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with a touch of wisdom, something like: Who the hell am I, why should I take myself so seriously? There is humor even in Walter Gutman's *Wall Street Newsletter*.

## ON GREGORY MARKOPOULOS

The Ingram Merrill Foundation just gave Gregory Markopoulos a grant with which to complete his new feature, *Twice a Man*. Markopoulos' name is not new to those who have followed the experimental-independent cinema for the past decade. His trilogy, *Psyche-Lysis-Charmides*, which I saw again a few weeks ago, remains one of the classics of experimental cinema. There is poetry, sensitivity in his work that is very personal, very special. He puts into his films those delicate feelings and thoughts of which most of us are either afraid or unaware.

I have heard people laugh through his films. And whenever I looked into their faces, I saw vulgarity, snobbery, or fear of the feelings revealed on the screen. Pure beauty and delicacy insults us; the vulgar, the crude have become too much a part of our souls. It makes no difference to us—food or art—we approach it like pigs.

June 21, 1962

## DID YOU KNOW . . .

Did you know that Paris is the capital of France? Did you know that Renoir made *Picnic on the Grass* with the money he got from the American re-release of *La Grande Illusion*? Did you know that the Bleecker Street Cinema is showing both these films June 22-25? Did you know that the name of the little black cat in the lobby of the Bleecker Street is *Breathless*?

Did you know that the New Yorker Theatre is bringing in a D. W. Griffith film festival? Did you know that the Charles Theatre will have another of its Film-Maker's Festivals, June 28-July 4? Did you know that for every customer that has ever come to the Charles Theatre the management has paid 50 cents out of its own pocket?

Did you know that it took Orson Welles four years to make *Othello*—that he and his cast were simultaneously working for other producers so as to get the money for their own film? Did you know that Welles stole unexposed film stock from other producers wherever he could, shot *Othello* on it, and was sued for the stealing? Did you know that *Othello* will play at the Bleecker Street Cinema after the Renoir program?

Did you know that Jules Dassin made another very bad film called *Phaedra*? Did you know that President Kennedy has seen *Casablanca* four times? Did you know that I was beaten up in a bar because somebody did not like *Guns of the Trees*—that I have been threatened with fists by another stranger for praising *Bonjour Tristesse*? Did you know that *The Connection* was clean enough to screen at the White House but that it makes the New York censors blush girlishly?

Did you know that Jerome Hill is in the middle of a new comedy, *Identical Twins*? [finally titled *Open the Door and See All the People*] That Shirley Clarke is shooting her second feature, *The Cool World*? That I have never read *Lolita* but that I do read every issue of the Wagner Literary Magazine?

Did you know that Truffaut's *Shoot the Piano Player* is opening at the Fifth Avenue Cinema next week? Or that I consider *Shoot the Piano Player* the funniest gangster movie ever made? Did you know that the June issue of *Commentary* carries an article by Harris Dienstfrey on the New American Cinema? That the silliest article ever written on experimental and underground cinema appears in the July issue of *Cavalier*, written by Rudy Franchi? Did you know that I will give Franchi ten bucks if he will name to me at least one experimental film in which the subject matter is sex ("subject matter usually sex"—Franchi)?

Did you know what Luis Buñuel once said? He said: "I like all men, but I don't like the society that some men have created." And did you know that Franco sent a telegram of congratulation to the Japanese admiral who destroyed the American fleet at Pearl Harbor? I read this in an article by Salvador Madariaga in the June issue of *Atlas* magazine.

Did you know that Howard Hawks' *Dawn Patrol* is the most poetic, most beautiful film I have ever seen on the life of pilots, planes, the poetry of the clouds? Did you know that the best film