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Tally Brown, N.Y. (WEST GERMAN-COLOR-16m DOCU) 4-18-79

A Rosa von Praunheim production. Stars Tally Brown. Directed by Rosa von Praunheim, with the assistance of Mike Shephard. Camera (color), Juliana Wang, Ed Lieber, Michael Oblowicz, von Praunheim; other assistance, Reno Sweeney's, Hans Dudelheim, Anja Philipps. Reviewed at Millenium, New York, March 30, '79. Running time: 110 MINS.

With Tally Brown, Taylor Mead, Holly Woodlawn, Divine, Ching, Elisabeth and

Robert Kashy, Edward Caton.

Winner of a German Film Prize, Rosa von Praunheim's "Tally Brown, N.Y." follows in the same vein as his earlier "I'm an Anti-Star" about Teutonic Underground star Evelyn Kuenneke. This time the subject is Tally Brown, who was the outrageous star of several Gotham Underground pix of the 1960s, when Andy Warhol, Ken Jacobs, Taylor Mead, Jack Smith, and Ron Rice ruled the roost in a patented anti-moralist approach to sexuality.

Von Praunheim became acquainted with the fading New York Underground scene in 1974, when he made "Underground and Immigrants" for the SoHo — Downtown Manhattan program at the 1976 Berliner Festwochen (a Berlin salute to the Yank Bicentennial).

This nostalgic review of Tally's career — from opera training and Tanglewood outings to blues singer and star in Underground pix and strip joints — is remarkable for its loving recollection of a bygone era through the stories of the star's closest friends, particularly Taylor Mead, Holly Woodlawn, and Divine. What's missing are some appropriate clips from her pix to add to the fun, but docu already gives considerate space to let Tally, in grand style, tell her own story.

Credits are plus, and docu is

worth a look-see. —Holl.