

Document Citation

Title	In heaven there is no beer? and other Flower projects
Author(s)	
Source	<i>Flower Films</i>
Date	
Type	press release
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	Blank, Les (1935), Tampa, Florida, United States
Film Subjects	In heaven there is no beer?, Blank, Les, 1984 Burden of dreams, Blank, Les, 1982 Sprout wings and fly, Blank, Les, 1983

A black and white illustration of a man with dark hair, wearing a light-colored shirt, playing a large, ornate accordion. The accordion is open, showing the keys and the bellows. The man is smiling and looking towards the viewer. The illustration is done in a simple, bold line style.

~~AND~~

18 mm

second, Editing

Dance and Stay Young



S. Simon.

WERN

15 min sitting

Directed,
Photographed
by
G. B. Black
and
Produced
between
1914 and 1915
the
Clips

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POLKA! POLKA! POLKA!

interlock
Edited
working print
no titles,
or dissolves,
sound track
not
mixed

IN HEAVEN THERE IS NO BEER?

AND

OTHER FLOWER PROJECTS

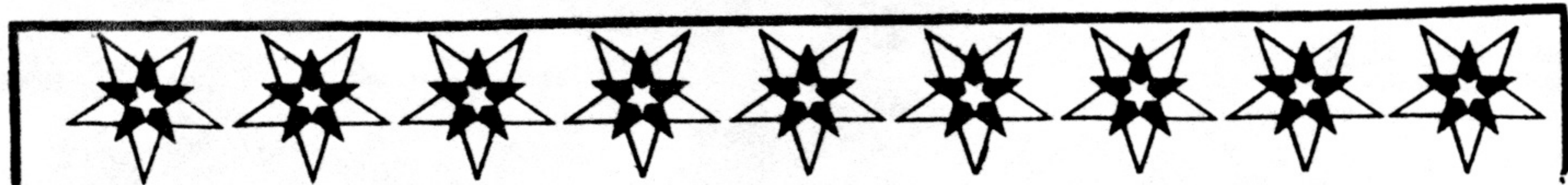
RETURN FROM POLKALAND

Director, Photo. Sound, Editing

Les Blank, Maureen Gosling and their two apprentice assistants, Chris Simon and Cris Feringer, have just returned from a six-week summer journey into the heart of Polkaland (i.e. the East and Midwest, U.S.A.). After a somewhat skeptical entry into a music world whose image on the outside has too often been surrounded by stereotypes, the four emerged with a sense of delight at the strength of a very vibrant, very American musical and dance culture.

Once inside the Seven Springs, Pa. resort setting of the Fourth of July Polka Fireworks Festival, the crew discovered that there's much more to Polka than corny lyrics, oom-pah and beer-drinking bravado. The Polish Polka (there's also German, Slovenian, Texas-Mexican Polka, which Flower was financially unable to explore) is the most thriving, its music very seductive. Bright brass, ringing accordions and concertinas, toe-tingling rhythms. The dance is invigorating to watch and to do. The people are warm, hearty, hospitable. In spite of having difficulty keeping up with the dancing and listening stamina of the avid Polkaholics at times, Flower Films pressed on and took in seven out of eleven days of the Dick Pillar Polkabration on Ocean Beach in New London, Conn.; a shopping center's "Polka Days" and small club scenes in rural Pennsylvania; a church "lawn fete" and Polish sausage factory in Buffalo, N.Y.; a Polish wedding; the Polish Museum and Sajewski's Music Store in Chicago; and the International Polka Association's Convention in Milwaukee. They shot twenty hours of film to be condensed into one hour, and tentatively entitled IN HEAVEN THERE IS NO BEER? In addition to many interviews with many Polka fans and a few anti-Polka folks, the film will feature interviews and music of some of the greatest living names in Polka: Eddie Blazonczyk and the Versatones, Marion Lush, Happy Louie and Julcia, Jimmy Sturr, Marv Herzog, Walt Solek and many more. The Polka film will take a year to finish, or longer, if Blank is unable to attain more funds to complete the film. But Flower fans should be on the look-out for PolkaLong after that!

Dance and
Stay Young



SPROUT WINGS AND FLY — 55 min.

In the works on the home front at Flower, Maureen Gosling is editing SPROUT WINGS AND FLY, a film on Tommy Jarrell, a wonderful North Carolina mountain fiddle player, who is a one-of-a-kind survivor of the old-time style of mountain fiddling and is a wry story teller. Directing the film with Les Blank are Alice Gerard and CeCe Conway.

Directed by ↑
Sound by Mike Seeger
Editing by Maureen Gosling
WERNER HERZOG GOES TO PERU

15 min. editing

Directed,
photographed
by
Les Blank

Sound,
Prod. Managing
Maureen Gosling
edited the
clip

.....Werner Herzog has recently found German backing for his long-in-the-works feature, FITZCARRALDO, which he plans to film in the Peruvian Amazon. Pressured out of one of his main locations because of difficulties with its native Aguaruna Indian leaders and subsequent negative international press, he has moved his production to a more southerly and more cooperative region. He plans to begin shooting in January 1981 with Warren Oates, Claudia Cardinale and Mick Jagger. Les Blank and Maureen Gosling will be on hand to document the filming of FITZCARRALDO and to complete their already begun coverage of Herzog's efforts which they started last October.

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