

FVA / Young Filmmakers Foundation Collection @ Donnell Library



*** These kids are actually from ALBANY!**



- **collection contains films from several youth film clubs, all organized by Rodger Larsen**

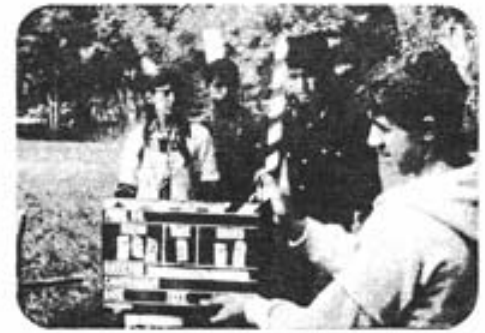
- Montefiore-Moshulu in the Bronx — 92nd St Y
- 4 Rivington Street — University Settlement
- Henry Street Settlement

- **ODDS & ENDS**

- feature films by Jaime Barrios
- ???

• THE FILMS THEMSELVES •

- neighborhood stories: parks, rooftops, school
- genre films, redigested: horror, westerns
“exploitation” movies made by kids
- animation: stop animated, hand-drawn, etc
...mostly @ Henry St. Settlement



Youth Film Distribution Center

43 WEST 16 STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10011

212 989-7265

- **founded through ~\$60K grant from NYSCA
—part of a wave of film funding**
- **aimed to share with a larger audience films made by
kids through the various film clubs**
- **paucity of good movies aimed at 5-12 year olds**

**Center New
Films
1972**

Youth Film Distribution



**MOVIES BY
TEEN-AGERS**

decides to fight back.
Rental \$10.00 - Purchase \$65.00

✓SURPRISED THIEF, THE by Paul Gunn
Age 15, B & W, 3 min. 1969
A mugger picks on the wrong man.
Rental \$4.50 - Purchase \$30.00

X TAR BEACH PARTY by Aureo Jimenez
Age 17, B & W, 8 min. 1967
Love, danger and valor up on the
project roof - (the tar beach).
Rental \$12.00 - Purchase \$80.00

X TEEN SQUAD by Rafael Colon
Age 17, Color, 8 min. 1971
Puerto Rican youth looks at
law and order, police enforcement,
from a special point of view.
Rental \$12.00 - Purchase \$80.00

TELL-TALE HEART by William Ostrow
Age 17, B & W, 10 min. 1966
Edgar Allan Poe's story visually
revisited.
Rental \$15.00 - Purchase \$100.00

X THOUGHT IN FIVE by Mariezel Rios
Age 18, B & W, 5 min. 1971
Stronger ethnic ties, plus a
budding identification with
"American" culture haunt Miss Rios'
vision of the world.
Rental \$7.50 - Purchase \$50.00

✓ TWO TIMED LOVER by C.C. Stroman
Age 17, B & W, 3 min. 1966
It's still the same old story, a
fight for love and glory.
Rental \$4.50 - Purchase \$30.00

TRIO includes Boom by Wanda Edwards
Age 16; Aqualung by Doron Ben-Ami,
age 16; and Pollution by Kevin
Petriak, age 17. Produced by the
Bureau of Art of the Board of Ed-
ucation of the City of New York.
These three lively shorts comment,
each in their special way, on war,
a search for God, and pollution.
Rental \$12.00 - Purchase \$90.00

TRIO AT 19 by Judith Kurtz
Age 19, B & W, 10 min. 1970
A young woman's alienation and
struggle for identity triggers
tensions between her and two friends
- both boys.
Rental \$15.00 Purchase \$100.00

✓ THREE IN THE PARK by Bernadette
Beekman
Age 18, Color, 7 min. 1971
Girlfriends out for a day in the
park meet a young man who creates
an awkward triangle with racial
overtones. The placid, pastoral
setting helps smoothe over the
strong and disturbing undercurrents.
Rental \$14.00 - Purchase \$105.00

