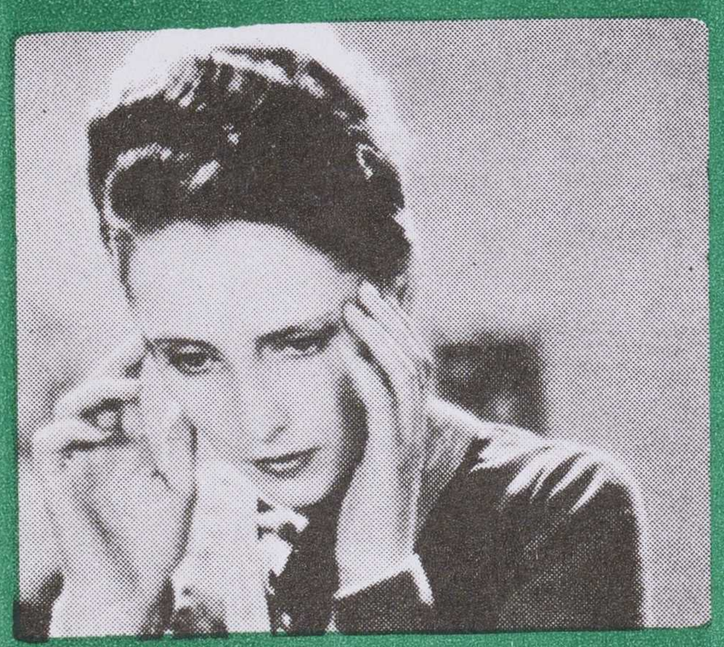
ANGRY ARTS

FILM SERIES: 15
FALL 1981-1982

·films about people in struggle·



FILMS at REDBOOK

136 River St., Cent. Sq. , Camb.

Fri., Sat., Sun. 7:30 $ 2.00 Don.

<info 491-6930, 628-6585>

THE BINGO LONG TRAVELLING ALLSTARS AND MOTOR KINGS — SEPT. 18-20

(U.S., 1976, 111min. color, Dir.:John Badham)

Beneath the surface of this high-spirited and entertaining social comedy lies a fascinating portrait of the precarious lives led by players in the Negro Baseball League during the 30's and 40's. The film's quiet probing gives the laughter a sharp edge as it follows a fictional barnstorming baseball team that has collectivized to avoid being ripped off by absentee owners. Excellent performances by Billy Dee Williams, James Earl Jones and Richard Pryor combine to make this one of the best "hidden" American films in recent years.

DREAD BEAT AND BLOOD — OCT. 16-18

(England, 1978, 45min. color, Dir.:Franco Rosso)

Set in the English West Indian ghetto of Brixton, this documentary portrait of Reggae poet and political activist Linton Kwesi Johnson foreshadowed the recent urban riots in England. The film shows Johnson's work on the frameup case of a fellow West Indian and quite effectively describes his particularly engaging merger of culture and politics as he brings his poetry-set-to-music to defense rallies, radio shows and recording studios alike.

PLUS-LIVE LOCAL REGGAE MUSIC

PLUS FILM ON BLACKS IN ENGLAND

FUNDI: THE STORY OF ELLA BAKER — NOV. 13-15

(U.S., 1980, 63min. color, Dir.:Joanne Grant)

Fundi is the best documentary on the civil rights struggles in the U.S. that has been made. At the heart of the film are the forthright and critical opinions of the spirited organizer and founding member of SNCC, Ella Baker; interspersed are interviews with her co-workers and excellent documentary footage from the 40's to the 60's. Fundi is the Swahili word for a person who passes on skills from one generation to the next. Ella Baker's life is an example of that tradition, as a community organizer in Harlem during the Depression through to the 1970's.

Also, Now a 5 minute short by Cuban filmmaker Santiago Alvarez on the Civil Rights Movement in the U.S., and I Have a Dream, (20 minutes) Martin Luther King Jr.'s dramatic speech to the 1963 March on Washington.

MAEDCHEN IN UNIFORM — DEC. 11-13

(Germany, 1931, 89min. B&W, Dir.:Leontine Sagan)

Made in 1931, this film is considered the cornerstone of lesbian cinema, a largely invisible genre which is now in the process of being uncovered by the women's movement. The film centers on the relationship between a student, innocent and passionate, and her teacher, who is struggling to come out in the repressive atmosphere of a Prussian boarding school. The theme of sexual liberation is developed within a larger anti-authoritarian, anti-militaristic context. Made on the eve of Hitler's rise to power, it served as a warning to the women's and gay liberation movements that fascism was imminent. The connections between militarism, the right-wing and sexual repression are particularly significant in the midst of the current backlash against women and the feminist gains of the recent period. (In German with English subtitles.)

THE UNQUIET DEATH OF ETHEL AND JULIUS ROSENBERG — JAN. 15-17

(U.S., 1974, 90min. color, Dir.:Alvin Goldstein)

The U.S. government claimed the Rosenbergs were the crucial link between Russian spies and American Communists. Why this was important in the America of the 1950's and whether the "conspiracy" was ever established are the major questions addressed in this compelling and moving documentary. An important film in this period of Reagan's Cold War revival and the renewed attempts to return to the political hysteria of the post World War II era.

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