivals worldwide; its multifaceted programs--including theater, television, radio, recordings, photography, and a quarterly magazine--draw from and celebrate the lives of Appalshop's constituents in central Appalachia.

On the occasion of the fifteenth anniversary of the founding of Appalshop, the Department of Film will present a three-program tribute from December 2 through December 6. The programs, to be shown in the Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 2, will include the New York premieres of the most recent films in the Appalshop catalog.

The premieres--to be shown as a special presentation of the WHAT'S HAPPENING? series--are Sunny Side of Life (about the Carters of southwestern Virginia, the "first family of country music") and Strangers and Kin, an alternately funny and poignant examination of the hillbilly stereotype, both in popular culture and in its effects on the people so labeled.

Other films include Elizabeth Barret's documentary Coalmining Women, Mimi Pickering's The Struggle of Coon Branch Mountain (an account of a battle between West Virginia parents and a government bureaucracy), and The Big Lever by Frances Morton, a look at backslapping, baby-kissing, and glad-handing in Leslie County's Republican Party. Appalshop's fiction film production will be represented by Herb E. Smith's drama In Ya Blood.

The films in APPALSHOP--WHITESBURG, KENTUCKY are also being shown in a tribute at the American Film Institute Theater in Washington, D.C. The program was organized at The Museum of Modern Art by Larry Kardish, Curator of Film Exhibitions. The Museum's film programs are made possible in part with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts and by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

For further information, the public may call (212) 708-9500.

COMPLETE SCHEDULE IS ATTACHED

November 1984

For further PRESS information, please contact Stuart Klawans, Film Press Representative,
The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, NY 10019 (212) 708-9752.

SCHEDULE

APPALSHOP--WHITESBURG, KENTUCKY

- Sun. 12/2 2:30 Program I: In Ya Blood. 1971. Herb E. Smith. 20 min./
The Struggle of Coon Branch Mountain. 1972. Mimi Pickering. 13
min./The Big Lever: Party Politics in Leslie County, Kentucky.
1982. Frances Morton. 53 min.
- 5:30 Program II: The Buffalo Creek Flood: An Act of Man. 1975.
Mimi Pickering. 40 min./Coalmining Women. 1982. Elizabeth Barret.
40 min.
- Mon. 12/3 3:00 Program I.
- Tue. 12/4 3:00 WHAT'S HAPPENING? Program III: Strangers and Kin. 1984.
Herb E. Smith. 58 min./Sunny Side of Life. 1984. Scott Faulkner,
Jack Wright and Anthony Slone. 57 min.
- 6:30 Program III.
- Thu. 12/6 3:00 Program II.

All screenings will be held in the Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 2.

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