X UNPLEASANT EVENING, AN by Jesus Cruz
Age 17, B & W, 10 min. 1967
To be alcoholic, the loneliness
and rejection it breeds.
Rental \$15.00 - Purchase \$100.00

✓ UP AGAINST THE WALL by James
Williams and Michael Jacobsohn
Ages 18 and 19, Color, 15 min. 1967

Program VII:

young, gifted and black

Five films by Black teen-agers, all different in style and emphasis, expressing the complex diversity of an emerging generation of Black filmmakers

Complete program 34 minutes Rental \$45. Purchase \$385.

YOUR CLOSEST NEIGHBORS by Anthony Chauncey

Uninvited visitors spoil a birthday party, and it takes a chase and a battle to get rid of them; and then, you're never too sure . . . when cockroaches are the enemy

Rental \$8. (4 min. Color) Purchase \$60.

THE OTHER BROTHER by Steven Brown

An ironic view of the contradiction between a young Black's outward signs of pride and his ambivalence toward white society

Rental \$7.50 (5 min. B&W) Purchase \$50.

FOUR WOMEN by Ilanga Witt

Nina Simone's song interpreted in dance by students at the Harlem Preparatory School, filmed in counterpoint with images of women in the community

Rental \$15. (5 min. Color) Purchase \$75.

Program VIII:

as seen by young women

Recent years have witnessed increased independence, expression, and self-identification by women. In this program, five young women give voice to some of the pleasures, conflicts and terrors of growing up female

Complete program 34 minutes Rental \$45. Purchase \$350.

ASPIRATIONS by Peri Muldofsky

A unique blending of fantasy and reality against a background of pop-music images of womanhood. This startling film frankly explores the longings and terrors of becoming a woman in our society

Rental \$12. (6 min. Color) Purchase \$90.

YOUNG LOVE by Linda Rivera

The traditional rites of courtship and marriage are simply and beautifully evoked in this lyrical film

Rental \$15. (8 min. B&W) Purchase \$100.

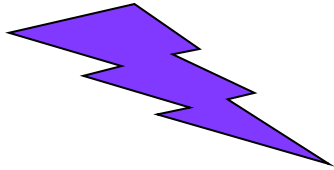
OFFICE CINDERELLA by Laretta Baker

In a familiar work situation, a young Black woman unexpectedly rebels against the oppressive manipulations of her (male) boss

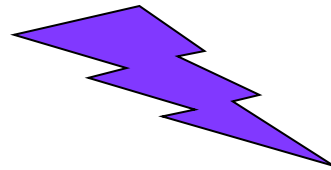
Rental \$4.50 (3 min. B&W) Purchase \$30.

MORPHING MEANING of YFF FILMS

- **STUDENT FILMS / PERSONAL FILM PROJECTS**



- **DISTRIBUTED AS FILMS FOR CHILDREN**
— Youth Film Distribution Center



- **CULTURAL ARTIFACTS**
 - preserved by NYPL
 - value isn't necc. "cinematic"
 - screened at festivals

1985 — Young Filmmakers Foundation morphs into...



- **original mission was in some ways subsumed by technology: easier to gain access to multimedia storytelling technology...**
 - **focus more on lending equipment / shared-use facilities**

Museo del Barrio's 1990 Latin Film & Video Festival

Marlina Gonzalez
c/o El Museo del Barrio
1230 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10029

Dear Marlina:

I hereby entrust the following archival prints from our collection to El Museo for you to preview for the film festival:

SEEING	Felix Limardo
MUSEUM HERO	Alfonso Sanchez
NUMERO UNO	Jose Bonet
L.I.E.	Octavio Malina
THE THIEF	Raymond Esquilin
TAR BEACH PARTY	Aureo Jimenez
DON'T MESS W/ US	Alejandro Lopez
HARVEY GRUNDY	Jorge Toro
KING HEROIN	Jorge Mercado
POTHEADS	Alfonso Sanchez
PEPPY	Fred Perez

