



Donovan Winter

A one-man film industry who writes, directs, produces and edits his own films, Donovan Winter started out as an actor in the fifties. Turning to directing in the late fifties, Winter embarked on a career making fiction and non-fiction shorts before turning to feature films in the late sixties.

The early shorts vary considerably in content. 'The Awakening Hour' from 1957 is an evocative sketch of London in the hours around dawn with some lovely street scenes, a robbery and a man waiting for his child to be born (Winter himself). Moving into the 1960's, Winter made the travelogue 'Swing Aboard The Mary' on board the Queen Mary liner in its last days and features The Eagles (not the 'Hotel California' lot but a Shadows type outfit from Bristol). He went on to make several shorts seeped in 'Swinging Sixties' ambience. 'A Penny For Your Thoughts' is a fly on the wall glimpse of conversations in various women's powder rooms. 'Sunday In The Park' an excellent dawn till dusk picture of London's Hyde Park on a Sunday with hippies, tramps, sunbathers and Speaker's Corner. 'Promenade' is set in Brighton with a young Kate O'Mara and has a fashion show and nightclub scenes.

With a relaxing of censorship and a tide of 'permissiveness' in the late Sixties, Winter now made the move into feature films. 'Come Back Peter' (AKA 'Some Like It Sexy') was a more explicit version of the lad about town 'Alfie'. Several similar films followed until Winter switched to thrillers in the late Seventies. 'Deadly Females' tells the tale of a band of beautiful female assassins who dispatch their victims in various ingenious ways (one dressed as a nun!). All in all these films reflect a time when British film producers could make more or less whatever they wanted and it could get shown. Those were the days!

For more details of Donovan Winter's Films, and other collections we represent, please contact us at the archive.

Still a few places available on our course!
'Principles of Film Archiving'

Monday 15th/Tuesday 16th/ Wednesday 17th April 2013

A "hands on" three day residential course, held in a Herefordshire working film archive to teach you real and practical film handling skills (35mm, 16mm, small gauges, obsolete formats, use of

steenbecks, simple joins and repairs), film preservation and restoration, and how to commercially exploit your collections.

The course is aimed at everyone either looking for a career in film archiving or currently working in a related field but needing film related skills.

**For more information Tel: 01981 241 580 or
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