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'CUT SHORTS' DVD

This DVD collects the life works of Los Angeles filmmaker David Markey. This is 30 years (1974 - 2004) of totally individualistic and extremely expressive movie creation. Markey's films embody California...the beauty and menace of LA...the smog and the palms, Markey communicates pure California through his work. Even though the first movie on here 'The Devil's Exorcist' was made when Markey was just 11 years old it breathes sophistication and ambiance. Much of it shot against the sunlight creates an unsettling tone and the repetitive synth backing adds to this apprehension...

Markey knew what he wanted and how to convey it even at that age. Markey is fascinated by masks and I can't tell you how I can relate to that...I remember the first time I saw DEVO's 'The complete truth about De-Evolution' I was sucked right in, and I became even further obsessed about masks and I've been collecting them since I was a kid and I still watch that weekly...Markey is all about that and the fact that DEVO provide backing music to some of his films is no coincidence.

There's a lot of juxtaposition and contrast of youth and elders running through Markey's work, the youth is very chaotic and unsettled and I suppose that reflects the moviemaker...but there's also a strong theme of youth togetherness too. It's really hard to properly describe Markey's work, it's stunning stuff that's for sure but you have to see it and let yourself get sucked in by his awesome creativity and ingredients, this is a guy who never followed any rules other than what he set for himself, it's pure freedom.

Fucked up freedom, sure, but also a very beautiful independence. There's a very strong punk attitude about his work in that respect. His work is very much a cut n' paste montage and he throws all kinds of things into the mix: beaches, cityscapes, pool skating, surfing, death etc. The other side of Markey's work which is more straightforward and comprehensible is his music videos that he made from Sonic Youth, The Posies and Eyes Adrift. Of course these have the unmistakable Markey approach but there is always going to be a restriction when you have to include the band in the video etc...not to say they aren't great too, it's just that his movies steal the show by miles over the videos.

I love this collection and maybe it's because I'm an arty fuck up but Markey speaks to me and this is the type of thing I'll watch every week for a long time...I get hooked on shit like this and I truly believe that people should see this type of thing, everything's so shiny and polished and formulaic these days and it's time they got some jerky, erratic and unpredictable elements in their lives.

Eclectic DVD Distribution

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