YFF screening @ 2005 Tribeca Film Festival



Young Filmmakers Rediscovered: 1964-1974

Restored and Rediscovered

U.S.A., 88 min, Color, 16 mm

In 1964, art educator Rodger Larson, armed with a Bolex camera, a Moviescop, and a pair of rewinds, began mentoring New York City adolescents in 16mm filmmaking. By 1968, he established the Young Filmmakers Foundation (YFF), which housed an experimental school called Film Club. The agency's mission was to further youth filmmaking activity as an artistic, educational, and vocational experience, primarily for Lower East Side teenagers who might not otherwise have been able to afford filmmaking equipment. In the ensuing years, the enterprise grew in scope and ambition. A sister agency, the Movie Club at the Henry Street Settlement, was formed by Larson's former intern Bruce Spiegel. With support from the New York State Council on the Arts, other public and private sources, and a major financial grant from the Helena Rubinstein Foundation, the Young Filmmakers Foundation stabilized operations. They were able to purchase synch-sound camera equipment, to gather the student works and other youth films into a distribution cooperative, and to exhibit their movies in the five boroughs of New York City through the Moviebus program. (These filmmaking and exhibition activities are depicted in this short version of *Film Club*, the 1968 documentary by Jaime Barrios, a co-founder of YFF along with Lynne Hofer). The 10 other films shown in this program, all made by teenagers associated with the film clubs or the distribution cooperative, reveal an astonishing range of youthful talent and artistry at work. These young turks depicted the world around them with a keen sense of observation. Collectively, they created movies encompassing a wide range of genres and styles—narratives, documentaries, and animation films—in order to convey their stories about New York City's history, gang warfare, racism, family portraits, social protest, and spiritual quests. Their films display a sophisticated sense of dramatic structure, and are weighted with moral gravity, but also lightened by humor. 16mm preservation prints courtesy of The Donnell Media Center of The New York Public Library. Video version of Film Club courtesy of Mike Jacobsohn.



Film/Video Arts
817 Broadway
New York, N.Y. 10003

Att. Mr. Roger Larson

Dear Mr. Larson:

In recent years, we have experienced an overall increase of 42% in operating costs, with major increases in:

Liability Insurance; Employee Salaries & Welfare Insurance;
Real Estate Taxes; Security Systems Maintenance Costs;
Energy Costs; Fire Prevention and E.P.A. Criterias

While, to-date we have maintained our storage rates, we find ourselves once again facing increasing costs. In order to provide the optimum storage conditions and timely services our client's have enjoyed in the past, we regret to inform you we must at this time, increase our storage rates. Effective July 1, 1990 the following areas will be increased:

<u>Storage Type</u>	<u>Rate(7/1/90)</u>	<u>Per</u>
Standard	\$ 90.00	Vault

• **FVA no longer wanted
to foot film storage costs...**

**...luckily Donnell Media Center
had already begun sniffing
around the films**

PHYSICAL HISTORY OF THE FILMS

- **original film club films pooled by Rodger. Original elements kept at the labs that processed them (mostly @ Du Art)**
- **creation of YFDC >>> creation of circulating prints**
- **stored in Fort Lee, NJ from ~'74 until Donnell ingest**
 - **not in climate-controlled storage though**
- **Donnell has re-leaded, re-housed all the archival elements and many of the cleanest prints**
 - **weeding down to 2 best copies of YFDC projection prints**
 - **new prints of some films made with Carnegie grants in 2005. New INs?**
 - **not in climate-controlled storage. In fairly cold basement.**
 - offsite storage or cold storage @ new NYPL film facility to-be?**
- **paperwork offers a good case study of having to round up and consolidate a collection!!!**



WHERE WILL THE FILMS GO?!?!?

the

LEZ WATCH ONE!

end!