

L.I.F.T
The Liason of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto
 345 Adelaide Street West,
 Toronto, Ontario
 M5V 1R5
 596-8233

To All Members, New and Old (not to be confused with young and old),

Many of you receiving this newsletter probably haven't heard from or been involved with LIFT for quite a while...or... maybe you're a new member, and haven't yet had the chance to get involved. In either case, if you are a **filmmaker**, you will find the following most interesting.....starting with an update of what's planned for the near future.....

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28 (7:15 pm)- MONTHLY 'THIRD MONDAY' GATHERING / WELCOME/SCREENING (LIFT Office)

- 1 - *Burden of Dreams* - 1982 - 95 min. Dir. - Les Blank
 A documentary chronicling the making of Werner Herzog's Fitzcarraldo.
- 2 - *The Chicken That Time Forgot* - 1977 - B&W, 14 min., Dir. - Franco Battista
 A satire on the horror/sci-fi genre of the 50's.
- 3 - *OMNI FM* - 1984, 1 min., colour, stop-motion animation
 Dir. - Scott McCrae (to be present)
 An unauthorized broadcast of intergalactic rock music is abruptly stopped by a higher authority and replaced with regular programming.
- 4- *Lock* - 1984, B&W, Dir. - Frank Sonne
 A young boy finds excitement through his initiative to explore.

A brief introduction and update to the developments of LIFT will precede the films. Discussions will include events since last meeting and proposed workshops. Refreshments will be served.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 2 (8:15pm)-SCREENING(PARTYAFTERWARDS)(LIFT OFFICE

- 1 - *The Producers (Springtime For Hitler)* 1968, colour,88min.,
 Academy Award Winner : Best Screenplay
 Writer & Director - Mel Brooks, Editor - Ralph Rosenblum
 A preposterous wildly funny tale about an impoverished Broadway theatre producer who stages a ghastly play in the hopes of making his fortune.
- 2 - *Superman : The Mummy Strikes* 1943, colour,8min., animated , Dir. - Izzy Sparber
 Reporter Clark Kent covers a murder at the Egyptology Museum and Superman must come to rescue Lois Lane from the giant mummies.
- 3 - *The Editor* - 1971 - 15 min. , Dir. -Stephen Rabin .
 A study of the role of the editor in film production, his association with the director and the creative decisions he must make.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25 (7:15PM) - MONTHLY 'THIRD MONDAY' GATHERING/SCREENING

Visitor - Claudia Suhanic, The Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television

Claudia will speak to the membership about the Academy, what it offers its members, eligibility for membership and the new Television division.

Still to come (Hopefully in early December).....

.....**Francoyse Picard from the Canada Council** (Dates still to be confirmed!)

.....**Tour of a film and sound lab** and discount rates for LIFT members.

Now back to the business at hand....

What you're reading is an interim "newsletter" from the Liason of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto. L.I.F.T. is a non-profit association of independent filmmakers who have organized together to create a resource centre for the exchange of ideas, information and expertise and to act as a much needed link between the independent film community and the industry at large.

All the "undated" mailing/membership lists of the past have been compiled to arrive at one new and complete list. The membership committee has/will be calling you and asking questions about your involvement with LIFT. With a sudden resurgence in the activities of LIFT, we are attempting to unify the network of independent filmmakers to strive for our aims and objectives:

- 1 - To exist as mutual support and encouragement for filmmakers who represent an independent and alternative way of filmmaking.
- 2 - To provide an environment in which personal contact promotes communication, exchange of ideas and learning through the experience of others.
- 3 - To serve as an information centre about conferences, festivals, publications and all matters concerned with film production, distribution and exhibition.
- 4 - To provide an organization which will maintain communication and film exchange with other filmmaking groups across the country through correspondence and seminars.
- 5 - To make available production equipment, film stock and processing at reduced rates.
- 6 - To offer production grants where applicable.

Membership (Old members note change!)

Fees - Associate Membership \$15.00 annually.

Full Membership \$100.00 annually.

To be considered a member in good standing it is recommended that each member continue to participate in LIFT by volunteering to assist in the operation of the co-op. Associate members are eligible to become full members after contributing 24 hours of volunteer work and having been sponsored by a full member. Any exceptions to the above mentioned criteria will be evaluated by the Membership Committee.

