Mekas, Jonas. "Movie Journal." *Village Voice*, March 23, 1972, 73.

movie JOURNAL

by Jonas Mekas

The First New York Festival of Cuban Films begins on March 24 at the Olympia Theatre (Broadway at 107th Street). The films, according to Michael Myerson, spokesman for the American Documentary Films, the organizer of this festival, have been selected by the Cuban Film Institute. The films shown represent some of the best films made in Cuba during the last 10 years. The intention of the festival was also to bring to New York several of the leading film-makers themselves, so that we could have first hand information on what's happening in Cuban cinema. The State Department decided to deny them visas, for "security reasons." It's a very curious reason, this "security reason." Two months ago, Generalissimo Franco, a dictator, forbade the director of "Vampyr" to leave Spain (to attend the Museum of Modern Art screening of his film) for "security reasons." Who is afraid of freedom? Who is afraid of free people? Dictators and fools. The decision of the State Department is still more foolish when we consider that the films shown at the First New York Festival of Cuban Films next are going to Washington, D.C., to the American Film Institute. The films will travel to other cities in the States, as of course they should. So that the decision of the State Department to deny the visas to the film-makers whose films are touring this country represents an act of simple boorishness. The State Department should apologize to the film-makers and to the people of the United States. Somebody somewhere should be fired, that's what I think.

BOOKS RECEIVED: "A Primer for Film-Making," by Kenneth H. Roberts and Win Sharples, Jr. (Published by Pegasus, New York. 550 pages. Price: $12.50.) I didn't read it, but it looks very huge and impressive, it may be useful for those beginners who need all kinds of technical advice. It looks like it's full of technical details. It says: "A complete guide to 16 and 35 film production." Another book just came in, called "Guerrilla Television," by Michael Shamberg, published by Raindance Corporation (110 pages, $4.95). I looked through it and it is quite a thorough guide to those who are fooling around with video cameras. It's full of technical and practical information. Also a new book by the inexhaustible Parker Tyler, "Screening the Sexes: Homosexuality in the Movies," again a huge, 385-page book, $10, published by Holt, Rinehart, and Winston. I may look through it some rainy day. But if the rest of the book is as unintelligent as the pages on Gregory Markopoulos, I may put it back on the shelf, rain or no rain.

NEWS & NOTES: Charles Levine is continuing his cable television series of conversations with film-makers. The series is presented on Sterling Cable TV, Channel 6-C, Friday and Sunday from 8.30 to 9.30 p. m. Some of the film-makers: Ed Emshwiller, April 7 and 9; Mike Kuchar, April 14 and 16; Barry Gerson, April 21 and April 23. I have no idea where you can see these programs, but they exist.

Stan Brakhage will give a short film course at the University Film Study Center this June. Inquire at Box 275, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138.

Jud Yalkut is conducting a series on "independent and personal film-making" on WBAI-FM every Monday at 11 p. m.

The Third Edition of "The American Film Institute's Guide to College Film Courses, 1971-72" informs us that a total of 2392 film courses are being offered during the 1971-1972 academic year in this country. There are 47 schools which offer degrees in film, from A. A. to Ph. D. Ninety-six offer a major in film. Majoring in film on the undergraduate level are 4619 students, 1508 on the graduate level. (AFI's Guide to College Film Courses may be obtained for $3.50 from American Library Association, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611.)

April 8 is the deadline for the Yale Film Festival (for 16mm films under 30 minutes). Address for inquiries: Yale Film Festival, 59 High Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06520. Of course, there will be money prizes ("a minimum of $1000 in prize money," says brochure).

Al Fine, 363 Canal Street, New York City, needs a small sum of money to complete his film, he says. Is looking for help.

Saw Joan Jonas's video-movement-dance program at the Logiudice Gallery. I found it a very careful exploration of reflections and overlappings, of hardness and softness, of mirrors —about the best use of video since Nam June Paik's video machines at Bonino Gallery.

A quote; "In some recent indictments for conspiracy in the United States, it is not clear—I doubt that it ever can be clear—how much the conspirators were planning a dangerous action and how much they were just sounding off out of frustration. In the cases of some of the black militants, however, I suspect that they were indicted largely because their speech pattern is violent by white standards." (Fom Paul Goodman's new book, "Speaking and Language: Defence of Poetry.")

John Gruen's book, "The Party's Over Now," and the fourth volume of Anais Nin's diaries contain pages on Maya Deren and Willard Maas.

Sprinklers for Meadow

A new sprinkler system is being installed in the Sheep Meadow in Central Park, a gift of the Charles E. Merrill Trust of Ithaca, New York.

FILM FORUM
256 West 88th 362-0503

FRI • SAT • SUN
March 24, 25 & 26
Window Films
Michael Snow's
"N.Y. Eye & Ear Control"
"Standard Time"
Andrew Noren's
The Wind Variations
Figure Rising From
Chair and Leaving Frame
Barry Gerson's
Beaded Light • Dissolving • Beyond
Endurance • Remembrance
Metamorphasis • Portrait of
Andrew Noren
March 31, April 1, 2 & 7, 8, 9
INDEPENDENT CINEMA
OF CANADA

THURS
MARCH 23 RON FINNE, FREDERIC MARTIN, LEO J. RHEWDNAL GRETCHEN LANGHELD
MARCH 30 - WHEELER DIXON

ALL PROGRAMS BEGIN AT 8:30
partially supported by the NYS Council on the Arts

A dialogue with film makers, Tues. 5:30
CINEPROBE
March 28: Selected Works by John Marshall
John Marshall will discuss his films
The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street

