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## *Press notice*

### Shadows From Light: Steve Dwoskin

Shadows From Light: The Photography of Bill Brandt is Steve Dwoskin's first documentary in a film-making career that began in 1961. Since then he has made twenty-six films of which seven have been features.

Born in New York in 1939, his first involvement with film was through the New American Cinema group which he became involved with in 1959, working with, among others, Andy Warhol. He came to London in 1964 and has lived here since. Very much part of the 'Underground' scene in New York and London, he was a founder member of the London Film-Makers' Co-op in 1967.

Dwoskin's early short films established his reputation as perhaps the most distinguished 'underground' film-maker working in Britain. In 1970 he began his first feature film, Times For. In 1972, German Television financed the feature Death and Devil quickly followed by Behindert in 1973. During the seventies, he made a series of feature films with German television support and this relationship has contributed to his films being less well known in Britain than on the continent.

All of Dwoskin's films have a haunting and obsessive quality which comes in part from the frequently erotic nature of his subject matter and in part from his desire to involve the viewer directly in the subject his camera observes. A key element in achieving the unique quality of his films is the camera-work which Dwoskin always does himself. "I have to do my own camera because of this notion of the camera becoming part of the event and not just a 'looker'."

Shadows From Light continues Dwoskin's concern with mood and atmosphere and consequently dispenses with the usual trappings of the documentary. This is neither a biography nor an analysis but rather the photographic work of an artist seen through the film work of another artist. It is a film evoking the emotional content of Brandt's photographs, drawing out the surreal undertones in two major strands of Brandt's work - the portraits and the 'nudes'.

Full filmography attached

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