The September 30, 1985 General Meeting

The new board of directors as elected by the membership is:

Paul Vella 486-7660
Camelia Frieberg 530-0364
Adrienne Mitchell 534-6435
Colin Brunton 367-5080
Bruce McDonald 533-4269
Keith Dunnet 844-6389

The board has met 6 times to discuss and ammend policies and to complete the Canada Council Film Co-op Grant Application . The meetings still continue as the board sits to update and set policies that will allow LIFT to proceed in a manner that will most effectively attain its goals. Members will be notified of suggested changes through a special bulletin and will have the opportunity to comment on the developments.

Operations

As most of you know our part-time co-ordinator left in the spring and since that time the position has been vacant. Paul Vella is acting as temporary co-ordinator until the new year. With the recent interest in LIFT and the keen interest for development and change by the Board of Directors, Paul has more work than he can possibly handle. LIFT is in need of dedicated volunteers to help with the responsibilities in the area of Equipment Management, Workshop Planning and Administration, the Monthly Newsletter/Publication, Publicity, Screenings and Distribution.

Equipment (Old members note changes!)

LIFT has equipment available for rent to members. It includes an Arriflex BL 16mm. camera, 6 plate Steenbeck and screening equipment. Colin Brunton is presently negotiating with a different sources for the purchase of a Nagra sound package and lighting kit (If anyone knows of some good equipment for sale please give him a call at 367-5080.)

	<u>Full Members</u>	<u>Associate Members</u>
Arri BL Package (maximum booking - 1 month)	\$15.00/day	\$40.00/day
Nagra Package (maximum booking - 1 month)	\$10.00/day	\$25.00/day
Steenbeck (maximum booking - 1 month)	\$5.00/8 hr. shift	\$10.00/8hr. shift
	\$15.00/24 hr. shift	\$30.00/24 hr. shift
	\$75.00/7day week	\$100.00/7day week

The 'Space' (The Office)

For those of you who haven't visited for a while our new office is located at 345 Adelaide Street West, Suite 505 (just east of Spadina). Since moving in the spring, we have repainted the office and built a separate room for the Steenbeck. Renovations still planned include sealing and coating the floor, finishing painting and replacing the fluorescent lighting with tungsten lights.

CHAIR RAISING DRIVE!!! With the increased attendance at meetings we need more seats to accommodate everyone. Any donations of old furniture (shelves, pictures, tables, chairs, etc.) would be greatly appreciated.

Library

A small library of film books has been started. Members have left a selection of film books for use by others. We ask that these books do not leave the premises without permission of the owner. The owner's name and phone number are in the front of each book.

'Third Mondays'

The third Monday of each month is still set aside for monthly gatherings (notice how the word "meetings" was avoided). These gatherings will take a different form from the past. They will involve **screenings, seminars, visitors, workshops, and other special events** - business matters will not be discussed at these functions. Board of Directors meetings and business meetings will be separately scheduled and will be open to any member.

Workshops

Proposed workshops for the next year include Scriptwriting, Distribution, Directing the Actor, Financing, Government Programs for Filmmakers, Tax and Legal Considerations and Video Post Production. Tours of certain film labs and sound studios are also proposed.

A great deal of work is involved in setting up these workshops and seminars and many volunteers are needed. If you have some ideas, contacts or a few spare hours per month please call Paul Vella at the LIFT office.

Distribution

An exciting development in distribution of members' films! Colin Brunton has arranged distribution of independent films through **THE QUEEN OF VIDEO**, 412 Queen Street West. An eye catching display will be arranged along with promotional materials for the rental of independent films on videotape cassettes. Colin can use help (especially a contact for transferring the films to videotape). (By now you should know his phone number!)

Film Screenings and Exhibitions

A **cross-Canada tour of independent co-op films** is being arranged by the various co-ops. Adrienne Mitchell and Camelia Frieberg are LIFT's representatives in the program. Also **The Bloor Cinema** will be starting a **Toronto Film Now** series featuring Sunday screenings of local independent films. The contact at the Bloor Cinema is Michael Korican.

Newsletter

We are in the process of having a **new logo and newsletter** designed. The letter/magazine should follow on a **monthly basis and will include lists of upcoming events (both inside and outside of LIFT), news items, internal developments at LIFT, group rates offered to LIFT members, government programs, releases, etc.....everything the independent filmmaker of Toronto should be kept up-to-date about.**

We hope to see you at the next LIFT function. If you have any comments or questions regarding the operations of LIFT please call the office at 596-8233 or any of the Board Of Directors.