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QUEENS
BW BAYSIDE
BW BORDAT
STATEN ISLAND
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HUNTINGTON
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PEARL RIVER
HUDSON COUNTY HAYTAIR
PASSAIC COUNTY WILLOWBROOK
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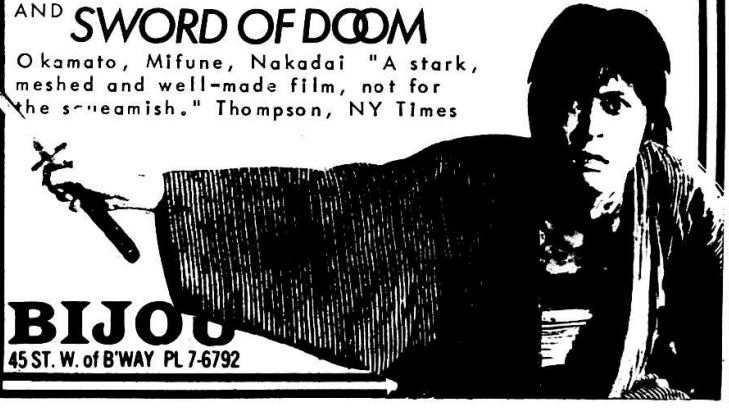
Today thru Fri, 24
GOYOKIN -Gosha, Nakadai "A film of stunning beauty and power." Thomas, LA Times
AND
BRIDE OF THE ANDES Hani "Pure fascination." N.Y. Times
Starts Sat. 24th thru April 1st
INN OF EVIL Kobayashi, Nakadai Premiere
AND SWORD OF DOOM
Okamato, Mifune, Nakadai "A stark, meshed and well-made film, not for the squeamish." Thompson, NY Times

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WED. MARCH 22	6 PM	JOSEPH CORNELL	A LEGEND FOR FOUNTAINS, ANGEL
		MAYA DEREN AND ALEXANDER HAMMID	MESHES OF THE AFTERNOON
		MAYA DEREN	CHOREOGRAPHY FOR CAMERA, RITUAL IN TRANSFIGURED TIME
	8 PM	CARL TH. DREYER	GERTRUD . . . (Subtitles)
THUR. MAR. 23	6 PM	SERGEI EISENSTEIN	BROMENOSETS POTYOMKIN (Subtitles)
	8 PM	ROBERT FLAHERTY	MAN OF ARAN
	10 PM	DOCKSUMP & MAN RAY	ANEMIC CINEMA
		LEGER & MURPHY	BALLET MECANIQUE
		JEAN GENET	UN CHANT D'AMOUR
FRI. MARCH 24	6 PM	SERGEI EISENSTEIN	IVAN GROZNYI, PARTS I & II (IVAN THE TERRIBLE) (No Subtitles)
	10 PM	CHRISTOPHER MACLAUNE	THE END
		KEN JACOBS	LITTLE STABS AT HAPPINESS
		FLEISCHMER & JACOBS	BLONDE COBRA
SAT. MARCH 25	6 PM	D. W. GRIFFITH	INTOLERANCE
	10 PM	HOLLIS FRAMPTON	ZORNS LEMMA
SUN. MARCH 26	6 PM	JEROME HILL	DEATH IN THE FORENOON, CANARIES
		WILLARD MAAS	GEOGRAPHY OF THE BODY
		IAN HUGO	BELLS OF ATLANTIS
		FRANK STAUFFACHER	SAUSALITO
		FRANK & LESLIE	PULL MY DAISY
	8 PM	PETER KUBELKA	MOSAIK IM VERTRAUEN (MOSAIC IN CONFIDENCE), ADEBAR, SCHWECHATER, ARNULF RAINER, UNSERE AFRIKAREISE, (OUR TRIP TO AFRICA)
	10 PM	MARCEL HANOUN	UNE SIMPLE HISTOIRE (A SIMPLE STORY) (No subtitles)
TUES. MAR. 28	6 PM	MARCEL HANOUN	LE PRINTEMPS (SPRING) (No subtitles)
	8 PM	MIKE & GEORGE KUCHAR	PUSSY ON A HOT TIN ROOF, TOOTSIES IN AUTUMN
		DIMITRI KIRSANOV	MENILMONTANT
		HUMPHREY JENNINGS	LISTEN TO BRITAIN
	10 PM	KEN JACOBS	TOM, TOM, THE PIPER'S SON

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will show & discuss his films
"CHROMA"
(a video-graphic work)
"NINE O'CLOCK"
(work in progress - taken during the celebrity service ball at the Plaza Hotel
"THE STRIP"
"ANDROGYNE" and
"SONG FOR RENT"
(made with Jack Smith)

SUNDAY - MAR. 26, 1972
GROUP PROGRAM OF OUTSTANDING NEW FILMS
"JULY 1971 - IN SAN FRANCISCO, LIVING AT BEACH STREET; WORKING AT CANYON CINEMA, SWIMMING IN THE VALLEY OF THE MOON"
by PETER HUTTON
"PREY"
by ARTHUR HIBBERT
and new films by
JOHN BUCHANAN

These programs are supported, in part, by a grant by the N.Y. State Council on the Arts.
BOTH PROGRAMS START AT 8:30 PM — CONTRIB.

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Monday, March 20 thru Wednesday, March 29*
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FILMS BY John Lennon and Yoko Ono
This selection of their recent films offers a provocative insight into the cinematic imagination of these celebrated and controversial artists.
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* Please note there will be no film showings Tuesday Evening March 21.
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