

THE BRISTOL BANDS NEWSREEL 1980

Super 8mm; colour; 30 minutes; magnetic sound

By Mike Gifford and Mike Leggett

Distributed by Bristol Film-makers Co-op

Produced with financial help from South West Arts

The film, shot this year during September and October in no way attempts to be a 'balanced' or 'representative' documentary 'about' the bands in Bristol, (who are seen and heard in the movie, are the ones who happened to be active during the filming period.

The bands who are heard in order on the Newsreel soundtrack are:

TVI's in concert at Cawardines

Talisman in rehearsal and live at The Green Room

Blurt on record in Revolver and live at Trinity

Art Objects on record

Various Artists in concert at Cheltenham College of Education

Glaxo Babies on record

~~BLACK ROOTS~~ in concert at HoCom Exchange

Shoes for Industry in rehearsal and on record

Slow Twitch Fibres on record

Apartment on record

The film-makers in responding to the Arts Centre plans to run a season around the idea of Rock 'n Roll had to work fairly quickly to get something out in time - hence the title - but not without having pre-determined that the picture had to make a contribution to the soundtrack in the same way as individual musicians in each of the groups contributed to the overall collective enterprise in producing music. What the film-makers examine with film is the various ways in which music and musicians can be represented visually in relation to the music that they make, whether at a gig, in rehearsal, on a record or on the soundtrack of a film. We were not seeking to synthesise some promotional material for the bands to use in some market-place squabble but to support them through an examination of their music (and words) as being more relevant and more important to our cultural environment than music (and films) conveyed and sold to us from afar via radio and tv. Locally generated music and locally generated films cannot be valued simply in terms of how much profit they make or how many people listen/look.

1. The Bristol Bands Newsreel '80 - 30 mins colour U-matic originated on Super 8mm single-system. Music from ten bands active in Avon during October and November 1980 in conjunction with various means of visual representation. Ref. Notes.

2. IMAGE Con TEXT : a tape/slide, spoken presentation ~~around~~ as description of the film-maker in relation to History, (past); Context, (Present); Formulation. Though designed as a live presentation/lecture, now re-scripted as a video production. Ref. 'Film Related Practice and the Avant Garde.' Screen magazine V 20 No.3/4

3. 'Egg Fried' 16mm, 18 mins, colour, sound. Ready March 1981.

4. 'Vistasound'. 16mm, 45 mins, colour, sound. Ready June 1981.

5. 'One' : ref. LFMC 1971 ; soundtrack revision and re-dubb. Ready June 1981.