

ONE SHOW ONLY: 8:00pm

**ANNUAL GALA CHRISTMAS SHOW:
CHICAGO PREMIERE OF LARRY JORDAN'S FULL-LENGTH ANIMATED FEATURE/SOPHIE'S PLACE**

Greetings of the season! Hard on the smash success of last month's "Sexual Inclination/Two" program - for which we owe profuse thanks to you, our loyal audience - we return this month with a really fun show (in three parts) to enliven the holiday season. First: the great "long version" (20 minutes) of Kenneth Anger's poem to unrequited love, RABBIT'S MOON, with a witty soundtrack consisting of several of the most original and haunting love-songs of classic Fifties rock. During his visit to Chicago a year ago, Anger said that this version is the one he considers definitive rather than the short (6 minutes) "kiddie version" he released later, and we urged him to put both versions in distribution. Anger promised to consider doing that, but meanwhile we discovered, hidden away in the pages of the huge tome that is the Museum of Modern Art film catalog, one last print of the original, full-length version of RABBIT'S MOON, which we promptly scheduled for this end-of-year celebration.

Second: a "mini-fest" of shorts from Charlie Chaplin's incredibly creative first year of filmmaking (1914) with Mack Sennett at Keystone, including KID AUTO RACES AT VENICE, a very brief, rather crude improvisation which was only the second (possibly third) film Chaplin made, after he had been before the camera, at most, a couple of weeks! Yet in this tiny gem Chaplin was inspired to invent, nearly full-blown, the character who became known throughout the world as the Little Tramp, and who was to be his public persona in scores of films over the next twenty-plus years, through the making of MODERN TIMES in 1936.

And our feature: SOPHIE'S PLACE by master San Francisco animator Larry Jordan, a prolific filmmaker who has mastered many styles but who is best known for his lovely, lyric, collage-style animations based on 19th century engravings. Larry Jordan's earlier films in this style include his celebrated classic from the Sixties, OUR LADY OF THE SPHERE, and the delightful MASQUERADE and MOONLIGHT SONATA, shown on earlier programs in this series. (We've also shown three other Larry Jordan films, examples of his "live-action/documentary" style: CORNELL/1965, VISIONS OF A CITY, and MAGENTA GERYON.) Jordan has made one prior, extended-length animation, a marvellous illustration of Samuel Taylor Coleridge's poem, read by Orson Welles, RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER. But SOPHIE'S PLACE, far exceeding in ambition any of his previous works in this style, is the film that Larry Jordan considers his "first fully animated feature." An overview of the program, not counting a surprise or two:



SOPHIE'S PLACE

Larry Jordan's new animated feature, a culmination of five years work in full hand-painted collage animation, an "alchemical autobiography" centered on the image of Sophia, an early Greek/Gnostic embodiment of spiritual wisdom

RABBIT'S MOON

original version of Kenneth Anger's masterpiece

**KID AUTO RACES AT VENICE
BETWEEN SHOWERS
LAUGHING GAS
FACE ON THE BARROOM FLOOR**

four short Charlie Chaplin shorts from the first year (1914) with Mack Sennett at Keystone/Hollywood during which he made an incredible 34 shorts and one feature, first flowering of a true film genius!

----- CLIP OUT AND SAVE ----- SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING PROGRAMS -----

EXPERIMENTAL FILM COALITION at RANDOLPH ST. GALLERY 756 N. MILWAUKEE (at CHICAGO) 666-7737
Popular screenings of fine independent/experimental films on the third Friday of each month.

Friday, 15 January TWO SHOWS ONLY/7:00 & 9:30pm

THE SECRET CINEMA/WILL HINDLE TRIBUTE

In homage to Will Hindle, a great filmmaker who died suddenly of a heart attack last April, our feature this month is WATERSMITH, a transcendent masterpiece in the tradition of both OLYMPIA by Riefenstahl, and Kubrick's 2001. Co-featuring a stunning, long-lost New York underground black comedy, Paul Bartel's THE SECRET CINEMA, by the maker of the cult classics EATING RAOUL, LUST IN THE DUST, and DEATH RACE 2000. Plus THE SMILING MADAME BEUDET, Germaine Dulac's proto-feminist classic from the Twenties avant-garde; Ramon Rivera Moret's sardonic new comedy, CHA CHA CHA; and two new animations: Christopher Sullivan's MASTER OF CEREMONIES and FACE LIKE A FROG by the great Sally Cruikshank, song by Danny Elfman!

Friday, 19 February ONE SHOW ONLY/8:00pm

**ROBERT FRANK/LIFE DANCES ON...
DOUG HAYNES/COMMON LOSS**

Robert Frank, one of the greatest living still photographers ("The Americans"), abandoned photography in 1958 to devote his life to film (and recently, video) making. His first film, PULL MY DAISY, became a classic, the one great document that exists of the Beat era, but later work has rarely been seen, for many and complex reasons. LIFE DANCES ON... from the early Eighties, one of Frank's most recent personal films will be a "warmup" to the coming release of CANDY MOUNTAIN, co-directed by Rudy Wurlitzer. Haynes's COMMON LOSS, great animation discovery!